



Rock County STAR HERALD

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Thursday, December 29, 2016

Business, recreation top 2016 stories

By Lori Sorenson

In many ways, 2016 was a sequel for the top stories that made the news in 2015.

Headlines this year included Lewis and Clark Regional Water, fiber-to-the-home Internet access, recreational development for trails and water, and continued improvements to Highway 75 in Luverne.

Other continuing themes were History Center construction, Blue Mounds State Park water woes and local economic development.

Of course, 2016 carried unique headline grabbers of its own, such as turnover in local leadership after the

Nov. 8 election, the announcement of Glen's Food Center sale to Teals, and the long-awaited sale of the former Sharkee's building to the city.

The Lake becomes a hot spot

A bright spot in local news this year has been the developing story of The Lake, formerly known as the Creamery Pond in Luverne.

Over the past few years, local property owners Mike and Traci Davis with help from the city of Luverne and others, have been cleaning up the grounds near the pond.

It now has a sandy beach, a dock, a fishing pier, a parking lot and many

other inviting amenities.

After a well-attended fishing derby in February, the community celebrated its new local attraction with a Fourth of July Party at the Lake.

It featured a parade on the water, sand castle contest, beanbag tournament, logrolling competition, concessions and a respectable fireworks display

Loop work continues with Phase 2

The Lake work wrapped up just in time for Phase 2 of Luverne's Loop hiking and biking path to begin in

Year in Review/see page 3A



The July 4 Party on The Lake in Luverne drew big crowds and patriotic entries in the parade, which included Oliver Mead as George Washington

Primary to replace caucus in presidential election years

By Lori Sorenson

Minnesota will change from a caucus to a primary election system during the next presidential election, according to a new law that takes effect Jan. 1.

The rationale for the change is that a primary will allow all-day voting rather than voters coming together at a specific time on precinct caucus night.

"My gut reaction is that it will be a good thing," said Greg Burger, chairman of the Rock County Republicans.

"I've often thought that a primary is a much better way than a straw ballot; it's a better representation of how people are thinking about a candidate."

The state's presidential primary will be held the first Tuesday in March during a presidential election year, such as March 3, 2020, or on a different date if agreed to by the major party chairs.

The primary election for other federal, state and local offices will continue to be held in August.

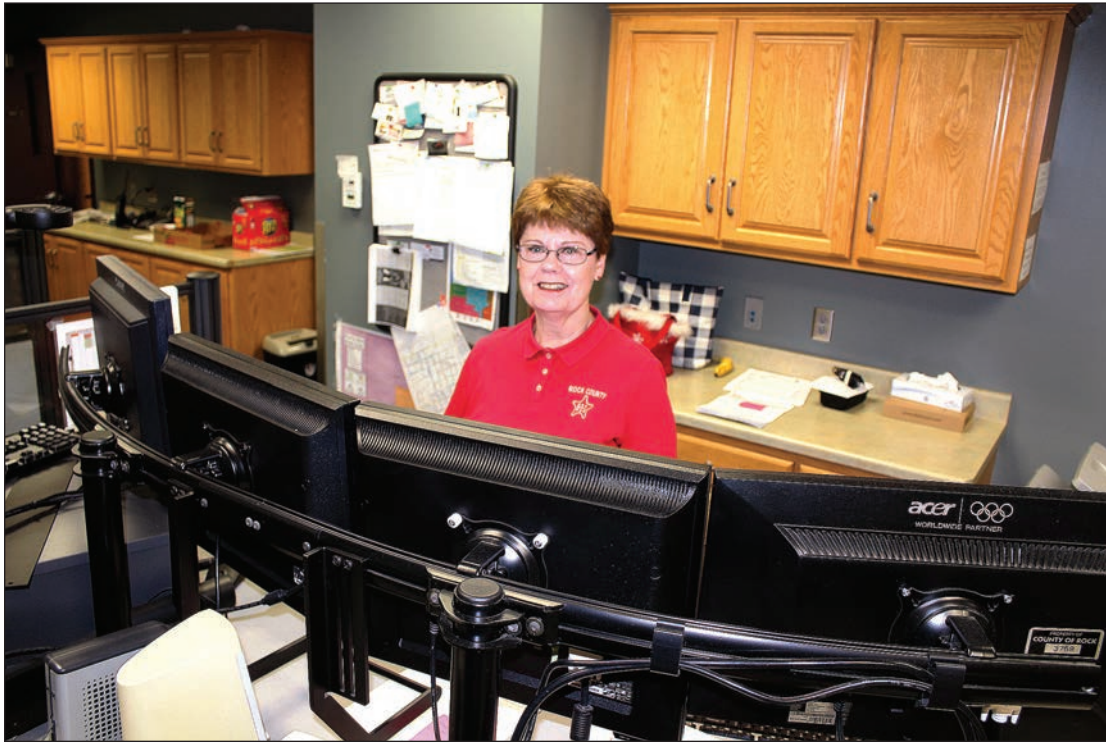
DFL Chairman Dale Moerke, Luverne, said he was pleased with the bipartisan success in changing the law.

"This will allow more Minnesotans to participate in the process of selecting a presidential candidate," he said.

"Anytime we can include more citizens in the democratic process while still maintaining the integrity of the process is a good thing."

While a primary may be more convenient for voters, there will be cost implications for local govern-

Primary replaces caucus/see 2A



Mavis Fodness Photo/1229 Terri Ebert

Friday marks the last day of work at the Rock County Law Enforcement Center in Luverne for Terri Ebert, who retires after 33 years of working in communications.

Dispatcher retires after 33 years assisting with emergencies

By Mavis Fodness

After 33 years with the Rock County Sheriff's Office, dispatcher Terri Ebert is a walking encyclopedia of sorts in terms of whom and what she knows.

In her career she has answered hundreds of emergency calls, typed thousands of pages for reports, processed dozens of prisoners, and worked with a handful of dispatchers during the terms of five elected sheriffs.

After Friday, Dec. 30, however, Ebert will apply that same dedication to other activities as she officially retires from the law enforcement career she began in 1983.

A public open house in her honor will be from 2 to 4 p.m. Friday at the Rock County Law Enforcement Center.

Many current and past co-workers recall Ebert's efficiencies on the job over the past three decades.

"She has so much knowledge with processes

and day-to-day operations," said current dispatcher Aaron Blank.

He said after Friday he'll have to research the questions that he would normally just ask Ebert.

She said she began studying, learning from co-workers and familiarizing herself with all procedures early on in her career, when jobs would be added to her list of duties.

"Because I did everything, it kind of went hand in hand," she said.

Ebert was first hired as an administrative assistant in 1983 by the late sheriff Ole Homman. She said she and her late husband, Chuck, and their three young girls had just moved to Luverne.

"I went in to apply just before the job applications closed," Ebert recalled. "I interviewed the next day and started the job right away."

As the assistant, Ebert was responsible for typing the deputies' notes and completing the

Ebert retires from dispatch work/see 3A

Six winners named in nutcracker scavenger hunt

Contest extended through to Jan. 1 for two winners

By Lori Sorenson

Six winners emerged from the 138 contestants who submitted correct entry forms in Luverne's first-ever nutcracker scavenger hunt, and an extended contest will give more people a chance to win.

More than 100 businesses and residences participated with life-sized nutcrackers all over Luverne, and the challenge for scavenger hunters was to visit each one to learn their proper names.

The first contest started Dec. 3 and the deadline to turn in entry forms was Dec. 23.

On Dec. 24 six names were drawn from the pool of correct forms to receive \$50 Chamber gift cards: Sarah de Cesare of Luverne, Wendy Ballew of Ocheyedon, Mike Conklin of Kenneth, Isley Smith of Luverne, Debra Hoogedoorn of Luverne, and Andrea Luitjens of Luverne.

"Congratulations to the winners and thanks to everyone for participating," Lanphere said.

Now, a new contest will be from Dec. 24 through Jan. 1, but this time only two winners will be drawn from correct entries.

"The rules will be the same," Lanphere said. "Get a copy of the contest, fill in all the names, and drop it off at the History Center by midnight on Jan. 1."

She said the contest is extended due to the cold and wintery weather for much of December. Forms can be picked up at the Chamber next to the courthouse, at the History Center on East Main Street, or downloaded at www.luvernechamber.com.

Weekend storms wreak havoc on local Christmas plans

By Mavis Fodness

Heavy rain, lightning and thunder are not unusual for Rock County, but experiencing them on Christmas Day is a first for some.

"Overall it's comparable to a late winter/early spring storm," said Todd Heitkamp with the National Weather Service in Sioux Falls.

"We have not had thunder and lightning in Sioux Falls on Christmas Day before."

The Luverne Municipal Airport recorded .83 inches of rainfall on Christmas Day. Sioux Falls received 1.23 inches, according to Heitkamp.

Sioux Falls experienced its 12th warmest Christmas when the day's high temp reached 43 degrees. The record is 50 degrees set in 1950. Sioux Falls tied for the warmest low temp at 29 degrees, the second warmest. The record is 32 degrees set in 1922.

Luverne's high for Christmas Day was 43 degrees with a low of 30.

The March-like storm system of Dec. 25 was followed by strong winds.

Peak wind gusts were reported at 56 mph at 10:45 p.m. Sunday at the Luverne Municipal Airport. A 53-mph peak gust followed at 12:15 Monday morning.

Several residents experienced property damage from the strong winds. Dallas Knobloch, who lives north of Hills in Martin Township, reported a hoop barn received minor damage Sunday

Weekend storms cause damage/continued on page 3A



Mavis Fodness Photo/1229 Christmas Storm

Strong winds following the Christmas Day thunderstorms damaged area property including lifting the roof off the chute barn at Luverne Livestock Auction. Wind gusts were recorded at over 50 mph at the Luverne airport.

Luverne woman dies in crash

A Luverne woman died at the scene of a two-vehicle crash in northern Rock County Tuesday afternoon.

According to information from the Rock County Sheriff's Office, the crash occurred at 12:47 p.m. at the intersection of County Road 2 and County Road 10, the Leota blacktop.

Janice Fiest (no date of birth available) was a passenger in the car driven by her husband, Jerome Fiest. The couple had been traveling west on County Road 10 and reportedly t-boned a northbound Spronk Farms semi. (Traffic entering from County 10 has a stop sign at County 2.)

Janice Fiest died from her injuries and Jerome Fiest was taken to Luverne and then to Sioux Falls.

The semi driver, Kenneth Bowen, Edgerton, reportedly suffered non-life threatening injuries.

Assisting at the scene were the Rock County Ambulance, Edgerton Fire Department, Minnesota State Patrol and Jasper Ambulance.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Meetings

Caregivers Support Group will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 3, in the conference room at Mary Jane Brown Home. Anyone dealing with caregiving or having questions regarding caregiving and available resources is encouraged to attend. (Note: this is a change from the originally scheduled Dec. 27 date.)

Stateline Cemetery Association Annual Meeting will be at 12:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 9, at the Pizza Ranch in Rock Rapids, Iowa. Call 507-920-2871 with questions.

American Legion Post 123 and Auxilliary will meet at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 11, in the Post home.

Lady Luverne Red Hats will meet for lunch at the Senior Dining Center at 11:30 a.m. Friday, Jan. 13. For a reservation call Senior Dining at 283-9846 by Thursday, Jan. 12. For more information call Connie Wieneke at 283-8470.

Vienna Township meets at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at the Kenneth Community Center.

Narcotics Anonymous will meet every Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m. at the Steen Reformed Church. Contact Robert for more information 507-329-2642.

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

Al-Anon meets from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays in the Buffalo Ridge Meeting Room (lower level) at the Sanford Medical Center in Luverne. Call Stephanie at 507-449-1246.

Narcotics Anonymous meets at 7 p.m. Fridays and for basic text study at 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays in the basement of St. Catherine Catholic Rectory, 203 E. Brown St., Luverne. Use east door. For more information call 507-220-0137.

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

Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon meet from 8 to 9 p.m. every Tuesday in Runals Memorial Hall, Edgerton. Call Naomi, 507-215-2956, with questions.

Library 'winter getaway' begins Jan. 1

The annual winter reading program, hosted by the Plum Creek Library System, begins Jan. 1 and runs through March 31. Participants read at least 12 books of their choice in order to compete for the traveling Champion Reader trophy. The program is open to those age 16 and older. Simply stop by your local library to sign up.

Sign up for Community

Ed basketball tourney Jan. 28

Luverne Community Education is sponsoring an invitational basketball tournament Saturday, Jan. 28, for both boys' and girls' fifth- and sixth-grade basketball teams. Format guarantees each team at least two games. Teams can register at www.isd2184.net under Community Education or call 507-283-4724. Cost is \$125 per team, and payment must accompany registration.

Brochure in Jan. 2 Announcer

The new Community Education Winter Brochure will be in the New Year's Day Announcer. The Community Education office is closed during Christmas break and reopens on Tuesday, Jan. 3, to take registrations.

'Getting Ready for the Next Generation' sessions begin Jan. 31

The Blandin Foundation and Southwest Regional Development Corporation have combined with other area groups to bring Tom Hubler (known as the "dean" of family businesses) and Steve Coleman (facilitator of business transition forums) to present **Succession Planning: Getting Ready for the Next Generation**. This five-session evening class begins Jan. 31. The first three sessions will split into two groups — one being the business owner looking at change, and the other being the prospective small business owner down the road. The last two classes combine both groups to work on business plans, sale packets, financing and other issues with local experts. The fee is \$95.

Register by Jan. 30 for Driver's Ed

Students in eighth grade and older may register for Student Driver Education class by Jan. 30 for the class that begins Feb. 6 or by June 12 for the class that begins June 19. Limited seats available. Fee is \$325 due at the time of registration at the Luverne Community Education office.

Year-end business includes levy and good-byes for outgoing school board member

By Mavis Fodness

The Luverne School District's levy will decrease by 2.69 percent for taxes payable in 2017 according to action following the Dec. 15 Truth in Taxation hearing.

The levy was set at \$2.48 million, which is \$68,505 less than the current levy.

District business manager Marlene Mann presented information about the district's proposed \$15 million budget at the hearing, which drew no one from the public.

Mann said local taxpayers contribute 16 percent to the district's annual operating revenue.

The majority of the district's funding comes from the state (73 percent) with the federal government (5 percent) and sales and other sources such as voter-approved operating levies (6 percent) also contributing to the operating budget.

The maximum preliminary levy is set by the Minnesota Department of Education through a funding formula. Local districts may lower but not increase the final levy after the Truth in Taxation hearing. The state bases part of its formula on student enrollment. Luverne's enrollment has been steady in the past five years at 1,198.

The exception is 2013 when enrollment dropped by 18 students, according to Jim Gilman with auditors Conway, Deuth & Schmiesing of Willmar.

This year enrollment has increased by almost 50 students.

"That's one thing about enrollment; we will have volatility," he said Nov. 22 during



Mavis Fodness Photo/1222 School Riphagen Retirement

Luverne School Board members honored outgoing board member Dave Riphagen at the final meeting of the year Dec. 15. He served eight years on the board after being appointed to the position in March 2008.

the district's audit. "There is a lot of this mobility in a lot of the districts."

Gilman, who has been auditing the district's books since 1986, gave the district's finances an "unqualified opinion," the best rating.

Along with enrollment, the state's funding formula is influenced by a school district's long-term debt.

Currently the district owes \$899,036 from a voter-approved 1998 bond referendum. The district recently refinanced the debt at a lower interest rate.

As a result, the state reduced the local levy by 5.72 percent or \$54,584 for the district's debt service.

Gilman commended district officials for budgeting down the district debt.

"A lot of schools tend never to retire their debt. Their debt level stays flat and never goes down," Gilman said after the meeting.

Along with the decrease in debt, Gilman said officials have been busy improving existing facilities and looking toward future improvements.

In the past two years, the district spent \$1.7 million in capital outlay and has earmarked an additional \$2 to \$3 million for upcoming building upgrades to the aging middle-high school and grounds.

While the district has kept an eye on its facilities, Gilman

said officials have also kept an eye on overall spending.

For the 2015-16 school year, the district spent \$10,490 per student. The state average was \$11,526 for the 2014-15 school year.

Riphagen completes final school board meeting

The Dec. 15 meeting was the last board meeting of the year and the final meeting for board member Dave Riphagen.

After eight years on the board, he made his final motion by adjourning the meeting.

"I've enjoyed it but I will miss it," he said after the meeting.

He said he is satisfied with what the board has accomplished and how the district leadership is set up for the future.

During his tenure, Riphagen was a part of hiring the current high school principal and the current superintendent.

"Education has always been an important thing for me," he said. "It's huge if students can get started in the right way."

In other business, the Luverne School Board:

- approved increasing the driver's education fee from \$300 to \$325.

- agreed to replace one bus through the state bid processing site.

- signed an agreement with the Southwest-West Central Service Cooperative for a part-time middle- and high-school construction careers instructor, starting second semester. Estimated cost is \$15,280.

Producer information sought for upcoming livestock report

Rock County cattle producers will be among more than 40,000 operations nationwide that will be asked to provide up-to-date information on U.S. cattle inventories next month.

During the first two weeks in January, the U.S. Department of Agricultural Statistics Service will survey producers on their beef and dairy cattle

inventories, calf crop, death loss and number of cattle on feed.

"This information helps producers make timely, informed marketing decisions and plan for herd expansion or reduction," said Minnesota State Statistician Dan Lofthus.

"Additionally the information that producers provide helps promote exports, in-

form the public and policymakers about the industry, and project future slaughter volume.

As of Jan. 1, 2016, the survey inventoried 92 million head, 3 percent above 2015's total.

With declining cattle prices and lower feed costs, an updated survey will show how these events have affected the

recent herd-rebuilding trend, Lofthus said.

Results from the mailed-in survey will be released on Jan. 31, 2017.

Last year, Minnesota's cattle inventory of 2.42 million head ranked 12th in the U.S. Of the total cattle inventory, 460,000 head were milk cows, ranking Minnesota sixth in the nation.

Caucuses switch to primaries/continued from page 1A

ments, according to Rock County Auditor-Treasurer Ashley Kurtz.

"The way the law is written, the state is picking up the bill, and by picking up the bill, I'm assuming they are referring to the machine programming, ballot costs as well as election judge costs," she said.

"I don't think they've mentioned the cost of the staff time we will have to put into it with processing absentees and other related duties, such as machine testing and work on election night."

Kurtz said the burden is

heavier on smaller counties that don't have a separate elections departments.

"We start preparing for the November election in September, so now we will begin preparing for this February election in December, which is a very busy time for us with year-end work," Kurtz said.

"And then we will be having essentially three elections on a presidential election year, which thankfully only happens every four years."

In presidential campaigns, a caucus is a system of local gatherings where voters

decide — often by a show of hands — which candidate to support and they select delegates for nominating conventions.

A primary is a statewide voting process in which voters cast secret ballots for their preferred candidates, similar to a general election.

Caucuses were once the most common way of choosing presidential nominees, but Minnesota was one of only a handful of states that relied on the process.

Others include Alaska, Colorado, Hawaii, Kansas,

Maine, Nevada, North Dakota, Wyoming and Iowa, according to the Federal Election Commission.

Moerke said he hopes voters still participate in caucuses.

"The precinct caucus is still a valuable part of the party's process to debate and advance party platform resolutions and for Democrats of all level of participation to become involved in shaping the party's future," Moerke said.

Summaries of all laws passed in 2016 are online at www.house.leg.state.mn.us/newlaws/#/search/2016



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Year in review/from page 1A

2017. The exciting news for the Loop in 2016 was its designation as a "Regionally Significant Trail," which improves its eligibility for grant funding.

Phase 1, completed this year, is 1.5 miles from Veterans Memorial Pond across Highway 75 to the west edge of the city and then south along the school ball fields to Dodge Street.

Phase 2 is a 1.6-mile segment that will continue south of Dodge Street past the Lake and then east past the ice arena to Highway 75.

Efforts and funds in 2017 will focus on Loop parking at The Lake, wayfinding signs and trailhead development at Redbird Field, in addition to trail work.

State park says 'no' to rebuilding the dam

Recreational amenities like The Lake and the Loop offer some comfort to local residents who used to enjoy the beach at the Blue Mounds State Park.

June 2014 flooding blew out the dam and drained the lower lake at the park, and since then state and local officials have been debating whether to rebuild the dam and re-establish a lake and beach.

After community surveys and environmental research, the decision came down in June 2016 that the dam would not be replaced.

The area instead will be returned to a marshy waterway better for wildlife habitat and clean water.

E.coli in state park water

In a separate ongoing State Park water story, 2016 brought more bad news about the park's water, which is contaminated with e.coli.

A new 330-foot deep well drilled in 2015 for \$73,000 also tested positive for e.coli, so state officials are now working with Rock County Rural Water on a possible connection to serve the park office and campgrounds.

To connect the park to Rural Water would cost at least \$643,000 according to engineers' estimates.

History Center opens on East Main Street

The History Center opened this summer in the former Ford Dealership on East Main Street — a dream come true for Historical Society President Betty Mann.

The Rock County Historical Society purchased the 100-year-old Ford building last year for \$150,000.

As soon as the auto business moved to its new location on Highway 75, work began to transform the 11,000 square feet into display spaces, research quarters and rotating exhibits for the Historical Society.

The new building has adequate space, handicap accessibility and a prominent history display area in a central part of the building. Tax-deductible donations (which continue to be matched to the end of 2016) to support the History Center can be sent to

Year in Review/see page 5A

Weekend storms cause damage/continued from page 1A

night into Monday morning.

The barn's canvas roof will need replacing after a portion was ripped away from the strong winds.

"It was really howling," he said about the wind.

Knobloch spent Monday chopping ice from gutters and drainage areas to keep the running water from freezing in the feedlot areas.

"It was a crazy day with all the rain," he said. "I think I would take last week's 30 below over this."

Luverne Farm Store's Nate Golla arrived to work early Monday morning to find the strong winds toppled the store's corn receiving leg.

The leg transports whole corn from the semitrailer to the storage bins. The whole corn is then used in livestock rations.

"We're figuring out ways to get the corn into the system," Golla said.

The strong winds also caused residents in Hills and

one Steen resident to be without electricity for about four hours Monday morning.

Sioux Valley Energy spokesperson Carrie Lawsaid a tree limb fell onto a power line at the corner of Anna Avenue and Third Street. As the tree tangled with the lines, the substation cut power to about 300 residences in Hills.

"That's what's supposed to happen," Law said.

Residents were without power from 4 to 8 a.m. Monday.

The strong wind did make travel less hazardous in the county when it blew the excess moisture off the roadways.

The clear roads lessened the work for county highway employees over the holidays.

"We didn't even go out," said county engineer Mark Sehr. "I was worried about possible flooding."

The flooding was limited to a few areas where run-off ponded on roadways, which Sehr said crews were taking care of on Tuesday.

Ebert retires from dispatching/ continued from page 1A

needed forms using a manual typewriter.

She said if something needed to be added or changed, she would have to retype the entire page.

Today, she said computers have made these edits easier and e-filing delivers reports to the right departments more quickly.

Due to her time working at a keyboard, several of the number and letter keys have been worn off due to Ebert's frequent use.

Dispatcher Blank said he kept Ebert's recently replaced keyboard and included those worn keys in a shadow box filled with memorabilia from Ebert's time at the sheriff's office.

A computer mouse, communications badge, handcuffs, a uniform patch and a blue pen are also in the shadow box.

"She insisted you write in blue ink," Blank said.

Ebert said she began as a part-time dispatcher, filling in when needed. Later she added dispatch supervisor to her duties.

Dispatcher Gordy Bremer witnessed Ebert's knack for organization and multi-tasking firsthand.

While he retired from full-time dispatching after 36 years, he still works part time when needed.

He said he appreciated

Ebert's flexibility in scheduling around holidays and family events while keeping dispatch available for law enforcement and public safety 24/7.

Bremer said he admired how Ebert embraced changing technology and demands of the assistant job.

"Reports have to be exact," he said. "Detail is her thing."

Details can make a life-saving difference during an emergency.

Rock County Ambulance Director Harlan Vande Kieft has worked in emergency management services for almost 30 years. His last three years have been spent in Luverne and working with Ebert.

"Any time you have a dispatcher who is knowledgeable and knows the assets around them is huge," he said.

Asking questions saves time in dispatching emergency personnel to the correct location and, in the case of an accident, asking the type of injury can prepare paramedics and emergency room workers to act quickly.

"A great dispatcher can make a huge difference," Vande Kieft said.

Coffee and cake will be served at the open house for Ebert. The law enforcement center is located at 1000 N. Blue Mound Ave., Luverne.



Mavis Fodness Photo/1229 Midwest Mannequin Challenge

The secret to a good Mannequin Challenge is to hold a pose without blinking or laughing like Mark Schneekloth (left) and Al Pilaczynski did in Midwest Fire's video released to social media Wednesday, Dec. 21.

Mannequin Challenge comes to Luverne

By Mavis Fodness

A Luverne company joined the social media video trend called the Mannequin Challenge.

The challenge asks people to remain frozen in action like mannequins while a moving video camera films them. The only sound on the finished video is the song "Black Beatles," by Rae Sremmurd.

For Midwest Fire's Mannequin Challenge the instrumental version of the song was used.

The origin of the challenge dates back to October when it became a national movement after Florida high school posted a video of students frozen in action. They used the "Black Beatles" song, which appears to hold no special significance.

Since then, other groups have repeated the challenge with more ambitious poses, such as using objects that appear to be moving or falling, but are stationary.

Locally, students have also repeated the challenge between students and aired the completed video on the high school's CTV production website.

Midwest Fire uses the challenge as a company promotional video on social media, and the video appears to be an instant hit.

Since debuting on Midwest Fire's Facebook page, more than 9,000 people have viewed the finished product with 73 sharing the video in six days after its Dec. 21 release.

"With the little amount of work we put into it, we've gotten a lot of exposure," said Tyler LeBrun.

LeBrun was instrumental in getting the challenge off the ground.

During the workday LeBrun is Midwest Fire's manufacturing engineer. After hours, his hobbies involve photography and video making.

LeBrun was the first to respond to VP Office Manager Darcie Johnson's email about completing the challenge, which she saw other companies complete.

"I wanted to show people what we do," she said.

Midwest Fire completes the



Mavis Fodness Photo/1229 Midwest Mannequin Challenge

Rick Peterson's mannequin pose involved the appearance of popcorn stopped in midair. Pictured below, Scott Bowman appears perplexed in his pose.



final assembly for fire trucks and other fire-fighting rigs. Johnson saw the Mannequin Challenge as a unique way to feature the facility in Luverne's Industrial Park, its employees, and what they do.

The challenge involving 19 employees also had a surprising effect.

"It was a good team-building experience," she said.

LeBrun used a hand-held video camera attached to a leveling mechanism to stabilize the lens.

The result is a smooth-flowing video as LeBrun walks through the company's front door and walks through the entire building panning the camera into each department.

No practice runs or retakes were completed for the more than three-minute video.

Midwest Fire used its intercom system to announce employees to freeze in a position or get into pose before LeBrun entered their departments.

It only took a minute for LeBrun to reach account representative Rick Peterson's cubicle. He had to hurry into position.

LeBrun's camera caught Peterson leaning back in his office chair, feet on his desk and holding a bag of popcorn.

The video captured a popped kernel frozen in midair to Peterson's wide-open mouth.

"I've seen these challenges before, and I thought if I ever did one, I wanted to have something in the air," he said.

For Peterson's movement pose he said he threaded a lightweight fishing line through a popped kernel. A co-worker taped the fishing line to the ceiling at the correct height.

"It was fun. It was cool and it turned out really well," he said.



Mavis Fodness Photo/1229 Midwest Mannequin Challenge

Donning a painter's mask and holding a can of air freshener, Todd Landhuis sprays Justin Maciejack as he exits the restroom.

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This cold and flu season, give holiday hugs — and keep hands to yourself

We're almost at year's end and by now most of us have already been to our share of Christmas



ON SECOND THOUGHT

By Lori Sorenson, editor

parties and family gatherings.

It's no wonder that the holiday season and cold and flu season often become one and the same, what with all the handshaking and coughing into hands going on all at once.

Not to be Scroogish, but all this social mingling adds up to one giant germ swap.

All kinds of people who normally don't bump into each other attend germ swaps near and far and bring those new germs to additional germ swaps.

The germs travel from mucous membranes in eyes and noses to fingers and hands with an unknowing rub of the eyelid or scratch of the nostril.

Those hands, in turn, transfer germs to doorknobs, coffee pot handles, stairwell railings, and — yes — to other people's hands.

Hands are the culprits — even on the squeaky cleanest people. Just ask the Public Health Department.

So, why then, is it customary to greet people with a handshake?

Hand washing goes a long way in preventing the germ swap, but it would also help to keep our hands to ourselves — especially during the holidays.

Instead, there's a safer, more social alternative: holiday hugs.

For churches that have incorporated handshaking into their worship routine, hugs might be the perfect Sunday morning greeting. For the socially reserved congregations, pleasant smiles and cheery "hellos" will do.

To take the hands-off

theme a step farther, we'd do well to press elevator buttons with knuckles, turn door knobs through shirtsleeves, flush toilets with feet and not touching common public surfaces grocery cart handles (I pull my sleeves down for that, too).

If none of this makes sense, at the very least we need to protect our immune systems in the daily battle against germs.

This means eating right and getting enough sleep.

All the hands-off measures in the world won't help an immune system weakened by sleep deprivation and poor nutrition.

I should know.

After one too many late-night gift-wrapping sessions munching on Christmas candy, I came down with a miserable cold.

I'll try to keep my hands — and my germs — to myself. ... Hugs, anyone?

This column first appeared in the Dec. 24, 2003, Star Herald and I dusted it off for a reprint last week when I blew through a box of Kleenex.

The footnote this year, though, is that my ailment could be considered a punishment or karma.

The entire Star Herald office had come down with the same miserable cold — except me. As others were coughing and sneezing, I secretly entertained thoughts that I just might be harder than the rest of them. Perhaps I was somehow special.

Turns out I'm not.

Which is part of the reason for a rerun column.

Happy New Year, readers.

"Isn't it funny how day by day nothing changes, but when you look back, everything is different ...?" — C.C. Lewis

Star Herald reflects on another year in the history books, sees bright future in 2017

Our Star Herald annual year-in-review piece goes back almost as long as the paper has been publishing.

We do it for our own purposes — to take stock of the news that we've given importance to lately — and for readers, in case they haven't been reading or paying attention to local current events.

Some readers, though, have shared that they don't see the point. "We've already read these stories through the year. Why do we need to rehash them all at year-end?"

There is a point to that; in news we avoid being redundant if possible. And for our truly loyal readers who never miss an issue, that year-end review is very likely redundant.

However, we also subscribe to the theory that day-by-day, little seems to change, but measuring change a year at a time seems to highlight progress and sometimes sheds light on room for improvement.

What have we learned over the past year? What are we proud of? What are we not so proud of? Are

STAR HERALD EDITORIAL

we headed in the right direction as a community? Does it seem we have good leadership in place?

In the Star Herald office, several are called on to share their opinions about what they deemed "top news stories of 2016." No two lists were the same, and if we asked our readers to weigh in, we might have entirely different lists. Because, realistically, we all respond to life events from our own perspectives and world views.

For example, the families of the Luverne High School mock trial team may likely believe the most important story of 2016 was the fact that the local team earned a trip to the state meet.

Or the track kid who breaks a 40-year-old speed record, or the grocer who's retiring and selling his beloved family business — these are once-in-a-lifetime occurrences that

become big news in the small circles of people affected.

Or, on the sadder end of the spectrum, the family mourning the loss of a loved one may see little significance to any other life event of the year.

So, when we highlight what we believe to be the top stories of 2016 in Rock County, we may not hit on everyone's big news, but we've attempted to offer our own interpretation of the events and occurrences that shape who we are and where we're headed as a community.

By our own humble interpretations, 2016 was a pretty good year, and it appears we have a bright future awaiting us in 2017.

Happy New Year, readers. We look forward to recording another year in the rich history of our community and its people.



Trooper answers questions about window tint, road markings, emergency vehicles

Question: I was wondering if someone could tell me what the law is on commercial vehicles having window tint? I drive a dump truck and was wondering if window tint is allowed as long as it's the 50 percent that is allowed in passenger vehicles or if it is illegal for dump trucks/semitrailers to have any window tint. Any advice or a link to where I can find out would be greatly appreciated.

Answer: Window tint is allowed on the driver's side window and the passenger's side window in a commercial vehicle as long as it allows 70 percent light transmittance instead of the 50 percent required on passenger vehicles. The transmittance restriction does not apply to other windows in the vehicle. Code of federal regulations "49 CFR 393.60(d)" spells out the requirements.

Be advised that unaltered factory tint measures approximately 70-75 percent in most vehicle windows.

Q: I enjoy reading your column. I have been driving for a number of years but still get confused as to



ASK A TROOPER

By Sgt. Troy Christianson, Minnesota State Patrol

what all the white road markings mean. I know what the white dashes on a road/highway mean — OK to pass. But what do solid white lines mean, particularly if they are on a three-lane highway? Also, what do the intermittent white "bricks" mean? What do narrowly spaced white lines mean versus widely spaced white double lines. Thanks for your help.

A: White lines separate lanes of traffic traveling in the same direction.

• A white line with dashes indicates that drivers can change lanes in areas where this type of marking is present.

• A line of shorter and thicker

white dashes indicates that the lane will end.

• A solid white line indicates that lane changes are discouraged. Solid white lines also mark crosswalks, stop lines at intersections, parking stalls, and the edges of a roadway.

• Double solid white lines indicate that lane changes are against the law.

• A solid white line with a bicycle insignia along the side of the road indicates an area designated for bicycle traffic only. Bicycles must travel in the same direction as adjacent traffic.

Yellow lines separate traffic moving in opposite directions.

• A solid yellow line indicates that passing is prohibited. Passing in a no-passing zone is illegal.

• A line composed of yellow dashes indicates that passing is allowed.

• A solid yellow line may appear on one side of the roadway, while a line composed of dashes appears on the other side. Drivers must obey the marking that is present in their lane of traffic.

• Two solid yellow lines, one in each lane of traffic, indicate that passing is prohibited in both directions. Drivers traveling in both directions are prohibited from crossing the double solid center line in order to pass other vehicles.

Q: What is the proper procedure if you are stopped at a red light and an emergency vehicle with its lights and siren activated comes up behind you? Where do you go to get out of the way?

A: As frustrating and tempting as it may be to pull into the intersection with a red light — DO NOT.

Other people cannot run a red

light based on an emergency vehicle's siren and/or emergency lights, so they have to wait until the light turns green and then go, and then move over to the right if possible.

If for some reason you have enough room while stopped you should pull over to the right shoulder or left shoulder (if on multi-lane roadway — which is legal) just as long as it doesn't require you to enter the intersection.

While responding to emergencies, I have observed drivers trying to squeeze into the intersection to create room for the emergency vehicle, but that is not safe or recommended.

We will just have to use some patience along with the legal and safe opportunity when the light turns green again.

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

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

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

ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

Dec. 16
 •Deputy reported vehicle had been ticketed for snow removal and has not been moved and no contact made. Deputy requested G&S for a tow.
 •Deputy reported vehicle on the 900 block of North Spring Street was cited earlier this week for snow removal. Deputy spoke to the owner. He will move it in the next couple of hours.
 •Complainant reported child neglect.
 •Complainant reported parent driving while intoxicated with children in the vehicle.
 •Complainant reported possible sexual abuse.
 •Complainant reported we interview subject regarding a burglary.
 •Complainant reported the crossing lights at the pedestrian crossing on North Kniss Avenue have been flashing for several hours. Contacted city.
 •Complainant reported their house was egged on the night of Dec. 14 or 15.
 •Complainant requested Salvation Army voucher because she is homeless. Given help through Salvation Army.
 •Complainant reported a green Jeep is driving a little carelessly around Hardwick in the snow.
 •Complainant reported that mother of his kids is having some sort of mental health issue and he is concerned for the welfare of his three children in the vehicle. Squads assisted State Patrol, as she was on I-90. Subject was taken to Sanford Health for evaluation.
 •Complainant reported people are fighting and it is physical.
 •Deputy assisted motorist on I-90 mile marker 22 westbound with a flat tire.
 •Complainant reported his tractor had stalled out north of intersection in the middle of the road a t191st Street and 70th Avenue. Vehicle towed by G&S.
 •Complainant reported that her daughter and her boyfriend got into an argument, and the boyfriend threw the phone.
 •Complainant reported someone is trying to kill him.
 •Complainant reported a woman dropped her pouch with her credit cards and driver's license. Contacted owner of cards, and she will go pick them up.
 •Complainant reported he is moving and has a couple of trailers on the street.
Dec. 17
 •Complainant reported woman hit her Lifeline button. Contacted neighbors to check on her. Neighbor went to check on her, and she is OK.
 •Complainant requested welfare check on subject. Complainant stated she has gotten some complaints of him yelling and swearing in his apartment and is concerned he may be having issues. Deputy reports all is OK.
 •Complainant reported that her boyfriend won't let her get her stuff and leave. She is at a neighbor's currently. Complainant gathered belongings and left for the evening.
 •Nobles County reported they were dropping a vagrant off at the Adrian Rest Area that wants to go to South Dakota. Our deputy transported him

to South Dakota.
 •Deputy checked on a stalled semitrailer on I-90 westbound mile marker 22. Truck is not running, but driver has winter gear and help coming from Brandon and said he was fine.
Dec. 18
 •Complainant reported that his parents are out of town, and their carbon monoxide detectors are going off. Paged Beaver Creek Fire Department to check things out.
 •Deputy had a vehicle towed due to snow removal. Towed to our impound. Conditions of release are to pay snow tickets, tow bill and storage.
 •Complainant reported that he thinks his estranged wife and her boyfriend are molesting his child.
 •Complainant requested welfare check on their father who is not answering the phone.
Dec. 19
 •Complainant reported a mother leaves her three-year old home alone and doesn't tell anyone. Mother is probably on something.
 •Complainant reported she followed a vehicle from Magnolia that was swerving all over the road and about caused a couple of accidents. Last seen the vehicle pulled off into the laundry mat parking lot. Complainant is willing to sign a complaint.
 •Complainant reported approximately 20 wooden pallets stolen from 321 West Hatting Street last night. Worth approximately \$10-\$15 a piece.
 •Complainant reported that her mailbox was destroyed sometime between 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, and noon on Sunday, Dec. 18. She believes it was intentionally hit as no plows had been down the road in that time.
 •Complainant reported child neglect and an unstable living environment.
 •Complainant reported that he was notified by the Ortonville Police Department about a license plate that he lost from his vehicle. Complainant requested that the plate be mailed to him if his brother can't pick it up.
 •Complainant reported her house was broken into while she was gone. Complainant could not give a specific date as to when it occurred.
 •Deputy arrested man for violating an order for protection and took him to jail.
 •Complainant reported that a mailbox had been vandalized and mail burned in Steen. Deputy reported mail appears to have been burned by some firecrackers.
 •Complainant reported vandalism to mailbox at location. See previous incoming call report also.
 •Complainant reported footprints around his house and garage on the 700 block of North McKenzie Street. Complainant believes they appeared sometime last night or the night before. Complainant requested extra patrol in the area.
 •Complainant reported a pursuit on I-90 at location. Assisted Nobles County with stop. Vehicle stopped at mile marker 16 westbound on I-90. One at gunpoint. Tow requested by Nobles County Deputy. Driver taken to jail.
Dec. 20
 •Complainant reported

a red car by Minnesota West that has been running for approximately 45 minutes. Complainant is unsure if the vehicle is occupied.
 •Complainant reported his work vehicle was vandalized. He called 911 and said he was in Sioux Falls. Transferred to Minnehaha County dispatch.
 •Complainant made several 911 calls to test system's emergency buttons.
 •State Patrol reported a man with a backpack walking on the interstate at mile marker 18. Transferred to Patrol. Trooper requested a Rock County Sheriff's Office deputy check on the man, as he is out of position.
 •Complainant reported that he sold a vehicle to subject but still has yet to receive payment.
 •Complainant reported inappropriate behavior with a child.
 •Complainant reported child neglect and possible drug use in the home.
 •Complainant reported that there are people entering and exiting an apartment that complainant owns. There is not supposed to be anyone but the subject allowed in there.
 •Complainant reported that subject is an alcoholic and needs some help. Complainant requested information on how to get him into a treatment program.
 •Complainant reported she is being followed by a lot of people with different license plates. Complainant was making no logical sense. Complainant also said that there were people switching out her keyboards and posting her elementary school pictures to the Internet as a show of power. Dispatch notes that complainant is obviously under the influence of drugs or alcohol or off of prescribed medication.
 •Complainant reported that his house and garage were egged sometime last night.
 •Complainant reported smoke alarms going off at location. No signs of smoke. All occupants out of home. Paged Luverne Fire Department.
 •Complainant reported his son isn't back from the wrestling meet. He doesn't know anyone to call, but a lot of kids went. Contacted Brad

from the bus garage.
Dec. 21
 •Deputy arrested man for felony fleeing, no Minnesota driver's license, speeding, stop sign violations and uncased and loaded firearm.
 •Reserved for narcotic laws.
 •Complainant reported an assault between two men in the parking lot of the gas station on South Kniss. Deputy arrested one man and took him to jail for disorderly conduct and assault in the fifth degree.
 •Deputy cited subject for small amount of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.
 •Deputy reported that while he was driving through Magnolia, he found a BB gun. No one knew who it belonged to, so it was brought to the Rock County Sheriff's Office and placed in an evidence room.
 •Complainant reported that subject did not bring her child to the hospital to be admitted and wanted to report it to Family Services. Contacted on-call social worker and passed on information.
 •Complainant requested a residence check over Christmas for a few days.
Dec. 22
 •Complainant reported problems with a roommate and wanted some advice.
 •Complainant reported child neglect and abuse.
 •Complainant reported many problems in home. Children are neglected.
 •Complainant requested a welfare check on a man they have not seen in three weeks. Deputy checked, and he was fine.
 •Complainant requested to speak to deputy about dogs being stolen in 2013.
 •Complainant reported stack fire at Gevo. Paged Luverne Fire and Rock County ambulance for standby.
 In addition, officers responded to 2 motor vehicle accidents, 3 deer accidents, 6 vehicles in ditch, 1 transport, 1 funeral escort, 11 traffic stops, 17 ambulance runs, 9 paper services, 3 animal complaints, 1 false alarm, 7 log/alarm sheets, 3 drug court tests, 5 money escorts, 4 unwarranted 911 calls and issued 6 purchase/carry permits and 1 burn permit.



The historic Carnegie Cultural Center on North Freeman became the official home for Luverne Street Music in 2016.

Year in review/from page 3A

312 E. Main Street, Luverne, MN 56156.

Carnegie home to Luverne Street Music

In other good news on Rock County's historical front, the Carnegie Cultural Center became the official home for Luverne Street Music in 2016. In February the City Council approved a 10-year agreement with Luverne Street Music to lease the city-owned Carnegie Cultural Center.

The non-profit music agency that connects private music instructors with interested students took over the Carnegie building on North Freeman Avenue March 1 and hosted an open house and music recital for the public in October.

Luverne Street Music directors say they're dedicated to continuing the building's cultural purpose of promoting all arts in the community.

In line with that vision, the Carnegie's main floor has essentially been left in its open format accented by arched windows and heavy wood trim.

In December the Carnegie continued its tradition of hosting the Festival of Trees.

Election coverage

2016 will likely go down in national history for its election that put billionaire television host Donald Trump in the White House. In Rock County, the Clinton-Trump contest generated a fair share of political interest and resulted in record participation in the local political process.

The March caucus gatherings had more participants than ever — particularly among Rock County GOP

supporters. And local voters had the added interest of several races — on school boards, city councils and county commission — that needed primaries to narrow the names on the ballot.

A memorable moment in Rock County's 2016 election was a tie vote for the second-place County Board candidate in District 3. Seeking election were Greg Burger (the ultimate winner), Darrel Van Aartsen and incumbent Ron Boyenga.

A card draw to break a tie between Boyenga and Van Aartsen effectively ended Boyenga's decades-long stint on the County Board.

Voters also approved the Sunday liquor in Luverne, which means qualifying businesses apply for Sunday liquor licenses.

Broadband reaches rural Rock County homes

For those who have long had adequate Internet access, it may not be a big deal that fiber-to-the-home broadband access is reaching rural Rock County.

But for many of the thousands of rural residents who have been without high-speed Internet, this was the biggest story of 2016. In fact, rural broadband is often compared to rural electricity and phone service, in terms of far-reaching economic impact.

All of the underground fiber is now in place and some residences are already connected and using the service. The rest will be connected in 2017.

Year in Review/see page 8A

THE CITY OF LUVERNE STREET DEPARTMENT REMINDS YOU THAT:

*If it's snowing when you go to bed...
 If snow is in the forecast...
 If you're planning to be out of town...*

REMEMBER TO MOVE YOUR VEHICLES OFF THE STREET UNTIL THE PLOW HAS GONE BY CURB TO CURB

Save **BIG** on our Year End **CLOSEOUTS**

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Lori Sorenson photos/1229 bus driver Christmas



Holly jolly bus drivers lift spirits

Luverne students dismissed at 1:30 Friday afternoon, Dec. 23, for their Christmas break amid cloudy, wet weather, but some of the bus drivers did what they could to brighten the day.

Luverne bus driver Jim Ouverson (above) said he's getting some mileage out of his bright holiday outfit, which he's worn to gatherings with friends and family. Bonnie Busse-Reu (left) drew smiles from student riders with her reindeer antlers and festive necktie.

Students will return to class Tuesday, Jan. 3.

CELEBRATIONS

Open House

Norman DeJongh will celebrate his 80th birthday with an open house from 6:30-10 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 7, at the Eagles Club in Luverne. He requests no gifts.

SENIOR MENU

Monday, Jan. 2: Closed.

Tuesday, Jan. 3: Barbecue pork chop, scalloped potatoes, corn, bread, applesauce.

Program: Two-buck Tuesday sponsored by Luverne Eagles

Wednesday, Jan. 4: Roast beef, mashed potatoes, cole slaw, bun, cookie.

Thursday, Jan. 5: Roast turkey, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, cranberry sauce garnish, bread, pumpkin dessert.

Friday, Jan. 6: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, squash, bread, blushing pears.

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

Bring a friend or make new ones. Call 283-9846 to make dining reservations or for home-delivered meals.

SCHOOL NEWS

Lonneman to attend Luther

Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, has announced that Mitchell Lonneman, Adrian, has been accepted for admission for the 2017-18 academic year. Lonneman has been awarded the President's Scholarship.

Let us share the news

The Star Herald strives to recognize all academic accomplishments of students from its coverage areas, and our news department relies on multiple sources (colleges, students, parents, etc.) for that information. Send school news to editor@star-herald.com or call 507-283-2333.

REMEMBER WHEN

10 years ago (2006)

The new Law Enforcement Center on Blue Mound Avenue will be open for a public walk-through Monday, Jan. 8, from 2 to 7 p.m.

The move from the current location next to the courthouse will start Jan. 9 and the facility should be fully operational by Jan. 11.

25 years ago (1991)

Classes for students in grades five through 12 will start at 8:20 rather than 8:30 a.m. beginning Jan. 2.

The changed schedule will allow students in grades seven through 12 to watch daily broadcasts from the Whittle News Network of Knoxville, Tenn. For 12 minutes without losing class time. ...

The broadcast includes two minutes of commercials. ...

They provided televisions and installation in exchange for the school's commitment to have students view the daily news and advertisements.

50 years ago (1966)

Tighter credit regulations which have reduced new housing construction nation-wide resulted in the building of only eight new homes in Luverne in 1966, the smallest number in 15 years.

However, the total spent for building was above a year ago, thanks to several large building projects, the largest of which were the educational unit to St. John's Lutheran church, the remodeling of the city power plant, and the new Medical Center building.

75 years ago (1941)

Seven hundred and forty-nine motorists — the second largest number in any one month since the establishment of the Minnesota drivers license act in 1934 — suffered either revocation or suspension of their driving permits during November for infractions of the traffic laws. ...

Of the outright revocations, 390 motorists forfeited their driving permits as the penalty for driving while intoxicated. ...

One hundred and fifty-five motorists lost their right to drive as a result of two or more convictions of excessive speed.

100 years ago (1916)

The following ad was placed by Home Automobile Company in the Rock County Herald:

With several hundred makes of automobiles in America, the Ford factory turns out more than one-half of the entire finished product. Because the worth of Ford cars as dependable, money-saving utilities has been demonstrated beyond all question, the demand is constantly increasing. Order yours NOW. Runabout \$345; Touring Car \$360; Coupelet \$505; Town Car \$595; Sedan \$645. All prices f.o.b. Detroit.

1900: New Year opens to more safety, resident comforts

The following appeared in the Rock County Herald on December 29, 1900:

1900 A PROSPEROUS YEAR

NEW YEAR OPENS WITH BRIGHT PROSPECTS

Large Number of Public and Private Improvements throughout the County—Farm Comforts Increased by Construction of Buildings and Towns Made Healthier by Better Sanitation—Rock County Keeps Step with the March of Progress.

The year 1900 has been a very prosperous one to Rock county people and the state of their well being is indicated in the public improvements made in the past twelve months. The advent of winter alone prevented a continuance of such work and with the opening of spring building operations will continue on a scale even larger than that of the past year. Numerous fine



BITS BY BETTY

By Betty Mann, president Rock County Historical Society

homes have been erected in Luverne and in the other towns of the county and on the farms; barns and other buildings have been constructed which add to the value, appearance and convenience of the land; and on every hand have been fresh evidence of the prosperity of the people. These expenditures, borne easily as they have been without crippling the resources of those who have made them, harbinger greater progress in the future.

An imposing new jail and sheriff's residence for Rock county was one of the valuable acquisitions in the past year. In appearance it accords admi-

rably with the court house, and is constructed in accordance with the views of experts on jail buildings.

The wooden sidewalks on the main streets of Luverne have been replaced with concrete and add materially to the good appearance of the village. Nearly \$4,000 was expended in improvements for this purpose alone. In many parts of town substantial stone crossings have been put in to take the place of wood.

The past year has seen the completion of arrangements for a fine \$25,000 hotel building in Luverne to be erected in the spring. A sufficient sum of money has been subscribed to insure the construction of the building, an excellent site has been

purchased and Architect Green is now completing the plans.

The sewerage system is a recent addition to the list of public benefits. On Main street the sewers have been laid and many property owners have made connections. A further extension of the system will be made in the spring.

A row of frame buildings on Main street has been replaced by a handsome stone block, the store room in which were quickly taken by desirable tenants.

The Herald has chronicled during the course of their construction the erection of many of the new buildings and additions to and improvements on old ones. Those new revived are the leading ones, but they make a small part of the total number.

Donations to the Rock County Historical Society can be sent to the Rock County Historical Society, P.O. Box 741, Luverne, MN 56156.

Mann welcomes correspondence sent to mannmade@iw.net.

OBITUARY

Beverly Christensen

Beverly Jane Christensen, 89, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, died Thursday, Dec. 22, 2016, at her home.

A funeral service is at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 29, at First Baptist Church in Luverne. Burial will follow in the Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne. A visitation is from 4-7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 28.

Beverly Wood was born on Jan. 18, 1927, to James and Esther (Rehfeld) Wood at their home in Warner, South Dakota. She graduated from Warner High School in 1945.

Following graduation, Bev worked in Aberdeen, South

Dakota, where she met Virgil Christensen. They were married on June 1, 1947, at the First Baptist Church in Aberdeen. The couple later moved to Lincoln, Nebraska, where Bev worked while Virgil attended university. In 1950 they moved to Sioux Falls. Virgil and Bev moved to Luverne in 1958 to raise their growing family and establish their business. In 2013 they returned to Sioux Falls, residing at The Lodge at Prairie Creek.

In addition to being a homemaker, Bev was very active socially and politically. She was the first woman to serve on the board of directors for First Bank

in Luverne. She was active in the Republican Party from 1958-2012. She served as Rock County's Republican Chairwoman for many years, was a delegate at the National Republican Convention in 1976, and was appointed to Gov. Al Quie's advisory board. She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, Rock County Extension (Rock County Extension's Homemaker of the Year in 1961), and active in the local PEO chapter. From 1960 until 2000 Bev managed properties for the family corporation. Bev attended the First Baptist Church in Luverne. She enjoyed raising her children, traveling, baking, and cross stitching.

She is survived by her husband, Virgil; seven children, Carol Christensen (Adolfo Gallego),

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, Paula Christensen, St. Louis Park, David Christensen, Bagley, Carla (Mike) Casanova, Sioux Falls, Jolene (Bruce) Ver Steeg, Denver, Colorado, Jayne Christensen, Sioux Falls, and Mark (Suzy) Christensen, Fort Collins, Colorado; 12 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her sister, Ramona Keller, Grafton, North Dakota.

She was preceded in death by her parents and four siblings, Joyce Wood, Royal "Bud" Wood, Carolyn Gardner and Donna Kuhfeld.

Arrangements are by Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, www.hartquistfuneral.com. (1229 F)

Births of 2016

December 2015

January

Jan. 1: Josh VanVeldhuizen and Melissa Radley, Luverne, a girl, Azalea Grace.
Jan. 8: Tom and Jo-Anne Beimers, Minneapolis, a boy, Oliver Edward.
Jan. 11: Andy and Kristy Loosbrock, Luverne, a girl, Veronica Faith.
Jan. 15: Devon and Trina Fluit, Hardwick, a boy, Andrew William.
Jan. 20: Devin and Michelle DeBoer, Laurel, Mont., a boy, Colton Jon; Andrew and Lexi Scholten, Bricelyn,

a boy, Callahan Andrew.
Jan. 21: Jarid and Anna Hoogendoorn, a girl, Briar Marjorie.

February

Feb. 7: Nathan and Maggie Siebenahler, Luverne, a girl, Raelyn Pamela.
Feb. 10: Andrew and Sarah Murtha, Sioux Falls, S.D., a girl, Nora Grace.
Feb. 13: Robert and Kerri Baker, Beaver Creek, a girl, Kaelyn Kay.
Feb. 14: Will and Beth Weber, Eagan, a boy, William Robert; Tom Sandager and Micah Pewe, Hills, a girl, Emery Lea.
Feb. 15: Rex and Erin

Metzger, Beaver Creek, a boy, Brooks Glen.
Feb. 17: Ryan Bullerman and Brandee Scott, Adrian, a boy, Joseph Ryan Scott Bullerman.
Feb. 22: Chris and Christina Snow, Cottage Grove, a girl, Emersen Lou.
Feb. 24: Jacob and Amanda Hartz, Luverne, a girl, Jayda Joyce.

March

March 2: Tyler and Kala Bush, Hills, a girl, Maybrie Kae.
March 6: (Adopted March 11) Mark and Erin Top, Hills, a boy, Isaiah Allan.
March 23: Mark and

Amanda Meredith, Hutto, Texas, a boy, Shadrach Nathaniel.

April

May 7: Dave and Amanda McDonald, Luverne, a girl, Cora Maye.

June

June 16: Kirk and Kim Miller, Sioux Falls, S.D., a boy, Liam David.

June 25: Jamie and Jennifer Beyer, Luverne, a girl, Anna Elise.

July

July 6: Shane and Katie

Sauer, Luverne, a girl, Emerie Elizabeth.
July 12: Josh and Tara Churchill, Luverne, a boy, Tavern William.

August

Aug. 1: Nicholas Perret and Chelsey Parke Perret, New Orleans, La., a boy, Ezra Campbell.

Aug. 12: Derek and Brittny Ryan, Sioux Falls, S.D., a boy, Kasen Samuel.

Aug. 28: Amos and Heather Kittleston, Hills, a girl, Stella.

September

Sept. 21: Robert and Brooke Morris, Frost, a boy,

Benson Oskar.
Sept. 24: Nic and Kristen Uilk, Brookings, S.D., a girl, Luella Adele.

October

Oct. 14: Eric and Whitney Harnack, Hills, a boy, Lincoln Alan.

November

December

Dec. 3: Nick and Jessica Mead, Luverne, twins, a boy, Henry Nicholas, and a girl, Lydia LaVonnie.
Dec. 7: Andrew and Amanda Blank, Beaver Creek, a boy, Elias Jude.

2016 Deaths

December 2015

Dec. 29: Joyce Blair, 80, Worthington.
Dec. 30: Dorothea Goembel, 93, Magnolia.
Dec. 31: Darla Green, 59, Luverne.

January

Jan. 1: Dorothy Ask, 94, Kenneth.
Jan. 3: Theodore Untiedt, 87, Fillmore, Calif.
Jan. 4: Maurice Fitzer, 89, Luverne.
Jan. 8: Jeffrey Rust, 60, Sioux Falls, S.D.; Marvin Dale, 96, Yankton, S.D.
Jan. 11: Shelli Larsen, 39, Valley Springs, S.D.
Jan. 16: Carl Hoover, 78, Luverne; Melvin Paulsen, 86, Luverne.
Jan. 20: Eileen Bouwman, 93, Luverne.
Jan. 21: Ann Pick, 72, Sioux Falls, S.D.; Donald Lange, 83, Adrian.
Jan. 24: Hattie Vander Ziel, infant, Leota; Eileen Reisch, 91, Luverne.
Jan. 26: Evelyn Silvrants, 89, Luverne.
Jan. 28: Anita Hort, 94, Brooten.
Jan. 29: Alexandra "Allie" Rozeboom, 41, Luverne.

February

Feb. 1: Norman Nelson, 67, Magnolia.
Feb. 2: Virginia Gerken, 94, Luverne.
Feb. 3: Genevieve Murphy, 81, LeMars, Iowa.
Feb. 8: Janice Kroontje, 70, Magnolia; Laurie Abels, 54, Brewster.
Feb. 18: Arnold Rieckman, 88, Luverne; Dee Jay Reiff, 77, Omaha, Neb.
Feb. 22: Esther Weber, 92, Luverne; Helen Meyer, 99, Mankato; Bernice Bartels, 95, Hills.
Feb. 21: James Iverson, 84, Madison, S.D.
Feb. 23: Burdell Rowe, 95, Luverne.
Feb. 29: Lois Lorange, 90, Ortonville.

March

March 4: Charles Janssen, 84, Luverne.
March 5: LeRoy Lindblom, 79, Luverne.
March 7: LeRoy Ellefson, 72, Jasper.
March 8: Mildred Keunen, 86, Hills.
March 11: Brain "Bernie" Schaap, 46, Lismore.
March 14: Janice Ward, 75, Hills; John Kreuch III, 61, White Bear Lake.
March 18: Jessica Julius, 38, Des Moines, Iowa.

March 23: Robert Anderson, 91, Luverne.
March 27: Alan Stroh, 68, Luverne.
March 28: Robert Kirsch, 91, Hills.
March 31: Aaron Conklin, 34, Magnolia.

April

April 3: Chad Carlson, 39, Luverne.
April 6: Albert Peterson, 90, Bellingham, Wash.
April 8: Roger Gehrke, 72, Beaver Creek.
April 9: Henrietta De Jongh, 87, Hills.
April 11: Hazel Pedersen, 92, Sioux Falls, S.D.
April 13: Daniel Kvaas, 59, Minneapolis.
April 15: Dalwyn Schelhaas, 80, Kenneth; Richard Walvante, 80, Sioux Falls, S.D.
April 16: Brant Israelson, 52, Hesperia, Calif.; John Crawford, 91, Luverne; Marcella Mielke, 99, New Ulm.
April 18: Brian Bork, 50, Sioux Falls, S.D.; Dianne Johnson, 64, Ellsworth.
April 19: Adeline Chovancek, 89, Luverne.
April 20: Olga Thorson Gabrielson, 85, Luverne.
April 23: Robert Jensen, 73, Luverne.
April 24: Albert Bot, 94, Luverne.
April 26: Eugene Vorthers, 59, Adrian.
April 30: Burdella De Jager, 95, Hull, Iowa.

May

May 1: Elvin Roemeling, 73, Sioux Falls, S.D.
May 2: Robert Bakken, 56, Luverne.
May 3: Ricky Eads, 57, Claremore, Okla.
May 7: Celine Klein, 89, Adrian; Daryl Reese, 77, Worthington.
May 12: Lucille Fick, 90, Luverne.
May 19: Evan VerSteeg, 71, Luverne.
May 20: Grace Loose, 100, Luverne.
May 23: Opal Claussen, 95, Luverne.
May 27: Diane La Frenz, 69, Luverne; Rosanne Olson, 65, Wabasso.
May 28: Robert Olson, 79, Beaver Creek.
May 29: Robert Drake, 48, Luverne.
May 30: Arlene Backer, 87, Wausau, Wis.

June

June 6: Gladys Van Wetering, 84, Luverne.
June 11: Stanley Wessels, 84, Luverne.

June 12: Frederick Manfred Jr., 62, Luverne.
June 20: Verna Busch, 91, Loveland, Colo.
June 24: Marcella Scott, 88, Hardwick.
June 25: Monsignor Eugene Egan, 87, Luverne; Janet Newell, 74, Lennox, S.D.
June 26: Doris Ebert, 88, Luverne.
June 28: Harold Forsberg, 91, Hardwick.
June 29: Gail Smiens, 80, Luverne.

July

July 2: Karen Holst, 73, Spicer.
July 6: Kevin Martens, 56, Steen.
July 8: Henry Hanson Jr., 79, Adrian; Glenn Vos, 77, Montevideo.
July 9: Harold Orvis, 82, Luverne.
July 12: Lorraine Vorwerk, 82, Detroit Lakes.
July 17: Lillian Anderson, 93, Luverne.
July 20: Larona Elbers, 76, Steen; William Fay, 87, Plymouth.
July 22: Katherine McBride, 57, Sioux Falls, S.D.
July 25: Susan Anderson, 53, North Branch.
July 27: Wilma Van Heerde Frease, 81, Venice, Fla.; Merylyn Flom, 78, Sartell; Gerald Lorenzen, 89, Jasper.
July 29: Clifford Anderson, 96, Hills.
July 30: Gale Oldre, 64, Watertown, S.D.
July 31: Burdell Enninga, 76, Lake Shetek.

August

Aug. 2: Randy Krell, 62, Billings, Mont.

Aug. 4: Kathleen Thompson, 96, Rancho Bernardo, Calif.

Aug. 10: Jennie Bosch, 92, Hills; Daniel Brower, 54, Hills.
Aug. 13: Lois Holling, 89, Luverne.

Aug. 14: Arvid Erickson, 97, Granite Falls.

Aug. 15: James Thode, 59, Pipestone.

Aug. 19: Edwin Smith, 70, Allen, Texas; Norman Kitchenmaster, 86, Rock Rapids, Iowa.

Aug. 20: William McCormick, 90, Luverne.

Aug. 21: Robert Miller, 73, Luverne.

Aug. 23: Dorothy Dorn, 83, Luverne.

Aug. 26: Gertrude Berning, 87, Adrian.

Aug. 29: Ruth Stirling, 66, Tripp, S.D.

Aug. 31: Kermit Skorr, 75, Jasper.

September

Sept. 2: Harvey Hemme, 89, Luverne.

Sept. 3: Brent Bradley, 30, Luverne.

Sept. 4: Doris Berning, 84, Luverne.

Sept. 5: Roger Beers, 84, Luverne.

Sept. 7: Dennis Ossenfort, 64, Worthington.

Sept. 12: Steve Hamilton, 61, Luverne.

Sept. 13: Cecelia Altman, 81, Lismore.

Sept. 15: Lori Essman Klein, 59, Sioux Falls, S.D.; Emerson Russman, 80, Red Wing; Audrey Timmerman, 88, Luverne.

Sept. 16: Peggy Jo Harms, 58, Luverne.

Sept. 17: June Kroon, 89, Rock Rapids, Iowa.

Sept. 19: John Tilstra, 88, Hills; James Fodness, 75, Luverne.

Sept. 23: Rory Burke, 61, Sioux Falls, S.D.; Kenneth Busch, 92, Loveland, Colo.

Sept. 26: Edyth Briggs, 87, Hills; Erwin De Boer, 73, Hills.

Sept. 27: Arlyn McClure, 88, Luverne.

Sept. 30: Bernard Van Aartsen, 90, Rock Rapids, Iowa; Robert Rolph, 92, Luverne; Carol Scheerhorn, 76, Hills.

October

Oct. 3: Margaret Erickson, 78, Pipestone.

Oct. 5: Lorna Watts, 80, Luverne.

Oct. 8: Arthur Grootwasink, 89, Edgerton.

Oct. 9: Mavis Arends, 71, Ellsworth.

Oct. 10: Miriam Hansen, 84, Sherburn.

Oct. 13: Arnold Gabrielson, 89, Burnsville.

Oct. 21: Nathan Westfield, 19, Trosky.

Oct. 22: Linda Finke, 67, Sioux Falls, S.D.

Oct. 24: Patricia Smedsrud, 55, Luverne; MaryMente, 82, Vinton, Iowa.

Oct. 28: Dorothy Bos, 81, Hills; Duane Pike, 84, Luverne.

Oct. 30: Eloise Saarloos, 60, Worthington.

November

Nov. 1: Mae McClure, 91, Luverne; Vernon von der Lieth, 76, Beaver Creek.

Nov. 4: Elaine Oldre Jensen, 89, Robbinsdale.

Nov. 5: Josephine Rober, 102, Luverne; Robert Siebenahler, 88, Jasper; Diane Thompson, 68, Brandon, S.D.; James Boecker, 69, Adrian.

Nov. 6: Brian Kirsch, 61, Sioux Falls, S.D.

Nov. 9: Jerome Untiedt, 68, Kennesaw, Ga.; Dale Halsne, 51, Ruthton.

Nov. 10: Helen Perkins, 97, Pipestone.

Nov. 11: Marvin Lorang, 79, Lismore.

Nov. 13: Steven Heck, 71, Luverne.

Nov. 15: Maynard Lafrenz, 70, Luverne.

Nov. 16: Norma Jean Slegers, 86, Hills.

Nov. 19: Inez Gould, 91, Ivanhoe.

Nov. 20: Mary Schweiss, 77, Fairfax.

Nov. 26: Dennis Gyberg, 64, Luverne.

Nov. 28: Dennis Schadwinkel, 73, Luverne.

Nov. 29: John Mouw, 86, Leota.

December

Dec. 2: Boyd Landsman, 85, Tyler.

Dec. 3: Jennie Nieuwboer, 94, Luverne.

Dec. 6: Nellie Van Santen, 89, Luverne; Donna Peterson, 71, Vergas.

Dec. 8: Daryl Dammer, 66, Rushmore.

Dec. 9: Virginia Schei, 97, Luverne; Todd Christenson, 55, Boynton Beach, Fla.

Dec. 17: Raymond Anderson, 92, Luverne.

Dec. 21: Laurel Anderson, 70, Brandon, S.D.

Dec. 22: Beverly Christensen, 89, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Dec. 24: Darrel Pieper, 74, Valley Springs, S.D.

DEATH NOTICES

Laurel Anderson

Laurel Lynn Anderson, 70, formerly of Luverne, died Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2016, at Bethany Home in Brandon, South Dakota.

A graveside memorial service will be in May 2017

at Maplewood Cemetery in Luverne.

Arrangements are through Hartquist Funeral Home in Luverne, www.hartquistfuneral.com

(1229 DN)

Darrel Pieper

Darrel W. Pieper, 74, Valley Springs, South Dakota, died Saturday, Dec. 24, 2016, at the Sanford USD Medical Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Visitation will be from 5-8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 29, at Hartquist Funeral Home

in Luverne. Burial will follow at Beaver Creek Cemetery in Beaver Creek.

Funeral arrangements are through Hartquist Funeral Home of Luverne, www.hartquistfuneral.com

(1229 DN)

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We're disappointed Avera is not included in Blue Cross Blue Shield's BlueConnect limited health insurance doctor network, because we are the closest and most convenient care option for many of you.

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Take action today.

Go to Avera.org/mnhealthplan

for information on how to contact your legislators.

Avera 

Year in review — Rock County Star Herald recaps top stories from 2016/continued from page 5A

Lewis and Clark arrives in Luverne — finally — after 26 years in the making

A ribbon-cutting event in March celebrated the arrival of water from the Missouri River aquifers near Vermillion, South Dakota, to Luverne through the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System.

Red Arndt, an honored guest at Monday's event, was part of the system's early start in 1990 when he was Luverne's water and wastewater supervisor.

"I've been waiting for this day for a long time — 26 years," he told a small gathering of dignitaries under a tent near the Lewis and Clark meter building by the city power plant.

"We finally have water that will sustain the growth of Luverne for years to come and that will enable my kids and grandkids to stay here and have jobs here that are enabled by water."

Luverne first joined the Lewis and Clarke effort 26 years ago and is now the 13th member of 20 connected.

When complete, the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System will provide treated water from the Missouri River aquifer to more than 300,000 people in the tri-state area.

Highway 75 updates

Luverne residents and visitors have been enjoying green boulevards, sidewalks and a new three-lane road surface from last year's \$3 million South Highway 75 improvement project.

This year Rotary Park between Howling Dog and Subway was dedicated in October, and another corner was completed in the "four corners" project at the stoplights.

Last year the flag park was finished on the southeast corner. This year work wrapped up on the northeast corner by W-2 Meats with colored concrete, a lighted Luverne sign directing traffic downtown, and plenty of landscaping and small trees.

Work is slated to continue in 2017 on the other two corners by the Laundromat and the Remme property.

Grand Prairie Events opens

This year was a busy year for business news and developments. Among them was the grand opening of Mike and Wanda Jarchow's Grand Prairie Events in the former Family Dollar building just off West Main Street.

The 11,500-square-foot building is large enough for 600 people, but it can be sectioned into three separate



Lori Sorenson photo/1103 grand prairie ribbon cutting

rooms for smaller gatherings. Since opening this summer, the facility has hosted several weddings and special events.

Mike and Wanda Jarchow celebrated a ribbon-cutting and public tours of their Grand Prairie Events, Thursday, Oct. 27, in their location just south of Main Street on Estey Street. It was among the top business news in 2016. The Jarchow family is pictured in front to the right of the two boys, Jeremiah Shelton and Tayviauhn Hipkins. Their family includes (from left) Wanda, Lydia, Anja, Mela, Katia, Elise, Griffen and Mike. Also pictured are (from left) Loretta Van Engelenhoven, Mark Ommen, Esther Frakes, Dorothy Rosenberg, Annie Opitz, Mike Engesser, Travis Dunn, Carolina Contreras, Dave Anderson, Jane Hawe, Chantel Connell, Mary Lutmer, Lori Hallstrom, Patty Olson, Stan Knobloch, Vickie Altena, Faye Bremer and Gene Cragoe.

Teals buys Glen's grocery and convenience store

When Glen Gust celebrated his 40th year in the grocery business in April, he hinted at retirement.

Those plans became official in December when he announced Teals Market would buy Glen's Food Center at the end of 2016. The family operation based in Cold Spring is also taking over Glen's Food and Gas on Highway 75.

Not part of the deal, however, was the lease agreement with the Blue Mound Banquet Center owned by Glen's ex-wife Peg Gust. The Banquet Center is now for sale and is effectively closed at the end of the year.

Sharkee's sold to City

In a business news story that's been in the works for years, Sharkee's owner Dave Halverson has agreed to sell

his condemned property on Highway 75 to the city of Luverne for \$220,000.

The agreement comes after city officials initiated the process of acquiring the structure and lot through eminent domain.

The abandoned building — once a bar and restaurant — has for two years been in violation of health department and city codes and is considered a public nuisance and a hazard.

Sharkee's and the Mert's Repair property just to the southeast are both part of a tax increment financing district.

The costs for acquisition and demolition of both lots — a total of four acres — will be recouped in the TIF amount, \$600,000.

The city purchased Mert's Repair lot for \$160,000 to the east of Sharkee's and sold Marlin Kracht a new lot in the Industrial Park (for \$10,000)

for his expansion. That move is already complete and the new location will be open soon.

In other exciting business news in 2016:

- Schomacker Cleaning on West Main Street expanded operations in the former Luverne Style Shop building on East Main Street. In August they celebrated the opening of their Schomacker Flooring and Appliance.

- Scott Heibult, and his wife, Tammy, are opening a computer sales and service business, Computer Clinic, just north of the Laundromat on Highway 75. The new building is nearly complete, but an official opening has not yet been announced.

- Gold'n Plump is purchased by Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, headquartered in Greeley, Colorado. It's not yet clear what the deal will mean for the plant in Luverne or the other GNP plants in Minnesota and Wisconsin. The deal will close early in 2017.

- Former Loopy's Dollar Store manager Amy Kruger opened her own business, Four Seasons, in the Loopy's location. She purchased the store's inventory and has taken over the building lease on East Main Street in Luverne.

- Dragonfly owners Stacy and Dave Riphagen are remodeling the former Lavish Designs building on East Main Street to open a sister business to their current boutique.

- Culligan moved to Main Street into the former Palace Video building after its previous location on Highway 75 was sold to the city for demolition.

- Luverne Body Shop is expanding and relocating to a new building in the industrial park, and Jaycox is taking over its current location for truck business.

- Rock Veterinary Clinic sold its Minn-I-Kota location on East Main Street to The Bluestem, which intends to develop a catering business.

Holiday Hours

All Minnwest Bank locations will be closed on Monday, December 26

Hwy 75 will be open Saturday, December 31 ~
Lobby 9 am - 12 pm | Drive up 8 am - 12 pm

All Minnwest Bank locations will be closed on Monday, January 2, 2017

All items accepted after 4 pm on Friday, December 30, 2016 will be posted Tuesday, January 3, 2017

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John Rittenhouse photo/1229 gym 9

Luverne senior Shelby Nath turned in her team's top score on the floor during Thursday's home win over Hendricks.

Cards best Huskies for second BSC victory

By John Rittenhouse

The Luverne girls' basketball team split a pair of Big South Conference games to end the 2016 portion of its schedule with a 3-5 record.

Luverne lost a 17-point game in Pipestone Dec. 20 before returning home to best Jackson County Central by eight points Thursday.

The Cardinals host Marshall Jan. 3.

Luverne 62, JCC 54

The Cardinals came out on the winning end of an eight-points decision when they played the Huskies in a tightly contested game in Luverne Thursday.

LHS never trailed in the contest, but the Cards had to withstand challenges from both halves of the contest to earn their win.

LHS senior Hailey Remme

registered three field goals in the first 1:42 of the game to give the Cards a 6-0 advantage before JCC went on a 9-5 run to trim the difference to two points (11-9).

JCC still trailed by two (15-113) when Luverne put together a 14-2 run capped by a layup from Jadyn Anderson with 4:32 remaining in the first half that gave the Cards a 29-15 advantage.

The Huskies closed the margin to nine points in the final 30 seconds of the half before Luverne's Sierra Schmuck sank a pair of free throws to give LHS a 33-22 lead at the break.

A field goal from Joci Oye 33 seconds into the second half upped Luverne's lead to 13 points (35-22), but the Huskies countered with a 14-2 run to trim the difference to one

Best/continued on page 2B

Gymnasts post home wins

By John Rittenhouse

The Luverne gymnastics team completed competition in 2016 by winning a pair of home meets last week.

The Cardinals rolled to a 26-point win over Pipestone Dec. 20 before edging Hendricks by less than one point Thursday.

Luverne, 5-2 overall, hosts West Central Jan. 3.

LHS 133.425, Hendricks 132.45

The Cardinals withstood a stiff challenge offered by Greta Johnson and the Grizzlies to secure a less than one-point home victory Thursday.

Johnson kept Hendricks in the meet by winning the vault (9.05), bars (8.55), floor (9.45) and all-around (35.6) titles.

Luverne answered the challenge with a solid team effort.

Samantha Pierce, who placed second on the vault with an 8.95, captured the beam title for the Cards with an 8.45.

Madison Schandelmeier placed second on the bars (8.525) and in the all-around competition (33.975) along with placing third on the beam (7.85) and sharing third place on the vault with teammate Bergin Flom (8.9s).

Flom also finished fourth on



John Rittenhouse photo/1229 gym 6

Samantha Pierce dismounts off the beam to complete her winning routine during Thursday's home win over Hendricks.

the floor (8.825) and in the all-around competition (33.025)

and shared fourth place on the bars with teammates Meghan

Witte and Courtney Siebenahler (7.8s).

Luverne's Shelby Nath placed third on the floor with a 9.0.

Individual results

Vault: Pierce, 8.95; B.Flom, 8.9; Schandelmeier, 8.9; Nath, 8.525; Siebenahler, 8.25.

Bars: Schandelmeier, 8.525; Witte, 7.8; Siebenahler, 7.8; B.Flom 7.8; Nath, 6.7.

Beam: Pierce, 8.45; Schandelmeier, 7.85; B.Flom, 7.5; Madigan Flom, 7.15; Nath, 6.65.

Floor: Nath, 9.0; B.Flom, 8.825; Witte, 8.75; Schandelmeier, 8.7; Pierce, 8.5.

LHS 133.3, Pipestone 107.075

The Cardinals turned in a dominating performance when they rolled to a 26-plus point win over the Arrows Dec. 20 in Luverne.

Luverne athletes won all four individual event titles and captured the first four places in the all-around standings to highlight the win.

The night was a big one for Schandelmeier, who won the vault (9.225), bars (8.25) and all-around titles (33.925) along with earning a share of second place on the beam with teammate Nath (7.9s) and finishing fourth on the floor (8.6).

Nath had a strong night as well by winning the floor title (9.05), finishing third all-

Post/continued on page 2B



John Rittenhouse photo/1229 lgb 8

Luverne junior Sierra Schmuck tossed in a team-high 12 points during Thursday's home win over JCC.

Wrestlers even record at triangular meet

By John Rittenhouse

The Luverne wrestling team wrapped up competition in 2016 by turning in a strong showing at the St. James Triangular Dec. 20.

Luverne defeated Quad County 39-30 and nipped St. James 36-33 to even its season record at 3-3.

Seven Cardinals completed the event with 2-0 records.

Hunter Baker, Riley Baker and Solomon Nielsen pinned their opponents.

Hunter Baker took care of QC's Jaiden Jimenez (1:01) and SJ's Enrique Villalobos (3:49), Riley Baker covered QC's Tori Rupp (56 seconds) and SJ's Landon Hoppe (1:47), and Nielsen stuck QC's Angel Jimenez (58 seconds) and SJ's Tony Rodriguez (27 seconds).

Tucker Oeltjenbruns and Jed Dooyema recorded one pin each during their 2-0 outings.

Oeltjenbruns covered QC's Jordan Odegard (1:05) and posted a 7-5 win against SJ's Nelson Cuellar, while Dooyema notched a 10-5 win over QC's Duncan Marquart before pinning SJ's Erik Morales in 1:28.

Jake Haugen and Zach Luke recorded a pair of decision wins for LHS.

Haugen notched 6-0 and

11-4 victories over QC's Miles Kattevold and SJ's Jacob Brey respectively.

Luke registered 5-2 and 10-5 wins over QC's Bryce Schmidt and Shawn Hillesheim respectively.

Riley Cowell won his lone match of the night for LHS, while Jeremiah Dooyema went 1-1.

Zach Bradley, Will Natte and Matt Hup went 0-2.

The Cardinals return to the mat Jan. 3 at the New Ulm Quadrangular.

Match wrap-ups

Luverne 39, QC 30
106 (L) H. Baker pins Villalobos.
113 (L) H. Baker pins Jimenez.
120 (Q) Hidalgo pins Bradley.
126 (L) Oeltjenbruns pins Odegard.
132 (L) R. Baker pins Rupp.
138 (L) Jd. Dooyema 10-5 Marquart.
145 (Q) Friese 2-1 Natte.
152 (Q) Hatch 8-5 Jr. Dooyema.
160 (L) Haugen 6-0 Kattevold.
170 (Q) Countryman pins Hup.
182 (L) Nielsen pins Jimenez.
195 (Q) Friese by forfeit.
220 (L) Luke 5-2 Schmidt.
285 (Q) Beckler by forfeit.

Luverne 36, SJ 33
106 (L) H. Baker pins Villalobos.
113 (S) Schumacher pins Bradley.
120 (S) Kulseth by forfeit.
126 (L) Oeltjenbruns 7-5 Cuellar.
132 (L) R. Baker pins Hoppe.
138 (L) Jd. Dooyema pins Morales.
145 (S) Johnson 7-4 Natte.
152 (L) Jr. Dooyema 6-4 Svalland.
160 (S) Lopez pins Hup.
170 (L) Haugen 11-4 Brey.
182 (L) Nielsen pins Rodriguez.
195 (S) Suarez by forfeit.
220 (L) Luke 10-5 Hillesheim.
285 (S) Suarez by forfeit.



John Rittenhouse photo/1229 lgh 9

Luverne senior Mariah Aukes netted two goals to lead the girls' hockey team to a 3-0 home win over Windom Dec. 20.

Girls best Big South foes before falling in Blaine

By John Rittenhouse

The Luverne girls' hockey team went 2-1 during a span of playing three games in seven days.

The Cardinals posted a three-goal home win over Windom Dec. 10 before topping

Worthington by four goals Thursday at the Blue Mound Ice Arena.

Luverne opened play in the Schwan Cup's Open American Division Tournament Monday by dropping a three-goal decision to Chisago Lakes at

the National Sports Center in Blaine.

The 7-3-1 Cards completed play at the Schwan Cup with games on Tuesday and Wednesday.

CL 4, Luverne 1

A four-game winning streak came to an end for the Cardinals when they took on Chisago Lakes to open the Schwan Cup Monday in Blaine. The Wildcats scored three

Girls/continued on page 3B



John Rittenhouse photo/1229 lgh 6

Luverne's Maddie Dinger keeps the puck away from Windom's Katrina LaCanne during a Dec. 20 girls' hockey game at the Blue Mound Ice Arena. Luverne posted a 3-0 win over the Eagles to sweep the annual season series with Windom.

Hockey boys win two of three games

By John Rittenhouse

The Luverne boys' hockey team posted two wins in a stretch of three games.

The Cardinals notched eight-goal home wins over Windom and Worthington Dec. 20 and Thursday respectively.

LHS lost a two-goal decision to Woodbury during the first round of the South St. Paul Tournament Monday.

After completing the tournament in St. Paul with Dec. 27 and Dec. 28 games, the Cards return home to host Totino Grace Saturday.

Woodbury 5, LHS 3

A third-period rally by the Woodbury Royals left the Cardinals with their third loss of the season Monday in St. Paul.

Luverne erased an early deficit by scoring twice in the second period to gain a 3-2 lead against Woodbury during the opening round of the South St. Paul Tournament.

The Royals, however, scored three goals in the first nine minutes of the third period to secure a 5-3 victory.

Woodbury's Ronnine Swee-ny knotted the score at three with a power-play goal 2:03 into the third stanza before Alec Wonsmos gave the Royals a 4-3 edge with 13:41 left to play.

Ben Wahlin made it a two-goal difference with eight minutes remaining to end the scoring in the game.

Woodbury's Max Meyer opened the scoring 1:02 into the first period before Luverne's Trey Roberts knotted the score at the 11:45 mark of the stanza.

The Royals regained a one-goal edge (2-1) before the first period was complete when Zach Lanz scored with 6:18 remaining in the stanza.

Luverne fought back to gain a one-goal edge (3-2) with a pair of second period tallies.

Nick Harder tied the score at two 8:10 into the stanza before Mark Sterrett put the Cards in front with a goal that came with 1:19 remaining in the period.

Woodbury sported a 40-22 advantage in shots on goal during the contest.

Kaden Ericson made 35 saves in goal for LHS, which received a two-assist effort from Declan Beers.

Jim Erickson, Gaige Nath and Andrew Reisch recorded one assist each for the Cards.

Luverne 8, WHS 0

A six-goal second period lifted the Cardinals to victory when they took on the Trojans in Worthington Thursday.

It looked like the Cards might be tested when the teams skated to a scoreless draw in the first period, but Luverne gained control of

the contest with a six-goal outburst in the second.

Eight different Cardinals scored goals in a game in which LHS sported a commanding 60-6 advantage in shots on goal.

Kasyn Kruse opened the scoring 15 seconds into the second period and Gaige Nath and Harder added goals in the next 1:45 to make it a 3-0 game.

Ben Serie upped the lead to 4-0 with 8:39 remaining in the stanza and Chris Jelken and Tyler Reisdorfer scored goals 14 seconds apart in the final 3:19 of the period to complete Luverne's six-goal eruption.

LHS added two more goals to the tally in the third period.

Jesse Kontz scored 4:40 into the final period and Coy Gonnerman added a counter with 3:05 left to play.

Jelken led the Cards with two assists in the contest, while Jonathan Stearns, Reisdorfer, Mark Sterrett, Nath, Gonnerman, Andrew Reisch and Skylar Dingmann added one assist each to the winning cause.

Daniel Tofteland recorded a six-save shutout in goal for the Cards.

LHS 8, Windom 0

Luverne's power-play unit was in high gear during a Dec. 20 home win over the Eagles.

The Cardinals registered seven power-play goals in 10 attempts in the first two periods of the game to set the stage for an easy win over the Eagles.

Reisdorfer and Serie scored two goals each to pace an offense that sported a 32-13 advantage in shots on goal over the Eagles.

Kaden Ericson was solid in goal for the Cardinals, saving all 13 shots he faced during a shutout performance.

Luverne scored four goals in each of the game's first two periods.

Declan Beers netted a power-play tally 5:05 into the game, while Kruse and Reisdorfer added power-play goals 3:12 apart to make it a 3-0 game with 2:32 remaining in the opening stanza.

Serie capped the scoring in the first period by netting a goal when the teams were at even strength with six seconds left in the stanza.

All four of Luverne's goals in the second period came in power-play situations.

Harder and Serie scored one goal each in the first 8:53 of the stanza.

Reisdorfer scored his second goal of the game with 6:27 left to play before Jelken added an unassisted tally with 2:49 left to play.

Beers, Harder and Kruse recorded two assists for the Cards, while Reisdorfer, Jesse Reed and Nath added one assist each to the cause.

Girls/continued from page 1B

goals the first 20:22 of the game and went on to win the game by three goals after limiting LHS to seven shots on goal in the contest.

CL gained 2-0 lead when Ellie Kimlinger netted a pair of unassisted goals in the first period.

Kimlinger opened the scoring 6:47 into the contest and capped a two-goal effort with 4:23 remaining in the second stanza.

The Wildcats upped the lead to 3-0 when Madison Lundeen registered a power-play goal 3:22 into the second stanza, but Luverne climbed back into contention 3:23 later.

Sophomore Sophie Holmberg tapped in her first varsity goal 6:45 into the stanza after tipping in a pass from Rozilyn Oye to make it a 3-1 game.

CL answered the challenge

2:10 later when Danielle Burgen netted the final goal of the game with 8:05 left in the second period.

The Wildcats sported a 42-7 advantage in shots on goal at game's end.

Emilie Bartels made 38 saves in net for LHS.

Luverne 4, WHS 0

Luverne collected its fourth consecutive victory when the Cardinals skated to a four-goal win in Worthington Thursday.

Mariah Aukes recorded a hat trick to lead the Cards offensively and Emilie Bartels charted her fourth consecutive shutout performance in goal to pave the way to victory.

Bartels saved all 19 shots she faced in goal during the contest.

Luverne directed 55 shots on net and Aukes turned three

of them into goals.

The teams skated to a scoreless draw in the first period before Aukes opened the scoring 6:55 into the second stanza.

Madison Crabtree added a goal 1:20 later and Aukes scored again with 6:41 remaining to cap a three-goal second period for Luverne.

Aukes completed her hat trick 4:58 into the third period. Carly Serie led the Cards with two assists in the game.

Crabtree, Brynn Thier and Rylee Olson chipped in one assist each.

LHS 3, Windom 0

The Cardinals registered their fourth conference victory of the season when they bested Windom by three goals at the Blue Mound Ice Arena Dec. 20.

Mariah Aukes netted a pair of second-period tallies to

lead an offense that outshot the Eagles 37-29 in the game.

Bartels recorded her third consecutive shutout in goal by saving all 29 shots she faced in net.

The teams skated to a scoreless draw during the first 17 minutes of play before Aukes broke the deadlock with an unassisted tally 57 seconds into the second stanza.

Aukes made it a 2-0 game with 6:35 left in the second period when she poked a rebound created by her own shot into the net.

Oye's first varsity goal of her career capped the scoring with eight seconds left in the third period.

Carly Serie received assists for Oye's goal and Aukes' second tally of the game.

Lancers pierce AHS

By John Rittenhouse

The Adrian wrestling team came up on the losing end of a 43-33 decision when it traveled to Canby Thursday to take on the Lancers in a match.

Five AHS athletes pinned their opponents during the match, but it wasn't enough to make up for the five forfeits the Dragons delivered to Canby.

Logan Taylor (Jake Wagner, no time available), Chandler Combs (5:35 over Brandon Moeller), Beau Bullerman (1:15 over Anthony Nemitz), Mitchell Wagner (1:21 over Denver Noyes) and Scot Edwards (34 seconds over Josh Hansen) recorded pins for Adrian.

Adrian's Marshall Taylor secured a 12-2 decision win over Kyler Northern.

The 2-2 Dragons wrestle in Marshall Jan. 5.

Match wrap-up
106 (A) L. Taylor pins Wagner.
113 (C) Viessman 13-1 Hix.
120 (C) Greenman pins B. Combs.
126 (C) Dreese 3-1 Nelson.
132 (A) C. Combs pins Moeller.
138 (C) Viessman by forfeit.
145 (C) Full by forfeit.
152 (A) M. Taylor 12-6 Northern.
160 (C) Antony by forfeit.
170 (C) Pederson by forfeit.
182 (A) Bullerman pins Nemitz.
195 (C) Stoks by forfeit.
220 (A) Wagner pins Noyes.
285 (A) Edwards pins Hansen.

Patriots top Panthers Thursday

By John Rittenhouse

The Hills-Beaver Creek boys' basketball team continued its winning ways when the Patriots paid a visit to Ellsworth Friday.

Taking on the Panthers in a Red Rock Conference clash, H-BC came out on the winning end of a 61-51 decision.

It was the fourth consecutive victory for the Patriots, who complete December play with a 4-2 record.

Ellsworth dropped its fifth consecutive game to start the season.

H-BC played well early to open a 30-22 lead in the first half.

Adrian drops fourth consecutive contest to WHS

By John Rittenhouse

The Adrian girls' basketball team lost its fourth consecutive game when it challenged the Worthington Trojans in Worthington Thursday.

The Dragons were in a position to end the skid when they trailed by one point at the intermission, but Worthington went on to outscore AHS by 12 points in the second half to secure a 64-51 win.

AHS played with the Trojans in the first half as the Dragons faced a 30-29 deficit at the break.

Worthington, however, used a 34-22 scoring cushion in the second half to ice the win.

Paige Bullerman (15 points

The Patriots used a 31-29 scoring edge in the second half to complete its 10-point conquest.

Trenton Bass (16 points, 11 rebounds and four assists), Zach Scholten (16 points, six rebounds and three blocked shots) and Josh Kueter (15 points, seven rebounds, four blocked shots and three steals) played strong games for H-BC.

Dylan Forshey pulled down five rebounds for the winners, while Isaiah Vis and Jed Burgers charted four and three steals respectively.

Grant Jansma (16 points) and Jared Leuthold (13 points and five assists) led EHS sta-

tistically.

Brandon Kramer and Zach Buntjer collected 11 and nine rebounds respectively.

Ellsworth hosts Fulda Jan. 2, while H-BC hosts Fulda Jan. 5.

Box score
H-BC
Bass 2 2 6-10 16, Burgers 0 0 0-0 0, Forshey 0 0 4-6 4, Keuter 5 0 5-6 15, Leenders 0 0 0-0 0, Scholten 5 0 6-6 16, Vis 4 0 0-0 8, Wysong 1 0 0-2 2.
Ellsworth
Leuthold 3 2 1-5 13, Kruse 1 0 0-0 2, Curtis 0 0 1-4 1, Jansma 1 4 2-2 16, Kramer 5 0 0-0 10, Buntjer 3 0 3-4 9, Boyenga 0 0 0-0 0.

Team statistics
H-BC: 19 of 51 field goals (37 percent), 21 of 30 free throws (70 percent), 39 rebounds, 14 turnovers.
Ellsworth: 19 of 53 field goals (36 percent), seven of 15 free throws (47 percent), 43 rebounds, 22 turnovers.

Tracy-Milroy-Balaton Holiday Tournament Dec. 27-28.

Box score
Kemper 0 0 0-0 0, H. Bullerman 1 2 3-6 11, M. Bullerman 2 0 0-2 4, Kunkel 1 0 3-4 5, Christians 0 0 3-5 3, Jeffers 1 1 2-2 7, Slater 1 0 4-6 6, P. Bullerman 6 0 3-7 15.

and six rebounds) and Hannah Bullerman (11 points and six rebounds) played solid games for Adrian.

Miah Kunkel and Lexi Slater collected eight and seven rebounds respectively.

The 3-5 Dragons play at the

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DEC. 20 SPORTS REPLAY

Patriot girls win big in Adrian

The Hills-Beaver Creek girls' basketball team ended play in 2016 by posting a 71-51 victory in Adrian.

The Patriots outscored the Dragons 34-26 in the first half and used a 37-25 scoring advantage in the second half to complete a 20-point conquest.

Sidney Fick (19 points, four steals and three assists), Grace Bundesen (17 points), Avery Van Roedel (17 points and five assists) Kourtney Rozeboom (13 points) and Jasmine Lingen (three steals and three assists) played key roles in the win for H-BC.

Hannah Bullerman (19 points), Miah Kunkel (12 points, six rebounds and three steals), Paige Bullerman (nine rebounds) and Moriah Bullerman (five rebounds) played well for the Dragons.

Southwest Christian runs away from EHS

The Ellsworth girls' basketball team wrapped up its 2016 schedule by dropping an 86-27 home decision to Southwest Christian.

The visiting E-Gals coasted to a 43-13 halftime advantage and outscored the Panthers 43-14 in the second half to prevail by 59 points.

Ashlyn Meester tossed in 11 points for the 1-6 Panthers.

Patriots prevail in county clash with LHS

By John Rittenhouse

The Hills-Beaver Creek boys' basketball team earned bragging rights for a full year after defeating Luverne in the annual battle between the Rock County teams Dec. 20 in Luverne.

H-BC opened a 14-point halftime advantage and overcame foul trouble in the second half to complete a 63-53 victory.

The Patriots got off to a good start as they opened a 7-2 lead when Zach Scholten completed a dunk at the 13:39 mark of the first half.

Luverne trimmed the difference to three points (7-4) with a field goal from Eli Haugom, but the Patriots dominated the rest of the half.

H-BC went on a 20-7 run ending with Josh Kueter draining a pair of free throws with 2:12 remaining to give the Patriots a 27-11 advantage before settling with a 14-point (29-15) cushion at halftime.

After Luverne scored the first two points of the second half, H-BC reeled off five consecutive points to sport a 34-17 advantage when Dylan Forshey registered a field goal at 16:01.

H-BC's lead swelled to 19 points (41-22) when Jed Burgers converted a layup at 14:02, but the Cards countered with a 14-5 surge to trim the difference to 10 points (46-36) when Andrew Bierman converted a field goal with 9:07 remaining. The Patriots pushed their lead up to 16 points (54-38) when Trenton Bass buried a pair of free throws 5:43 left to play, but they couldn't run away with a convincing win in the final five minutes.

Luverne outscored H-BC 15-9 the rest of the night and fell by 10 points after Bierman sank a pair of charity shots with five seconds left.

Scholten (15 points, six rebounds and three steals), Forshey (14 points and six rebounds) and Kueter (11 points) led H-BC to victory.

Isaiah Vis (six assists, six rebounds and four steals) and Bass (eight assists and three steals) were key contributors as well.

Riley Siebenahler canned all 10 of his free-throw attempts and led the Cards with 12



John Rittenhouse photo/1229 hl bb 12

Hills-Beaver Creek's Dylan Forshey drives to the basket as Luverne's Mark Robinson attempts to block his shot during a boys' basketball game staged in Luverne Dec. 20. Forshey netted 14 points in a 63-53 win for the H-BC Patriots, who evened their record at 3-3.

points.

Layne Curtis chipped in 10 points and Cole Claussen collected eight rebounds.

Box score
H-BC
Scholten 6 0 3-6 15, Leuthold 0 0 0-0 0,

Vis 3 0 2-4 8, Burgers 3 0 2-2 8, Bass 1 0 5-8 7, Kueter 3 1 2-2 11, Forshey 5 0 4-10 14, Taubert 0 0 0-0 0.
Luverne
Robinson 1 2 0-2 8, Lundgren 0 0 0-1 0, Claussen 2 0 0-0 4, Curtis 1 2 2-3 10, Jacobsma 0 1 1-2 4, Bierman 1 1 4-4 9, Siebenahler 1 0 10-10 12, Haugom 3 0 0-1 6.

Team statistics
H-BC: 22 of 38 field goals (58 percent), 18 of 32 free throws (56 percent), 25 rebounds, 11 turnovers.
Luverne: 15 of 42 field goals (36 percent), 17 of 23 free throws (74 percent), 19 rebounds, 10 turnovers.

JCC Huskies humble Cardinal boys Thursday

By John Rittenhouse

The Luverne boys' basketball team came up on the short end of an 82-38 decision when it squared off against Big South Conference power Jackson County Central Thursday in Luverne.

JCC, the defending Section 3AA champion, played like a team that could make another run at the section title this year.

The Huskies canned 61 percent of their field goals and outscored LHS in both halves of the contest.

JCC opened a 40-27 lead in the first 18 minutes of play.

When the Huskies outscored the Cards 42-11 in the

second half, their 44-point victory was complete.

Layne Curtis netted 13 points to lead LHS.

Cole Claussen grabbed nine rebounds for the 1-5 Cards, who play in Marshall Jan. 3.

Box score
Robinson 0 0 0-0 0, Lundgren 2 0 0-3 4, Bierman 1 1 0-0 5, Rahm 0 0 0-0 0, Guy 0 0 0-0 0, Claussen 2 0 0-0 4, Curtis 3 2 1-2 13, Jacobsma 0 0 0-0 0, Stemper 0 0 3-4 3, Siebenahler 1 0 5-8 7, Wagner 0 0 0-0 0, Eitrem 0 0 0-0 0, Golla 0 0 0-0 0, Haugom 1 0 0-0 2.

Team statistics
Luverne: 13 of 38 field goals (34 percent), nine of 17 free throws (53 percent), 18 rebounds, five turnovers.
JCC: 34 of 56 field goals (61 percent), four of 15 free throws (27 percent), 23 rebounds, five turnovers.

Adrian Dragons fall big in Spirit Lake

By John Rittenhouse

The Adrian boys' basketball team dropped its second consecutive game Thursday in Spirit Lake, Iowa.

The home-standing Indians dominated play by canning 60 percent of their field goals to pave the way to a 78-26 trouncing of the Dragons.

SL opened a 20-point (36-16) lead in the first half and went on to outscore AHS 42-10 in the second half to complete a 52-point victory.

Zach Hendel and Mitchell Lonneman led the Dragons with six points and six rebounds in the game.

Frank Serrao collected five caroms and Zach Bierman passed for four assists.

The 5-2 Dragons play in the championship game of the Wabasso Holiday Tournament Dec. 28.

Box score
Stamer 1 1 0-2 5, Serrao 0 0 5-6 5, Bierman 0 0 0-0 0, White 0 1 1-2 4, Ross 0 0 0-0 0, Henning 0 0 0-0 0, N.Lonneman 0 0 0-0 0, Hendel 2 0 2-2 6, Veld 0 0 0-0 0, Werkman 0 0 0-0 0, M.Lonneman 3 0 0-0 6, Polzine 0 0 0-0 0.

Team statistics
Adrian: eight of 40 field goals (20 percent), eight of 12 free throws (67 percent), 24 rebounds, 14 turnovers.
SL: 32 of 53 field goals (60 percent), seven of nine free throws (78 percent), 29 rebounds, seven turnovers.

BOWLING CLIPBOARD

Monday Night League 12-19

Games won: Luverne Lanes, 2; Rock Vet Clinic, 2.
High Scratch Game: Pat Weerheim, 167; JR Weis, 140; Tyra Feekes, 139.
High Scratch Series: Pat Weerheim, 471; JR Weis, 382; Marie Oheim, 380.
Team High Scratch Game: Rock Vet Clinic, 531.

Team High Scratch Series: Rock Vet Clinic, 1530.
Team High Handicap Game: Rock Vet Clinic, 714.
Team High Handicap Series: Rock Vet Clinic, 2079.

Thursday Night Bowling League 12-22

Games won: Billy Goats, 4; Kruser's

Bruisers, 4; PD's Bar Flies, 4; Mark's Electric, 0; The Troublemakers, 0.
High Scratch Game: Jeff Runia, 207; Landon Runia, 201; Billy Debates, 197.
Jeff Runia, 562; Landon Runia, 558; Billy Debates, 552.
Team High Scratch Game: Billy Goats, 711; The Troublemakers, 609; Kruser's Bruisers, 597.
Team High Scratch Series: Billy

Goats, 2106; Kruser's Bruisers, 1697; The Troublemakers, 1688.
Team High Handicap Game: Billy Goats, 887; Kruser's Bruisers, 831; Mark's Electric, 813.
Team High Handicap Series: Billy Goats, 2634; Kruser's Bruisers, 2399; Mark's Electric, 2313.

St. Catherine Catholic Church
203 E. Brown St., Luverne
St. Catherine Ph.: 283-8502
St. Mary Catholic Church, Ellsworth
Father Tom Jennings

Thursday, Dec. 29: 4 p.m. Mass at Veterans Home. Saturday, Dec. 31: 5:30 p.m. Mass at St. Catherine. Sunday, Jan. 1: 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Mary. 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Catherine. 6 p.m. LCF. 7:30 p.m. Bible Study. Tuesday, Jan. 3: 9:30 a.m. Bible Study. 7 p.m. LCCW; Cub Scouts. Wednesday, Jan. 4: 10 a.m. Mass at Mary Jane Brown Home. 3:30 and 7 p.m. Faith Formation. 6:30 p.m. RCIA. Thursday, Jan. 5: 4 p.m. Mass at Veterans Home.

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

Sunday, Jan. 1: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service. 6:30 p.m. Worship Service. Monday, Jan. 2: 9 a.m. PERK UP. Tuesday, Jan. 3: 9:30 a.m. Coffee Break/Story Hour.

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, Dec. 29: 6 a.m. Men's Bible Study at FBC. 7 p.m. Worship on Channel 3. Sunday, Jan. 1: 10:30 a.m. Morning Service. Tuesday, Jan. 3: 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study at First Baptist Church. Wednesday, Jan. 4: 6:55 p.m. Awana. Thursday, Jan. 5: 6 a.m. Men's Bible Study at First Baptist Church. Noon Senior Focus Potluck. 7 p.m. Worship Service on Channel 3.

Grace Lutheran Church
500 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne
Ph. 283-4431; www.graceluverne.org — Nichols-glc@live.com
Ron Nichols, Pastor; Cole McCormick, Interim Pastor

Friday, Dec. 30: 6:30 p.m. Worship on Channel 3. Saturday, Dec. 31: 5:30 p.m. Worship. Sunday, Jan. 1: 8:15 a.m. Worship and Radio Broadcast. 9:30 a.m. Adult Study. 10:45 a.m. Worship.

Bethany Lutheran Church
720 N. Kniss Ave., Luverne
Ph. 507-283-4571 or 507-449-0291 or 605-215-9834
pastorpalmquist67@yahoo.com
Andrew Palmquist, Pastor

Sunday, Jan. 1: 10:15 a.m. Worship. No Sunday School or Bible Class. Wednesday, Jan. 4: 9:30 a.m. Rebekah Circle. 3:45 and 6:30 p.m. Catechism classes.

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

Friday, Dec. 30: 6:30 a.m. Community Men's Bible Study. Sunday, Jan. 1: 9:30 a.m. Worship. 10:50 a.m. Family Education. Monday, Jan. 2: 7 p.m. Esther Circle. Tuesday, Jan. 3: 10 a.m. Staff meeting. 1:30 p.m. Rebecca Circle. 7 p.m. Ridder Team meeting. Wednesday, Jan. 4: No Midweek. 7 p.m. Abide Praise Team. Thursday, Jan. 5: Ladies Night Out.

First Assembly of God Church
1075 110th Ave., 2 miles west of Luverne on County Rd. 4
Kenneth and Gloria Kashner, Pastors

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, Dec. 29: 1-3 p.m. Rock County Emergency Food Shelf. Sunday, Jan. 1: 9 a.m. Traditional Worship. 10 a.m. Coffee Hour. 10:05 a.m. Adult Bible Study. 11 a.m. Come as you are Service. 6 p.m. A.L.I.V.E. Youth Group. Monday, Jan. 2: 8 p.m. AA meeting in Upper Room. Wednesday, Jan. 4: 6:30 p.m. F.U.E.L. and Confirmation Class. 8 p.m. AA meeting in Upper Room. Thursday, Jan. 5: 1-3 p.m. Rock County Emergency Food Shelf.

First Presbyterian Church
302 Central Lane, Luverne
Ph. 283-4787; email: Firstpc@iw.net — www.fpcluverne.com50
Jason Cunningham, Pastor

Sunday, Jan. 1: 9 a.m. Sunday School. 10:15 a.m. Worship. Monday, Dec. 2: 5-6 p.m. Weight Watchers. Tuesday, Jan. 3: 5:30 p.m. Worship on Channel 3. Wednesday, Jan. 4: 6 p.m. Confirmation; bells. 7 p.m. Choir.

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

Sunday, Jan. 1: 9 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion. Wednesday, Jan. 4: 7 p.m. Confirmation; choir practice. Sunday, Jan. 8: Sunday School program rescheduled during Worship Service.

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

Saturday, Dec. 31: 5:30 p.m. New Year's Eve Worship. Sunday, Jan. 1: 9 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion. Monday, Jan. 2: No Little Lambs. 7 p.m. Elders meeting. Tuesday, Jan. 3: No Little Lambs. 1 and 6:30 p.m. Quilting. Wednesday, Jan. 4: 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Little Lambs Devotions. 9:30 a.m. Bible Study. 6 p.m. Anniversary Committee meeting. 6:15 p.m. Youth Dinner. 6:30 p.m. Stewardship Board; Catechism. 7 p.m. High School Bible Study; KFC; Senior Choir. 8 p.m. Kingdom Builders. Thursday, Jan. 5: 9 a.m. Little Lambs Devotions. 2 p.m. Women's Society.

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
211 E. Main St., Luverne
Ph. 449-6522; email: newlifecel@live.com

Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Worship in the lower level meeting room of the Creeger building. Every third Thursday: 5 p.m. Food give-away. Bible Study groups meet at various times and days.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
305 E. 2nd St., P.O. Box 36, Hardwick
Ph. 669-2855; email: revmumme@gmail.com — www.zionluthera-nhardwick.com
Mark W. Mumme, Pastor

Thursday, Dec. 29: 3:30 p.m. Zion Worship on Channel 3. Friday, Dec. 30: 3:30 p.m. Zion Worship on Channel 3. Sunday, Jan. 1: 9 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Study. 10 a.m. Mentor Program. 10:30 a.m. Worship. Monday, Jan. 2: 1 p.m. Quilting. Wednesday, Jan. 4: 6 p.m. Confirmation. 7 p.m. LWML meeting. 8 p.m. Bible Study. Thursday, Jan. 5: Zion Worship on Channel 3.

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

Sundays: 9 a.m. Worship; 10 a.m. Fellowship; 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages.

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

Sunday, Jan. 1: 10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion. Wednesday, Jan. 4: 7 p.m. Confirmation at First Lutheran; choir practice. Thursday, Jan. 5: 7:30 p.m. Church Council meeting. Sunday, Jan. 8: 9:15 a.m. Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Sunday School program rescheduled during Worship Service. 11:30 a.m. Sunday School luncheon.

First Presbyterian Church
201 S. 3rd St. P.O. Box 73, Beaver Creek
Ph. (507) 673-2428 — lori.1stpc@centurylink.net
Worship Leaders Michael Blank and Andy Anderson

Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Worship; 9:45 a.m. Sunday School. Deborah Circle — Third Wednesday of the month.

Magnolia United Methodist Church
501 E. Luverne St., Magnolia
Church Ph. 283-9698; cell 227-7821
adrmagumc@frontiernet.net — www.adrianmagnoliaumc.com
Kristi Franken, Pastor

Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Worship.

Steen Reformed Church
112 W. Church Ave., Steen
Ph. 855-2336
Jeremy Wiersema, Pastor

Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Worship. Sunday School follows Worship. 6:30 p.m. RCYF.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Pastor Maggie Berndt-Dreyer
112 N. Main St., Hills
Ph. 962-3270

e-mail: bethlehemluth@alliancecom.net
Maggie Berndt-Dreyer, Pastor

Sunday, Jan. 1: 9 a.m. Communion at Tuff Chapel. No Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. Worship with lessons, carols and Communion. 7-8:30 p.m. Grades 6-8 Youth Night. Tuesday, Jan. 3: 2:30 p.m. Bible Study at Tuff Home. 3:15 p.m. Bible Study at the Village. Wednesday, Jan. 4: 9 a.m. Quilting. 7 p.m. Budget meeting; Confirmation. 7:30 p.m. Grades 9-12 Youth Night.

Mary, when did you know?



It is said the hardest job in this world is parenting your children. It involves things like loving and disciplining, providing for their needs, and knowing when their needs are nothing but wants; holding them tightly and knowing when to let go; and knowing when to impart our worldly wisdom and when to refrain from speaking, or when to ponder the situation and give your blessing, despite your internal feelings. So I ponder as a mother like Mary does about her child.

Christmas can bring on a range of emotions. Sometimes in the course of a conversation of adult children, things are reviled which are outstanding and other things make a person wonder, "Did I really raise this child?"

Christmas night one of my daughters said something that caused me to do some deep pondering because what she said was not what I wanted to hear. So as a mother of a young woman I listened, weighed my options and gave my blessing. Mary, the mother of Jesus, had some knowledge of the greatest of her child but how much pondering did she have to do? Eventually she would have to let her child go and lead his life he was destined to serve, but when did Mary know it was time to let go of this child of God?

For the last couple of weeks I have centered in on those feelings of Mary as a mother. I tried to imagine what it was like to see this baby in her arms looking up into her eyes and cooing and seeing the face of God. She, as a human, was looking down at her firstborn, knowing this child was beyond ordinary. A child conceived by the Holy Spirit and born to

BUILT ON A ROCK

By Pastor Kristi Franken, Adrian and Magnolia United Methodist Church

a virgin that was unwed. This child would change the course of human history, and she had to ponder all this ... as a mother. I only had to ponder one simple request from my daughter.

It is my hope for the remainder of this year and the start of 2017 that you take time to do some pondering about this man called Jesus. Start looking at things and begin to ponder about them. How does Jesus help me in life when I cannot see or touch him? How does this Jesus help me sort through decisions that are overwhelming when I cannot hear him? How can I feel the warmth of his embrace when I am all alone? How do I know this Jesus is real?

All these questions can be answered if you surrender your trust to him and have faith in what he can do. I know this sounds easy and it does not happen all at once. It can be a trial and error process but it does work. After all, Jesus' own mother was human and she too had to "ponder" things in her heart about this child she was about to raise.

If you need human ears to help you ponder, then I offer myself to listen and we can ponder these things together.

You can do this. Just try and be the person who you were created to be ... a child of God.

May the blessings of Christ be yours in 2017!

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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Star Herald CLASSIFIEDS

Star Herald PUBLIC NOTICES

Luverne EDA public hearing set for Jan. 9

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

LUVERNE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a public hearing has been called and will be held for the Luverne Economic Development Authority, on Monday, the 9th of January, 2017, at 8:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers in the City Office Building at 305 East Luverne Street, Luverne, Minnesota, to consider public input regarding the sale of the Lot 5, Walnut Second Industrial Subdivision in the City of Luverne, Minnesota to B&D Leasing LLC.

Citizens are encouraged to attend the hearing, ask questions, and/or give comments. Any citizen may also submit written questions or comments prior to the hearing by addressing them to the Economic Development Director, PO Box 659, Luverne, MN 56156-0659.

Anyone needing reasonable accommodations or an interpreter should contact the Economic Development Director, PO Box 659, Luverne, MN (507-449-5033).

BY ORDER OF THE LUVERNE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Patrick Baustian, President
Luverne Economic Development Authority
305 E. Luverne St.
Luverne, MN 56156
Phone: 507-283-2388

(12-29)

EMPLOYMENT

Habilitative Services, Inc. in Luverne, MN is seeking to hire a full-time Team Lead Assist (TLA). This position supports the individuals with disabilities we serve in the community. This position will support the individuals on day/evening hours, every other weekend, rotating holidays, and provide administrative support to the Team Lead. If you are someone that has a passion for persistence, positive interactions, and believing in others, the Team Lead Assist position will allow you the opportunity to put your skills to work while supporting the individuals, the team, and the Team Lead at this site. We are looking for the person that wants to build their leadership skills, and support the team in all aspects of the services. This position will give you the amazing opportunity to support people in the community to experience things they enjoy, all while making a difference. If you want meaningful work, this is the career for you. If your passion is to help others in life, we assure you that you will get more from this career opportunity than you can imagine, and you are the person we are looking for to join our teams.

Habilitative Services, Inc. offers a competitive benefit package, a great place to learn and grow, and career opportunities. For more information or to apply, go to www.habsvinc.com. EOE/AA (12.18-1.4)

SUMMER JOBS

Fun and rewarding summer jobs that looks great on your resume and jobs after retirement! Applications are being accepted for seasonal summer employment at: Palisades State Park (Garretson) and Big Sioux Rec. Area (Brandon). Campground attendant, security, supervisor, education, maintenance, crew leader, and law enforcement. Crew Leader position will work from April 1 through October 31. Education coordinator to implement and lead our summer park programs. Application deadline 2/28/2017. Must be at least 17 years old by date of hire. Salaries from \$9.60-17.00/hour. Information and applications can be found online at: <https://bhr.sd.gov/workforus/gfp.aspx>. Questions can be answered at: Palisades and Big Sioux - 605-594-3824 EOE (12.22-2-16)

EMPLOYMENT

Registered Nurse/LPN-Parkview Manor, a municipal skilled nursing facility is accepting applications for a part-time charge nurse position. Wages commensurate with experience. \$2000 scholarship available for students. Benefits include vacation, holiday, and PERA retirement plan. Contact Darnell Krull 308 Sherman Ave., Ellsworth, Mn 56129 or call 507-967-2482. (tc)

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For Sale: Fish houses. 4x6, 4x8, and a one man clam. Call 507-215-2619. (tc)

RENTALS

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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)

RENTALS

For Rent: shared office space available in Edgerton. Call for details at 507-631-1028. Ask for Jan. (12.29-1.12)

Apartment for rent: upstairs one-bedroom one-bath, close to downtown. \$350 per month, No pets. Call 507-283-8711. (12.15-1.1)

For Rent in Magnolia: one-bedroom apartment. Stove, refrigerator, washer and dryer, bed, and dresser. References Required. Call 507-283-8593 (Jean) or 507-220-5198 (Kelly) (12.11-12.29)

For Rent: a very nice two-bedroom house with attached garage. All appliances included. \$625/month with deposit and references required. Sorry no pets. Phone 507-283-9878. (tc)

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EMPLOYMENT

CONSTRUCTION CAREERS INSTRUCTOR – SWWC is accepting applications for a part-time Construction Careers Instructor for second semester of the 2016-17 school year, starting January 23, 2017. This position is for placement at Luverne Public Schools. MN teaching license in Construction Careers from MDE is preferred or considerable experience in a similar field. Online application can be filled out at www.swsc.org/application. Application deadline is December 29, 2016. Contact Tom Hoff at 507-537-2271 or tom.hoff@swsc.org or Lisa Gregoire at 507-537-2294 or lisa.gregoire@swsc.org for more information. EOE (12.22-1.8)

EMPLOYMENT

Nursing Assistant: Parkview Manor has openings for part-time nursing aides with benefits to include: health insurance, public retirement plan, and holiday pay. New wages \$11.90/ hr. or more with experience. \$2000 scholarships available for students. Will provide training or pay for experience. Contact Darnell Krull, 308 Sherman Ave. Ellsworth, MN 56129 or call 507-967-2388. (tc)

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MN VETERANS HOME HOUSEKEEPER

The Minnesota Veterans Home is accepting applications for a Housekeeper (General Maintenance Worker) to substitute as needed for regular staff absences. Hours may be 6:00 am - 2:30 pm; 2:00 pm - 10:30 pm or 4:30 pm - 9:00 pm. Duties include cleaning resident rooms, bathrooms & offices; shampooing carpets; stripping and waxing floors; cleaning wheelchairs and other miscellaneous housekeeping and light maintenance duties. Starting hourly wage: \$13.94 + .65/hr shift differential for evening hours. Apply online: <https://mn.gov/mmb/careers>. For further information, please call 507-283-6211. AA/EEO



MN VETERANS HOME Registered Nurse

The MN Veterans Home - Luverne is accepting applications for a Registered Nurse positions: Applicants must possess or be able to obtain MN license. Salary range: \$27.58 - \$40.83/hour + \$0.70/hour shift differential. Excellent benefits including health, dental and life insurance; pension plan; paid vacation, sick leave and holiday pay. View job announcements and apply online at <https://mn.gov/mmb/careers>. For further information contact Sandra Kelm, 507-283-6211; sandra.kelm@state.mn.us. AA/EEO



HELP WANTED

CHS Eastern Farmers Luverne, MN is looking for a full-time **semi-feed truck driver** (JOB #8112BR).

Must have a CDL and clean driving record. CHS Eastern Farmers offers a competitive pay and benefits package.

Apply online at www.chsinc.com click on careers.



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| LPN – Part-time and as needed | Medical Tech – as needed |

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