



As Luverne School District starts its 2019-2020 building project, Alumni News looks back on the high school's construction on Highway 75 in 1954

Recently, Luverne School District #2184 residents passed a \$30 million bond issue to remodel and renovate the Luverne Middle – High School Building and to construct a new performing arts center. This article features the decisions made in the 1950's to build the new school that is now getting a "face-lift".

In the 1950's, the real reason for the building project was to have enough space for the growing school enrollment due to the closing of rural district schools and the baby boom generation. Enjoy this article that picks up where the April 2019 edition of Alumni News left off.

ROCK COUNTY STAR HERALD – August 12, 1954

"September 15 has been designated by the board of education as the date for the sale of \$1,500,000 bond issue for the new school here.

Meanwhile, the architect is completing plans and specifications which the board expects will be submitted for their approval sometime this month.

If it meets with their approval, they will then call for bids for construction of the new building."

ROCK COUNTY STAR HERALD – August 12, 1954 County To Have Only 19 "Country" Schools This Year

"School consolidation, which has been gradually eliminating the "the little red school house" as a center of education in the rural communities, has reduced the number of them to a mere 19 in Rock county.

It wasn't so very long ago that Rock county had over 40 rural districts, for which

Honor Roll of Alumni News contributors

Compiled by Johnna Ahrendt

During this past quarter ending June 30, 2019, the Alumni News received money in the form of memorials, and gifts totaling \$2,265. In the memorial section below, the individual being memorialized is printed in bold print, followed by the individual or individuals who made the gift. Contributions given by graduates and friends follow the list of memorials. THANKYOU, READERS!

NOTE:

If you have recently made a contribution to the Alumni News and your name does not appear on this page, please let the staff know. Chances are your contribution was received after this page was compiled. Please watch for the next issue, October 2019, for additional names of Alumni News contributors.

Memorials and contributions may be sent to:
Alumni News
709 N. Kniss Avenue
Luverne, Minnesota 56156

Balance 3/31/19 \$1,260.99

Donations: 2,265.00
DFS Support: 1,400.00

Expenses:
Printing: 919.08
Postage: 1,680.00
Labels: 665.37
Office Supplies: 603.98
Database 130.00
Paypal Fees: 11.54

Balance 6/30/19 \$916.02

Memorials

Marilyn (Engel) Rust '41

- Larry '56 & Gloria Engel
- M. Arlene (Engel) Bakalyar '44

Gloria (Anderson) Shaffer '43

- Audrey (Luethje) Gabrielson '43 *

Arlyn Hemme '45

- Hemme Family
- Neva (Baustian) Clausen '45

Elzora (Wulf) Ott '46

- Imogene (Lemke) Krogmann '47
- Jane Engebretson '69

Betty Mae (Goettsch) Gruber '47

- Connie (Rusche) Wieneke '58
- Danny Dage - Friend
- Debbie Schultz - Friend
- Dianna Hickey - Friend
- Donna Dage - Friend
- Doris (Gullickson) Gath '47
- Imogene (Lemke) Krogmann '47
- Lois Johnson - Friend
- Marlene (Goettsch) Dage '56

Norman Ahrendt '48

- Keith '49 & Betty (Hansen) '50
Luethje

Gene Olson '51

- Joan (Padilla) Ripley '54

Geraldine (DeVries) Hamann '51

- Gordon '61 & Betty Hamann *

Dennis Mahoney '59

- Dick Carter '59
- Duane '60 & Peg (Holder) '60
Lammert
- Eleanor (Rober) VanGuilder '59
- Fred '59 & Judy (VanOtterloo)
'59 Smeins
- Garfield '60 & Ellaine Henriksen
- James Ahrendt '59
- Joe Rowe '63
- Verlyn '60 & Susan (Carter) '62
VanBatavia
- Wesley '58 & Patti (Kirby) '63
Pierson

Donna (Oye) Stoterau '60

- Dale Stoterau '56

Nancy (Broer) Savage '67

- Robin Savage '67

Norman Christensen '70

- Beverly (Christensen) Kloostra '57
- Randy '70 & Donna Aanenson

Mark Harrison '78

- Andrew Hermodson-Olsen '78

Jeff Dirks '80

- Steve '75 & Mo Dirks

Contributions

- Beth (Gibson) Lilja '82
- Bill Frakes '66
- Carol (Hengeveld) Fawley '61
- Class of 1969 50th Reunion
- Imogene (Lemke) Krogmann '47
- James Wiggins '42
- Joan (Padilla) Ripley '54
- Stanley Thompson '57
- William '62 & Susan (Reimer) '63
Mohr

* These donations were stated incorrectly in the April edition of the Alumni Newsletter. We apologize for the error and have correctly listed them above.

Thank you for your support

There are expenses incurred with printing, mailing and database support, and these costs are paid for with generous contributions from our alumni and readers.

Luverne Dollars for Scholars Did you know?

Applicants for a Luverne Dollars for Scholars award are evaluated on the following criteria: academic performance, scholastic aptitude, work experience, school activity and community involvement.

Students are also required to write an essay describing their future aspirations as well as seek a recommendation from someone, whether a teacher or an adult who has worked with the student. These applications are due each year around February 15th. All applications are submitted through an online student profile application located on the Luverne Dollars for Scholars website.

Once all of the information is compiled, the selection process begins. Each application is assigned a number. The Luverne High School counselor verifies each student's class rank, GPA and ACT scores. Only the application number, not the applicant name,

is seen throughout the rest of the scoring. Each essay is read and scored by a group of DFS board members. References, work experience, school activity and community involvement are cross checked against the computerized score assigned each applicant. Not all applicants receive a scholarship.

Applications who do not reach the minimum score do not qualify for a scholarship award. None of the scholarships are based on financial need.

The total amount of scholarships paid out each year varies. The DFS Board uses 4.5 percent of the five-year fair market value of its fund assets as a guide when determining the total to be awarded each year.

Students who receive a scholarship award of \$4,000 or less can use it all in one year, while scholarships greater than \$4,000 are divided out over multiple years, with \$4,000 being the max that can

be paid out each year. Scholarship funds are not paid out until after the first semester of college has been completed. In order to receive their scholarship funds, students must maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA. Scholarship checks are paid directly to the school.

Luverne Dollars for Scholars wrapped up its 2019 awards season this May. Seventy qualifying Luverne High School students from the Class of 2019 were awarded \$438,750. These scholarships ranged from \$2,000 to \$10,500.

If you would like to contribute to, or receive more information, please write:

Luverne Dollars for Scholars
PO Box 822
Luverne, MN 56156

Email: luvernedfs@gmail.com

Call: 507-227-4030 (Johnna Ahrendt)

Or visit: www.luverne.dollarsforscholars.org

Attention LHS classes of 2015-2018:

**Do you have a mailing
address other than your
parents' home?
Have you moved?**

Your classmates may be trying to locate you. If you email your postal address to the Alumni News, it will be current for your classmates who may be trying to invite you to a future class reunion.

Email Patti Kirby Pierson, Luverne Alumni News Database, Manager, at piersonprp@alliancecom.net

Thank you!

Are you a snowbird who considers Luverne to be home base? It's time to start educating yourself on the 2020 U.S. Census and what your count means to Luverne. The city has organized a Complete Count Committee to help get every person counted. See the local census information at cityofluverne.org and learn what you can do.

What is the Census?

The U.S. Constitution mandates a headcount every 10 years, of everyone residing in the United States. The goal of the U.S. Census Bureau is to count everyone once, only once, and in the right place. The results of the census determine congressional representation as well as more than \$675 billion in federal funding for states and communities.

The first census was conducted in 1790 and has been carried out every 10 years since then.

For more information, visit www.cityofluverne.org/2020census.



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What We've Heard ...

Compiled by Jane Wildung Lanphere

Tom Getman will preach in Luverne on Sept. 15:

Rev. Thomas Getman will preach on Sunday, September 15th at the First Presbyterian Church during the regular worship service at 10:15 am. Tom will be in town with his classmates from LHS 1959 for their 60th Reunion.

This is a message from Karon Lampy Schaack of Rapid City, SD.

She wrote the following words about her mother, Leola Pack Lampy (LHS 1934):

"I am the daughter of now-deceased Luverne alum Leola Pack Lampy. Because of circumstances at home, which she never would talk about, she left her family home in Bryant, South Dakota, and spent her senior year in Luverne. We have pieced together bits of info – apparently she went to Luverne with a teacher, lived in a rooming house with the teacher, and washed dishes there in exchange for her room and board."

"At the time of her death in 2012, I somehow came across (on the internet) an item from your organization, indicating that "Alumni New staff seeks addresses. Listed below you will find alumni that we do not have a current address for." And in the Class of 1934 list, there was Leola Pack Lampy!"

"Well, it is now 2019 and I am replying to you, based on your request, that Leola has no address but have enclosed a copy of Mom's obituary for your files."

Sincerely – Karon

The following story has an interesting connection to Luverne's history and was sent to Alumni News by Steve Kelly:

"When Steve Kelly of Hartland WI proposed marriage to Nicole Slater of Rushmore, MN, he had no idea they would be opening a time capsule to the earliest days of Luverne, MN. Prior to the couple meeting at Dordt College, Steve had never heard of Luverne, MN. "My familiarity with Luverne was watching Laverne and Shirley reruns on TV," Steve said. That all changed the day Steve's father, Mark Kelly, gave the couple a DNA test kit in January of 2018."

"Research showed Nicole's family emigrated from Prussia in what is now Northern Germany on the Rhine River near the border with the Netherlands. They become one of the original settlers in this area after getting to know Luverne founder Philo Hawe's family near Red Wing, MN in Goodhue County back in 1854."

"The Kelly family came to the United States

Let's Hear from YOU!

Let us know what you are doing and we'll pass it on to other alumni. Include your **name, year of graduation, address, phone number and email** (also let us know if you would like your email in our directory of alumni).

Send your news to:

Alumni News
709 N. Kniss Avenue
Luverne, Minnesota 56156

Or email luvernechamber@co.rock.mn.us

to escape the potato famine in Ireland that started in 1845," explained Steve. An Illustrated History of Rock and Pipestone County by Arthur Rose was an invaluable resource. Mr. Rose documented that on June 17, 1869, Steve's 4X great uncle James C. Kelly (aka J. C. Kelley) located his lost herd of mules on the Rock River right below Blue Mounds State Park. He loved the area, claimed the land next to the Rock River, and become one of the original settlers to Luverne and later married his wife Bridget Ellen."



"Then the research took a different turn when they found out J. C. Kelley had a brother Patrick F. Kelley who also located in Luverne and was a leader in the community. Fast forward to the historic summer of 1876: The battle of Little Big Horn annihilating General Custer and the 700 men of the 7th Cavalry Regiment happened at the end of June, a week later our nation celebrated its Centennial and on September 5th, Patrick F. Kelley married Eva Luverne Hawes who then became Eva Luverne Kelley."

"We planned our wedding reception in Luverne

What We've Heard — about our classmates/continued from page 1

not knowing our historical ties to the real Luverne. This is really an amazing discovery,” stated Steve Kelly. “What are the odds of having families of the original settlers finding each other from hundreds of miles away, get married, and then celebrate our marriage in the town named after a relative? We ask ourselves: Did the Kelly and Slater families of 150 years ago know each other? While we cannot be certain, the evidence we do have strongly suggests they did. It’s hard to believe a little spit in a test tube can tell you so much about your personal family history. Maybe it was fate, destiny or the spirits of Luverne’s past that Nicole and I are getting together.”

On May 3, 2019, Douglas Shelton, LHS Class of 1968, received word that his first book, “Life Goes On”, is now published by AUTHOR HOUSE PUBLISHING. Print-on-demand copies are available from the publisher. Electronic editions are available on Amazon and Barnes & Noble. From his home in Sheridan WY, Doug shares a little information about his book:

“A friend noticed that I was falling into my self-pity as I approached the first anniversary of the death of my wife. We had been married for 40 years. This friend sent a picture on line and suggested I wrote a series of short stories about the pictures. We did this for a couple of weeks and it seemed to help change my focus.”

“It was then that he sent a picture of a person in a scuba dry suit with a tender helping get his gear on. The people in the photo were in their mid 20’s. That was about the same age I had been when I started scuba diving.”

“Three weeks later, that picture had created 186 pages (46 chapters) telling a fictional story about the lives of those two characters. Those two characters met and became friends with a not so fictional person. The person they met in the story shared with them about recent events in his life.”

“At first, I thought this story was just a good release for me. It was a safe way to get my feelings out. It was a fantastic distraction when any self-pit tried to bite me in the A--. (That reminds me – there is adult content in this book so parents should read it first to decide if it is suitable for their children. Hopefully, the baby will not get thrown out with the bath water).”

“I finally got enough courage to let some close friends read the book. They indicated they were impressed and encouraged me to get it published. I still was not sold on that idea.”

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“As a child I would often write letter to my Aunt in Montana who was an English teacher.

One of the letters she wrote to me had a couple of English errors in it. I made a correction and sent it back to her. We continued to “correct letters” for several years. Her daughter majored in journalism.”

“I asked this cousin to review the book and make any corrections. We felt it would be a good tribute to her mom. A couple days later my cousin indicated she was having a lot of trouble correcting it. She indicated the problem she was having is that she could not stop turning the pages. She also felt this needed to be shared with others.”

“Some other friends also reviewed it and shared similar feelings. Either my friends were being very kind to an old man or this book actually had something that would be of interest to others. Finally, I was convinced to seek a publisher.”

“Author House Publishing accepted my transcript. They assisted with the review of the book for copyright issues as well as corrections.”

“While busy working with the publishing company, I continued to write about the characters and their lives. I got a little deeper into their lives as well as the life of the author. Hopefully soon the second book, “Go a Little Deeper,” will have the final touches and be ready for the publisher. “By sharing about my journey down life’s highway, I hope that it may also help someone else along the way.”

James L. Wiggins (LHS 1942) shares thoughts from his home in Mesquite TX:

“I am sending this short bio of my life. I graduated in 1942 – 77 years ago this past June. I married in 1946 in Minneapolis. My lovely wife passed away with a heart attack on her birthday in 2013 at the age of 85. I am 94 ½ years old, have four children, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.”

“I worked for the railroad for 40 years and then worked for the grocery chain, Albertsons, for 30 years. I finally retired at the age of 92. When I worked for the railroad I was in freight sales, living in Minneapolis, Houston, Dallas and Kansas City.”

“My family encouraged that I move into an assisted living apartment near them which I did in March of 2018. My home is on Wiggins Parkway, but the name has nothing to do with me. I still get around OK and my mind is pretty good. Best part is that all the cooking is done, I get light housekeeping and my laundry done.”

“I appreciate getting Alumni News and wonder how many of my fellow classmates are still alive. Know I think about my hometown, my classmates, friends and family members. With Warm Regards – Jim”

1930 – 1939

Leola (Pack) Lampy '34 died April 7, 2012, in Pierre, SD. Following high school, she attended the Northwest College of Commerce in Huron, SD. She was hired by H.H. Humphrey Sr. for bookkeeping for the Humphrey Drugstore in Huron.

Leola and Kenneth "Dutch" Lampy married on October 23, 1938, in Bryant, SD. The couple moved to Watertown, SD, and then Brookings, SD. Leola worked as a library aide, teachers' aide and as school secretary. Upon retirement, she moved to Pierre, SD.

Leola is survived by children Karon Schaack, Barbara (Monte) Hillestad, Russell (Nancy) Lampy, all of Pierre; Mary Lampy, Sioux Falls; Elizabeth (Jeff) Lechner, Madison; eight grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by husband Kenneth; siblings Florence Gadsden, Golda Rice, Frances Harmel, and Robert Pack; son-in-law Ken Schaack, and granddaughter Amy Schaack.

1940 - 1949

Marilyn (Engel) Rust '41 died March 29, 2019. Marilyn and husband Kenneth were married for 73 years. They moved to northwest Arkansas in 1980 after retiring from farming.

Marilyn is survived by daughter Christine (Randy) Morrison, Fayetteville, AR; four sons, Randy (Barbara), Berryville, AR, Alan (partner Karla Gedell) of Minnesota, Doug (Tina), Rogers, AR, and Steve (Suzanne) of Farmington, AR; 11 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren; 2 great-great grandchildren; a sister, Arlene (Carl) Bakalyer; and a brother **Larry '56** (Gloria) Engel.

Kathaleen "Kay" Mary (Doyle) Cox '43 died July 9, 2019, in Luverne. Kay married Thomas E. Cox on May 5, 1950, in Adrian. The couple farmed south of Adrian before moving into town in 1984. Kay worked at Tri State insurance in Luverne and in Minneapolis. Her passion was volunteering. In 1996 she was Nobles County Outstanding Senior Citizen and was given the Friend of Hospice Award in 2005.

Kay is survived by her five children, Michael (Cheryl) Cox, Luverne; Mark (Lisa) Cox, Edina; Mary (Mark) Taylor, Minneapolis; Ann Hoemberg, Andover; and Alan (Cindy) Cox, Adrian; thirteen grandchildren, eighteen great-grandchildren, sister Laura May Bosch, sister-in-law Marie Cox and brother-in-law LeRoy Rust. She was preceded in death by husband Tom, son-in-law Don Hoemberg, grandson Brian Cox, brother Paul Doyle and three sisters, Alice Ehrismann, Margaret (Lynch) Schlingen and **Edwina '48** Rust.

Jean (Hoffman) Frahm '45 passed away on July 23, 2017, in McLean, VA. Jean is survived by son Richard (Mary) Frahm; daughters Patricia (Lenny) Hingos, and Margaret (Alan) Smith; and three grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, John and son Steve.

Carroll Winkler '47 died April 7, 2019, in Mesa, AZ. After high school, Carroll attended Palmer College of Chiropractic, and was then drafted into the Korean War. He served in the Air Force Medical Corps in North Africa. Upon discharge he began his 40-year chiropractic practice in Bismarck, ND. He was involved in many professional associations and community service organizations. Carroll married Verna Badley on September 5, 1992, in Bismarck.

Carroll is survived by his wife, Verna, Bismarck and Mesa; one daughter, Dr. Carol J. Winkler (Dr. Cameron Nemecek), Bismarck; one son, Wesley Winkler, Bismarck; one stepdaughter, Sharon (Larry) Fetting, New Brighton, MN; two stepsons, Gary (Mary Kay) Badley, Glendive, MT, and David Badley, Keller, TX; three grandchildren; seven step grandchildren; and sisters-in-law Paige Winkler and Mavis Wahlert.

Robert K. (Bob) Lindberg '48 passed away on August 11, 2017. He was a longtime funeral director in Anoka, MN.

Robert is survived by his wife Marilyn; sons Brad (Gracia), Bryan (Bethany), Brent (Joni); daughter Maria (Rob) Savini; eleven grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter. Robert was preceded in death by his sister, Margorie Felion.

1950 - 1959

Orlen E. Lunde '56 passed away January 31, 2018. Orlen attended Augustana Academy and Augustana College, where he met his wife, Janice Hill. Orlen worked for Northwestern National Life Insurance, then moved to Minneapolis to work for George V. Stenes and Associates and then as a partner for Touche Ross. In 1986, he moved to New Jersey to work for Continental Insurance. He returned to Minnesota in 1991 and retired from Catholic Aid Association as Chief Financial Officer in 2003.

Orlen is survived by his wife, Jan; sons, Mark, Ellsworth, IA, Steven (Dawn), Apple Valley, MN; daughter Lisa (Rob) Franchino, Apple Valley; seven grandchildren; two great-granddaughters; sister, Norma (Floyd) Keller; and many extended family members. He was preceded in death by his daughter-in-law, Sandra.

Remembering our classmates/continued from page 6

Dennis B. Mahoney '59 died April 7, 2019.

After graduating from high school, Dennis attended Worthington Junior College. He was very involved in athletics throughout his life and enjoyed golf with many snowbirds while in Phoenix, AZ, for the winter months.

Denny was preceded in death by his brother, and two wives. He is survived by his two children and his five adopted children from his second marriage.

1960 - 1969

Stanley "Stan" Mann '66 died June 23, 2019, in Battle Creek, MI. He received his BS in physical education in 1971 from St. Cloud State University. Stan served in the National Guard from 1971 to 1977. On June 19, 1971, he married Julie Anne Jones. He worked for Hearst Publishing for 20 years and later for Mystic Lake Casino.

Stan is survived by his former wife, Julie; his children Kelsey (Julie) Mann, Heather (Sean) Dombrowski, and Gretchen Mann; and four grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his sister Janeen.

Greg Reimer '66 died June 20, 2019, in Emmetsburg, IA. Greg graduated from the University of Minnesota in Chemistry. In 1986 he accepted a position at Iowa Lakes Community College in the Hotel Motel Restaurant Management Program, sharing his expertise from the family's hotel business. Greg married Denise Schieuer on August 10, 1991, in Sioux City, IA. He retired in 2013.

Greg is survived by his wife, Denise of Emmetsburg, IA; daughters Madison and Taylor of Emmetsburg; three sisters, **Susan '63** (Bill) Mohr, St. James, MN, JoAnn (Jon) Kleppen, Osaki, MN and Stephanie, Bloomington, MN; five sisters-in-law; two brothers-in-law; extended family and many friends.

Nancy M. (Broer) Savage '67 passed away on March 18, 2019, in Sioux Falls, SD. Nancy married **Robin '67** Savage on January 6, 1968, in Luverne. They lived in Brookings, SD. She started working for Brookings Telephone Company until moving to work for Brookings Municipal Utilities, retiring in 2004.

Nancy is survived by her husband, Robin, Brookings; one son, Brian of Brookings; two sisters, Patti Brodersen of Randolph, NE, and **Vicki '69** (HB) Wilken of Minneapolis, MN, along with one grandson, Erik Savage of Springfield, MO. She was preceded in death by one sister, Barbara (Dean) Stingley; one brother, Larry Broer; and one brother-in-law, Don Brodersen.

1990 – 1999

Rebecca L. Hollander-Crane '92 died June 13, 2019, in Hartford, SD. Becky married Nathan Crane on September 29, 2007,

in Luverne. She worked at Sprouting Ivy Academy in Sioux Falls, SD.

Becky is survived by her husband, Nathan, Hartford; four children, Zachory (Megan), Willow Lake, SD; Riley (friend, Hannah), Humboldt; Damen, Hartford; and Hannah Vaudrin, Hartford; two grandchildren; parents, Dennis Hollander, Hartford; and **Cheryl '67** Edstrom, Luverne; four siblings, **Amy '89** (**Travis '90**) Dammann, Luverne; Chris (Casey) Edstrom, Castroville, TX; **Eric '02** (**Monica '02**) Edstrom, Luverne; and Amanda (Cory) Maeyaert, Tracy; in-laws, Doug & Peggy Crane, Crooks, SD; a brother-in-law, Patrick Crane, Pierre; and nine nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her brother, Joey Hollander; and stepfather, Gene Edstrom.

2000 – 2009

Anothony W. Boyenga '06 died of a massive heart attack on June 22, 2019, at Rock Valley, IA, while camping with family. After high school, Tony furthered his education in Production Ag at Ridgewater College in Willmar, MN, and returned home to join in the family farming operation near Ellsworth, MN. He married Megan Johnson on March 24, 2012, in Ellsworth. He was Vice President of the Luverne Wrestling Association and served on the Kanaranzi Little Rock Watershed board. He was a proud farmer, husband and father of five children, including triplets.

Tony is survived by his wife, Megan; five children, Rayden, Coyer, Hazyl, Levicy and Bronly; parents, Dennis and Amy Boyenga, Ellsworth; siblings, **Trista '99** Boyenga, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, **Kori '00** (**Nick '00**) Petersen, Sioux Falls, SD, and **Reka '03** (AJ) DeBoer, Sheldon, IA; parents-in-law, Dean and Patricia Johnson, Sisseton, SD, Sister-in-law, Machenzie (Mike) Wickre, St. Michael, MN; and extended family and friends.

Friend of Luverne Graduates

Clare (Melcher) Vande Velde died May 30, 2019, in Luverne. Clare was born in Woodstock, MN. She graduated from Pipestone High School and attended Mankato State University. Clare married Charles Vande Velde on May 20, 1961. She worked at the State Bank of Kenneth for more than 30 years, becoming Vice President. Clare was a charter member of the Rock County friend of the Library, served as its first secretary and a board member. She was also involved in the Historical Society, Jasper Blowhards Community Band and New Horizon Band of Sioux Falls. Clare is survived by her four children, Susan (Brad) Skattum, Luverne; Monica (Jerry Crevier) Cross, Lennox, SD; **Greg '84** (**Connie '85**) Vande Velde, Luverne; and **Paul '85** (Amy) Vande Velde, Lead, SD; nine grandchildren, three great-grandchildren; one brother, Al Melcher, Minneapolis; a sister-in-law, Mary Ann Melcher, Minneapolis; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Luverne school project in 1954/continued from page 3

teachers had to be obtained each year.

With consolidations at Hills, Luverne, Jasper and Ellsworth cutting into the districts, only 14 now operated as separate individuals rural districts, five are under the jurisdiction of the Luverne Consolidated District No. 80 and four, the ones at Hardwick, Steen, Kenneth and Ashcreek, are listed as upgraded elementary districts, although they are located in towns, and have more than one teacher each.”

Upgraded elementary districts (both rural and town) which will be open , and the teachers who will serve them, are as follows:

District 1 – Mrs. Winifred Bomgaars; Steen

District 6 – Mrs. Leone Anderson, Beaver Creek

District 14 – Mrs. Ruth Kohrt, Rock Rapids; Mrs. Clara Olson, Luverne and Miss Avis Hazelton, Luverne

District 20 – Mrs. Agnes Dunbar, Beaver Creek

District 21 – Mrs. Muriel Leech, Luverne

District 23 – Mrs. Lydia Klukas, Kanaranzi

District 24 – Mrs. Hermina Dykhouse, Luverne

District 25 – John Bouwman Jr., Rock Rapids

District 29 – Mrs. Lillian Arends, Luverne

District 31 – Dorothy Smidt, Jasper

District 46 – Mrs. Edna Thorson, Luverne

District 48 – N. L. Grunstad, Hardwick; Viggo Frederiksen, Hardwick; Inga Larson, Luverne;

Lillian Halverson, Luverne; Mrs. Olga Rogness, Kenneth; Violet Lund, Hardwick; Mrs. Lucille Gangestad, Luverne

District 52 – Alyce Arneson, Luverne

District 57 – Mrs. Mary Erickson, Luverne

District 64 – Mrs. Alma Flesher, Luverne

District 65 – Donna Mae Alberston, Luverne;

Esther Ellingsen, Luverne

District 72 – Mrs. Alice Steffen, Kenneth; Mrs.

Laura Kennedy, Kenneth

District 75 – Mrs. Alice Sternberg, Luverne

ROCK COUNTY STAR HERALD

– October 14, 1954

School Board Sets Dec. 1 As Date For Bids

“Final plans and specifications for the new junior-senior high school and the remodeling of the present high school into an elementary unit

were approved by the Luverne school board Tuesday night.

Next step to be taken by the school board is to advertise for bids in the next two weeks. Bids will be received and opened at 3 p.m. December 1, it was announced.

The long-awaited plans and specifications were studied by the school board here Tuesday with Hubert Swanson and Al Weigleitner, Minneapolis architects.

The size of the plans and specifications indicates the size of the project which will give Consolidated School District No. 80 a new up to date junior-senior high school and excellent elementary school. The blue prints measure three feet by four feet and there are 48 separate sheets. This includes 26 for the general contracting, 17 for the plumbing and five for the electrical.

There’s quite a sheaf of other papers made up into three books for the specifications. One of the books for the general construction is 100 pages, the plumbing, heating and electrical book numbers 90 pages and the equipment book numbers about 30 pages.

School board members will be poring over this vast material the rest of this week. At this time, minor changes can still be made in the blue prints, but for all intents and purposes, the plans and specifications have been accepted and approved.

Anyone may own a set of the plans if they want to pay \$40 for them. It is customary for prospective bidders to purchase the plans from the architects for study to help them determine the amount of the bid. Just when actual construction can start on the school depends on the successful bidder, it was explained by a school official. It could be entirely possible that excavating could begin shortly after the contract has been awarded, but this is merely a matter of conjecture, according to school officials.”

ROCK COUNTY STAR HERALD

– December 2, 1954

Low Bids On New School Are \$68,000 Less Than Estimates By Architect

“School board members of Independent Consolidated District 80 breathed a happy sigh of

Luverne school project in 1954/continued from page 8

relief Wednesday afternoon when the bids were opened on the new high school building which will be erected in the northwest corner of Luverne.

The reason for their elation was the fact that the total of the general construction bids, along with the bids for ventilating, heating, plumbing and electrical work total \$1,401,703. This figure was \$68,297 below the architects estimate to the board of \$1,470,000.”

14 Bid On Construction

“The general construction bid of \$987,680 was the apparent low bid in a spirited contest entered by 14 contractors.

The bids on the plumbing and heating , the ventilation, and the electrical contracts were also running well within, or below, the architect’s estimate as to cost.

There were three bidders, closely bunched, on the low figures for general construction. It was announced that the school board members will meet Monday to award the bids after the architectural firm of Hubert Swanson, Minneapolis, will have the opportunity to analyze the bids. Altho nothing was said officially it is believed that the actual bid figure will be a deciding factor along with the responsibility of the contracting firm and also the assured time element for construction.

Sioux Falls Firm Low

The \$987,680 base bid, apparent low figure, was submitted by Hasslen Construction Co. and Sioux Falls Construction Co. of Sioux Falls.

Second low base bid was entered by Spencer Construction Co. of Spencer, Ia, with a figure of \$993,000. Also “in the running” was the \$993,431 figure submitted by Swedbergh Construction Co. of Detroit Lakes, Minn.

There were a number of alternate bids entered by each contractor which will make a detailed analysis necessary before it can be determined by the board which firm was the actual low bidder.

C. B. Rolph of Rolph Construction Co. wasn’t very far out of the running in the hot competition for the general construction contract, entering a bid of \$1,032,835.

Plumbing, Heating Bids

Of the 13 bidders seeking the plumbing and heating contract there were two close bids. The Northern Heating and Plumbing of Olivia entered a bid of \$237,823, George H. Westman of St. Paul had entered a bid of \$239, 205 and before the letting had sent a wire asking that \$2,500 be deducted from his base bid. Whether the telegram will be approved as meeting specification requirements had not been decided.

The Weatherbee Electrical Co. of Oklahoma City was low bidder with a figure of \$119,400 on the electrical construction with H & H Electric Shop of Sioux Falls entering a figure of \$119,715. L. A. McClure of Luverne entered a bid of \$139,000.

Equipment Bids

Bids were also opened on equipment for the new building and the low bids, for various items totaled \$83,230. The school will also buy another \$30,000 of seats and other equipment, but not by letting. The architect’s estimate for equipment had amounted to \$117,000.

There was such a crow of contractors, material and equipment men in attendance at the letting that just a few minutes before the opening of the bids it was decided to hold the bid opening in the high school auditorium. By the time everyone had been seated the room was about half filled.

In addition to the school board members there were at least 20 farmer members of District 80 present. These were some of the men who had taken an active lead in waging the campaign for an adequate, modern, school facility for the children of the district.

\$1,500,000 Bonds Issued

The voters of District 80 had authorized a \$1,500,000 bond issue in the election held March 26, 1954 as the climax to an active campaign which got in to full swing three years ago. School District 2 had \$200,000 in its treasury which, with the bond issue, would make about \$1,700,000 available for the new school facilities.”

Luverne school project in 1953/continued from page 5 _____

ROCK COUNTY STAR HERALD

– December 16, 1954

New School To Be Completed August, 1956

Set April 1 Start Work As Date To Begin

“Luverne’s new junior-senior high school is expected to be ready for occupancy in the fall of 1956, it was announced this week. The building should be completed by August, 1956.

Actual work on the new school is expected to begin next April, it was learned by the school board Monday as they awarded contracts for the construction of the school.

The low bid of \$974,180 for the general construction contract was awarded to the Sioux Falls Construction company and the Hasslen Construction company, Ortonville, Minn, a joint bid. Their bid was for a structure which would include large windows and brick and steel construction.

Their base bid of \$987,680 on December 1 was for a building using glass block in the construction and was the lowest one submitted.

The school board accepted their alternate No. 2 bid, which called for a building with no glass block. This alternate was provided for in the specifications when the call for bids was made.

Saving of \$13,500

The joint construction bid on the large windows and brick and steel structure realizes a saving of \$13,500 over the building made of glass block.

The Plumbing and Heating contract was awarded to the George H. Westman company, St. Paul. Their bid was for \$236,705. In regard to the bid of George H. Westman company, an opinion from the state attorney general’s office was needed in order to determine the low bidder.

Two low bids were received December 1 for the plumbing and heating contract. These were The Northern Heating and Plumbing company, Olivia, with a bid of \$237,823 and the George H. Westman company, St. Paul with a bid of \$239,205.

About a half hour before the bids were opened, the Westman company sent a telegram to the clerk of the school board asking that \$2,500 be deducted from their base bid.

Telegram Ruled Okay

The attorney general ruled that the telegram was intended as a modification of the base bid before the bids were opened and should be considered along with the bid.

With the \$2,500 deducted, the Westman company was the low bidder.

The Weatherbee Electrical company, of Oklahoma City, was awarded the contract for the electrical work. Their bid was for \$119,400.

Utility Sales And Engineering company, Rochester, was awarded the contract for the ventilating work with a bid of \$54,814.

The school board also awarded bids for various items of supplies totaling approximately \$50,100. Three bids on supplies are still being studied and contracts for this material are yet to be awarded, it was announced. These remaining bids are expected to amount to about \$30,000.

Work on remodeling the present high school to an elementary school is scheduled to begin in May.”

ROCK COUNTY STAR HERALD

– March 17, 1955

Building Season About To Begin

\$2 1/2 Million Is Estimated Expenditure

“The biggest building boom in Luverne’s 88 year history is about to begin. By year’s end, an estimated two and one half million dollars worth of construction will have been started.

“With the right kind of weather, we may start excavating for the new school the latter part of next week,” said Clem Hatting, who has the excavating contract. “We’re supposed to start April 1,” he added, “but we’d like to begin earlier if we possibly can, because we’re supposed to starting excavating for the new sewage disposal plant and the Adrian school at the same time.”

Already, lumber and steel are piled on the school building site at the northwest edge of Luverne.

Six Major Projects in community

But this is only one of the six major projects scheduled here this coming year. All told,



DIGGING OPERATIONS are now in progress at the site of the Laverne junior-senior high school. This power shovel is digging trenches for the foundations of the new building. (Star-Herald photo.)

Luverne school project in 1954/continued from page 10 _____

construction projects in the city will employ upwards of 200 men, it was estimated.

The major projects include the school, at a cost of about \$1,500,000 for the building, fixtures and supplies; the sewage disposal plant, at a cost of \$233,460; the new Evangelical United Brethren church at a cost of \$22,645, which price does not include plumbing, heating and wiring; the new municipal hospital, at an estimated cost of from \$125,000 to \$150,000; the new Grace Lutheran church, at an estimated figure of \$210,000; and the cooling tower at the power plant at a cost of about \$30,000.

Work on the E. U. B. church, located at the corner of Crawford and North East Park, will be started in a few days if the weather permits, it was reported. The new Lutheran church, to be built on North Kniss avenue between Crawford and Bishop, is expected to be started about April 1, a member of the building committee said.

The architect is preparing plans for the new hospital at the present time, and the last contract for the cooling tower is expected to be awarded by the city council next month.

Many New Homes, Too

And if everyone who is contemplating building a new home gets started building this year, the number will exceed last year's total of 23 new houses started, building contractors say. Several even went so far as to predict the number would run as high as 50 new dwellings.

Hatting said he already had been requested to dig 12 basements which is more than he had dug up to August of last year. The building industry is expected to provide employment for nearly everyone who is willing to work, and for a number of outsiders as well. For some of the men in the industry, they would rather have seen some of the projects come next year, so that so many workers would have to come from out of the community and to spread the length of employment for the permanent workers of the community over a longer period of time."

ROCK COUNTY STAR HERALD

– March 14, 1955

Ground Is Broken For New School – Contractor Expected To Start Today



Class of 1969 gathers for reunion at Take 16 Brewing Co.

Members of the Luverne High School Class of 1969 celebrated their 50th reunion Friday, June 7, in Take 16 Brewing Company in Luverne. Pictured are (**front, from left**) Rick Olson, Laura Bowen Olson, Stan Tofteland, Harold Tilstra, Glenda Bremer, Lorna Siebenahler Bryan, Darlene Heckt Gyberg, Donna Hansen Dibbern, Dennis Stoterau, teacher Keith Erickson, teacher Tom Haugen, (**second and third row**) Glenn Brower, David Fick, Jim Petty, Linda Maxwell Maras, Debbie Bakalyar Miller, Shirley Buss Anderson, Marian DenBesten Henningson, Carolyn Buss Voog, Bonnie Gangestad Carlson, Nancy Walgrave Friedrich, Sandra Davis Smith, Marilyn Swanson Olson, Nelva Ott Boergerhoff, Sue Deuschle Vedder, Mary Carter-Hintz, Nan Serie Skattum, Tom Skattum, Ric Toft, Janine Jordahl Papik, Allan Dale, Gary Papik, (**back**) Debi Boelman Ringkob, Dave Leffert, Sandi Jessen Schmidt, Laurelyn Schmidt Gangestad, Keven Jansen, Becky Aanenson Anderson, Mike Foerster, Gordon Mulder and Mike Sedlacek.

During the reunion, the class had two photos taken, one on Friday evening at Take 16 Brewing Company on East Main Street (above) and one on Saturday evening at the Luverne Club. Some different classmates and teachers were at each function, so the class requested both pictures be included in the Alumni News. The Saturday night image appears on page 13.

Online Alumni News

Have you checked out the Luverne Alumni News at www.alumninews.info lately? You are able to read your Alumni News online. It is available to all those that have internet, let us know you would like to discontinue the hard copy to go green (save postal expenses and a tree). Email Patti Pierson piersonprp@alliancecom.net.



Class of 1969 gathers for reunion at Luverne Country Club

Members of the Luverne High School Class of 1969 celebrated their 50th reunion Saturday, June 8, at the Luverne Country Club. Pictured are: ROW 1 Katie Croes Hemme (teacher), Darlene Heckt Gyberg, Debbie Bakalyar Miller, Gary Papik, Janine Jordahl Papik, Donna Hansen Dibbern, Nelva Ott Boergerhoff, Mary Carter-Hintz, Sue Sehr Ohnsorg, Debbie Boelman Ringkob, Sandi Jessen Schmidt, Marvin Petersen, Gerald Thode, ROW 2, Tom Haugen (teacher), Dave Fick, Mike Foerster, Laura Bowen Olson, Rick Olson, Allan Dale, Sue Deuschle Vedder, Lorna Siebenahler Bryan, Marilyn Swanson Olson, Becky Aanenson Anderson, Glenn Brower, Laurelyn Schmidt Gangestad, Bonnie Gangestad Carlson, Sandra Davis Smith, Glenda Bremer, ROW 3, Elmer Menage (teacher), Dave Leffert, Dale Kiebach, Harold Tilstra, Nancy Walgrave Friedrich, Jim Petty, Stan Tofteland, Keven Jansen, Mike Sedlacek, Marjorie Noll, Carolyn Buss Voog, Shirley Buss Anderson, Marian DenBesten Henningson and Linda Maxwell Maras. The class made a contribution to the new Performing Arts Center that is under construction at the Luverne School campus. They donated through the Luverne Education Legacy Fund of the LACF, on the day of the official groundbreaking ceremony.

Are you getting more than one (1) Alumni News at your house?

If so, please call Patti Pierson at 507-669-2371 or email her at piersonprp@alliancecom.net with the correct postal and email address of your children. Thank you

“E. W. Brown yesterday turned the first spadeful of earth to signify the beginning of work on Luverne’s new junior-senior high school.

Brown was thus honored for having secured the site on which the new one and one-half million dollar educational plant will be built.

In a brief, but impressive ceremony, attended by members of the board of education of Consolidated District No. 80, and the rural advisory board, Supt. Harvey Eitreim emphasized the unity of the community in providing the educational objectives of the future.

Supt. Eitreim knelt on the windswept knoll at the northwest edge of Luverne and with his finger, marked four X’s on the ground, three in the shape of a triangle, and one in the middle. Then he draw a line, joining each X, and around the triangle, he draw a large circle.

Dedicated To Youth

This is the start of the breaking of ground for the news school building, to be dedicated to the youth of this generation and future generations,” he declared. “This school will become an institution for the development of a better community as well as a better American citizenry.”

He went on to explain that the three X’s of the triangle represented the physical, mental and spiritual (or moral) aspects of man. Joining of the X’s with a line, he continued, was done to stress that there shall be a unity of all parts of the individuals. The X represented the unity of purpose.

The circle about the triangle represented the

“This school will become an institution for the development of a better community as well as a better American citizenry.”

— *Supt. Harvey Eitreim*

unity of the community in its purpose to provide for the educations needs of its youth.

Ceremony Completed

He then handed the spade to Mr. Brown who dug a spadeful of earth at the point of the central X. Three school officers, F. F. Michael, president; D. M. Lippi, vice president; and Elmer P. Pipegrass, clerk; then each turned a spadeful of earth, one at each point of the triangle, to complete the ceremony.

Immediately afterward, all members of the board and the advisory group gathered around the gripped spade handle together, indicating that unity of purpose should be the watchword during the coming months of construction as it has been during the past three years that the new structure has been in the planning stage.

Unless weather conditions are severe, it is expected that the excavating equipment will be in operation today or tomorrow.”

Help us keep a good thing going; Alumni News is a worthwhile cause to support

The Alumni News is published by volunteers as a free gift for Luverne High School alumni who enjoy the quarterly updates on classmates and their hometown. This publication is the envy of school districts everywhere, as it also maintains a priceless database of our alumni dating back to classes that graduated decades ago. There are expenses incurred with printing, mailing and database support, and these costs are paid for with generous contributions from our alumni and readers.

Today, it’s easier than ever to support our efforts with your donations.

Memorials and contributions may be sent to:

Alumni News, 709 N. Kniss Avenue, Luverne, Minnesota 56156.

OR donate online, www.alumninews.info and click on the **DONATE** button.

Reunions in the Making

Please send change of address to Alumni News or email: piersonprp@alliancecom.net

20th Year Luverne Girls High School Hockey Reunion

June 6th 2020

All Hockey Girls Past & Present
Plan on Attending

Contact Dave Siebenahler at
hockey2742@hotmail.com

CLASS OF 1979 40TH CLASS REUNION AUGUST 2-3, 2019

FRIDAY—Gathering and Social Hour—7 pm
At Take 16 Brewing Company

SATURDAY—Golf Scrambler

Bison Tour at BMSP, LHS Tour, History Center Tour
Reunion Dinner at Luverne Country Club—6 pm

Watch your email & check out Facebook
“Luverne MN Class of 1979”

Information & contacts:

Laurie DeWispelaere 306-547-2467 laurie_dew@yahoo.com

Colleen Deutsch 507-227-6163 colleendeutsch79@gmail.com

CLASS OF 1954 65TH CLASS REUNION SEPTEMBER 13-14, 2019

FRIDAY

Gathering at GrandStay Hotel & Suites from 2 to 7 pm

SATURDAY

Tour of Historic Palace Theatre at 11 am
Lunch to follow (on your own) at Sterling's
Reunion Dinner—Luverne Country Club at 5 pm

INFORMATION & CONTACTS:

Jim Klassen klassen@embarqmail.com
Peggy Schmidt Anderson pegswede36@gmail.com

CLASS OF 1959 60TH CLASS REUNION

SATURDAY—SEPTEMBER 14, 2019

10 am—Trolley Tour of Luverne & BMSP—\$5 each
Meet at the Luverne Area Chamber

1:00 pm—Coffee gathering (Location to be determined)
Reunion Dinner at The Bluestem

4:00 pm—Social Hour & 5:00 pm—Dinner

Information & Contacts:

Dave Connell (507.920.5180) donnak@arvig.net

LUVERNE'S ALL SCHOOL REUNION

JULY 15—18, 2021

KICKING OFF WITH LUVERNE'S 59TH ANNUAL HOT DOG NITE!

Mark your calendar and make plans to join us as we celebrate the completion of the big building, remodeling and renovation project at Luverne Public Schools! Tour the newly remodeled school including the beautiful Performing Arts Center! Other events are being planned through the weekend!

Have a great idea and/or interested in helping plan the event?

Contact: luvernechamber@co.rock.mn.us

CLASS OF 1965 55TH CLASS REUNION JUN 5-7, 2020

CELEBRATE DURING LUVERNE'S
BUFFALO DAYS CELEBRATION

Reunion Contact: Randa Gangestad
randagangestad@hotmail.com

ARE YOU PLANNING A CLASS REUNION? Email Patti Pierson at piersonprp@alliancecom.net and she will be able to provide you with a class listing and also labels.

Alumni News Staff: Cindy Arends, Jane Wildung Lanphere, Carol Schumacher Serie,
Johnna Ahrendt, Patti Kirby Pierson, Rock County Opportunities and Lori Sorenson.

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Volume 29 Issue 4

Alumni News
709 North Kniss Avenue
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