

Cardinal Pride Weekend



Mavis Fodness photos/0721 Alumni Parade

Everyone was a Luverne Cardinal for Saturday's alumni parade

Forty-two entrants traveled down Luverne's Main Street Saturday morning in honor of the Cardinal Pride weekend. Featured prominently were the LHS school colors of red and white worn both by those in the parade and those watching along the four-block parade route. *The July Alumni News printed late in order to include photographs from the weekend. The images and information throughout this edition are shared by the Rock County Star Herald.*



Waving with new athletic socks on their hands are LHS Class of 1977 classmates John Jarchow (left) and Connie (Bot) England.



At right, graduates of the LHS Class of 1992 fill the military transport vehicle in celebration of their 30th reunion. Pictured from left are Christina (Olson) Pffingston, Noel (Olson) Steinert, Chris Wulf, Jon Nieuwboer and Micky Sehr.

Honor Roll of Alumni News contributors

Compiled by Johnna Ahrendt

During this past quarter ending June 30, 2022, the Alumni News received money in the form of memorials, and gifts totaling \$2,560. 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. THANK YOU, 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 2022, for additional names of Alumni News contributors.

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

Financial summary

Balance 3/31/22:	\$777.74
Donations:	2,560.00
DFS Support:	2,000.00
Expenses:	
Printing:	840.00
Postage:	1,664.56
Labels:	879.40
Subscriptions:	1,282.46
Paypal Fees:	5.32
Balance 6/30/22:	\$666.00

Memorials

Rodney Lensch '52

Joyce (Turner) Sexton '53

Dale DePauw '53

Eugene '53 & Rose Marie (Bartels) '53 Meyer

Delores (Staeffler) Schmidt '53

Joyce (Turner) Sexton '53

James Sherman '53

Eugene '53 & Rose Marie (Bartels) '53 Meyer
Joyce (Turner) Sexton '53

Joan (Anderson) Lorenz '55

Orrin Anderson '58

Donald LaFrenz '58

Class of 1958

Steven Carlson '58

Alice (Ossenfort) Hansen '65
Gordon '65 & Joycelyn (Aanenson) '65 Hansen
James '59 & Gloria (Aanenson) '63 Rolfs
Orrin Anderson '58
Wesley '58 & Patti (Kirby) '63 Pierson

Anna (DeGroot) VanBatavia '60

Joyce (Turner) Sexton '53

Fred Claussen '60

Alice (Ossenfort) Hansen '65
Gordon '65 & Joycelyn (Aanenson) '65 Hansen
James '59 & Gloria (Aanenson) '63 Rolfs
Marlee (Claussen) Melville '66

Stanley Gyberg '62

Darlene (Hitch) Woolsey '62

Anthony Mohr '64

Michael Liebebe '64

Judy (Mann) Gort '66

Class of 1966
Gene Salzman '54

Linda (Molitor) Hurd '67

Judy (Molitor) Heronimus '58

Marya Manfred '67

Dennis R. Johnson '67

MEMORIALS/SEE PAGE 3

Contributions

Beth (Gibson) Lilja '82

Laurie DeWispelaere '79

Mavis (Winge) Amundson '50

Sandra Hitch '63

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.

Alumni News Memorials/
continued from page 2

Barb (DeGroot) Ashby '70

Class of 1970
Donald '71 & Cindy Arends
Rick '70 & Carol
(Schumacher) '70 Serie

Pam Oye '77

Alice (Ossenfort) Hansen '65
Joan (Aanenson) Berry '75

Dan Kindt '78

Gordon '65 & Joycelyn
(Aanenson) '65 Hansen
Hal '60 & Donna Paulson
Joan Kindt - Friend
Lorraine Olson - Friend
Pam Olson '75

Lucille Gangestad - Teacher

Katie Hemme – Teacher

In Honor of Deb Ward

Katie Hemme – Teacher

In Honor of Theresa Graff

Katie Hemme – Teacher

In Honor of Sandy Klosterbuer

Katie Hemme – Teacher

In Honor of Jennifer Engesser

Katie Hemme – Teacher

In Honor of Dennis Moritz

Katie Hemme - Teacher

Deborah Luethje Mariya honored for service as U.S. Navy chaplain

Deborah Luethje Mariya, Luverne High School Class of 1971, was honored on May 21 for her service as a Navy chaplain at a ceremony in Coronado, California.

The city of Coronado raised a banner bearing her picture and acknowledging her wartime service in Operation Desert Storm. It will be publicly displayed on Fourth Street for six months following Memorial Day.

The Hometown Banner Program was established to recognize current and former residents of Coronado for distinguished military service. Veterans are selected for the honor based on their notable military contributions to the nation.

Reverend Doctor Deborah Luethje Mariya, holding the rank of Lieutenant Commander, Chaplain Corps, U.S. Navy, was selected for the XIV group of honorees. She was called to ministry at an early age, and following mission work in Brazil, she graduated from Augustana University and Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary.

After seminary she was ordained as clergy of the United Methodist Church and for 10



years pastored churches in Iowa. During this time she joined the United States Naval Reserve.

She was called to active duty in 1990 immediately prior to Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm as command chaplain of USS *Cape Cod* (AD-43), deploying to the Persian Gulf.

Traveling by helicopter, she conducted divine services and counseling throughout the Fleet at sea and ashore in the theater of operations.

Chaplain Mariya made a second deployment to the Persian Gulf and then was assigned to National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland, where she was, among other duties, chaplain of the oncology ward and conducted Protestant divine services.

LUVERNE INITIATIVES FOR TOMORROW (LIFT)

is a private, non-profit corporation whose work is dedicated to make Luverne and Rock County a better place to LIVE, WORK and PLAY.

The Board thanks everyone who was able to be part the July 14-17, 2022 weekend as we celebrated the **“GENERATIONS OF EXCELLENCE”** provided through Luverne Public Schools and this community.



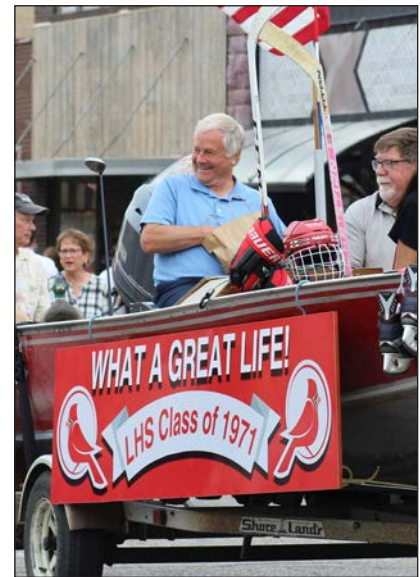
The LIFT Board of Directors encourages anyone to share feedback, comments, suggestions and ideas from your experience to make our community better.



Mail written comments to: LIFT—213 E. Luverne Street—Luverne MN 56156
Email comments to: luvernechamber@co.rock.mn.us
Send private messages on FACEBOOK: Luverne Area Chamber



At left, Brenda Latten hands out freeze pops Saturday morning during the Cardinal Pride parade. The Luverne Pizza Ranch employee is an LHS Class of 1978 grad. **Above**, the LHS Class of 1963 representatives rode in the Cardinal Pride parade in a 1963 Super Sport Chevrolet Impala with Patti (Kirby) Pierson (passenger seat) and Carol (Walgrave) Kiviranna waving to parade watchers.



Retired, former and current teachers are featured in the Luverne Education Association float. From left are Katie Hemme, Linda Gulden, Mary Goheen, Esther Frakes, Sandy Klosterbuer, Mary Jo Graphenteen, Larry Nelson, Keith Erickson, Peter Olson and Mark Lundgren.

Becky (Arp) Eaton (left) and Ken Hup represent the LHS Class of 1976 along with classmates Sharon (Remme) Miller (driving, not pictured) and Deone (Perkins) Hemme in the passenger seat.

Dan Smeins (left) and Dave Iveland sit in the boat representing the LHS Class of 1971 and during the parade their description read in part, "51 years of fun. What a life we've had ... just like going fishing every day!"



Darrell Schmidt (left), Diane (Mollberg) Gonnerman and Ardis (Ormseth) Mickelson lead their Class of 1967 float.

At left, Eleanor (Rober) Van Guilder holds up a baton in honor of her twirling days as she rides in the Cardinal Pride parade for the LHS Class of 1959 with Sandy (Popken) Winter (center) and Tom Getman.

LHS 1993 alum Kevin Kessler (right) directed the alumni marching band, clapping the tempo for the 78-member unit Saturday morning as they played the Luverne School song. Helping Kessler were retired LHS directors Mary Goheen and Dale Nelson.



Pictured at left, First Farmers & Merchants National Bank honors its current employees and LHS graduates Peg (VanAartsen) Gacke, LaDonna (Cleveringa) VanAartsen, Jill (Leslie) Buss, Natilee (Hubbling) Woodley, Tara (Malmquist) Zewiske, Jo (Maras) Buss, Cris (Fleseland) Oeltjenbruns, and Mike DeBates.

Remembering our classmates

Compiled by Carol Schumacher Serie

1940 – 1949

Louise (Goehle) Beckman '45 died April 10, 2022, in Henderson, KY. Louise attended SDSU for two years after high school. She was united in marriage to Lloyd Beckman on October 9, 1949, in Luverne. Together they owned and operated Beckman Implement in Brookings, SD, until their retirement in 1992. The last 3 1/2 years she lived in Henderson, KY, with her daughter and son-in-law.

Louise is survived by her son, Kenneth (Linda), Alexandria, VA, daughter Joyce (Mike) Lukens, Henderson, KY; son-in-law Glenn Fiechtner, Sioux Falls, SD; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband Lloyd; daughter, Helen; six sisters and five brothers.

Lorene (Mann) Busby '47 died March 13, 2022, in Dallas, TX. Lorene moved to Long Beach, CA, where she attended community college. In 1955 she moved to Dallas. Lorene married Jack Busby on April 25, 1958. She was active in her church where she taught children with learning disabilities.

Lorene is survived by her daughter, Rochelle, and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jack, her son, Ronald, a stepson, Michael Busby, and two brothers, Charles, and Clarence Mann.

Faye (Gilbertson) Sahr '48 died June 23, 2022, in Minneapolis. She attended the University of Minnesota with a vocal scholarship. In 1950 she left school to marry Roger Sahr. She returned to the university in 1971 to continue her studies in history. Faye volunteered for 20 years for Radio Talking Book and hosted her own show. She was President of the English-Speaking Union and volunteered for the Minneapolis Institute of Arts and other area hospitals and schools.

Faye is survived by a son David (Arpi) and daughters Laura (Joe Schmit) and Emily (Andrew Winter); six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 60 years, Roger; and siblings Hope, **Bryce '43**, and Donna.

Orville Johnson '49 died December 8, 2021, in Sioux Falls, SD. Orville entered the U.S. Airforce serving overseas during the Korean War. After the war he settled in California and began working for the Rockwell Company. After he retired from Boeing Aircraft in Seattle, WA, he moved to Las Vegas, NV, and later settled in Sioux Falls.

Orville is survived by his nieces, Jennie Chinn, Sioux Falls, Carrie (Kenny) White, Sioux Falls, and Laura (Vince) Lammers, Kingman, AZ, and their families; his sister-in-law Georgia Johnson, Kingman, AZ; and a host of relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his brothers **Raymond '52** and **Bernard '53**.

1950 – 1959

Allan Schoon '50 died May 31, 2022, in Mankato, MN. Allan attended Macalester College and the University of Minnesota. He served in the U.S. Army in Japan from 1953 to 1955. Allan married Muriel Joan Schmitz on January 21, 1956, in Minneapolis. He farmed near Luverne for 10 years before moving to Mankato to work for the Minnesota Highway Department and later the Minnesota Department of Transportation. He became registered as a professional land surveyor and was the District 7 surveyor from 1982 until his retirement in 1993.

Allan is survived by his wife, Muriel; sons Charles of Los Angeles, CA, and Thomas (Sue) of Mankato; two grandchildren; and brother **David '61** (Pat) Schoon of Mendota Heights.

He was preceded in death by his sister, **Delores '02** Boen.

Dale "Smitty" Smith '53 died October 25, 2021, in Santa Barbara, CA. Smitty attended the University of Minnesota. He was introduced to his wife, Carol, by mutual friends and were married in 1957 in Hibbing, MN. They transitioned to the greater Los Angeles area in 1961 where they raised their children. Dale became a self-employed business management consultant. Later in life Dale and Carol split time

REMEMBERING OUR CLASSMATES/SEE PAGE 7

between their St. Cloud, MN and Santa Barbara, CA residences.

Dale is survived by his four children, Michael, Susan, David and Peter; ten grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 52 years, Carol.

Joan (Anderson) Lorenz '55 died March 27, 2022. Joan attended Concordia College in St. Paul, MN, graduating with an elementary degree in 1957. She began teaching in Glendale, New York. On July 12, 1961, she married Dennis Lorenz. After teaching, Joan became a travel agent, serving AAA in many areas of the country. She also served as a library assistant in four different communities. As Joan and her husband moved to serve congregations in many locations, they finally settled in Coeur d'Alene, ID.

Joan is survived by her husband, Dennis; daughter, Gretchen; sons, Andrew, and Timothy (Deborah); three grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; sisters Judith, Janice (Allyn); brothers **Orrin '58** (Karen), **Robert '64** (Rossie), and **Bruce '66** (Linda); sister-in-law Kathleen Ann (Phillip); and many nieces, nephews, and friends.

Steven Carlson '58 died May 10, 2022, in Luverne. Steven attended Augustana University in Sioux Falls. He worked for Hanson Silo and with his father doing custom farming. Steven married **Dianne '63** Heckt on March 27, 1982, in Hardwick. They lived in Luverne, and Steven eventually managed the family farm near Hardwick until he retired.

Steven is survived by his wife, **Dianne**, Luverne; six children, **Chris '85** (Jeni) Zewiske, St. Paul, **Joseph '86** (Nancy) Zewiske, Mukwonago, WI, **Ann Marie '88** (Ola) Bildtsen, Roseville, **Wayne '90** Zewiske, Luverne, Robert (Ashley) Carlson, Hardwick, and **Mary Ella '02** Carlson, Seattle, WA; 12 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and two sisters, **Judith '60** Carlson, Luverne, and **Jewell '61** Gimble, Sioux Falls.

He was preceded in death by brother-in-law Rusty Gimble; brother and sister-in-law David and **Mary '65** (Heckt) Maroon, sister-in-law **Virginia '68** (Heckt) Wessels, and brothers-in-law Donald and **David '67** Heckt.

1960 - 1969

Gary M. Kayser '61 passed away on September 17, 2021, at his home in Montgomery, IL. Gary served in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War era, stationed in France. Including his time in the Air Force, he was an Air Traffic Controller for over 30 years.

Gary is survived by his wife of 42 years, Jacqueline; sons Steven and Matthew (Ashleigh), two brothers, **Lowell Jr. '54** (Patricia) and Brian; four nieces and two nephews.

Stanley Gyberg '62 died April 27, 2022, in hospice care in Sioux Falls, SD. Stan entered the U.S. Army on June 7, 1962, serving as an engineer equipment repairman. While stationed in Germany he met Irene Dyczkowski, and they were married in Kassel, Germany, on October 14, 1964. Upon his discharge on June 8, 1965, the couple returned to the U.S. and made their home on the farm in Rock County. After his career in agriculture, Stan retired and remained active with hobbies, volunteering, and traveling. He served on the Kanaranzi Township board, SWMN Coop Elevator board, AgriEnergy board and Husker Ag Board.

Stan is survived by his wife, Irene; three sons, **Dennis '83** (Jackie), Luverne, **Kevin '85** (Denise), Poway, CA, and **Cory '89** (Fiancé, Meegan), Luverne; five grandchildren; mother, Mabel Gyberg; brother, **Norman '66** (**Darlene '69**), Magnolia; and other relatives and friends

He was preceded in death by his father, Knute; and two brothers, Steven, and **Dennis '70**.

Dixie (Winge) Arends '63 died July 6, 2022, in Luverne. Dixie attended Worthington Community College and then moved to the Twin Cities and worked at the University National Bank as a teller. She married **Tom '62** Arends on September 10, 1966, and Dixie continued working while Tom finished his degree at the University of Minnesota.

They returned home to farm in Luverne. Dixie partnered with Tom on the farm, keeping books and feeding countless coffee breaks and meals to hired men. She fulfilled her dream of returning to college and earning a degree in elementary education from Augustana College. She taught

for ten years. She loved to learn and delighted in sharing that love with her students.

Dixie is survived by her husband, **Tom '62**; son, **Paul '87 (Teresa '88)** of Luverne; daughter, **Beth '90 (Kent) Senf** of Fairmont; four grandchildren; sisters **Mavis '50** Amundson, Sioux Falls and **LaJean '56** Lammert, Luverne; brothers and sisters-in-law, Kathy Winge, Lebanon, OR, **Janice '57** Arends, Dubuque, IA, and **David '61** and Diane Arends, Brandon, SD; and her nieces and nephews and their families.

She was preceded in death by brothers **Clayton '58** Winge and **Lyman '61** Winge; and brothers and sister-in-law, Dr. Loren Amundson, **Marvin '57** Lammert, **Rodney '57** Arends, and Carmen Winge.

1970 – 1979

Barbara (DeGroot) Ashby '70 passed away on May 23, 2022, in Hills, MN. Barb attended Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall MN, graduating in 1973 with a B.S. in Psychology. That same year, she began her career with the Social Security Administration where she remained for 34 years.

On August 24, 1974, Barb was united in marriage to Gene Ashby in Luverne. During her employment with SSA, Barb worked up the ranks to assistant manager until she officially retired in 2007. In 2013, Barb was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease. She continued her active lifestyle until an injury in 2020 caused a loss of mobility. In December of 2021, Barb moved into the Tuff Memorial Home in Hills.

The untimely death of Barb and Gene's son, Chris, brought about avenues in which to keep his memory alive. They provided scholarships to all graduating seniors for the Luverne class of 2008, as well as developing and financing the Chris Ashby Trail in memory of their son.

Barb is survived by her husband, Gene of Luverne; brother **Dean '77 (Liz) DeGroot** of Minneapolis; and nieces, Sarah, and Anna.

Barb was preceded in death by her son, Chris.

Lewis "Lewey" Kruger '72 died August 12, 2021. He married **Barbara '72** Kafka on September 3, 1971. They had three children: Shannon, Lewis, and Amanda; seven

grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Lewey worked at J&W Diesel for the last 35 years. He had a love for big trucks and was the head mechanic.

Lewey was preceded in death by his brother Paul Kruger and nephew Brock Kruger.

Debra (Meyer) Tilberg '73 died March 12, 2021, from COVID-19. Debra was living and working in Jordan, MN.

Debra is survived by her husband, Trevis Tilberg, Jordan; her son Charles Johnson, Jordan; her daughter, Milda Knapp, Appleton; three stepchildren, Timothy, Amy, and Allison; and her sister, **Gloria '76** Meyer, Howard Lake.

Russell R. Eichmann '73 died June 30, 2021, in Worthington, MN. Russell worked in the meat packing business over 30 years.

Russell is survived by four daughters: Jody Scott, Tori Marco, Shannon Eichmann, and Amy Rodriguez; seven grandchildren; one great-grandchild; brothers Norman, Andy, Ken and David; special friend Chistie Eichner; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Pamela Oye '77 died on May 14, 2022, in Luverne. In 1980 Pam moved to Colorado, returning in 2011 to care for her mother in Luverne. She lived a simple and selfless life.

Pam is survived by her son, Nathaniel (Janee) Oye of Fort Collins, CO; Mother Lila Oye of Luverne; and three sisters, **Julie '75 (Dean) Oye-Johnson**, Boise, ID, **Karen '79** Young, Largo, FL and **Janet '80** Oye, Boise, ID.

She was preceded in death by her father, Orin.

Daniel Kindt '78 died April 22, 2022, in Sioux Falls, SD. Dan attended Winona State University earning a B.A. in business administration in 1983. He married Joan Kulla in Blaine, MN on September 22, 1984, and they made their home in Hardwick. Dan helped his father with Kindt Oil from 1983 to 1986 and then began his career as a certified energy specialist with Rock Co. Co-op Oil, which later became Farmers Union and currently CHS. As an active life long member of the Hardwick community, he served 39 years on

the Fire Department (10 years as chief), as well as on the Hardwick Community Club, Pheasants Forever and Snowmasters.

Dan is survived by his wife, Joan, Hardwick; children **Adam '07** (Amanda), Watertown, SD, **Lexy '10** (partner, Brandon) Kindt, Minneapolis; his father, Harold, Hardwick; siblings **Dawn '76** Kindt, Kansas City, MO, **Dave '81** (Christie), Volga, SD, and **Darin '89** (Diane), Luverne; two grandchildren and many relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his mother **Lois '49** and his brother-in-law **William '72** Mann.

1980 - 1989

Gregory S. Dukleth '80 died on September 16, 2021, in Mankato, MN. After high school, Greg worked at various jobs in Minnesota and Dallas, TX. After returning to Minnesota, he married his best friend, Jennifer, on May 1, 2015.

Greg was a great motorcycle mechanic and enjoyed restoring old bikes and running in half marathons. Throughout most of his adult life, Greg suffered from a mental illness which would hold him back, but he always found his happy place with grandkids. He succumbed to his illness in September 2021.

Greg is survived by his mother, Naomi; sisters Susan, Crista, **Katie '98**, and Joni; brothers Jeff and **Jason '03**; 3 stepchildren; 8 step grandchildren; and 8 nephews and 2 nieces.

Former School Staff

Lucille (Kasemodel) Gangestad was born in rural Beaver Creek. Lucille graduated from the University of Minnesota Mankato and the University of Minnesota Morris. She began teaching in various schools in Rock County. On June 12, 1946, Lucille married Emmett Gangestad

in Luverne and settled on a nearby farm. After 47 years of teaching, Lucille retired in 1992, but continued to tutor students. After Emmett died in 1997, she continued to reside on their acreage until 2014 when she became a resident of Tuff Memorial Home in Hills.

Lucille is survived by her children, **Bonnie '69** Carlson (partner, Randy Kahl), Rock Rapids, IA, and **Kelly '81** Gangestad (**Gloria '81**), Gillette, WY; six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; two brothers, Robert, and Alberta Kasemodel; a daughter-in-law, Marcia Gangestad, Luverne; and many other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Emmett; son Dwight; brothers Alvin, Marvin, and Delmar Kasemodel; and sisters Berniece Falcowsky, Leona Wallenburg, Marvella Beck, **Carol '57** Sels and Joyce Espittee.

Friend of Luverne Graduates

Myrna (Funck) Spease died June 25, 2022, in St. Peter, MN. Myrna grew up in the Rock County area, and married **Donald '51** Spease on July 13, 1956, in Luverne. Myrna was a homemaker until her children were older, and especially enjoyed attending their school functions. She worked for J.C. Penney, Culligan and did geriatric care until her retirement in 2007.

Myrna is survived by her two sons, **Randy '77** (Becky), Pine River, MN, **Mark '80** (Stephanie), Spooner, WI; three daughters, **Kim '75** (Greg) Eisenhuth, Embarrass, MN, Jana (Russ) Brix, Madison Lake, MN, and **Amy '84** (Tim) Schuchard, Sartell, MN; nine grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren; brother Gordon (Mary) Funck, and sister, Linda (Stan) Halverson.

She was preceded in death by her husband Don, brother Rudolf and sisters Alma and Luella.

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

Attention snowbirds:

If you are not going to be at the address that you got your July issue during the months of October, January, April issue if you could email me your alternative address I would appreciate it and will change it back and forth according to what month you will be gone so that we can save some money on the "temporary away" returns....thank you...

Patti Pierson piersonprp@alliancecom.net,
1-507-920-5186

or 1562 201st ST Hardwick MN 56134

A message from the superintendent to Luverne High School alumni

Superintendent Craig Oftedahl shared a greeting in the Cardinal Pride magazine that was published in the June 14 Rock County Star Herald ahead of the all-school reunion. Here is a reprint of what he said:

**By Craig Oftedahl
Luverne Schools Superintendent**

Greetings to all friends, community members, former staff members, and especially our proud and esteemed Luverne Alumni.

The Cardinal Pride Committee has worked extensively to bring excitement, activities and festivities to the entire community of Luverne.

The focal point this weekend will be the Luverne Public Schools and the recent remodel and new construction project just recently completed. The transformation will bring smiles, astonishment and pride to the forefront of all who have passed through the school at some point.

The project started with a School Board tour of the kitchen and cafeteria area that all of you remember in the basement. The Board of Education said, "We can do better than this for our students."

The first meeting to look at possibilities was in August of 2016. Momentum was seized and the community supported the project through a bond referendum vote in November 2017.

Through the overwhelming support of the Luverne community, the education of students and the school are extremely important to the vibrancy of a caring community.

"Paying it forward" is a mantra often spoken, but not followed. That was not the case in Luverne, as 76 percent of voters agreed it was time for a facelift and some new opportunities for the students of Luverne.

As you tour the facility, you will see new technologies, new furniture, remodeled classrooms with more space, and a focus on 21st century education. Some key areas to look for on your tour include the music spaces, weight room/fitness center, new kitchen and commons, new media center/library, learning commons, and the spectacular performing arts center.

As all of us have changed over the course of time, so has education. It is not about sitting stoically in your seat and doing your worksheet or memorizing the Gettysburg Address.



Learning has evolved into more project-based learning with an emphasis on collaboration and teamwork. Technology plays an important role as a tool for all students to engage, enhance and expand learning opportunities.

Throughout the planning process with students, staff, administration, and the Board of Education, the education of students was at the forefront of all decisions. We certainly hope you enjoy

what you see!

The community reaction has ranged from comments like, "This is nice", "Quite an improvement", to just plain, "Wow!" If those types of comments are heard over the weekend, smiles will be worn and hearts will swell. That is what we tried to attain through this project – a satisfaction knowing that students in Luverne will continue to have tremendous opportunities afforded them now and into the future.

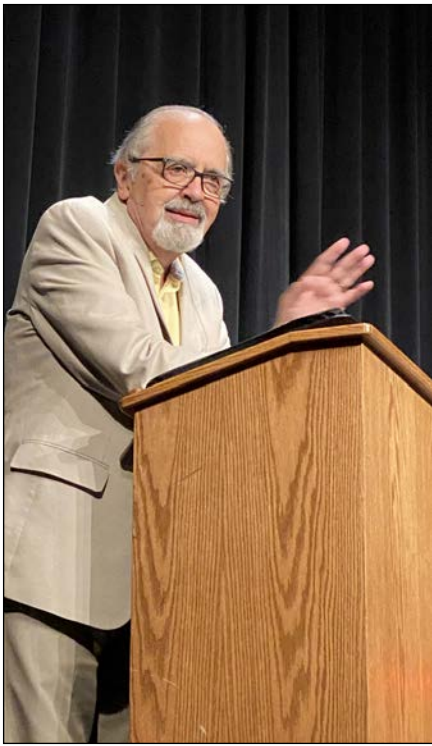
As the superintendent of Luverne Schools, I am most proud of the many collaborative efforts of our entire team at the school with the assistance of our community in making this project a reality. The Board of Education provided a tremendous vision for this project, and they deserve a ton of credit. They took a risk and that is not easy to do. The payoff for that risk has been well worth it, in my opinion.

We are not done though! Next spring the school will embark on a new amphitheater/outdoor classroom space south of the canopy. New digital signage will be placed on the front lawn area along with some new signage on the entry corner on Highway 75. A new alumni recognition wall will be added to the canopy area. The south parking lot will get completely redone next summer as well.

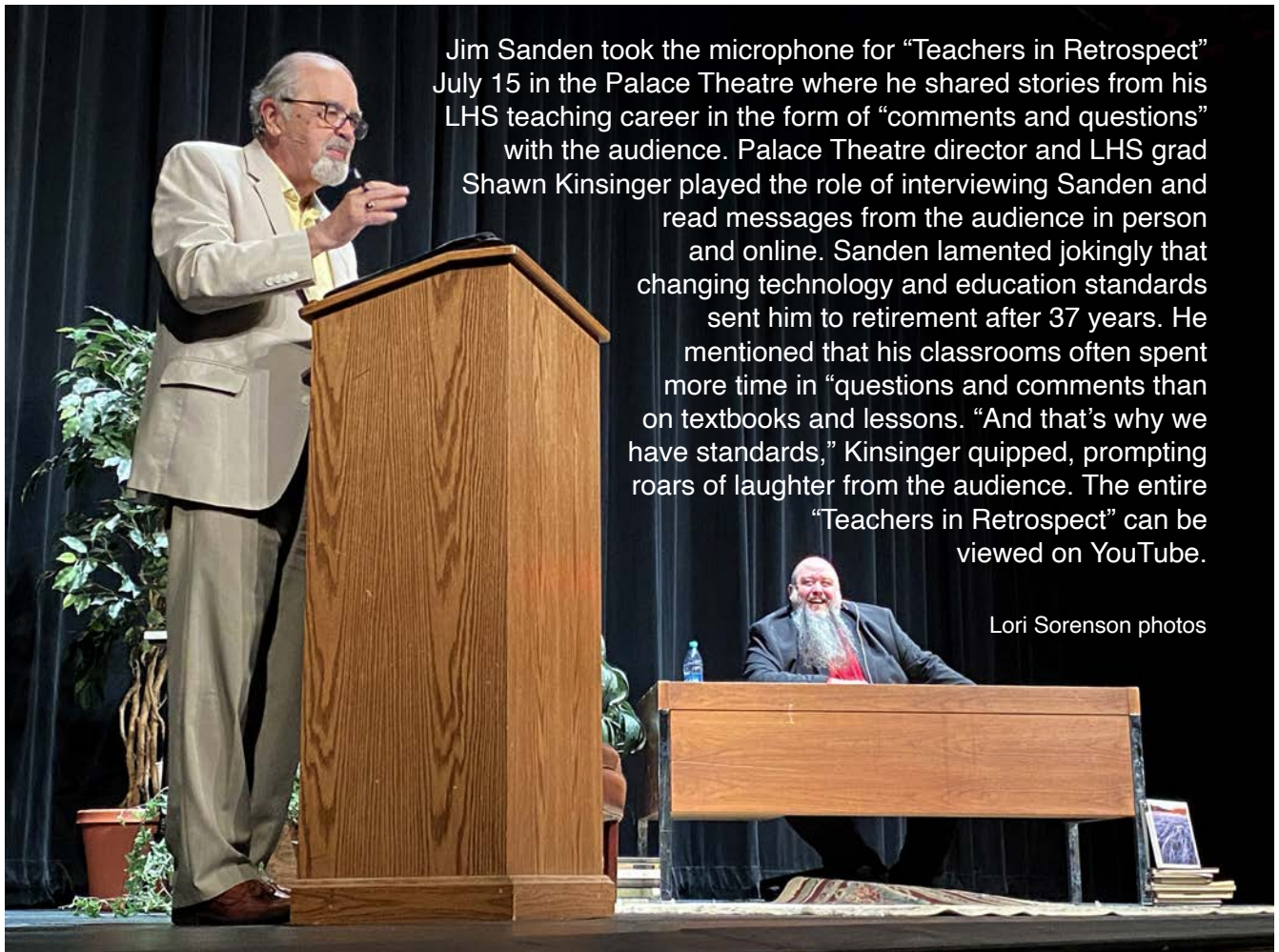
If any of you are interested in assisting, my dream of resurfacing the track and adding turf to the football field, replacing the visitor grandstand and adding a fieldhouse/storage shed to our athletic complex could become reality.

I hope that you enjoy your time in Luverne and have a chance to stop by and reacquaint yourself with the school and old and new friends.

Thanks for supporting Luverne and Luverne Public Schools!
Roll, Cards, Roll!



Above, Luverne Education Association's parade entry featured retired, former and current teachers at Luverne Public Schools. Pictured from left are Mark Lundgren, Peter Olson, Sue Hup, Janice Nelson, Carol Goehle and (in front) Jen Radtke. (Mavis Fodness photo)



Jim Sanden took the microphone for "Teachers in Retrospect" July 15 in the Palace Theatre where he shared stories from his LHS teaching career in the form of "comments and questions" with the audience. Palace Theatre director and LHS grad Shawn Kinsinger played the role of interviewing Sanden and read messages from the audience in person and online. Sanden lamented jokingly that changing technology and education standards sent him to retirement after 37 years. He mentioned that his classrooms often spent more time in "questions and comments than on textbooks and lessons. "And that's why we have standards," Kinsinger quipped, prompting roars of laughter from the audience. The entire "Teachers in Retrospect" can be viewed on YouTube.

Lori Sorenson photos



Lori Sorenson photos/0602 school banners



Photo banners of Luverne students accent renamed school streets and lanes

New decorative banners went up along parking lots and roadways of the Luverne School campus in May, courtesy of the Luverne Education Legacy Fund. There were 42 banners on 21 poles featuring students in fine arts, academics and athletics from all ages in the district. Also new on the school campus are renamed streets. The former Adams Street is now Cardinal Drive. North East Park is now Alumni Avenue and the former School Street is 2184 Lane.



THANK YOU FOR THE GREAT CELEBRATION OF CARDINAL PRIDE!

We would like to thank all those who attended and participated in
CARDINAL PRIDE WEEKEND on July 14-17, 2022.

We appreciate the opportunity to share what has and is
 happening in our school and community.

CARDINAL PRIDE COMMITTEE



Luverne Dollars for Scholars ... Did you know?

Luverne Dollars for Scholars is 'amazing gift' for student success

LHS Class of 2022 received more than \$500,000

Since its inception in 1983, our Luverne Dollars for Scholars program has grown to be one of the largest in the nation with an endowment valued at over \$12 million.

This endowment enabled the program to award \$517,250 to 73 seniors from the graduating class of 2022. The growth of the program can be attributed to a handful of large gifts.

- Lava Brooks donated \$697,000 in the early 1990s, followed by a donation from
- Vernon Aanenson of \$1 million.
- In 2009 Harvey "Allie" Ordnung, a retired farmer, gave \$2.9 million.
- Ellamae Josendahl, a retired first-grade teacher (known as Ms. Appel), gave \$2.4 million in 2013.

The program has also received hundreds of endowed contributions ranging anywhere from \$2,000 up to more than \$200,000, thanks to the support and generosity of Luverne Alumni and community members.

These endowed gifts help to establish perpetual scholarships that are named in honor of, or in memory of, a loved one or family.

The uniqueness of these endowed gifts is that they allow a scholarship to be given each and every year, forever, to a fresh qualifying LHS graduate because only the income earned from the endowment balance is given out in the form of a scholarship.

The minimum amount to start an endowed scholarship is \$2,000, and once established, additional dollars may be added at any time, no matter the amount.

A scholarship booklet is published each year which includes not only the scholarship awards but also a write-up for each perpetual scholarship awarded so that the recipients of the scholarships can learn about the person or family that the scholarship was established for. This booklet is distributed at the graduation ceremony and also mailed to all LHS Alumni.

Beginning with the first awards given to Luverne

graduates in 1984, Luverne Dollars for Scholars has dispersed 2,077 scholarships totaling more than \$6 million.

Students must apply for a scholarship. Applicants are evaluated on their academic performance, scholastic aptitude, work experience, school activity and community involvement. Financial need is not considered when evaluating applications.

Scholarships may be used for any post-graduate programs, not just four-year schools. Recipients must successfully complete a semester of post-secondary education before requesting their scholarship funds and have four years to use up their award. Students in military service have six years. A maximum of \$4,000 is distributed each academic year until their scholarship award is used up.

Luverne Dollars for Scholars is just one example of the importance the Luverne community puts on schools and education.

It is an amazing gift to be able to offer our graduates an opportunity to help pay for part of their post-secondary education.

It is our hope that these graduates will achieve success in part due to this support and down the road come back to the community or give back by contributing to our Dollars for Scholars program.

The future is certainly bright for the graduates of Luverne High School.

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

**This information is reprinted from the Cardinal Pride magazine that was published in the Rock County Star Herald ahead of the July 14-17 all-school reunion.*



Turf, bleachers part of next ‘big dream’

By Mavis Fodness

At the Cardinal Pride “Generations of Excellence” event July 15 at the LHS performing arts center, audience members viewed what’s next for Luverne Public Schools.

Hosted by current school superintendent Craig Oftedahl, the event featured vocal and piano performances by future and past LHS graduates.

Oftedahl took audience members on a look back at the recently completed construction project.

A 15-minute photo montage included pictures of the performing arts center at various phases of construction.

He also showed the 75 people in the audience what’s next at Luverne Public Schools.

“The next item I am looking at for school improvement is a big dream,” he said.

“I want to look at turf on our football field.”

A turf field benefits several of the school’s departments and programs, Oftedahl said.

“The field would obviously benefit the football program, but

it also can be used as an outdoor classroom by our physical education department and our music department,” Oftedahl said.

The baseball and softball teams could have their early season practice on the turf and the golf program could also get early season swings in.

The turf would also be a community benefit.

“We have been told by several large schools in Sioux Falls that they will no longer compete in Luverne at the Tri-State Band Festival because we do not have turf,” Oftedahl said.

“Not only will it help continue drawing bands in for Tri-State, it will be used extensively by our own marching band for practice.”

The change from a grass infield to turf would also be the time the district would look at replacing the visitors’ bleachers and adding a multi-use fieldhouse and storage facility west of the home bleachers.

“I believe it is important to not get stagnant and keep trying to improve the opportunities for the next generation of Cardinals,” Oftedahl said.

No costs were mentioned

with “the big dream” but there was an appeal to the public for contributions through the Luverne Education Legacy Fund.

Garden, signage project coming in 2023

Delays in receiving the black granite pushed the start of the Alumni Garden project to 2023.

Superintendent Oftedahl said the \$1.5 million garden south of the middle-high school canopy, is a gift from Warren Herreid II and Jeannine Rivet.

The garden and outdoor classroom project is slated to be finished next summer in time for the inaugural Luverne School Hall of Fame induction in October.

“That focal point will be a large piece of black granite from Cold Spring, Minnesota, with the names engraved indicating their arrival in the Luverne School Hall of Fame,” Oftedahl said.

Nominations will be accepted through Jan. 31, 2023. Forms are available at the district office.

New front lawn signage along Highway 75 is also planned for the school. The current sign cannot be repaired due to its obsolete design.



Class of 1967 gathers for reunion

Wendy (Anderson) Grill shared this image of the LHS Class of 1967 from their July 15 reunion at the Generations Event Center. Pictured are Row 1 Connie Debates Peterson; Annie Martin West; Margaret Christiansen Freese; Linda Sparrow Iveland Johnson; Ardis Ormseth Michaelson; Pam Hansen Case; Linda Schaeffer Moore; Linda DeBore Olivier; Marilyn Schmuck; Karen Schadwinke; Kristi Fitzer; Suzie Hansen; Nancy Ericksen; Row 2: George Jensen; Elaine VanBelle Boergerhoff; Diane Gonnerman; Elaine VandeHoef Boeve; Kathy Vandenhoek McClure; Wendy Anderson Grill; Row 3 Ron Lippi; Terry Gonnerman; Doug Schumacher; Steve Laudon; Kent Gabrielson;; Steve Dooyema; Gary Drost; Charles Getman; Gary Golla; Robert Ruddy; Tim Connell; Martin Nergard; Larry Goebel; Larry Toft; Allen Meinerts; Darrell Schmidt; Robin Savage; Donald Johnson; Roger Henderson; Steve Toftland

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

REUNIONS IN THE MAKING

LHS CLASS OF 1957 65TH REUNION

During TRI-STATE BAND FESTIVAL

On Friday—September 23

**Visit the Thompson Suite at GrandStay
for cordials & conversation**

On Saturday—September 24

**Seat reservations for parade at 9:30 am
5:00 pm cocktails & 7:00 pm dinner**

At Sterling's Café & Grille

Jim Lehmann: 612-910-3783 lehma007@umn.edu

Stan Thompson: 763-755-4878

John Luebke: 952-826-9959

LHS CLASS OF 1973

50th Reunion

During BUFFALO DAYS WEEKEND

June 3, 2023

Evening Dinner—The Lake Building

More information forthcoming!

For more information:

**BETTY (HITCH) SCHNETTLER
320-224-4727**

bettyschnettler55@gmail.com

Submit your reunion plans for listing by email or phone:

Email: louvernechamber@co.rock.mn.us

**Call: LUVERNE AREA CHAMBER
507-283-4061**

