

Alumni News launches TID-BITS, a column composed of alumni submissions

One of the greatest things about Alumni News is sharing the experiences of growing up in Luverne and Rock County. All of us have memories of things we did, people we knew, events we shared and what we witnessed. At a meeting of the Alumni News Staff in May, the committee chose to introduce a new column in the fall 2011 edition called "Tid-Bits." The column will be composed of a selection of comments and writings submitted by Alumni on a specific topic that will be introduced in the previous Alumni News.

The following tidbits about the late Frederick Manfred represent the first installment of this idea.

Remembering Frederick Manfred: The Scribe of Siouxland

Joel Christensen (LHS 1972):

My memories of Big Fred are from my adolescent & wonder years growing up with his son and my best friend, Fred Jr. That was over fifty years ago. Most of those recollections revolve around spots. I remember baseball practice sessions on the field. Big Fred built a field near their home. There was a batting cage to save our foul balls and the work wall to hit home runs over (or what the Native Americans ran buffalo over.) There was also the homemade basketball hoop built to withstand a tornado, which if you ever played on the top of the hill you would understand the reason for the design.

Big Fred was an avid basketball supporter and was known to display his dissatisfaction for bad calls, particularly if they were against his son. I remember one Junior High game where the opposing center was having some good fortune against our center, Fred Jr. Big Fred came out of the bleachers at halftime yelling "steps, steps, steps." That is sports jargon for traveling. Not convinced that the referee heard him, he continued down to the locker room to discuss the issue. I do not remember the resolution, but I do remember we won the game and our center had his way with the other center.

The most vivid memory I have and the one I remember most frequently is the day I met Big Fred



at the old First National Bank (now First Farmers and Merchants.) As I was leaving, I met Big Fred at the door. He reached out to shake my hand, which I obliged. I recall this firm grip with excruciating pain. As I looked up to him he said, "You get a man's respect by the way you shake his hand." He earned my respect that day. To this day, every time I shake someone's hand, I remember his words of advice.

As I was growing up, Fred Sr. was bigger than life. Whether it was his stature, laugh or creative writings - he garnered everyone's respect. I miss him, but his talents and views will be reflected in his writings forever!

Lowell Thone (LHS 1951)

When I saw the picture of Frederick Manfred in the Alumni News it reminded me of an incident, circa the late 1950's or 1960's. I was a juror in a court case concerning the construction of his new and unusual residence on the rock outcroppings on the south face of the Mounds. He wanted to build the home using salvaged red rock from the razing of the old elementary school on Highway 75 (located where Dingmann Funeral Home is today.)

Mr. Manfred's case was unsuccessful but he found out that I had voted in his favor. The next day

Honor Roll of *Alumni News* Contributors

Compiled by Rhonna Jarchow

During this past quarter, June 21 , 2011, through September 14, 2011, the *Alumni News* received money in the form of memorials and gifts totaling \$1,140.00.

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 for your support!

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. The chances are your contribution was received after this page was compiled (September 14, 2011). Please watch for the next issue, January, 2012 (Volume 22, Issue 2), for additional names of *Alumni News* contributors.

Memorials

Olga "Sally" Gabrielson Olson, '32

Ardith Holling Ahrendt, '49
Rosa Tofteland Johnson, '43

Leslie Ladd, '32

Susan Carter Van Batavia, '62
Verlyn Van Batavia, '60

Eugene Fritz, '46

Margaret Fritz Nelson, '53

James Fritz, '47

Margaret Fritz Nelson, '53

Arlene Gradert Thompson, '47

Lorene Mann Busby, '47
Edyth Winter Briggs, '47
Class of 1947
Ida Olson Reverts, '46

Daniel Fritz, '50

Margaret Fritz Nelson, '53

Kathy Hoime Robinson, '57

Paula Gerike Jolley, '57

Marjorie Kilker

Jim Hamann, '56
Class of 1954

Gerald Hussong

Jim Hamann, '56

Contributions

Hardwick Classes

All-School Reunion
(\$500.00 donation)

Class of 1932

Mildred Tatge Wearing

Class of 1943

Conrad Tofteland

Class of 1952

Robert Anderson

Class of 1961

Karen Anderson Aamot



Alumni News Financial Summary

Previous Balance:

June 20, 2011 **\$4,759.54**

Expenses for July, 2011, issue:

RCO (mail prep) \$478.99
Postage 2,266.14
Labels 272.99
Printing 919.07
Website 120.00

Total Expense (\$4,057.19)

Income - June 21, 2011, through

Sept. 14, 2011 **\$1,160.00**

Current Balance \$1,862.35

*The cost of the October, 2011, issue is unknown, but the estimated cost is \$3,200.00.

Memorials and contributions may be sent to:

Alumni News
c/o Rhonna Jarchow
709 N. Kniss Avenue
Luverne, Minnesota 56156

What We've Heard . . .

Mildred (Tatge) Wearing (LHS 1932) writes from her home in Oconomowoc, WI. She looks forward to receiving the **Alumni News** and looks forward to hear news about her classmates. Mildred enjoys the retirement apartment that she lives in.

Marvin Petersen (LHS 1969) has enjoyed two great careers before retiring in New Ulm. He taught vocal music for 18 years and sold cars for 20 years. Marvin's wife, Janine, retired after teaching for 35 years. The Petersen teaching legacy continued as daughter Julie is a high school Spanish teacher. Marvin and Janine are looking forward to fishing, traveling and enjoying friends and family.

Greetings to all Luverne graduates are sent for the **Hardwick All School Reunion Committee**. The Hardwick Wildcats enjoyed a wonderful celebration this summer and were very happy for the support and news coverage provided by the **Alumni News**.

Roger Byrd (LHS 1967) sends greetings to all Luverne alumni from his home in White House, TN. Roger and wife, Bonnie, moved to Tennessee in August 2009 after teaching at Prior Lake Christian School for 22 years. White House is a small city just north of Nashville. Both Roger and Bonnie work at a Christian school curriculum company in Nashville where Roger serves as an editor. The company's curriculum is used in over 140 countries worldwide. They are lucky to have their son in the Nashville area. Their daughter

Let's Hear from YOU!
Let us know what you are doing and we'll pass it on to other alumni. Complete and then place this form in an envelope and mail to:

Alumni News
709 N. Kniss Avenue
Luverne, Minnesota 56156



Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail _____

Check here if you wish to have your e-mail address included in the directory.

Year of Graduation _____

Comments: _____

lives in Syracuse, NE. The Byrds enjoy the southern winters but don't look forward to the hot, dry summers. Roger tells classmates to keep up their FACEBOOK page as it is a great way to keep in touch with friends.

Greetings from San Diego come from **Paula (Gerike) Jolley (LHS 1957.)** Paula and her family along with her two sisters (**Gloria Gerike Vogel (LHS 1955)** and **Carol Gerike Seyfert**) and their families met for a special celebration on May 1st. On that special Sunday the families celebrated the 100th birthday of their father, G.J.C. Gerike. Rev. Gerike celebrated the day by preaching and baptizing his youngest great granddaughter.

Robert A. Anderson (LHS 1952) looks forward to receiving each **Alumni News** and hopes that everyone will pull together to keep it coming by sending their contributions and news tid-bits. He also sends greetings to all Luverne alumni from his home in Sun City, AZ.

Jeff Petersen (LHS 1977) of Rochester, MN, writes a tribute to his father who passed away peacefully in Rochester in April 2011. His **father (LHS 1951)** was a big sports fan and spent more of his life in the Hardwick and Luverne areas. He was a great football player in his day and remained a great supporter of sports and academics.

Remembering our Classmates

1930-1930-

Leslie Ladd '32 died August 18, 2011 in New Richmond, MN. After graduation he lived and worked on the family farm north of Hardwick. He married Evelyn Oye on September 4, 1937 in Luverne. The couple farmed fulltime until 1965 when he went to work for Rock County Co-op until 1971. He also worked at Blue Mound Catering from 1966 until 1978 when he formally retired. In 1995 the couple moved to New Richmond to be closer to their son and daughter. Leslie enjoyed fishing, crafts and following the Minnesota Vikings. He is survived by his two children, **Kay '64 (Merlin) Ommen**, and **James Ladd '66**, six grandchildren, a brother, **Lauren '38 (Lauretta) Ladd** and other friends and relatives. **Delphia Steine Haug '34** passed away in 2007 in southern California her residence for 50 + years.

Kathryn Rathjen Stoakes '39 died August 29, 2011, at Parkview Manor in Ellsworth. She married Darrell Stoakes in 1941. They lived on the Stoakes family farm west of Hardwick. After her husband's death in 1947 she moved to Luverne. She worked at the Luverne Creamery and A.R. Wood Manufacturing. In 1959 she moved to Minneapolis and worked as an apartment manager until her retirement in 1986. Kathryn enjoyed baking, hardanger embroidery, playing pinochle, traveling with the Prime Timers and watching football, baseball and golf on television. She is survived by her daughter, Sandra Hohn, and two nephews, **Bob '67 (Rhonna) Jarchow** and **Bill Jarchow '71**.

1940-1949-

Clayton Warren Westlie '40 passed away January 8, 2011, after a courageous battle with Alzheimer's disease. In the service of our country during World War II, Clayton was Army Air Force Inspector in charge of retrofitted aircraft prior to deployment at Holman and Wold-Chamberlin Forts. Clayton is survived by his loving wife, Shirley, and children Susan, Steven and Polly.

Eugene (Gene M) Fritz '46 passed away March 1, 2011 in Omaha, NE.

James E. Fritz '47 died in October 2004.

Herbert Beug '47 died August 15, 2011 in Detroit Lakes, MN. After graduation he attended Worthington Junior College graduating in 1949. In 1950 he married Ramona Boisen in Luverne. He continued to work with his father at the Coast-to-Coast hardware store in Luverne until 1969 when the family moved back to Detroit Lakes. He and his father operated the Coast-to-Coast hardware store in Detroit Lakes. He continued in the business until 1996 when two of his sons took over ownership of the business. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, watching football and basketball and reading. Mr. Beug is survived by his wife, **Ramona Beug '49**; a daughter, Carol (Gary) Padrt; five sons, **David (Mary) Beug**, Bruce (Corinne) Beug, Mark (Barb) Beug, Chris (Linda) **Beug '69** and Greg (Jacinda) Beug; 17 grandchildren; 18 great grandchildren; a sister, Evelyn (Marty) Steffel; a brother-in-law Jarvis (Darlene) Boisen and three nephews, Ron, Gary and Alan Boisen.

Arlene Gradert Thompson '47 died July 16, 2011, at the Sanford Hospice Cottage in Luverne. In 1948 Arlene and Mable (Tofteland) Overgaard moved to California and worked at Prudential Insurance and Macy's Department Store. She moved back to Luverne in 1949 and worked at Tri-State Insurance until 1951. She was married to Torleif Thompson on August 1951. After their marriage the couple farmed southeast of Luverne. In 1989 they moved to Luverne. Arlene enjoyed gardening, cooking, crocheting, quilting, entertaining family and friends and volunteering at the Luverne VFW. She is survived by her husband, **Torleif Thompson '46**, four children, Warren (Cleone) Thompson, **Diane '66 (John) Schullo**, Jean (Jim) Noonan, and **Wayne '83 (Mary) Thompson**; eight grandchildren; two brothers, Eldon (Ronnie) Gradert, and Marvin (Donna Lee) Gradert.

1950-1959 - Daniel L Fritz '50 died September 2003.

Orla Aanenson Powell '51 of Fairfax, VA, died April 14, 2011, from acute interstitial pneumonia, which is only curable by a lung transplant. After graduation she worked at Tri-State Insurance until her marriage to Wm (Bill) Powell on June 5, 1953. She was an at-home mom for her two girls until they moved to Fairfax. Then she worked for American Lung in Washington, D.C., until retirement. She enjoyed cooking, playing bridge, entertaining friends, and exercising at the gym. She is survived by her husband, Bill; two daughters; Kathy (Don) Brach, and Julie (John) Fitzgerald; four

Remembering our classmates . . . From page 4

grandchildren; two brothers, John (Gloria) Aanenson; **Howard '46 (Lavonelle) Aanenson**; two sisters, **Ramona Skidmore '49** and JoAnn (Gary) Barmore; a sister-in-law, **Ellen Aanenson '64**, and many nieces and nephews.

Donald Cragoe '51 died August 26, 2011. Donald worked at the NSP Prairie Island nuclear plant in Red Wing for 30 years and retired in 1991. Mr. Cragoe is survived by **MaReese Cragoe '51**, three children, Angela (Pat) Foerster, Alan (Joni) Cragoe, and Alex (Sherry) Crago; six grandchildren, two great granddaughters; a brother **Ken '52 (Jean) Cragoe**; three sisters Karen Buus, Judy (Arvid) Ebeling and **Janice '66 (Jarnet) Johanson**, and many other friends and relatives.

Harvey Kemerling '53 died August 24, 2011. at the Sanford Hospice Cottage in Luverne. Following graduation he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corp. He spent most of his service time in Japan during the Korean Conflict and was discharged in 1955. He married Doris Loger in December of 1956. They farmed until 1971, when he and Bob Zinnel formed Rock County Implement. He remained in the business until it closed in 1993. Afterward he worked for several Rock County farmers. He then went to work for Farmers Union Co-op Oil. He worked there until health issues forced him to retire in 2010. He enjoyed working on old tractors, radio-controlled model airplanes, hunting, fishing, traveling and helping others. Harvey is survived by his wife, Doris Kemerling; five children, **Lynette Kemerling '75**, **Harland "Duck" '77 (Karen) Kemerling**, **Dave Kemerling '78**, **Larry Kemerling, '80** and **Craig '91 (Teri) Kemerling**; eight grandchildren and three sisters, **Dorothy '45 (Kurt) Peterson**, **Norma Schneekloth '46** and **Elaine Mann '50**.

1960-1969-

Stanford Wells '67 died at his home in Dodge City, Kansas, on Sept. 10, 2011, after a year-long battle with cancer. After graduation he attended South Dakota State University and worked at IBP in Luverne. In 1976 he married Alejandra Gutierrez in Emporia. He worked at several meat companies during his 40-year career. He most recently worked at National Beef in Dodge City. Mr. Wells is survived by his wife, Alejandra Wells; two children, Dominique Gutierrez and Joshua Wells; four grandchildren; two brothers, **Michael '61 (Gloria) Wells**, and **Brian '64 (Kathy) Wells**; a sister, Jacqueline (Harlan) Yearous, and many other friends and relatives.

1970-1979-

Karen Briggs Dammann '73 of St. Paul, MN died August 11, 2011 at the Pipestone county hospice. She married Douglas Dammann in August of 1973. Karen operated her own day care in Pipestone for about five years. In 1979 she began working at Bayliner Marine where she worked for ten years. Then in 1989 she began selling real estate. In 2004 they moved to Cottage Grove and she continued to sell real estate for RE/Max. Doug and Karen had recently moved to St. Paul. In 1999 she was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and went into remission in September 2000. In November 2010 she was diagnosed with a reoccurrence of the cancer. She enjoyed reading, walking, and watching movies with her husband at the local theater in Woodbury. Mrs. Dammann is survived by her husband, Doug Dammann, two daughters, Amy (Darrin) Tinklenberg and Wendy (Ryan) Melby; seven grandchildren; her mother, Wanda Briggs, two sisters, **Peggy '76 (Jon) Kopp** and **Barb Briggs '59**; two brothers, **Ronald Briggs '80** and **Stephen Briggs '82**, and many other relatives and friends.

1980-1989-

Kelly Staeffler '85 died August 21, 2011 at the Methodist Hospital in Rochester. Following graduation he worked at IBP in Luverne. On August 26, 1989, he married Sheryl Vander Ziel. The couple lived in Kenneth, Hardwick, Luverne, and most recently Beaver Creek. On January 24, 1989, he received a kidney transplant. In October 2006 he underwent a pancreas transplant. He worked at AM Tech, Crimson Fire Apparatus and Hutchinson Technology until it closed. He then attended Southeast Technical Institute, Sioux Falls, where he completed the HVAC program. On July 5, 2011, he began working at Gold'n Plump in Luverne. Kelly enjoyed all outdoor activities, attending high school sporting events, playing cards and shooting pool with the Piperock league. Mr. Staeffler is survived by his wife, Sheryl Staeffler, three children, Zachery, Katie and Emilie; his parents, **Gary '66** and **Jean Staeffler '71**; his grandparents, Virgil and Marjorie Staeffler and Ethel Ossefoort; twin sisters **Kammi '87 (Bob) Biber** and **Karri '87 (Bill) Korth** and many other relatives and friends.

Three New Scholarships Endowed With Local Organization

by Gregg Gropel

Three additional scholarships have recently been endowed with the local scholarship organization. To date, a total of seven new scholarships have been established since last May. Each of these new scholarships will be awarded for the first time during the spring of 2012.



Of these scholarships, the three newest scholarships endowed during the past three months are the **Jacqueline Nolte Jones Memorial Scholarship, Main Street Financial Services II, and the Class of 1951 Scholarship.**

Jacqueline Nolte Jones Memorial Scholarship

The Jacqueline Nolte Jones Memorial Scholarship was established by Norman Torrison, a 1950 LHS graduate and avid supporter of the local Dollars for Scholars program.

Jacqueline Nolte Jones, who was known by her friends as “Jock,” was Norm Torrison’s significant friend for the last nine years of her life. On June 16, 2011, after a long battle with ovarian cancer, Jock passed away.

Jock, a longtime Minnesotan, graduated from of Wayzata High School and later graduated from Vassar College, a private, coeducational liberal arts college in Poughkeepsie, New York.

Establishing scholarships and lending support for various community programs was nothing new to Jock. Jock was a

major supporter for the arts in the Twin Cities and was responsible for the founding of two scholarships. She established the Charles Nolte Scholarship, which is designated for students attending the U of M; and later created a scholarship which bears her name and is awarded to students attending her Alma Mater, Vassar College.

Jock is survived by five children, ten grandchildren and her significant friend, Norman Torrison.

The first Jacqueline Nolte Jones Memorial Scholarship will be awarded for the first time in the spring of 2012.

Main Street Financial Services II

A second scholarship carrying the name of longtime Luverne financial services firm Main Street Financial Services was created by co-owners Mike Cox and Nancy VanRuler VandeBerg, '79.

As long-term investment advisors, Mike and Nancy know the importance of investing. As such they felt it was paramount for their firm to invest in and give back to the community.

The first Main Street Financial Services scholarship was established in 1999, when the local investment firm was owned by Mike Cox and Randy Creeger, '62.

The newest of the two Main Street Financial Services scholarships will be presented to a 2012 LHS graduate next May.

Class of 1951 Scholarship

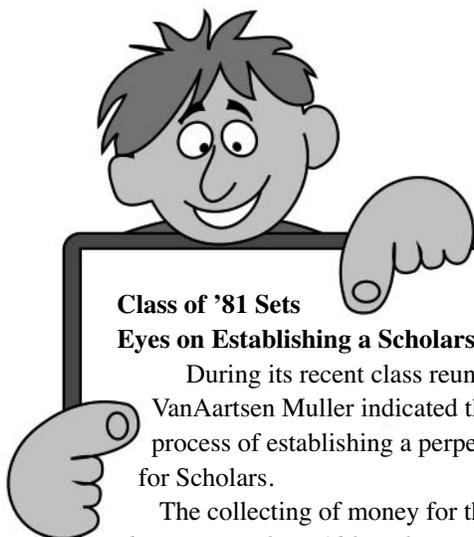
In a recent scholarship campaign headed by a couple of classmates, donations were collected from LHS classmates to establish a scholarship in the name of the Class of 1951.

Class leaders have indicated that it's not too late to make a contribution to the already established scholarship. The more dollars added to the scholarship, the greater the scholarship award.

Contributions may be sent to either Jim Herman at 204 Oak Drive, Luverne, Minnesota 56156, or directly to Dollars for Scholars, P.O. Box 822, Luverne, Minnesota 56156. Checks should be made payable to “*Luverne Dollars for Scholars*” with the words “*Class of '51*” written on the check's designated memo line.

The first Class of 1951 Scholarship will be awarded in May, 2012.

See Other Scholarship Info on page 7



Class of '81 Sets

Eyes on Establishing a Scholarship in its Name

During its recent class reunion (held this past summer), Bonnie VanAartsen Muller indicated the Class of '81 is currently in the process of establishing a perpetual scholarship with Luverne Dollars for Scholars.

The collecting of money for the scholarship started the night of the class get together. Although several dollars have already been collected, Bonnie stated, “More work is needed to reach that magic number of \$2,000.”

In a recent e-mail received from Bonnie, she wrote, “I am collecting the donations for the LHS Class of 1981 scholarship. Checks can be written to ‘*LHS Class of 1981*’ and mailed to Bonnie Muller, 248 241st Street, Jasper, Minnesota 56144.”

Bonnie also reminds her classmates that all donations given to the Luverne Dollars for Scholars program are tax deductible.

Scholarship Application Timeline Adjusted

by Gregg Gropel

On August 22 school bells resonated throughout the Luverne school district signaling its students to return back to class.

This marks the second consecutive year students started school two weeks prior to the Labor Day holiday. Previous to school year 2009-10, school traditionally got underway after Labor Day, the day which symbolizes the end of summer.

As a result of this significant change made to the school calendar, changes in the local community-based scholarship program are also being made, all in an attempt to coincide with this year's school calendar.

In the past scholarship applications were made available for students to be picked up on the first day of February and were to be returned on the last Friday of February. Now, with the school year starting and ending earlier than usual, the scholarship application timeline is being adjusted.

This school year scholarship applications will be distributed in January. This action will happen on the evening the school conducts its annual "financial aid" meeting with both parents and seniors in attendance. Mr. Craig Nelson, Luverne High School Counselor, will conduct this important financial aid meeting.

At this meeting Mr. Nelson will inform attendees of several scholarship programs available for the school's graduates, including the Luverne Dollars for Scholars program, A. R. Woods Scholarship, Gunderson Scholarship, W. F. Fink Scholarship, Norm Torrison USD Scholarship, Mary Freeburn Torrison SDSU Scholarship (nursing students), etc.

All of these scholarships offer the possibility of having additional non-family dollars put into the pockets of 2012 LHS graduating seniors, all in an effort to help offset the high costs of today's essential post secondary education programs.

As with all scholarships there are deadlines to be met. This is true with the Luverne Dollars for Scholars scholarship program.

The deadline for submitting completed Luverne Dollars for Scholars scholarship applications is Friday, February 10, 2012. This deadline is about 15 days earlier than usual.

Students planning to pursue either a college degree or a vocational program should not overlook any of these special post-secondary funding processes.

Luverne Dollars for Scholars scholarships are awarded to all qualifying LHS graduating seniors.

Last year, a total of \$170,950 was awarded from the Luverne Dollars for Scholars program to a total of 54 LHS graduates. That's an average of a little more than \$3,000 per student. The 54 grants that were awarded ranged from \$600 to \$7,000.

Parents and students, watch for the notice on the financial aid meeting, and be sure to attend.



Help Spread the Word

by Gregg Gropel

When it comes to scholarships for Luverne students, adults often take it for granted that students already know all about all the local scholarship programs available for graduating seniors. And there are several local scholarship programs available for LHS students.

For example, the Luverne Dollars for Scholars program is now in its 29th season. It's assumed all Luverne students and their parents know about this incredible program. And here is why.

Dollars for Scholars has grown from a very small program which started in 1983 to a fairly large program, providing fairly large scholarships in terms of dollars. Because of past awards and the growing size of these awards, chances are all juniors and seniors in the school have heard about this particular scholarship program.

Not only have the students heard of the Dollars for Scholars program before reaching their senior year, but their parents are most likely aware of the program as well. Because of its tremendous size, the Dollars for Scholars program has become a well recognized program not only among community members within the school district, but is known to many people in the communities surrounding Luverne.

But, do seniors know about the A. R. Woods Scholarship, the Gunderson Scholarship, and the W. F. Fink Scholarship? How about the Norm Torrison USD Scholarship? Or the Mary Torrison SDSU Nursing Scholarship? If they don't know about these programs, when are they first introduced to these sleeping financial giants?

It appears as if students are first introduced to these scholarships at the school's once-a-year "financial aid" gathering. This special assembly is always held in January on a cold, wintery evening and conducted by the high school counselor. The purpose of this meeting is to inform both parents and students of the invaluable programs designed specifically for Luverne students who are looking for financial support in their quest for an education beyond high school.

However, some people think the informational meeting is held too late in the school year. By January, students may have already selected their post secondary school, eliminating the possibility of receiving a couple of scholarships that are fairly new in the school's scholarship arsenal.

This may be true only for the Norm Torrison USD Scholarship and the Mary Torrison SDSU Nursing Scholarship, but not true for the other earlier mentioned financial offerings—for these reasons:

1. The A. R. Woods Scholarship, probably the granddaddy of all Luverne scholarships, opens its application process in June, shortly after high school graduation, with award notification announced in late August. All students are eligible to apply. Notification of this scholarship, along with the scholarship application deadline, appears in the *Luverne*



**Norm Torrison, '50
Multi-Scholarship
Architect**

Alumni News remembers teachers

Marjorie Kilker passed away Friday July 15, 2011, at St. Michael's Hospital Avera in Tyndall, S.D. She graduated from Tyndall High School and Southern State College in Springfield. She taught rural school in Bon Homme County for several years. She taught high school in Gregory, S.D., for four years. She later taught English and Public Speaking at Luverne High School. Marjorie returned to Tyndall in 1975 to care for her mother. During that time, she did substitute teaching and tutoring for the Tyndall School. She was a member of the National Education Association and the Delta Kappa Gamma sorority. The class of 1954 via Rosemarie Dietrich Loose sent a memorial to the Alumni News in memory of Miss Kilker. Rosemarie says, "Miss Kilker, our English teacher, certainly tried to expand our thinking, which is a task with teenagers."

Gerald Hussong passed away July 28, 2011, at North Memorial Hospital in Robinsdale, MN. He was born July 31, 1921, in Ames, Iowa. After high school he attended Central College in Pella, Iowa, but suspended studies to join the military in World War II. He served in the South Pacific on the island of Peleliu, earning the rank of staff sergeant. When Mr. Hussong returned home he married Audrey Kinsman, and they lived in Pella while he completed his degree in social studies and vocal music. Following college he taught history and became principal in Alexander, Iowa. They moved to Luverne where he taught history, music and drivers education and directed the junior class play for 31 years. He is survived by three children, Cynthia (Craig) Laberee, Nancy Hussong and Jeff (Anne) Hussong; four grandchildren and a brother, Harry (Virginia) Hussong.

Ellamae Appel Josendahl passed away August 25, 2011 at her home. She was born October 31, 1922, in Minneapolis. She graduated from Butterfield High School in 1940. She then moved to Long Beach, California and worked as a secretary in downtown Los Angeles during World

Mr. Hussong expected excellence

I noted with sadness the passing on July 28 of my seventh-grade history teacher Mr. G.C. Hussong. He was among my all-time favorite teachers — not because he was "nice" but because he expected excellence. (The same is true for Esther Spease who is now my proofreader at the Star Herald. Lord, have mercy.)

Seventh-graders tormented sixth-graders with phrases like, "Yeah, well, just wait 'til you get Hussong." Sixth-graders weren't really sure what that meant, but they knew it must be bad. What it meant was the student was about to be held to a new, higher academic standard.

In Mr. Hussong's class, spelling counted. Grammar counted. Behavior counted. Essay questions with fully developed answers counted. I once scored 19 of 20 points on a quiz because I misspelled Portugal. I don't remember what the quiz was about, but I remember how to spell Portugal.

Mr. Hussong, who I most vividly remember wearing a suit coat and a white shirt and tie, leaned calmly against the classroom radiator and narrated interesting facts about American history. Even in the heat of a west-facing classroom on a sunny fall afternoon, I don't recall him removing the tie.

He never made war out to be glamorous. I noted in his obituary that "he served in the South Pacific on the island of Peleliu during World War II, earning the rank of staff sergeant." Maybe that's why he never made war out to be glamorous.

There weren't any behavior problems in Mr. Hussong's classroom — though there was nothing intimidating about him. I don't think anyone knew he was a sergeant in a war before he became the teacher in our classroom, but being on your best behavior in Mr. Hussong's classroom just seemed like a good idea.

Mr. Hussong cast me in my first school play. Getting the bit part of "the maid" as a high school sophomore was a stepping stone toward becoming a more confident public speaker. By expecting a lot of me, Mr. Hussong taught me to expect more of myself.

Good teachers have high expectations of their students. Good teachers can change lives. Hats off to all of Rock County's good teachers.

This column by Brenda Winter originally appeared in the Aug. 18 edition of the Rock County Star Herald.



War II. She later moved to Minneapolis. She graduated from Mankato Teachers College. In 1959 she became a first-grade teacher at Luverne Elementary School where she taught for 27 years before retiring in 1986. On July 20, 1974, she married Abner Josendahl at Grace Lutheran Church in Luverne. After their marriage the couple lived in Luverne. She enjoyed spending time on Lake Shetek, shopping, reading and traveling. Mrs. Josendahl is survived by her eight nieces and nephews.

Wilma Hansen Kingston died August 19, 2011, in Phoenix, AZ. Wilma Hansen was born March 31, 1919 in

Emerson, Nebraska, where she grew up. After graduation from high school she attended Miss Woods Academy in Minneapolis. She went on to teach kindergarten and first grade for 32 years — many of which were at Luverne Elementary School. Mrs. Kingston is survived by four children, Don (Evelyn) Sandstede, Phoenix, Dottie (Chuck) Matus, Beaver Creek, Russ (Kristi) Sandstede, Aurora, Colo., and Dawn Heintzman, Gillette, Wyo.; nine grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; a brother Robert (Connie) Hansen, Sioux City, Iowa; and many other relatives and friends.

Bryan brothers make the news in their respective fields of engineering and health administration

Christopher Bryan, P.E., has been named TKDA's Water/Wastewater Group Manager.

The promotion will place Bryan in charge of a team of engineers and designers that provide services to both municipal and private industrial markets.

Over the last eight years, Bryan has managed projects and client relationships locally and internationally.

He is a licensed wastewater treatment plant operator and company officials say he has a keen understanding of the design, construction and operation of water and wastewater treatment facilities.

His clients include 3M, Kraft Foods, BNSF Railway and Flint Hills Resources, as well as Metropolitan Council Environmental Services and numerous municipalities.

In his new position he will focus on maintaining relationships in both the public and private sectors while leading TKDA's efforts to grow and diversify the Water/Wastewater services.

"Chris is an extremely talented engineer and knowledgeable leader," said TKDA Municipal Division Manager Larry Bohrer.

"He and his team of experienced market leaders are the right mix of people to continue TKDA's history of excellent service and cost-effective solutions for our clients."

Bryan is a 1992 graduate of Luverne High School and the son of Don and Lorna Bryan, Hardwick.

He works in the Minnesota TKDA office in downtown St. Paul.



A Hardwick native has made the list of young professionals honored by the Ambulatory Surgery Centers.

Craig Bryan is among the "Rising Stars: 30 ASC Industry Leaders Under Age 40" who are listed in the July 29 edition of Becker's ASC Review.

Bryan, 31, is a 1998 Luverne High School graduate and the son of Don and Lorna Bryan, Hardwick.

Following is the information that appears in the magazine.

Mr. Bryan serves as the administrator for Gateway Surgery Center, a facility in Concord, N.C., that has seen massive growth in volume and revenue since he began as its leader.

According to Kyle Goldammer, CEO of Partners Medical Consulting, when Mr. Bryan started with Gateway Surgery Center, "he walked into a situation where the physicians and management company were at odds. He showed maturity and experience beyond his years in negotiating the buyout of the management company while keeping his stakeholders satisfied with the settlement."

Since Mr. Bryan joined Gateway, case volumes have grown at an annual rate of 26 percent, revenues have increased 56 percent and profitability has increased 314 percent.

Mr. Bryan earned his master's degree in health administration from the University of Minnesota and currently serves as an advisor on North Carolina CON matters.



Manfred Tidbits/continued from page 1

after the trial, I was out in the cattle yard feeding the steers when I saw this very tall man climbing over the fence and jumping down into the very sloppy, muddy cattle yard.

I thought - "Oh, no! What did I do now?" When he came closer I realized it was Mr. Manfred. He wanted to shake my hand and thank me for believing him and voting in his favor.

You are invited to share your memories for

WINTER 2011 TID-BITS:

The focus of our next TID-BIT column will be ***GREAT BASKETBALL STORIES!*** Take a few minutes to share your memories of the great **LHS tradition of basketball**. Deadline for submission is December 15, 2011.

Send your thoughts in written form to:

TID-BITS

213 East Luverne Street

Luverne, MN 56156

Or e-mail: luvernechamber@co.rock.mn.us



Lori Ehde photos/0609 guard sendoff

This was the scene at the Luverne National Guard Armory Thursday morning, June 2, before buses took deploying soldiers out of town. Below, 9-year-old Bobby Gunnink clings to his father, Randy Gunnink, and his mom, Ruth Gunnink, along with his little brother, Zeke (on the other side) amid a tearful good-bye.

Luverne seeks National Guard memorabilia, both recent and old for Veterans Memorial display

By Lori Ehde

Volunteers of the Herreid Military Museum are working on a new display and they're seeking help from the public.

The new National Guard display aims to tell the story about the Luverne unit, from its inception to now.

The Herreid Military Museum is located on the second floor of the Rock County Veterans Memorial Building, the former jail building next to the courthouse.

The purpose of the Military Museum is to tell the story of how wars have affected Rock County, both its soldiers who served and its families left behind.

The museum opened in 2008 with a comprehensive display of World War II artifacts and information.

The goal is to rotate the displays with information about other wars, including the recent display of World War I information.



Chairman Terrie Gulden of the Herreid Military Museum announced plans for the National Guard display in a portion of the museum.

Chamber Director Jane Wildung Lanphere, who also serves on the committee, said the Chamber office will be the clearing house for submissions from the public.

"If people have collections of National Guard photos, we would love to be able to use

them," Lanphere said.

"It will be a nice piece of history to display."

During the next 10 months, volunteers will be gathering material, pictures, stories and information about the history of the Minnesota National Guard in Luverne.

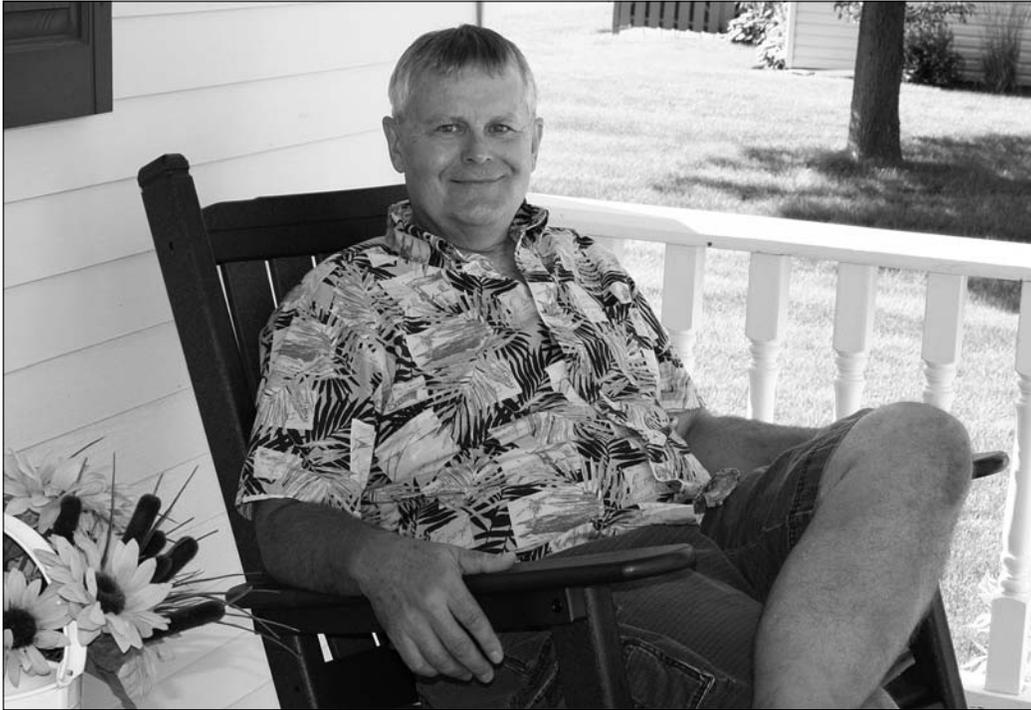
Gulden said the display will honor the outstanding service of the National Guard, particularly the Luverne unit.

The goal of the committee is to have the display open on Memorial Day 2012.

The display will not replace the current WWII display but may replace portions of the WWI display.

Individuals and families who have material concerning the National Guard unit in Luverne are encouraged to contact the Chamber Office at 283-4061.

Or e-mail at luvernechamber@co.rock.mn.us.



Lori Ehde photos/0819 jensen retires

Retired Luverne High School teacher Jerry Jensen relaxes on his front porch in August, relishing the fact that his wife, Delaine, and his other teacher colleagues were back to school that morning and he wasn't.

Luverne's Jerry Jensen retires lab coat; reflects on 38-year career in teaching

By Lori Ehde

The new school year started in August for most area schools, but Jerry Jensen is not among the teachers returning to the classroom.

He retired this spring after completing his 38th year at Luverne High School, but Jensen said he feels officially retired now that his teaching colleagues are back in school without him.

His wife, Delaine (third-grade teacher in Luverne), is among them, and Jensen said he enjoys waving at her from the front porch as she drives off to work in the morning.

Their earliest memories in the halls of Luverne High School date back to the summer of 1973 when he and Delaine were preparing his high school physical science classroom on a Saturday.

He said then-principal John Rath spotted them in the hallway and mistook them for trespassing students.

"He just screamed at us, 'What are you kids doing in the building?'" Jensen said. "I said to him, 'I'm Jerry Jensen, the biology teacher. You hired me.' I suppose back then we looked like kids."

**'Teacher of the Year' and
'Outstanding Biology Educator'**

So began what would be a long and colorful career

that would be highlighted by several prestigious honors and awards.

In 1992 he was named Luverne's Teacher of the Year and a state Teacher of Excellence and eventually was named one of 12 finalists for the state honor.

In 1994 Jensen was named Outstanding Biology Teacher at the National Association of Biology Teachers Conference in St. Louis, Mo.

For his colleagues and students, these awards weren't surprising, considering Jensen's never-ending pursuit of excellence in the classroom.

Particularly, he was bent on being the most technologically advanced and having the latest classroom technology.

Cutting edge technology

For example, he was among the first in the nation to fully integrate the computer into his curriculum.

In 1993 he was selected by the National Science Teachers Association to be the Minnesota educator to attend an Access Excellence Conference in California.

At the conference, biotechnology company Genentech taught teachers how to use computers, and the teachers received free laptop computers and free

Jerry Jensen retires/continued from page 11

AOL online subscriptions.

"At the time, I was the only person I knew in Luverne with Internet access," Jensen said.

He recalled running a phone line from an upstairs office and taping the wiring across the ceiling in his classroom to bring the Internet to his students.

With free Apple computers and appropriate hardware, he projected the computer lessons to a classroom television screen — something that was unheard of in most schools at that time.

As a result, he was one of five biology teachers in the state to receive a University of Minnesota grant for additional hardware to further develop the curriculum.

In the end, what it meant for his students is that they had access to Vernier interface equipment for biology, chemistry and physics labs for measuring temperature, oxygen and carbon dioxide.

"We actually measured the oxygen produced in photosynthesis," Jensen said. "It's really cool."

What Jensen's early students most fondly remember him for, though, is his "sludge test," for ninth grade intro to physical science class.

Students were given jars of strange concoctions, the contents of which they were assigned to break down and identify.

High expectations and advanced placement

Jensen's pursuit of advanced learning for his students continued in 1999 when he cultivated a relationship between his classroom and the Luverne ethanol plant to study the process of turning corn to ethanol.

Jensen also worked to get advanced placement classes in Luverne High School.

"We offered college credits, and for these kids it was more than a challenge; it was an opportunity to look at college-level work," Jensen said, praising current and former Luverne administrators for supporting the AP process.

It seemed to pay off for his students, who often reported that their college biology classes were "easy" once they graduated from Luverne.

Jensen describes his teaching philosophy as a "constructivist classroom" approach.

"It's about learning by doing," he said. "In the long run, you'll know the stuff, but what's important in education is what we do with the stuff, the thinking skills, the problem solving, how we get and what we do with the information."

Despite his "mad scientist" reputation in the classroom, Jensen points out that he also coached junior high and varsity sports — mostly baseball — which included summers coaching VFW and

American Legion teams.

"I think we were one of the first VFW teams to go to state from Luverne," Jensen said, recalling that Mark Sehr was among those early players.

Most of his early summers were also spent working on a construction crew building houses for John Schuur.

No more Petri dishes, no more lab preps

While Jensen enjoyed the challenges of teaching, he said he looks forward to the freedom of retiring.

"I won't be correcting notebooks at night or preparing Petri dishes or mixing solutions on Saturdays. "The college classes took lots of lab preparation. It took 50 minutes just to get things ready."

Outdoor photography, biking, volunteering, maintaining a couple of websites, writing (about teaching), blogging and spending time with his family are on his retirement to-do list.

He and Delaine have two daughters, Jennifer (LHS class of 94) and Becky (LHS class of 97) and a 16-month-old granddaughter, Sophia.

As a surprise retirement gift, his daughters established a Dollars for Scholars scholarship in his name. The first scholarship carrying Jensen's name will be awarded in May 2012.

What We've Heard/continued from page 3

Joan Houser of Highland Mills, NY read with interest Tim Tangeman's recollection of Hardwick. Joan is the daughter of John (Hannes) Hagedorn, owner and operator of Hagedorn's Liquor Store, which was located next door to the Green Lantern. She brings some additional memories to the stories about Hardwick.

Down the block from the liquor store was The Peanut Saloon which was run by Carl (Monk)

Petersen who was Joan's uncle. He had pool tables, sold 3.2 beer and had roasted peanuts in the shell for sale. She doesn't remember the

price of the peanuts but fondly remembers always getting a bag "on the house," because she was his niece.

Joan doesn't remember the Gem as being a theatre, but does remember it as a dance hall with "open to the public" dances every Saturday night. She also remembers that there was no liquor sold as it was a "bring your own bottle" club. Set-ups were served.

Joan sends her thanks to Tim for bringing back so many memories of Hardwick. It was and always will be a great American small town!



Submitted photo by Myhre Studio

Fourteen of the surviving 27 members of the Luverne High School Class of 1946 attended their 65th class reunion in August. There were 65 graduates in the class. Pictured in front (from left) are Elzora (Wulf) Ott, Gordon Davis, Howard Emery, Ida (Olson) Reverts, Barbara (Jensen) Winter, Mary Ann (McDowell) Davis, (back row) Audrey (Nelson) DeSchepper, Beverly (Schuetts) Schmuck, Lorna (Erickson) Lorenzen, Gene Davis, Marvin Kindt, Marilyn (Weston) Wiese, Genevieve (Olson) Andersen and Norma (Kemerling) Schneekloth.

LHS Class of 1946 recalls changes in 65 years since graduation

By Brenda Winter

Fourteen classmates from the Luverne High School Class of 1946 gathered for their 65th reunion in August and shared memories of Luverne in the 1940s.

The favorite social teen activity was Saturday night dances at the Luverne Armory.

Groups of girls met up with groups of guys and spent the evening twirling across the dance floor to the big band sounds of Tommy Dorsey and Glenn Miller played by local musicians in the Jimmy Thomas

band.

In the small-town dance halls near Sioux Falls, including Luverne's, airmen stationed at the Sioux Falls air base competed with the local boys for the attention of local girls doused in Radio Girl perfume purchased from the dime store.

A "successful" evening of dancing for a girl might end with a guy taking her out to "The 80," a local café for a root beer or a sandwich before walking or driving her home.

Other possible café destinations included Long's, the Dutchess Cafe,

the Rock Café or Eberline's Pool Hall.

A guy with deep pockets might take his sweetie to the Forrest Dairy Ice Cream Store for the triple treat consisting of three scoops of ice cream and whipped topping for 35 cents.

The main reunion topic was the health of the survivors – who had surgery, were in care centers and who had passed since the last gathering.

A favorite message sent by ones who couldn't attend the 65th was, "See you at the 70th!"



LHS Class of 1951

The Luverne High School Class of 1951 gathered for a reunion Saturday, Sept. 24, at the Blue Mound Banquet Center in Luverne. Pictured are (front row, from left) MaReese (Olson) Cragoe, JoAnn (Church) Rhoda, Don Spease, Paul Lynch, Geraldine (DeVries) Hamann, Donald Parry, Gayle (Frakes) Beers, (second row) Barbara (Newton) Ball, Doreen (Helling) Sickles, Darlene (Burmeister) Johnson, Arlene (Burmeister) Mann, Daisy (Busse) Bergjord, Wilda (Hass) Bush, Delores (Bullis) Korgel, (third row) Jim Herman, Leon Siebenahler, LeRoy Korgel, Herman Hank, Ronald Hamann and Roger Erickson.



Magnolia Bulldogs Class of '61

Members of the Magnolia High School Class of 1961 gathered for a 50th class reunion Friday, Sept. 9, in the Adrian Countryside Inn. Pictured are (front row, from left) Sandy Erickson Smith, VaLoyce Vogt Sommers, (back row) Carol Akkerman Maxwell, Beverly Schmuck Viessman, Sharon Dean Buus, Dick Remme, Joyce Bowen Hawes, Keith Aanenson, Larry Tweet, Lee Aanenson and Roger Vogt.

Reunions in the Making

Compiled by Gregg Gropel

Arizona Reunion

**2012
Arizona Reunion
in Mesa**



February 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

The Arizona Winter Reunion is scheduled for February 15, 2012. The reunion will be held at Superstition Springs Golf Course in Mesa, Arizona. Because of the event's popularity, it has become necessary for attendees to pre-register.

The pre-registration deadline is February 8, one week prior to the actual reunion. To pre-register contact Jim or Judy Herman. The Hermans can be reached via phone at their winter residence, (480) 380-6631.



Class of '65

When: August 4, 2012
Location: Luverne County Club
Co-contact: Randa Smith Gangestad
Phone: 507-283-8288
Email: rgangestadaz@hotmail.com
Co-contact: Jeanne Boone Bowron
Phone: 507-283-8136
Email: jjbowron@myclearwave.net
Info: Watch for future issues of the *Alumni News* for further information
"Class of '65 turns 65"



Class of '67

When: June 2, 2012
Location: Luverne County Club
Co-contact: Elaine Van Belle Boergerhoff
Email: elaine21@comcast.net
Phone: 612-850-7132
Co-contact: Kris Fitzer
Address: PO Box 49725
Blaine, Minnesota 55449
NOTE: June 2 is Buffalo Days weekend, plan to meet on Friday night at "Cruise-In" and Saturday afternoon at "Arts in the Park." Join us on Facebook for the most up-to-date information. Search LHS Class of 67. A fun weekend is planned, mark your calendar!

**Planning a reunion?
Let us know. The staff is eager
to announce each and every class
reunion.**

Scholarships . . . Continued from page 7

Announcer. (This scholarship is administered by staff in a Sioux Falls bank.)

2. The Gunderson Scholarship is awarded to students who have participated in the school’s agricultural classes, with award amounts based on the total number of agricultural classes each student successfully completes during his or her last four years of school. Over the course of four years, the agriculture instructor tracks each student and at the end of the school year submits the names of eligible seniors, along with the number of ag related classes each completed, to school administrators for award disbursements.

3. The W. F. Finke Scholarship is handled very similar to that of the Gunderson Scholarship. In this case, students who have participated in speech, mock trial, and school plays automatically become eligible for the Fink scholarship. At the end of the school year, the principal, superintendent, and activity coaches join together and review a list of names submitted by these same coaches, students whom they feel put forth a great deal effort in their field. When consensus is reached, awards are announced and later funds are disbursed.

Knowing how these scholarships are administered, January is probably an okay time to inform parents and students of these three scholarships. Other than the A. R. Woods Scholarship, very little can be done by the student to secure one these scholarships.

On the other hand, the Norm Torrison USD Scholarship and the Mary Torrison SDSU Nursing Scholarship are designated for students who enroll in one of these two schools— University of South Dakota (USD) and South Dakota State

University (SDSU).

Students who attend USD are eligible for \$1,000 for use during their sophomore year, \$500 for their junior, and \$500 for their senior year. The only requirement is that the student must have been awarded a Dollars for Scholars scholarship and they must maintain a “B” average. This scholarship will be awarded to all qualifying LHS graduates attending USD.

The format for the Mary Torrison SDSU Nursing Scholarship is very similar to that of the special USD scholarship. A student majoring in a *nursing* program at South Dakota State University is eligible for this scholarship. Again, \$1,000 is awarded to the student for use during their sophomore year, followed by \$500 for each of their next two years. However, it requires the student to have received a Dollars for Scholars scholarship, plus they must maintain a “B” average. Unlike the USD scholarship, this scholarship is awarded to only one Luverne graduate per graduating class.

It seems to be imperative that students be made aware of these two scholarships well in advance of the January “*financial aid*” meeting. It simply provides them with more information to use when considering a post-secondary school. Should a student choose one of these schools, it is possible their school choice could put an extra \$2,000 in their pocket.

Yes, the people who think the January “*financial aid*” meeting is too late for soon-to-be LHS graduates to learn of the Torrison scholarships are probably correct.

Are you a parent of a current LHS senior? Do you know the parents of a current LHS senior? Do you know a current LHS senior? If so, please help spread the word about these two special Torrison scholarships.

Alumni News Staff: Cindy Arends, Lori Ehde, Gregg Gropel, Rhonna Jarchow, Jane Wildung Lanphere, Carol McDonald, Patti Kirby Pierson, and the Rock County Opportunities.

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