

St. Joseph Newsleader

Friday, Jan. 19, 2018
Volume 30, Issue 3
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Town Crier

Lions dinner to be held tonight at Sal's Bar, Grill

A chicken and ham dinner, sponsored by the St. Joseph Lions Club, will be held from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 19 at Sal's Bar & Grill, 109 W. Minnesota St., St. Joseph. The event includes a meat raffle and silent auction.

Joe Town Table offers free community meals

Enjoy a home-cooked meal and good company along with others from the St. Joseph area from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sundays monthly at the American Legion, 101 W. Minnesota St., St. Joseph. Meals will be served Jan. 28, Feb. 25, March 25, April 22 and May 27. All are welcome. These events are sponsored by the Central Minnesota Catholic Worker, area churches and the College of St Benedict Community Kitchen. For more information, email centralmncw@gmail.com.

Sartell hockey conducts raffle

The Sartell Youth Hockey Association is now conducting a raffle with a grand price of \$2,699.99; 100 winners will receive St. Cloud Scheels gift cards for any merchandise in the store. There is a 1 in 20 chance of winning. Tickets may be purchased at both Blue Line Bar & Grill locations and the Firing Line Indoor Range and Gun Shop. For more information, visit sartellhockeyaffle.com.

Shots fired Jan. 10 in Sauk River, Whitney parks

At around 4:20 p.m. Jan. 10, Sartell police officers heard possible gun shots near Walmart parking lot. Simultaneously, St. Cloud police officers were dispatched to possible gun shots near Whitney Park. Once in the area, St. Cloud officers found three males crossing the bridge from Sauk River Regional Park on the Sartell side of the Sauk River to the St. Cloud side. The males were identified but had no weapons on them and were released. Investigating officers did locate two firearms hidden in the park on the Sartell side of the river. Sartell police continue to investigate this incident. Anyone with information should contact them at 320-251-8186 or Tri-County Crimestoppers at 1-800-255-1301 or tricity-crimestoppers.org.

For additional criers, visit thenewsleaders.com and click on Criers.

2017 Year in Review – Part 3 Filled with growth, changes for St. Joseph

by Vicki Ikeogu
news@thenewsleaders.com

(The Year in Review: Parts 1 and 2 covering January-August were featured in the Jan. 5 and 12 editions of the Newsleader and may be read in their entirety by visiting thenewsleaders.com.)

September

Kennedy Community School fifth-grade student Carlee Reber has a need for speed. At just 10-years-old, Reber has taken to the sport of drag racing. She participates at races at the Brainerd International Raceway, Grove Creek Raceway in Grove City and Top End Raceway in Fargo. She was also featured in the national monthly

publication *Midwest Drag Racers Associate* magazine. “She just loves it because she loves going fast,” said Pete Reber, Carlee’s dad. “She was born with racing in her blood.”

Ground has been broken for the new Lake Wobegon Trail expansion. This project, valued at \$4.9 million, will connect the cities of St. Joseph and Waite Park. It’s anticipated to be completed next spring.

The second annual “Rock For Alzheimer’s” event has been scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 23 in the parking lot behind Bad Habit Brewing Co. The event will immediately follow the Alzheimer’s Association’s Walk to End Alzheimer’s in St. Cloud. The “Rock

YIR • page 4



photo courtesy of Hill Museum and Manuscript Library/Wayne Torborg, St. John's University, Collegeville.
The St. John's Bible is now on display in a permanent gallery at the St. John's University Alcuin Library.

Council enters competition for DEED grant

by Dave DeMars
news@thenewsleaders.com

With the temperature inside its chambers hovering at a chilly 60 degrees, the St. Joseph City Council opened its first meeting for 2018 on Jan. 16 and after holding a brief public hearing proceeded to authorize becoming involved in a Community Block Grant Program through the Department of Employment and Economic Development, the purpose of which is housing rehabilitation.

The housing-rehab program provides assistance to qualify-

ing homeowners to repair or replace deteriorated roofing, soffit/fascia, gutters, siding, windows and doors. Interior items are also eligible and include electrical, plumbing, new furnaces, insulation, lead-based paint remediation, and health and safety items.

The program targets the community development and rehabilitation of areas in need, concentrating much of its assets in support of very low-income persons and other needs of the city at large.

Because the grant is highly competitive, there are several

steps that need to be taken.

In previous action last August, the council had approved a contract with the Central Minnesota Housing Partnership to submit a grant proposal to submit a grant proposal to DEED and compete for a grant. The council authorized a show of support for the program by making a \$25,000 commitment to the program.

“It’s always better if the city has some dollars involved in the project,” said Ed Zimny, CMHP program director.

Zimny explained the City of St. Joseph was one of 36 cities out of 48 that submitted a

preliminary proposal and were then invited to submit a full grant application. CMHP would submit the full application, which is due Feb. 22. Once that application is made, grant winners will be notified in May. Kick-off of the actual program would be sometime in September or October.

A meeting will be held Jan. 22 for people who might be interested in securing help from the program in improving their properties.

If awarded a grant, the city stands to garner about \$195,000

Council • page 2

contributed photo

St. John's Prep ninth-grader Jack Skahen was recently named to the American Choral Directors Association of Minnesota Honor Choir to participate in the State 9-10 Boys' Honor Choir. This is the third year he has been chosen for the Honor Choir, which recognizes outstanding young Minnesota choral musicians



Skahen accepted to Honor Choir for third year

by Cori Hilsgen
news@thenewsleaders.com

St. John's Prep ninth-grade student Jack Skahen not only loves to sing, but he is also very good at it.

He was recently selected by the American Choral Directors Association of Minnesota Honor Choir to participate in the State 9-10 Boys' Honor Choir. This is the third year he has been chosen for the honor that recognizes outstanding young Minnesota choral musicians.

Skahen has been a member of

the St. John's Boys' Choir since fifth grade. This is his last year with the choir.

“My favorite part about being in the Boys' Choir is being able to share beautiful music with others and traveling the world,” Skahen said in a press release. “Being accepted to the Honor Choir is a big deal to me because I know so many people try out for it and not everyone gets in. I am looking forward to the performance in February.”

He auditioned for the choir under the direction of St. John's

Skahen • page 2

Council

from front page

that would be used to finance work on 10 proposed projects.

“We are hoping we can get people to come to that meeting next Monday to drum up support for it because the more support we have, the more people interested in doing it, the stronger our application will be,” said St. Joseph City Administrator Judy Weyrens. “If there are people who live in the area that would apply or would qualify, you should encourage them to attend.”

Authorization was approved with a unanimous vote.

Equipment concerns

The Capital Equipment Plans incorporates the five-year rotating certificates in the levy budget. The next certificate will be paid in full in 2018, so a new certificate would be issued during the year with the first payment beginning in 2019.

The CEP laid out costs for various pieces of equipment from computers to rifles, to

plow trucks and lawn mowers. After taking into account prior funds that had already been dedicated to various needs, the balance of funds needed to purchase new equipment was about \$265,000.

After examining the list of equipment, council member Dale Wick expressed some concerns and reservations about the need for some of the equipment. Specifically Wick addressed concerns about the needs of the Public Works Department whose requests amounted to \$217,000.

Wick had asked for maintenance records on the equipment and wondered why some of the equipment could not simply be improved and repaired rather than new equipment purchased. Some of the equipment had very small amounts of repair done on it, perhaps as little as a \$1,000 per year. Wick also said he really had not been furnished with good records about equipment maintenance.

Public Works Director Terry Thene said the one truck, a Ford F-250, had much work done on it and it had about reached the end of the line. As

for the Chevy utility truck, it has a bad knock in the motor, and the diagnosis is the motor could fail at any time and that would cost about \$7,000.

Maintenance will not save that motor, Thene maintained. It’s just a matter of time, he added.

“These trucks aren’t normal pick-ups like people pull into the garage. These trucks have worked,” Thene said.

“But shouldn’t maintenance cost more?” inquired Wick. “Shouldn’t there be yearly maintenance in maintaining these things rather than just running them until they die and looking for a new truck for everybody?”

“We do do maintenance on them,” Thene said, “but when things loosen up you don’t just jump down there until something breaks and then you repair it.”

Wick turned attention to other equipment. There didn’t seem to have been a lot of repairs on some of the equipment or at least not documented repair.

“I keep asking for it, but I’m not getting it,” Wick said. “I’m

trying to find a method to inform the council and the public as to where the equipment is and why we are getting a new truck.”

Mayor Rick Schultz agreed more detail would be nice and that requests had been made. At the same time, he felt he had to trust Thene would make sound decisions with regard to needed equipment.

Weyrens offered that in the future they would do a better job of tracking maintenance, but the records still would not show when a motor was going bad or why there was a need for replacement.

“It’s difficult to tell you exactly when a truck is going to die,” Thene said. “What we are trying to do is get this used equipment replaced before we have a catastrophic failure on the vehicle.”

In the end, the council voted to approve 4-1 with Wick voting no, to approve the Capital Equipment Certificate.

During a report by City Engineer Randy Sabart, Loso tried to convince other council members the upgrading of alleys should be more of a priority

for the council. As it stands, the alley projects are listed as part of the Capital Improvement Project, but they have not been funded. Loso wanted to have the alley upgrades funded. He was hoping the alleys would get done in the coming year.

Sabart said while they have estimates in the CIP, the alley projects were not prioritized. That’s the first step in recognizing the problem, but to designate funds at this time would compete with other projects that have been designated as high priority. Sabart asked what the council wanted to do.

In another 4-1 vote, council member Loso was the lone yes vote in an attempt to get alley projects higher priority and secure committed funding.

The council also approved the preliminary design phase agreement for East Park with Short Elliot Henderson Engineering. The company will provide images and concept planning as well as facilitate community-wide input sessions as well as other services. Cost for the design is estimated at \$17,650.

Skahen

from front page

Boys’ Choir Director Andr  Heywood. At school, he sings under the direction of David Paulson.

The ACDA-MN organizes six honor-choir projects each year to feature outstanding student talent at a variety of levels, including State 4-5-6 Boys’ and Girls,’ State 7-8 Boys’ and Girls,’ State 9-10 Women’s and State 9-10 Mixed.

Each participant is required to memorize five pieces for the ACDA public performance.

Members of the St. John’s Boys’ Choir rehearse between four to 14 hours each week and perform at about 30 events each season.

Skahen was one of five St. John’s Boys’ Choir members selected for the Grade 9/10 Honor Choir. Carter Trombley and Dolan Binder of Sartell, Dean Rothstein of Cold Spring and Alexis Martinez Mejia of Annandale were also selected.

This is Trombley’s third consecutive selection and Binder’s second. Both also sing in the

Nova Voce Young Men’s Ensemble and are in their seventh season with the St. John’s Boys’ Choir.

Skahen has traveled to various states and Ireland, and plans to travel to Spain and France this year with the choir.

“In addition to being excellent singers, all these boys are exceptional leaders in the St. John’s Boys’ Choir and in their school programs and, as such, are very deserving of this honor,” Heywood said.

The ACDA-MN Boys’ Honor Choir brings together about 120 of the state’s best singers in that age range. Boys are chosen from hundreds of auditions across the state.

More than 2,400 students audition each year for placement into the honor choir program. About 830 students are selected.

Heywood has served as both a judge for the auditions and as a conductor of the Honor Choir.

“Jack has been an outstanding singer through(out) his entire tenure with the St. John’s Boys’ Choir,” Heywood said. “He has represented St. John’s Boys’ Choir for three consecutive years in the Minnesota

Honor Choir. He has been a featured soloist at many of our performances. In this, his final year with the choir, he is part of our Nova Voce Young Men’s Ensemble – the newest St. John’s Boys’ Choir ensemble, but for the oldest boys. Nova Voce serves young men in grades seven-nine whose voices have recently changed (lowered).”

Besides singing, Skahen’s musical talents include playing the trombone. He also plays soccer, participates in Knowledge Bowl and enjoys photography.

Skahen is the son of Jennifer and Sean Skahen of St. Joseph. He has two sisters, Brenna and Caitlin; and two brothers, Tom and Brady.

Skahen’s brothers and sisters also play instruments, sing and participate in theater.

Jennifer and Sean Skahen own Sunset Manufacturing in St. Joseph, a sheet metal-fabrication company that manufactures many dairy industry products.

The Honor Choir will perform with the State 9-10 Girls’ Honor Choir at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22 at the Minneapolis Convention Center’s Main Auditorium.

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Name added to ‘likely abusers’ list

by **Dennis Dalman**
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The name of another priest has been added to a list of about 40 area Catholic clergy “likely to have abused minors,” according to a recent announcement from Bishop Donald Kettler, head of the Catholic Diocese of St. Cloud.

The priest is Fr. Antonio Marfori, who was ordained in 1978 at St. Mary’s Cathedral in St. Cloud. Marfori has had two complaints against him. The first was filed in 2015, the second in 2016. Both complaints allege Marfori sexually abused minors in the late 1970s, the first against a minor while he was a part-time

instructor at Cathedral High School, the second against a minor when he was a full-time instructor at that high school. Kettler ordered an investigation into the allegations after the first complaint was filed in 2015. Marfori was at Cathedral from 1978-80, first as a part-time instructor,

Abuser • back page

Blotter

If any readers have tips concerning crimes, they should call the St. Joseph Police Department at 320-363-8250 or Tri-County Crime Stoppers at 320-255-1301 or access its tip site at www.tricounty-crimestoppers.org. Crime Stoppers offers rewards up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for crimes. This information is submitted by the St. Joseph Police Department.

Dec. 14

5:38 p.m. Suspicious person. 121 Sixth Ave. S.E. Officers responded to a suspicious person at the above address. Complainant stated a white male, about 5-foot-7 with short brown hair and driving a dark-colored single-cab truck. The suspect came to the front door of the residence asking strange questions (How was your dentist appointment?) No one at the residence knew the suspect. Report was taken and the officer was unable to locate the vehicle.

9:53 p.m. Traffic violation. Hwy.

15/Third St. N., St. Cloud. While on patrol, an officer was traveling northbound on Hwy. 15 when he noticed a state trooper with a vehicle stopped and the emergency lights activated. The officer observed the suspect vehicle fail to move over for the stopped emergency vehicle even though there was plenty of room to move over. The officer stopped the vehicle and the suspect advised she did not know she needed to move over and did slow down. A citation was issued for failure to move over for stopped emergency vehicle. Explained and released.

Dec. 15

2:05 p.m. Stray dog. 75 Callaway St. E. St. Joseph Police Department. Maintenance department captured a stray dog. The dog was brought to her house but there was no one there. Officers brought the dog to the pound in Sauk Rapids and administered a citation for a dog at large.

Dec. 16

12:48 a.m. Bar fight. 20 College

Ave. N. Officers were dispatched to a fight at the LaPlayette. Upon arrival, officers spotted a male suspect being escorted out of the bar by the bouncer for being verbal. The suspect’s fiancée was pushed down walking out of the bar in a separate fight not involving the above male suspect. The male suspect started fighting with those two individuals thinking it was related to the other fight. The bouncer restrained the male suspect until officers arrived. The bouncer did not want to press charges. All other parties left before the officers arrived but the suspects fiancée told officers it was an accident but she had a really bad headache. Gold Cross Ambulance arrived and transported her to the St. Cloud Hospital.

Dec. 17

10:57 a.m. No-pay customer. 304 College Ave. N. Holiday called the St. Joseph Police Department stating a driver had paid for their items but not their gas. Arrangements were made to collect payment.

People

Kristi Bohlig of St. Joseph was among 32 students to begin the clinical portion of their studies to earn a master’s degree as physician’s assistants from the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Grand Forks.

The White Coat Ceremony for these future PA providers was held Jan. 12.

“The presentation of the white coat is symbolic of the new profession the students are entering,” said PA Studies Chair Jeanie McHugo, PhD, PA-C. “The coats will be worn by students through(out) the clinical phase of their training and denoted their involvement with the PA program at UND.”

Students have already completed their first two semesters of basic science instruction, and now will spend four weeks in the clinical setting in Grand Forks before returning to their home communities, where most of their training will take place under the supervision of physician and PA preceptors. During the next 18 months, they will return to UND for several weeks at different junctures for education and training.

Seventy-five percent of this class is from North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota. Students range in age from 21 to 44 years, with an average age of 30; the class includes 13 men and 19 women.

Two St. Joseph students were recently named to the fall dean’s list at North Dakota State University, Fargo.

They are the following: **Ethan Schatz**, medical laboratory science; and **Jeremy Warzecka**, mechanical engineering.

Students must earn a minimum 3.50 grade-point average or higher to qualify for the honor.

Public notice

CITY OF ST. JOSEPH

**Special City Council Meeting
6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 22, 2018**

Purpose: Discussion on the Orderly Annexation Agreement

Judy Weyrens
Administrator

Publish: Jan. 19, 2018

**HELP WANTED:
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Obituary

Clara Stueve, 105

St. Joseph

Aug. 28, 1912-Dec. 29, 2017

Clara Stueve, 105, of St. Joseph died Dec. 29 at Arlington Place. Her funeral was held Jan. 4 at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in St. Joseph. The Rev. Jerome Tupa, O.S.B. officiated. Burial was in the parish cemetery.

Stueve was born Aug. 28, 1912 to Anna (Schlangen) and John Schefers. She married Al Stueve on Oct. 14, 1936 in Richmond. The couple owned and operated Stueve’s Garage for many years (1937-1972). Stueve was a wonderful, caring mother, enjoying sewing, crocheting, embroidery, gardening, canning and making



her famous pickled fish.

Survivors include the following: her children, Do-reen Honer and Dennis, both of St. Joseph; Dorothy Merten of Waite Park; Mel (Lizz) of Mesa, Arizona; Alice (George) Westerhoff, of Brooklyn Center, and Jim (Kathy) and Don (Deb), all of of St. Cloud; 15 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren; nine great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Clara was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Al in 1982; and all 10 of her brothers and sisters.

The family wishes to express its heartfelt gratitude to Arlington Place and St. Croix Hospice for their professional and excellent care they gave to our mother.

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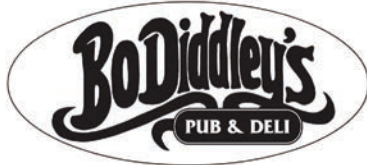
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if you would like your business included. Check out the online Business Directory at thenewsleaders.com which hyperlinks to each business’ website.

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contributed photo

Freedom Flight POW/MIA, a group that honors and tries to increase awareness of soldiers missing in action or prisoners of war, is asking for help in locating equipment worth thousands of dollars which was recently stolen. The group includes many dedicated volunteers who donate their time and money to fly POW/MIA hot air balloons and educate people at events across the United States and world.

YIR

from front page

For Alzheimer’s” concert series was created by Jeff and Tommy Vee to help honor their father, rock/pop music legend Bobby Vee, who passed away from Alzheimer’s in October 2016.

Clara Stueve had a lot of candles to blow out on her birthday cake. Stueve, a resident at St. Joseph’s Arlington Place, celebrated her 105th birthday Aug. 28.

Students at Kennedy Community School honor the life of Moses Beasely. Beasely was a 15-year-old sophomore at Apollo High School who committed suicide in August. Beasely’s mother Natoyia Alberts, spoke to students at Kennedy about her son. Beasely’s younger brothers, Kenneth and Ahmir, are students at Kennedy.

Kay’s Kitchen is expanding. Owner Tanya Finken is planning to open a second location inside Midtown Square Mall in St. Cloud. “After looking at the kitchen, I realized it would be a good fit for my catering business and to bring my pie baking there as well,” Finken said.

Millstream Park is set to welcome its newest edition – a dog park. The first phase of the new park has been completed. Phase Two which includes

water access and a shelter and Phase Three which includes an expansion area for small dogs have yet to be completed.

Charles “Charlie” William Preble publishes his second collection of poetry in a book entitled *Portals*. Preble has been working on this book for the past four years. And at 80 years old, he is already hard at work on his third book.

Mike Wolfe and Frank Fritz, stars of the History Channel’s *American Pickers*, are set to make a stop in St. Joseph. Victoria Weinberg, the show’s casting associate, sent an email to the St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce stating they are looking for people who have collectibles they are willing to part with.

The College of St. Benedict and St. John’s University have plans to screen six award-winning French films at their French Film Festival. “The Tournees Film Festival is open to everyone, and we really aim to get as many people here as possible, even those who have never spoken or heard a word of French,” said Dr. Ana Conboy, assistant professor of French at CSB/SJU.

October

St. Joseph Township residents Todd and Sarah Theisen hope to provide others with the chance of home ownership.

The couple is the proud owner of Future Equities, a business which specializes in purchasing foreclosed homes, refurbishing them and selling them contract-for-deed to those with poor credit. “It’s exciting for me to give other people life opportunities they may not have had otherwise, and this is one thing I can do,” Todd Theisen told the *Newsleader*.

Sister Colman O’Connell OSB passed away at the age of 90. O’Connell was the 11th president of CSB. A prayer vigil was held for O’Connell on Oct. 6 with a funeral Mass scheduled for Oct. 7.

Baby Jace Josephson remains at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester awaiting a heart transplant. But he might not have been so lucky without the quick-thinking measures local first-responders performed on U.S. Hwy 10. Off-duty Rice firefighter Blake Phenow happened to be driving along the same stretch of roadway when he noticed a vehicle driven by 22-year-old Akasha Ness-Breitwieser pulled over on the side of the road. Jace, who was 18 months old had stopped breathing. Minnesota State Trooper James Orlando and Benton County Deputy Ron Thomas also helped perform life-saving CPR on Jace until an ambulance arrived.

Sandy and Loyal Skuza can

cross one more item off of their bucket list. The couple recently completed a motorcycle journey of a lifetime, having biked in all of the lower 48 states and five Canadian provinces. “There is something about riding on a motorcycle. Your vision is not obscured and you can see up and all around. You can also smell things for miles,” Sandy Skuza told the *Newsleader*.

St. Joseph firefighters were dispatched to battle a shed fire north of St. Joseph Oct. 13. The shed, located not far from CR 133 near the Five Points intersection, took about three hours to extinguish. No one was injured.

The Saint John’s Bible has come back to Central Minnesota where it’s permanently on display in the St. John’s University Alcuin Library. The *Bible* includes seven volumes of more than 1,100 pages all handwritten and hand illustrated under the direction of Donald Jackson. The project was officially commissioned in 1998.

A 60-acre solar farm opened just north of St. Joseph on Interstate 94. The 28,000 solar panels will produce enough energy to power about 1,200 Minnesota homes. “Over the course of 25 years, subscribers to this solar garden should see total savings in excess of \$8 million,” IPS Vice President of Business Development Eric Pasi told the *Newsleader*.

St. John’s Prep junior Mitchell Brown takes center stage as the loveable but clueless groundskeeper George in the Great Northern Theater Co.’s production of *Drinking Habits 2: Caught in the Act*.

Central Minnesota Somali residents hosted a prayer vigil at St. Cloud’s Lake George after a terrorist bombing in Somalia killed more than 350 people and injured hundreds more earlier this month. St. Cloud Mayor Dave Kleis and St. Cloud Diocesan Bishop Donald Kettler offered their prayers and support.

November

Interest has grown as two local people have started advocating for the canonization of a nun buried at St. Benedict’s Monastery. Avon resident Patrick Norton has been working toward getting both the Diocese of St. Cloud and the sisters with the Order of St. Benedict’s to push for the canonization of Sister Annella Zervas. The Order of St. Benedict’s stated in 1989 they are not interested in pursuing canonization for any of the orders’ members.

After Hurricane Harvey devastated portions of Texas, students at Kennedy Community School wanted to find a way to help. The students helped collect books for children who were impacted by the hurri-

canes. With the help of efforts at St. John’s Prep, the College of St. Benedict and St. John’s University, the book drive was able to gather more than 3,250 books.

At age 53, Central Minnesota resident Jeff Janssen has completed a marathon in all 50 states. In fact, he has officially completed 69 races, each 26.2 miles long. Janssen’s last state to complete his goal was Iowa. “There also is a Seven Continents Club, which seems easy as I only have six to go,” Janssen said.

Students at All Saints Academy reached their goal of raising \$21,000 during the 34th annual “Saints in Service” Workathon. As a reward for meeting their goal the students were given a Halloween carnival.

Millstream Park is now home to a new \$534,351 shelter. A grand opening for the new addition will be held Nov. 27.

Family and friends are still waiting for answers 15 years after the disappearance of St. John’s University college student Joshua Guimond, who was last seen on Nov. 9, 2002 after walking from his on-campus dorm residence to play cards with friends at a party just a three-minute walk away. A vigil/prayer service for Guimond was held Nov. 9 at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Maple Lake.

An Avon home received some special holiday magic as local vendors literally decked the halls as part of the 28th annual Zonta Christmas House. Located on the outskirts of St. Joseph, the Zonta Christmas House is a fundraiser for the Zonta Club of St. Cloud. Ticket sale proceeds are donated to Anna Marie’s Alliance and Journey Home.

Mary C. Bruno along with a team of volunteers helped coordinate the sixth annual Holiday Art Crawl. The 2017 Holiday Art Crawl had five stops: Minnesota Street Market, The Local Blend, Bad Habit Brewing Co., Bruno Press and Rockhouse Productions. The art crawl also provided patrons with a shuttle service.

St. Joseph resident and U.S. Marine veteran Bob Ringstrom is helping Santa Claus out this year. Ringstrom has been promoted to serve as the new coordinator for the St. Cloud Area Toys for Tots campaign. “Toys for Tots is narrowly conceived as a mission to bring light into the lives of children who are not so fortunate as so many of us during the season of giving,” Ringstrom said.

December

It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas. Country Financial Insurance Co. has set up its first “Country Lights Festival” around Lake Francis along Pinecone Road in Sartell. The display debuts on Dec. 2 and

will run throughout the month. Santa and Mrs. Claus are also expected to make weekend appearances.

As Mother Nature prepares to dole out her wintry wrath, veteran Nate Chapman is preparing to gas up his snow plow. Chapman of St. Cloud is in charge of Plowing Vets, a service which plows out drive-ways for veterans, families of veterans stationed elsewhere, police officers, firefighters and first-responders for free. This is the second year of the program.

Thousands of dollars' worth of equipment used to raise awareness for soldiers missing in action or who are prisoners of war was stolen from its storage space at the McKay's Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram FIAT car dealership in Waite Park. Freedom Flight POW/MIA President Luke Cesnik said someone stole two Honda fan/engine units and a hot-air balloon burner. "All we do is honor our U.S. military veterans and raise awareness about those who are still prisoners of war or missing in action. Why would anyone do such a thing?" Cesnik asked.

Kennedy Community School students are asking St. Joseph residents for help in collecting toys for the local Toys for Tots drive. Seventh- and eighth-grade students working on the project are part of the "WE Act" program, an organization that helps adolescents learn how to make a difference both locally and globally.

Beer Choir has arrived in Central Minnesota. St. John's University faculty member Maureen "Mo" Putnam has introduced the concept to the area. Putnam has hosted one choir sing-a-long at the Urban Lodge Brewery and Restaurant in Sauk Rapids in October.

The St. Joseph City Council hosted a truth-in-taxation hearing to discuss the 2018 city budget. The overall levy is set to increase 5.78 percent during 2017. According to the city, taxes on a \$150,000 home are estimated to increase by \$29. New items included in the budget include a ninth police officer, a part-time custodian, a part-time finance technician, and a part-time employee for the recreation program and open gym.

Local musician Dave Cofell plans to host his annual Christmas Show at the Local Blend. The show, now in its ninth year, will have music, spoken word and poetry.

Let 2017 be the year you expand your Christmas-tree knowledge. Liz Schultz, owner of Sartell's Unique Design, said vintage ornaments are making a huge comeback. In addition, more people are opting for real trees instead of the artificial trees which are not biodegradable.

(To read any of the above stories in their entirety, visit thenewsleaders.com and search for your favorite stories.)

Coborn's launches extensive nutrition-education system

by Dennis Dalman
editor@thenewsleaders.com

A new nutrition ratings program dubbed "Dietitian's Choice" has begun at Coborn's stores in the area, including the one in St. Joseph.

Cash Wise stores and Marketplace Foods stores will also feature the new system.

Dietitian's Choice will replace NuVal, a previous nutrition-ratings system that informed shoppers of the nutritional value of food items on a 1- to 100-rating system, 100 denoting the most nutritious and healthiest. NuVal is now in the process of being phased out.

The new system not only has an in-store rating for food items but also includes a widespread outreach education effort to customers via online efforts, public presentations, classes, grocery tours, health fairs, meal-planning and nutritious recipes. The goal of the holistic approach is to help make people become nutrition-savvy so they can maximize their overall physical health and well-being. That was also the goal of the NuVal system, but Dietitian's Choice is more expanded and includes nutritionists in Coborn's stores who can give one-to-one personal advice about food and health issues.

Dietitian's Choice was developed by registered dietitians who work for Coborn's. The dietitians scrutinized products sold in Coborn's grocery stores as well as those of Cash Wise (also owned by Coborn's), and they considered six criteria for each product they examined.

Those criteria are products with whole grain listed as the first ingredient, those that are lower in sodium content, lower in added sugars, lower in saturated fat, a good source of healthy fat and a good source of protein.

Food products deemed the most nutritious are given a "Dietitian's Choice" logo on the products' price tags. And so far, there are more than 5,500 such products with that designation attached to them.

"Our company's vision calls for us to inspire healthy living for our guests (customers)," said Emily Coborn, vice president of fresh merchandising. "The Dietitian's Choice program is another way for us to live out our vision by empowering guests to easily identify better-for-you food items during shopping trips."

Other resources

Dietitian's Choice fits nicely with Coborn's other ways to boost awareness of healthy food choices.

- There is a website, Coborn's.com that features "Dietitian's Corner" and that offers many self-help resources and guides.
- Registered dietitians for Coborn's provide in-store services that include personal consultations with shoppers, community presentations, classes, grocery tours, health fairs and meal planning.
- The dietitians have accounts on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Pinterest.
- Coborn's offers many varied recipes for every kind of meal occasion.
- A monthly email is available called "Dietitian Digest."
- There are recipe videos online twice every month.
- Coborn's dietitians blog for "Produce for Better Health."
- There is an online "Foodie Feature of the Month," and a live video every Tuesday.
- Coborn's offers a weight-management program for employees twice a year.
- There is a "Wellness Wednesday" held at select stores the second Wednesday of every month in partnership with Coborn's pharmacies.
- There are an increasing number of healthy-foods in-store demos.
- There is an "Eat Healthy, Shop Smart" newsletter that combines food-safety issues, pharmacy advice and a kids' section.
- Pharmacists at Coborn's are also more than willing to consult with customers about issues surrounding medication, health and lifestyle.



contributed graphic

This is Coborn's official logo for its new Dietitian's Choice program. For recipes from its companion program Dietitian's Corner, visit thenewsleaders.com.

CentraCare endorsement

The Dietitian's Choice program has earned an endorsement from the dietitians at CentraCare Health, central Minnesotan's major health-care provider.

CentraCare also strongly believes in outreach programs that help people improve their food choices, fight obesity and enhance overall health and well-being.

"We are proud to endorse this program that Coborn's has developed," said Jodi Gertken, director of wellness for CentraCare Health. "Coborn's and CentraCare have a history of collaborating to improve the health of our communities and this is another example of that. Coborn's developed this program under the guidance of their supermarket-registered dietitians, which built credibility from the start. By implementing innovative

systems such as this, we are making it easier for people to make healthier choices. Our organization is proud to endorse this diligent and detailed work."

About Coborn's

Based in St. Cloud, Coborn's Inc. is now in its 96th year as an employee-owned grocery retailer with more than 7,500 employees and 53 stores in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

The Coborn's-owned stores' names are Coborn's, Cash Wise Foods, Marketplace Foods and Save-A-Lot.

It also owns CobornsDelivers, an online grocery ordering and home-delivery service.

This year, Coborn's Inc. was named by the *Minneapolis Star Tribune* to its "Top Workplaces in Minnesota" list.

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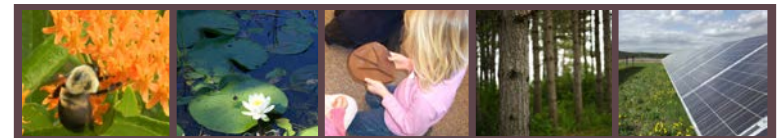
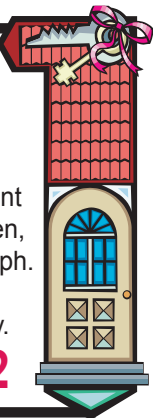
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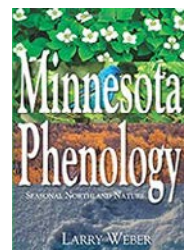
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ST. JOSEPH

Opinion

Our View

Pets can suffer from cold as much as people can

With recent brutal below-zero temperatures, we should all remind ourselves every day and night that pets get cold, too. In fact, like humans they can easily get frostbite or even freeze to death when temps dip dangerously low.

The problem of dogs suffering or dying in the cold has become of such concern that many states have now passed laws making it a crime to leave pets (including cats) outside in the freezing cold. Those states are Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Texas and the latest one – Pennsylvania. The laws vary widely, some more strict than others, but at least it’s a start – the beginning of an awareness that cold (and hot) weather can be as tough on animals as people. Let us hope Minnesota and all the other cold northern states soon makes the list of states criminalizing pet abuse in winter.

In the meantime, let’s all keep our pets warm and safe.

The following are good winter tips:

- Never let a dog or cat outside for more than 10 or 15 minutes when it’s cold and windy. A potty break is fine, but make sure you do not forget the dog is outside.
- Do not let dogs stay alone in vehicles when it’s cold. They can suffer and die just as they can if left alone in hot cars.
- Don’t shave dogs in winter. Let their fur grow to keep them warm.
- Buy a dog sweater or vest to protect the dog from cold when taking it for a walk. Dog booties might also be an option.
- Keep strolls with your pets very short on the coldest days – just a couple blocks at the most.
- Use a towel to dry pets’ paws when they come in the house after snowfall and after a walk and remove snowballs from fur.
- Be sure to use pet-friendly de-icers on drive-ways, car ports and sidewalks. They can be toxic to pets when stuck in their paws or fur. It’s good to use pet-friendly de-icers even if you do not own a pet.
- Likewise, as above, car coolants and anti-freeze are lethal to animals – a very real danger as pets often like to lick the “sweet-tasting” chemicals off of driveways, car ports or garage floors. Be sure to clean up spills and leaks immediately.
- Always make sure dogs have plenty of water, especially when outdoors, because water can re-hydrate their systems, boost blood circulation and help them stay warmer.
- Be aware some cats will climb up onto the engines of parked cars in an effort to find warmth. Starting an engine can obviously kill the unfortunate creature so before starting a vehicle check for signs of a cat or cats on or near the engine.
- It’s important for dogs to get some exercise. It’s fine to play “fetch” in the yard for brief periods of time on cold days. Brisk walks, with pets always on leashes, is also a good idea, but keep the walks quite short.

All it takes is a bit of awareness, following those tips, to keep our pets safe, warm and happy all winter long.

St. Joseph • Sartell-St. Stephen

Newsleaders

Reaching EVERYbody!

The ideas expressed in the letters to the editor and of the guest columnists do not necessarily reflect the views of the *Newsleaders*.

Letters to the editor may be sent to news@thenewsleaders.com or P.O. Box 324, St. Joseph, MN 56374. Deadline is noon Monday. Please include your full name for publication (and address and phone number for verification only.) Letters must be 350 words or less. We reserve the right to edit for space.

Were Pringles supposed to be golf balls?

Mitch Hedberg said it best:

“I don’t own a cell phone or a pager. I just hang around everyone I know. All the time. If someone wants to get a hold of me, they just say, ‘Mitch,’ and I say ‘What?’ as I turn my head slightly.”

That had me laughing out loud for five minutes yesterday. I came across that quote in the online version of *Editor and Publisher*.

Who is Mitch Hedberg? Well, I didn’t know either. I did some research and discovered he was a stand-up comedian known for his deadpan one-liners. I love deadpan humor. Too bad I missed him; I must have been watching all the wrong channels.

During my Hedberg research, I was laughing my head off. Here are some other gems:

- “I had an apartment and I had a neighbor, and whenever he would knock on my wall, I knew he wanted me to turn my music down, and that made me angry ‘cause I like loud music . . . So when he knocked on the wall, I’d mess with his head. I’d say, ‘Go around! I cannot open the wall! I don’t know if you have a door on your side, but over here there’s nothin’. It’s just flat.”
- “Rice is really great if you’re really hungry and want to eat at least 2,000 of something.”
- “I think Bigfoot is blurry. That’s the problem. It’s not the photographer’s fault. Bigfoot is blurry and that’s extra scary to me. There’s a large, out-of-focus monster roaming the countryside. Run! He’s fuzzy! Get out of

Dennis Dalman
Editor



here!”

- “I used to do drugs. I still do, but I used to, too.”

There was an awful truth lurking in that one-liner. The St. Paul-born Hedberg died of a drug overdose at the age of 37 on April 1, 2005. Many fans at first were sure at first it was an April Fool’s joke – the kind of joke Hedberg would play.

Like many stand-up comics, he suffered from stage fright. Also, like so many comedians, he often wove dark observations into his comedic spiels. The great Carol Burnett once said “Comedy is tragedy – plus time.”

Here are some more that had me laughing:

- “An escalator can never break. It only becomes stairs.”
- “When I was a boy, I laid in my twin-size bed and wondered where my brother was.”
- “I had a parrot. The parrot talked, but it did not say, ‘I’m hungry.’ So it died.”
- “If you’re watchin’ a parade, make sure you stand in one spot. Don’t follow it; it never changes. And if the parade is boring, run in the opposite direction. You will fast-forward the parade.”

Letter to the editor

Reader says ‘experts’ wrong on global warming

Bob Grise, St. Joseph

From the “experts” who gave us the green energy boondoggles comes the cry to fight global warming. The “experts” were wrong about global cooling. Wrong about a predicted mass starvation. Wrong about resource depletion. The *St. Joseph Newsleader* opinion page is oh so happy to ignore this record of failed predictions and beat the drum for the coming Global Warming Catastrophe only 30 years down the road! Wait a second, it was 30 years down the road 30 years ago! How my car and furnace could heat up 300 million cubic miles of ocean water and the atmosphere seems incom-

prehensible. But it is the increased levels of CO2 that stands accused say some “experts.” Could it be conjecture gone wild? Mark Twain noted “There is something fascinating about science. One gets such wholesale returns of conjecture out of such a trifling investment of fact.” True!

Warming is seen at weather stations that have existed for less than 60 years. Those that go back 100 years, not so much. St. Cloud records, (found by googling St. Cloud University Climate) show we have not had a top 10 warmest summer in the past 30 years. Our warmest year was 1931. The average temperature here from 1900 to 1935 was 43.07. Most recent 35 years it was 42.98. How can that be when our

CO2 level has risen from 300 parts per million to 400? A hypothesis blunder? But there is some dead coral. Ocean oscillations last 30 years – translation, some dead coral every 30 years. CO2 is no pollutant, it’s plant food. Rising CO2 is partly the cause of rising crop yields. Yea!

We know climate varies on its own. We know people are willing to shill on this subject for money and political gain. We know some “experts” have been caught over and over fudging statistics to make the public think there is a climate crisis when none exists, (check realclimatescience.com for more info on that). Let’s address our real fixable problems and stop scaring people with baseless speculation.

The Vikings’ beautiful, lucky win

What just happened? That was the question that bounced around my mind after the end of the Minnesota Vikings’ playoff game against the New Orleans Saints this past Sunday night. Down 24-23 with just seconds left, my family watched breathlessly as Stefon Diggs caught the last-second pass from Case Keenum and ran it into the end zone. Minnesota goes on to the NFC Championship.

Of course, the game didn’t start out on quite the intense note it ended on. Looking at the matchup, I was fairly confident the Vikings could pull out a success. The team had been, despite a few hiccups, electric throughout the entire year. A 13-3 season coupled with standout talent like Keenum, Diggs and Adam Thielen had me more excited about Minnesota’s playoff chances than since watching Brett Favre in 2009.

We had defeated the Saints earlier in the year in a close, but still convincing, victory. The Saints had a worse record and had barely managed to put away the Carolina Panthers in their first playoff game. Yet I still had the lingering dread in my mind. What if the Vikings mess things up? What if this was like 2009 when the Saints had beaten us when we were so close to the Super Bowl? I tried to push these thoughts back and just watch the game.

At first, things went smoothly. The Vikings came in with impressive offense and defense, shutting down Drew Brees and putting up 17 points on the scoreboard before the end of the first half. I was ecstatic. This could really

Connor Kockler
Guest Writer



be our year. Things seemed to be going right. The Vikings would continue their amazing run after all.

But the first half is only just that, half of the game. When the teams came back from their halftime break, it was almost as if a new opponent had showed up at US Bank Stadium. The Saints pushed forward on drives, making three touchdowns, intercepting a Keenum pass, even blocking a punt. The specters of the Vikings curse started to appear before my eyes. It would happen again; our victory would be snatched away at the last second, leaving Minnesota pondering what went wrong yet again.

The fourth quarter was especially nail-biting. The competing teams went back and forth, the fate of the game in the balance. The Saints got their second and third touchdowns, putting them one point ahead of Minnesota, 21-20. Driving back on offense, the Vikings put the score back to 23-21. The relief was only temporary, though, as the Saints made it 24-23 after a field goal of their own with half a minute left. My family – and I’m sure everyone in Vikings fandom – waited with bated breath.

It was the moment of truth. Our Minnesota Vikings needed only a field goal to win, but that was asking a lot with only one timeout and 30 seconds left on the clock. An early first down got us to around our own 40-yard line, but after a few incomplete passes and 10 seconds left, it would take a miracle to get us into field-goal range.

Well, that miracle arrived, and more. On a last ditch pass, Keenum, under pressure, passed to the sideline and found Diggs at around the 35-yard line. Dodging a tackle, I first thought he would have to step out of bounds to stop the clock for a field goal. But then I – and Diggs – saw the open space all the way to the end zone. It was over. The Vikings pulled off the win.

My family’s living room – and I’m sure the entire state of Minnesota – broke into uncontrollable cheering and clapping. We’d all been along this rollercoaster of a game – the assured feeling of an easy victory after the Vikings’ fantastic first half, and the agony of defeat and resignation when it looked as if all was lost in the final seconds. And, of course, the amazing feeling of watching that final play and seeing Diggs take home the football for the game-winning touchdown. This game was a piece of art, truly one for the ages. Let’s hope the momentum continues through to the big one.

Connor Kockler is a Sauk Rapids-Rice High School student. He enjoys writing, politics and news, among other interests.

Gillach of SJU named to Good Works Team

by Dennis Dalman
editor@thenewsleaders.com

Wide receiver Will Gillach of St. John’s University was one of 22 athletes honored at half-time during the **Gillach** Jan. 1 Sugar Bowl game in New Orleans. Gillach was named to the American College Coaches Association’s Good Works Team, a prestigious annual roster to pay tribute to players who volunteer and work selflessly to help others. A junior, Gillach is studying bio-chemistry at SJU with an emphasis on pre-medicine.



The Alabama Crimson Tide defeated the Clemson Tigers 24-6 in the Sugar Bowl game. This year’s honorary Good Works Team coach was Pat Fitzgerald of Northwestern University. Gillach, 22, has volunteered in a variety of good-works projects. He traveled to the Central American country of Nicaragua with a team of doctors to provide diagnoses and medical care for people living in impoverished areas. He has helped pack thousands of food kits for Kids Against Hunger and has raised money for St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital. He also works part time for Anna Marie’s Shelter, St. Cloud, as a role-model/mentor for children who have been

traumatized by domestic violence. In speaking of that experience, Gillach said to reporter David McCoy of WC-CO-TV after receiving the Good Works Team Award. “Every time I go there (women’s shelter), I see different people’s circumstances. It really affects me in how I see the world and how I see other people. And it kind of continuously reminds me that I’m very, very fortunate in my life, and other people aren’t as fortunate. And so I think it reminds me to give back and strive to make a difference in other people’s lives that might need a little help.” Gillach is a 2015 graduate of Chisago Lakes High School. It is his parents, he

said, who inspired him to reach out to help others. His father, Jim, who was a cross-country and track athlete in college, graduated from SJU in 1990. His mother, Ann, played softball in college and graduated from the College of St. Benedict, also in 1990. Gillach and his SJU position coach, Kole Hecken-dorf, traveled to New Orleans days before the game and did volunteer work, with the other Good Works Team members at the APEX Youth Center in New Orleans. On the last day of December, they were guests of honor in the Allstate Sugar Bowl Parade. This Good Works Team is the 26th since the first team was named in 1992. Gillach is the second “Johnnie”

to be named to the team. A previous honoree from SJU was Kevin McNamara, a 2007 SJU graduate who was named to the team in 2006. When he is not on the playing field or helping others, Gillach is busy at work in classrooms and laboratories. Last summer he completed a two-week stem-cell and regenerative-science workshop at St. Mary’s University. He is doing lab work with SJU/CSB assistant professor of biology. The project involves examining the prevalence of antibiotic resistance in bacteria in the central Minnesota area derived from samples of on-campus lakes, the Sauk River and the Mississippi River.

Community Calendar

Is your event listed? Send your information to: Newsleader Calendar, P.O. Box 324, St. Joseph, Minn. 56374; fax it to 320-363-4195; or, e-mail it to news@thenewsleaders.com. Most events are listed at no cost. Those events are typically free or of minimal charge for people to attend. Some events, which have paid advertising in the Newsleaders, are also listed in the calendar and may charge more.

Friday, Jan. 19
St. Joseph Area Historical Society, open 4-7 p.m., Old City Hall, 25 First Ave NW. stjosephhistoricalmn.org.
Chicken and ham dinner, meat raffle and silent auction, sponsored by St. Joseph Lions Club, 4:30-7:30

p.m., Sal’s Bar & Grill, 109 W. Minnesota St., St Joseph.
St. Cloud Singles Club Dance, 8 p.m.-midnight, American Legion, 17 Second Ave. S., Waite Park. 320-339-4533. stcloudsingles.net.

Saturday, Jan. 20
Jigsaw Puzzle Contest and Puzzle Exchange, Sartell Senior Connection, 10 a.m., Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S.

Monday, Jan. 22
Lunch and cards, sponsored by Helping Hands Outreach, noon-3 p.m., Rusty Nail, 4 CR 2 S., St. Stephen. (through February)
American Red Cross Blood Drive, 1-7 p.m., St. Michael’s Church, 1036 CR 4, St. Cloud.

1-800-733-2767.
Parkinson’s Disease Support Group, 1-2:30 p.m., Ilcil Independent Lifestyles, 215 N Benton Drive, Sauk Rapids. 320-529-9000.
St. Joseph City Council, 6 p.m., council chambers, St. Joseph City Hall, 75 Callaway St. E. 320-363-7201. cityofstjoseph.com.
St. Joseph Rod and Gun Club, 7 p.m., American Legion, 101 W. Minnesota St., St. Joseph.

Tuesday, Jan. 23
National Alliance on Mental Health, 7-8:30 p.m., Calvary Community Church, 1200 Roosevelt Road, St. Cloud. 320-259-7101.

Thursday, Jan. 25
Coffee and Conversation, fea-

turing Greg Newinski from the Minnesota Highway Safety Center, 9 a.m., Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S.
Sauk Rapids Chamber, 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m., Sauk Rapids Government Center, 250 Summit Ave. N. 320-251-2940.
St. Joseph Food Shelf, open 1-3 p.m., Old City Hall, 25 First Ave. NW, St. Joseph.
District 742 St. Cloud School Board, 7 p.m., City Council Chambers, 400 S. Second St., St. Cloud.
Intro to Square Dancing, 7 p.m., Whitney Center, 1527 Northway Drive, St. Cloud. Tom at 320-309-2241. ComeSquareDance.com. Nominal fee.

Friday, Jan. 26
Cabin Fever Family Fun Night, 6-8 p.m., Pleasantview Elementary School, 1009 Sixth Ave N, Sauk Rapids. Events include bowling, crafts, face painting, archery and more. All proceeds to benifit the PTAC.

Saturday, Jan. 27
Chili Cookoff, 5-7 p.m., Northland Bible Baptist Church, 3686 CR 8 SE, St Cloud. Meal is free but rsvp required. 320-252-5677 ext. 0.

Sunday, Jan. 28
Joe Town Table, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., American Legion, 101 W. Minnesota St., St. Joseph. centralmncw@gmail.com.

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Joe Town Vibe: Why are downtowns important?

(Note to our readers: This column comes from a new, loosely knit independent group of area business people and residents who love and want to promote the energy and enthusiasm of downtown St. Joseph. They've named themselves Joe Town Vibe, and their purpose is to promote the creativity, vitality and vibe of events, businesses and people here. We'll be running their weekly Friday blog post here. This first entry was written by SJU intern John Stevens, who will provide a weekly column through April. His work is paid for by donations of many in the group and a grant from the Eugene McCarthy Center. Joe Town Vibe welcomes input from others at joetownvibe.com. Joe Town Vibe stems from the interaction between residents, businesses, institutions and physical spaces. The vibe of St. Joseph is pulsing through the downtown area, where locals interact and spread energy to create a friendly place.)

by John Stevens
Intern SJU, Class of 2018

St. Joseph is fortunate to have a vibrant downtown. Downtowns provide that old-world feel every town desires. Suburbs across America are starting to create their own downtowns, as they were rarely included in the original planning for suburbs. St. Joseph has been blessed with a downtown area in which there is a mix of academia and religion on one side of main street and business and other pursuits on the other side. The uniqueness of St. Joseph's downtown, however, does not prevent people from visiting every day. The downtown is well loved.

Community building

It's not complicated: Downtowns are beneficial because they bring people together.

Downtowns are often home to various businesses providing goods and services. It's this diversity in the downtown businesses that attracts a variety of people, where a mall, on the other hand, is dominated by clothing and department stores, attracting a narrower set of people. St. Joseph's downtown area has it all: restaurants, boutiques, pubs, a coffee shop, a laundromat, a food co-op, a famous meat market and far more. The downtown area attracts everyone for different reasons. Some people may come downtown to enjoy a nice meal or have a drink, while others may come downtown to go grocery shopping or do laundry.

Despite the many reasons why people come downtown, they all must walk on the sidewalks in a condensed area to get where they are going. Since downtowns are concentrated, it's hard not to interact with others while passing by. Interaction among people is essential to building trust within a city. Becoming more familiar with your neighbors can build an untold trust to make everyone feel more comfortable.

St. Joseph has been rated by a state-wide security company to be one of the safest cities in Minnesota, but building trust can create greater accountability and keep St. Joseph safe. This is a concept outlined by activist Jane Jacobs in her book *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* (1961). Jacobs highlights the importance of having eyes on the street. Having more eyes on the street makes a city safer, builds trust and creates accountability. A downtown area is a place that attracts people to walk around and engage in the city and is an essential piece in building relationships.

Business

Downtowns are a great area for small, independent businesses. These small businesses often rely on foot traffic to stay afloat, attracting people from across Stearns County. Many of the small businesses in the downtown area are destinations but also see a great deal of business just from foot traffic. Others rely on the foot traffic that is brought into St. Joseph by other businesses. This is a direct result of being in a special, old-world downtown area like ours. The high density of downtown areas brings businesses together and without this concentration of commerce, small businesses would be spread across the city. Every shop, boutique and retail space would become a singular destination, and none of the businesses would benefit from the residual traffic others attract. Our businesses in a downtown area benefit from one another. Some may be competitors, but generally if a store attracts someone to the downtown area it is good for all the businesses.

Conclusion

Downtowns are important on many levels. Our downtown brings our residents together. This helps build trust. Building this trust is vital to creating a more accountable, friendly place. Those factors will keep St. Joseph safe. In addition, downtowns provide ideal locations for small local businesses. Downtowns provide stores and shops with the foot traffic necessary to stay open. The businesses can benefit from one another attracting more customers. Downtowns are not only financially smart places but also great ways to invest in our local selves.

Carl bom manages Coleman campaign

by Dennis Dalman
editor@thenewsleaders.com

A former mayor of St. Joseph, Richard Carl bom, is now managing the "Coleman for Governor" campaign for Carl bom DFL contender Chris Coleman.



Carl bom said the campaign so far has raised more than \$800,000 from residents throughout the state.

Coleman, 56, is an attorney and politician and was elected mayor of St. Paul in 2006, a term that will expire at the end of 2018. He hopes to be elected to replace Mark Dayton as Minnesota governor.

"This campaign is about how we are going to deliver economic freedom and security to all Minnesotans," Coleman said. "That's my vision for Minnesota and it's resonating in all corners of

the state. I am energized by our momentum heading into precinct caucuses."

Carl bom managed the winning 2012 Marriage Equality effort in Minnesota. At 22, he was the youngest person ever elected mayor in his hometown - St. Joseph.

"We always knew that Chris would perform well in the Twin Cities among the critically important progressive DFL base," Carl bom said. "Chris' progressive record is based on a lifetime of actions, not words alone. Taken in tandem with the excitement we are seeing in Greater Minnesota - in places like Fergus Falls, Duluth, Moorhead, St. Cloud and across the Iron Range - I know we're going to win this race."

Coleman has earned the endorsements of the Iron Workers Local 512, Plumbers Local 34 and Pipefitters Local 455. He is the only candidate endorsed by any building trades labor unions. Coleman has also been endorsed by dozens of elected officials throughout Minnesota.

Abuser

from page 3

later as an instructor and assistant chaplain.

Marfori has served in various places throughout the years, including St. Francis Xavier Parish in Sartell right after his ordination where he was a part-time instructor and later a full-time instructor and assistant chaplain.

Kettler ordered Marfori not be allowed to serve as a priest or present himself as a priest. He currently lives in St. Cloud under restrictions.

Kettler has held listening sessions in the places where Marfori served.

Other places where Marfori worked or went to school are the following:

- Associate pastor at St.

Paul's in Sauk Centre, 1980-84.

- Pastor at St. Agnes's in Roscoe, 1985-93.

- Pastor at St. Margaret's in Lake Henry (while continuing at St. Agnes), 1987-93.

- Pastor at St. Pius X at Zimmerman, 1993-2007.

- Pastor at St. Anne's at Kimball, 2007-08.

- Canonical administrator (St. Elizabeth's, Brennyville; Sts. Peter and Paul, Gilman; St. Joseph's, Morrill), 2008-10.

- Medical leave of absence, 2010.

Bishop Kettler said he encourages all victims of abuse to come forward. Contact information for victim advocates and county officials to whom abuse can be reported is available online at: stdio.org/about/safe-environment/how-to-report-abuse.

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