

# St. Joseph Newsleader

Friday, Feb. 2, 2018  
Volume 30, Issue 5  
Est. 1989

## Town Crier

### St. Ben's hosts Girls, Women in Sports Day

The College of St. Benedict will host a celebration for National Girls and Women in Sports Day at 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10. The community is invited to join us for this celebration and the CSB basketball game vs. Augsburg. The 2018 Breaking Barriers Award honoree, Carol Agnes, will be honored at half-time along with a performance by the CSB dance team. Agnes was the first athletic director at St. Ben's, as well as the first volleyball and basketball coach. All girls and women wearing a sports jersey will receive free admission to this event.

### Sartell winter market to be held Saturday

The Sartell winter farmers' market will be held from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 3 and March 3 inside Sartell City Hall, 125 Pinecone Road N. Get ready for the big game. Items available this weekend include the following: football-themed desserts, bread bowls, popcorn, chicken wings, beef for barbecue, steak, eggs and much more. Come check out the items not available anywhere else.

### Hands Across World seeks computer aides

Hands Across the World is looking for volunteers as computer classroom assistants. Volunteers will aid in a classroom with simple tasks such as working one-on-one with students, handing out assignments or assisting the teacher. Volunteers will work with the teacher to develop a plan. For more information, visit thenewsleaders.com and click on Feb. 2 Criers.

### Help change the world, little by little

Big Brothers Big Sisters is looking for Bigs. A Big is a trusted friend with a long-term, consistent commitment to provide guidance and support to a child. Bigs meet with their Littles three to four times a month. They offer both community-based and school/site-based mentoring programs. They are currently enrolling Big Brothers, Big Sisters, Big Couples and Big Families. For more information on this and other United Way volunteer opportunities, visit thenewsleaders.com and click on Feb. 2 Criers.

**INSERT:**  
**Albany Bowling Center**

## Local volunteers gear up for Super Bowl LII

by Vicki Ikeogu  
news@thenewsleaders.com

It is one of – if not the – premiere sporting event in the world. And on Sunday, Feb. 4, all eyes will be on Minneapolis as the New England Patriots and the Philadelphia Eagles battle it out inside U.S. Bank Stadium in Super Bowl LII.

A special volunteer force has been suiting up to help welcome out-of-town visitors since Jan. 26.

Among the 10,000 volunteers are four individuals from St. Joseph and 10 people from Sartell.

Dubbed Crew 52, these volunteers, primarily from Minnesota, signed up to work in various sections surrounding the Super Bowl festivities.

“During the 10-day Super Bowl festivities we anticipate about one million visitors,” said Michael Howard, communications director with the Minnesota Super Bowl Host Committee. “And the key element to make everything run smoothly will be the 10,000 volunteers we have recruited to be the welcoming Minnesota face to help direct folks

around the city.”

“I think I probably saw (the call for volunteers) on Facebook or in the news,” said Joanne Schneider of St. Joseph. “It doesn’t happen all the time and I do like exciting stuff.”

Schneider applied to be part of Crew 52 late last summer. While she has never been a volunteer for an event on this scale, some of her close friends and family members have.

“My sister had volunteered for the Olympics in Atlanta,” she said. “And I’ve known other people who have volunteered for like the Masters and different golf tournaments and stuff like that. And they always seem to have fun. So (volunteering for the Super Bowl) sounded fun.”

For Sartell resident Michael Hemmesch, being a part of the Super Bowl LII experience was an easy decision.

“I periodically checked the Minnesota Super Bowl Host Committee website,” he said. “And when I saw the chance to volunteer, I thought it would be a cool opportunity.”



photo by Vicki Ikeogu

**Joanne Schneider shows her Bold North mittens. Schneider is one of 10,000 volunteers, dubbed Crew 52, who will assist with Super Bowl festivities.**

Hemmesch volunteered at other national sporting events and had an idea of what potential volunteers would be required to do.

“I didn’t have any hesitation,” he said. “This is clearly the highest profile and biggest sporting event. Because of the fact that this was

the second time the Super Bowl has been hosted in Minnesota, I viewed it as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.”

That feeling was shared among the approximately 30,000 applicants who signed up to be Crew 52 volun-

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## Knights donate to help Puerto Rican school

by Dennis Dalman  
news@thenewsleaders.com

Members of the St. Joseph Catholic Parish, thanks to the Knights of Columbus, raised and donated nearly \$3,000 to help repair a school in Puerto Rico that was devastated by Hurricane Maria last fall.

Funds for the school were raised mainly at a Knights of Columbus breakfast in January.

The school has a connection to the Sisters of St. Benedict in St. Joseph because the nuns there helped set up a monastery in Puerto Rico that founded the school (grades K-9), which is named Colegio San Benito. It is in the city of Humacao on the east side of the island of Puerto Rico, an area hit especially hard by Hurricane Maria.

The Humacao monastery the Sisters of St. Benedict founded is known as the Monasterio Santa Escolastica. It administers the Colegio San Benito for its students.

Puerto Rico is a Caribbean island and a territory of the United States.

David Thomas, a St. Joseph resident and long-time member of the St. Joseph Knights of Columbus, suggested a fundraiser for the school after he heard about its plight. Although the school’s structure is still intact, the interior was ravaged by the hurri-

cane, and a total lack of water and electricity crippled the school for months. After Christmas, students were encouraged to return, but school could only be open for limited hours of the day because of limited water and electricity.

When Thomas suggested a fundraiser, his fellow Knights were enthusiastic. Some of them met with the Sisters of St. Benedict, including the prioress, and they too approved of the idea.

The project to donate to Colegio San Benito is dear to Thomas’ heart, partly because he is a Catholic with strong faith in the Sisters of St. Benedict and their mission projects and partly because his daughter Tamara Thomas took her Benedictine vows last July.

The Knights of Columbus sponsors nine breakfasts annually to raise funds for good causes. The one for Colegio San Benito involved two dozen Benedictine Sisters, and five of them quickly busied themselves with hands-on help: Dorothy Manuel, Cecilia Prokosch, Karen Rose, Pat Ruether and Mary Weidner.

More than 400 people were served at the Knights of Columbus fundraiser. There are about 200 members in the Knights of Columbus Council 7057 of St. Joseph. They are all looking forward to more good breakfasts, more good deeds.



contributed photo

**St. Joseph Knights of Columbus members Matt Loehlein (left) and Bruce Bechtold prepare to cook sausage and check how the cinnamon rolls are coming along during a recent breakfast.**

## Veterans Art show Feb. 7, 8

by Cori Hilsgen  
news@thenewsleaders.com

For many artists, their gifts and talents of expressing themselves through their work can also be a form a therapy.

The Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities, nationwide, use the creative arts as a form of rehabilitative treatment for veterans recovering from and coping with physical and emotional disabilities.

Veterans enrolled at Veterans Affairs health-care facilities may compete in a local creative-arts competition.

Many forms of art expression by veterans will be displayed at the Veterans Art Show from 12:30-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7 and from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 8 in the Auditorium, Building 8, at the St. Cloud VA Health Care campus.

Barry Venable, public affairs officer of the St. Cloud

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# Super Bowl

## from front page

teers, Howard said.

“Within the first 48 hours of opening up the application process back in March we had about 9,000 people sign up,” he said.

Once the application period closed, the Super Bowl Host Committee narrowed the selection down to the top 15,000 applicants. Each of those potential volunteers was called to the cities for an interview.

“They primarily asked you about how well you were with people, what you knew about Minnesota and things like that,” said Jill Sieben, a volunteer from Sartell. “They obviously want people to come back to the state after the Super Bowl is finished.”

Volunteering comes easy to Sieben. She volunteered during Hurricane Katrina and through organizations such as Big Brothers Big Sisters.

“If I can volunteer every day before the Super Bowl it would be my cup of tea,” she said.

The interviews narrowed the pool of applicants to the final 10,000.

“Each volunteer is asked to

fill three shifts during the 10-day stretch,” Howard said. “There are a couple of different jobs throughout the festival.”

Those jobs include airport greeters, assisting with the live concerts and entertainment on Nicollet Mall as part of Super Bowl Live and helping guests navigate the various skyways and hotels throughout the Twin Cities.

Schneider opted to work the Super Bowl Live concert series.

“I wanted to be in the middle of the action,” she said.

Hemmesch also elected to pick up shifts on Nicollet Mall. Sieben opted for skyway duty.

Each volunteer received Crew 52 gear including the signature purple Bold North mittens to make them easily identifiable to the general public.

“Overall our Crew 52 volunteers will be very engaged,” he said. “So many of them are taking an active role.”

Several training sessions during early January prepared the volunteers for their roles and answered any questions. The Super Bowl Host Committee even put together a private Facebook group to help the Crew 52 members connect.

“We’ve got volunteers from all across the state,” Howard said.

“From (more than) 500 cities and townships. We also have about 10 percent of our volunteers coming from states like Iowa, North Dakota and South Dakota. And there will also be some volunteers from Atlanta, the host of Super Bowl LIII, who will be getting a sense of what hosting a Super Bowl will be like.”

Throughout the 10-day festivities leading up to the big game, volunteers will be swarming the Twin Cities, serving as ambassadors for the state.

It will be an experience they won’t soon forget.

“I think people are really surprised this is more than just a football game,” Hemmesch said. “It’s really a celebration. It’s a time to showcase Minnesota on a national and even an international stage. By volunteering with Crew 52 it’s a nice way to give back to the state. It feels like a great honor and I’m excited. It’s going to be a great time.”

St. Joseph volunteers are: Candyce Thompson, Richard Schultz, Kenneth Twit and Schneider.

Sartell volunteers are: Mary Hoover, Nickolas Hoover, Hemmesch, Christine Ostlund, Lynne Janson, Kevin Kruse, Julie Meyer, Sieben, Abby Spanier and Timothy Tinius.

## —In Business—

WACOSA announced it is the recipient of a \$2,500 grant from The Initiative Foundation. The dollars will fund a collaborative effort between WACOSA and True Friends to provide a unique, customized training experience that focuses on enhancing leadership skills and equipping new leaders. The program includes WACOSA clients, who are individuals with disabilities, and are often not offered the same opportunities to develop leadership skills.

WACOSA, established in 1963, serves more than 625 adults with disabilities in central Minnesota with sites in Waite Park, St. Cloud and Sauk Centre.

## ——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](http://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. 26**

12:47 a.m. Domestic assault. 228 Iverson St. W. Officers responded to a domestic assault in progress. Upon arrival, a man was detained. Upon further investigation, the victim stated that he did not want the suspect to be arrested but did want his out of the house. The officer issued a citation for disorderly conduct and transported the man to Kwik Trip for a ride.

**Dec. 27**

12:33 a.m. Traffic incident. College Avenue South and Callaway Street East. A man came to the police department to report that he had hit a light pole in front the police department. The officer responded and found the vehicle was disabled and had a flat tire. The light pole was across the side walk. The driver stated he was turning and his hand slipped off the steering wheel, he hit the curb and then hit the light pole. City maintenance was advised and cleaned up the light pole. The vehicle was towed.

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*Wednesday Worship 6:30 p.m.*  
610 N. CR 2, St. Joseph  
320-363-4232 [www.rlcstjoe.org](http://www.rlcstjoe.org)

**St. Joseph Catholic Church**  
*Masses: Tuesday-Friday 8 a.m.*  
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if you would like your business included. Check out the online Business Directory at [thenewsleaders.com](http://thenewsleaders.com) which hyperlinks to each business' website.

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Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333

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Published Feb. 2, 2018

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### CITY OF ST. JOSEPH PUBLIC HEARING ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

The St. Joseph Planning Commission shall conduct a public hearing at 6 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, Monday, Feb. 12, 2018 at the St. Joseph City Hall, 75 Callaway St. E. The purpose of the hearing is to consider amending Ordinance 520, Zoning Ordinance, Section 520.09: PUD – Planned-Unit Development, including amending the minimum site area. A copy of the proposed changes are available for review at city hall.

All persons wishing to be heard will be heard and oral testimony will be limited to five minutes. Written testimony may be mailed to: City of St. Joseph; 75 Callaway St. E., St. Joseph, Minn. 56374.

Judy Weyrens  
Administrator

Publish: Feb. 2, 2018

St. Joseph • Sartell-St. Stephen

# Newsleaders

Reaching EVERYbody!

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*Newsleader* staff members have the responsibility to report news fairly and accurately and are accountable to the public. Readers who feel we've fallen short of these standards are urged to call the *Newsleader* office at 320-363-7741. If matters cannot be resolved locally, readers are encouraged to take complaints to the Minnesota News Council, an independent agency designed to improve relationships between the public and the media and resolve conflicts. The council office may be reached at 612-341-9357.

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# College towns add vibe

(Note to our readers: This column is part of a continuing series from a blog recently started by a loosely knit independent group of area business people and residents who love and want to promote the energy and enthusiasm of downtown St. Joseph. We'll be running their weekly Friday blog post here. The author today is SJU intern, John Stevens, who will be providing a weekly column through April. You can find the weekly posts at [www.joetownvibe.com](http://www.joetownvibe.com).)

The vibe of St. Joseph and of the College of St. Benedict comes from a positive codependency with each other. Without the college, the town vibe would simply not be as energetic, and we know without the city, CSB would be an isolated island in the prairie. The college community collaborates with citizens of St. Joseph on exciting endeavors such as the food co-op and college students provide an energy level like no other to their town neighbors in social settings. Students at CSB often partake in community events such as the Millstream Arts Festival that takes place downtown every September, and citizens of St. Joseph are gifted with all the wonderful events and opportunities the college provides. This vibe is, of course, in addition to the economic impacts the college has on our city.

The mere presence of hundreds of students studying, preparing themselves for their careers, is quite inspirational and may even motivate others around the college. Students become engaged in community enhancement projects such as a political science course proposed recently. Various tactical urbanism projects to improve the city at little to no cost were researched and presented to the City Council. Those of us who live in St. Joseph during the summer recognize the catapult of energy that lands here each late August as a new school year begins with the students' return.

The college contributes to the vibe of the community in ways the city couldn't accomplish on its own. The diverse and expansive offerings of events happening on campus, which are often open to the public, contribute to the exciting vibe. From musicals, to concerts and sporting events, the college is constantly offering events that give resi-



dents an inordinate amount of opportunities. Whether it's an orchestra concert, St. Benedict basketball game or a musical, there are events to please almost everyone. A city of this size could rarely claim access to events, speakers, musicians and artists of the caliber the college brings, happening almost every night. Many days the campus performing and visual arts offerings exceed what's available in St. Cloud. Keeping citizens in St. Joseph as a part of their social life helps build and strengthen the community even more, as neighbors become more familiar with each other when they attend local events.

The financial contributions CSB makes to this area cannot be underestimated, from faculty to security to culinary work, the college offers various openings and employs many St. Joseph residents. Conversely, the city provides flexible, varied and temporary jobs to students who want to work off campus. Visitors to the college help support local businesses that might not be able to thrive without that consistent flow of outsiders coming here to visit the campus, in this way enhancing offerings for residents. With every event, more people visit St. Joseph and patronize the businesses across the city.

St. Joseph is not St. Joseph without the College of St. Benedict, and vice versa. The two provide each other with so much. The college contributes greatly to the vibe of St. Joseph as it brings a certain energy and motivation to the community, while the city and citizens provide the college and students with a welcoming place to call home. St. Joseph and the College of St. Benedict, in a sense, are one in the same.

# Ice safety can be unpredictable

by Dennis Dalman  
editor@thenewsleaders.com

"But I was sure it was frozen solid and safe."

Those are often the words of people who fall through the ice and are rescued. They are the lucky ones, the ones who survived.

The fact is, ice is never 100-percent safe, according to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

That is why since 1976, 250 people have died due to ice break-throughs on Minnesota lakes, rivers and other waterways. Most victims were ice-fishing enthusiasts in trucks or cars, but others include hikers, snowmobile drivers or drivers of all-terrain vehicles.

Since 1980, there have been 10 deaths caused by ice break-throughs in the Tri-County area of Stearns, Benton and Sherburne.

The good news is throughout the decades, such deaths have decreased, probably because of more education, more awareness of the dangers. In the past five years, there has been an average of about three deaths per winter season due to ice break-through in the state.

The strength of ice is based on several inter-related factors that include age, thickness, temperature and whether or not the ice sheet is covered by snow. But beyond those factors, other factors come into play, such as depth of water under the ice, size of the body of water, water chemistry and currents, and the distribution of the load on the ice.

All people who venture out onto ice should remember the following facts while heeding up-to-date bulletins from the DNR:

- New ice is usually stronger than old ice. Four inches of clear, newly formed ice can

support up to one person on foot, but older and partially thawed ice may not, even if it is thicker than a foot.

- Ice almost never freezes uniformly. It can be a foot solid in one place and just two to three inches thick just a few feet away.

- Ice that forms over currents and flowing water can be treacherously unsafe. It is important to know when venturing on ice near streams,

bridges and culverts, as well as on outside river bends where there is a faster-moving current.

- Fish or flocks of waterfowl can undermine the safety of ice. The animals' movements can cause warmer water to rise from the bottom of the lake, causing holes in the ice that can cause break-throughs by walkers, cars or snowmobiles.

- A good, all-around rule

Ice • page 4

ST. JOSEPH ROD AND GUN CLUB 25th ANNUAL

ICE FISHING CONTEST

3rd SATURDAY

Saturday, Feb. 17

NOON-2:30 P.M. • KRAEMER LAKE

Tickets: \$15 Advanced (Until 6 p.m., Feb. 16)

\$20 At The Lake

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at Chanhassen Dinner Theater.....Wednesday, June 27.....\$99 pp

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& lunch at West Forty.....Wednesday, Aug 8.....\$69 pp

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New York City (2 nights) +Amish Acres 12 days.....April 2 – 13

Spring Nashville (2 nights)

and Memphis (2 nights) 8 days.....April 5 – 12

Spring Branson Tour 6 days, 6 shows Inc. "Samson".....April 18 – 23

Pella Tulip Festival & Amana Colonies 4 days.....May 1 – 4

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# Five children named K of C free-throw winners



contributed photo

This year's five winners of the Knights of Columbus Free-Throw Championship included (left to right) Brady Thompson, Sartell, Alexis Finken and Tatum Price, both of St. Joseph, Andrew Rogers, Sartell, and Tommy Smith, Rice. These five have earned the right to compete at the regional competition which will be Saturday, Feb. 24, at the Rocori Community Education Complex Gym.

by Cori Hilsgen  
news@thenewsleaders.com

Five boys and girls from the St Joseph area were named local champions of the 2018 Knights of Columbus basketball free-throw championship held Jan. 28. These children have earned the right to compete at the regional level.

Ten children participated in the competition at the All Saints Academy-St. Joseph upper floor gym.

Brady Thompson of Sartell was the 9-year-old boys' champion, Alexis Finken of St. Joseph was the girls' 11-year-old champion, Tatum Price of St. Joseph and Andrew Rogers of Sartell were the 12-year-old winners in the girls' and boys' division, and Tommy Smith of Rice was the boys' 14-year-old champion.

Each contestant was allowed 15 free-throw attempts in the contests.

Each of the winners will

compete in the regional competition on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the Rocori Community Education Complex Gym. Those who win at the regional level will move on to the state level. All competitors will have 25 attempts at the regional and state levels.

The event is hosted by the Father Werner Council 7057 of the Knights of Columbus of St. Joseph and is open to boys and girls between the ages of 9-14 (as of Jan. 1).



contributed photo

Joshua Vogel, son of Laurie and Joel Vogel of St. Joseph, celebrated his 18th anniversary in the Navy on Jan. 27. After completing Recruit Training Command in Great Lakes, Ill., Vogel served in Pensacola, Fla. San Diego, Calif., Brainerd, Atsugi, Japan, and is currently stationed in San Diego. Joshua, a senior chief petty officer, is deployed on the USS Theodore Roosevelt aircraft carrier. He is an aircrew rescue swimmer.

## Stearns Electric teaches energy efficiency, electrical safety to Kennedy fourth-graders

Employees from Stearns Electric Association visited fourth graders at Kennedy Community School in St. Joseph on Jan. 25 to provide an interactive presentation on energy efficiency and electrical safety.

Prior to the presentation, students learned about basic electricity principles as part of their school curriculum.

Stearns Electric's live, energized home-and-farm model, which showed students what can happen when they get too close to electrical equipment, was the highlight of the presentation, which also demonstrated how to react in a vehicle accident involving a power line.



contributed photos

Stearns Electric line worker Ben Bruggeman demonstrates the live home-and-farm model.



Students at Kennedy Community School look at a coal sample.

REFLECT. GATHER. HONOR.

A photograph of three men in suits, identified as Eric Daniel (5th Generation), Paul Daniel (4th Generation), and Michael Daniel (5th Generation), standing in front of a brick wall.

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## Ice

from page 3

to remember is not to walk onto any body of water unless you know there is at least four inches of new, clear ice on the surface. For ATVs, the thickness of new ice should be 5 inches; for cars and small pickups 8-12 inches and for medium-sized trucks 12-15 inches.

The DNR also highly recommends always wearing a life jacket while on the ice, and an ice-safety kit containing a rope, ice picks, an ice chisel and a tape measure, should be carried with at all times. And, last but not least, always tell somebody before heading out exactly where you intend to go and when you expect to be back home.



# Art

## from front page

VA Health Care System, said medical facilities incorporate creative arts into their recreation therapy programs to further the rehabilitation milieu for both inpatients and outpatients.

The annual art competition recognizes the progress and recovery made through that therapy and raises the visibility of the creative achievements of the nation's veterans after disease, disability and life crisis.

Through the show, veterans receiving treatment at VA facilities have a chance to participate in creative self expression through art, creative writing, dance, drama and music as part of their therapy and to gain recognition for their artistic accomplishments.

The competition is open to veterans who are enrolled at a VA medical center or outpatient clinic before entering the local competition.

"We're excited to be able to share the artwork with the public and encourage community members to visit the show," Venable said.

Madge Scherer, a music

therapist at the St. Cloud facility, is coordinating the local art show and the other St. Cloud entries for the National Veterans Creative Arts Program this year. She has been involved with the creative arts program for nine years, but just recently took on the leadership role for the art show.

Scherer said the St. Cloud art show has been taking place since about 1994. In 2017, there were 3,480 entries in all divisions (dance, drama, music, art and creative writing) from veterans representing 138 VA facilities nationwide. The St. Cloud show had 75 entries and they hope to reach close to that number again this year.

The National Veterans Creative Arts Festival program and show are coordinated by St. Cloud VA employees Elizabeth Mackey and Amy Kimbler.

Both have worked as music therapists at the St. Cloud VA, but have worked full-time with the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival for several years. Mackey has been the director of the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival since 1995 and Kimbler has been a program specialist since 2004.

Mackey said they believe

strongly in the arts as therapy and it's a privilege to serve veterans who use the therapeutic arts in their lives. Through art, music, dance, drama and writing veterans communicate emotions, feelings and thoughts related to their experiences that many times are difficult to express verbally.

The Department of Veterans Affairs and the American Legion Auxiliary co-present the National Veterans Creative Arts Competition and Festival. Through the local and national competition phase of the program, veterans receive recognition for their creative accomplishments and people are made more aware of the arts as an avenue toward healing and sustaining good mental and physical health.

This year, the competition includes 51 categories in the visual arts division and 100 categories in the performing arts.

First-, second- and third-place entries are judged in each category.

"Thanks to the many veteran and volunteer organizations who provide the support to make the show and competition available to veterans," Venable said.

The show is free and open to the public.



contributed photo

Veteran Wally Kollmann represented the St. Cloud Veterans Administration Health Care System at the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival in 2016 in Jackson, Mississippi. His gold medal-winning artwork "The Cage" received first-place nationally in the Military Combat Experience category of the art division.



contributed photo

Last year's Creative Arts show on the campus of the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in St. Cloud included this entry.

# Sartell friends double size of salon

by Mike Knaak  
editor@thenewsleaders.com

Three women who became friends when they were students at Sartell High School have plans to double the size of their salon business with a move to a new location.

Sisters Alex and Jackie Hyndman and Nikki Kruger started Poppy Salon in Waite Park five years ago. By April 1, the women plan to move to a new site just east of 10th Avenue North on Great Oak Drive.

The salon space will be twice as big and the women plan to increase the staff from about 20 to between 40 and 50 stylists and managers.

The new location will keep what they call a "comfortable, welcoming feel" and sleek, polished style with a rustic edge.

The new site offers more parking and easier street access from two entrances.

"We've always prided ourselves on customer service and a really great team that treats each employee like family," Jackie Hyndman said.

The new space will include 20 styling stations, a dedicated spray tan room and a treatment room for body waxing and massage.



photo by Mike Knaak

Poppy Salon owners Nikki Kruger (front) and Alex (back left) and Jackie Hyndman are planning a move to a new, bigger location in Waite Park.

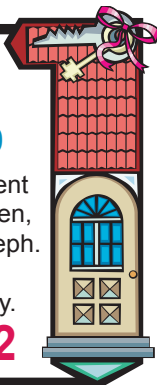
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## Our View

# Make your voice heard at precinct caucuses

The midterm elections are 10 months away, but the first chance for voters to shape the ballot takes place on Tuesday, Feb. 6.

That's when political parties conduct precinct caucuses to begin the process of endorsing candidates, selecting delegates to conventions and staking out positions on key issues.

Turnout for midterm elections is consistently lower than presidential years. But these elections are just as important as electing a president, especially in Minnesota this year.

We'll be electing a new governor. There are at least a half-dozen candidates in each party looking to replace Mark Dayton. Both political parties plan preference ballots for governor.

Because Al Franken resigned, both U.S. Senate seats are up. Amy Klobuchar will be running for a six-year term. Franken's replacement, Tina Smith, will be running to fill out the last two years of Franken's term. Republicans will be choosing challengers.

Rep. Tom Emmer, who has been a strong Trump supporter, says he's running for re-election in the Sixth District and Democrats will nominate a candidate to challenge him.

All the state House of Representative seats are up. Locally, Jeff Howe represents the St. Joseph area in District 13A and Tim O'Driscoll represents the Sartell area in District 13B. Both men are Republicans.

Caucus members will choose delegates to future conventions who will endorse state and federal candidates.

There will be local, county and school board races on the ballot too but those candidates run without party designation so they are not part of the caucus agenda.

The political parties run the caucuses. They all start at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 6.

To participate, you need to be an eligible voter and then you need to pick which party's caucus to attend. The Minnesota Secretary of State has an online tool for finding Republican and DFL locations at <http://caucusfinder.sos.state.mn.us/>. When you enter your address, your precinct name and caucus location as well as your congressional, legislative, school and county commission districts are displayed.

The site also has a link for information about Minnesota's minor political parties such as the Green Party and the Independence Party.

Here are locations for the major party caucuses in St. Joseph and Sartell.

**DFL:**

- St. Joseph P1: Board room, Main Building, College of St. Benedict.
- St. Joseph P2: Kennedy Community School.
- St. Joseph Township P1: Kennedy Community School.
- Collegeville Township P1: P. Engel Science Center, Room 269, St. John's University
- Collegeville Township P2: Pellegrine Auditorium, St. John's University.

**Republicans:**

- St. Joseph P1, P2 and St. Joseph Township: Sal's Bar and Grill.

Attending a caucus offers a chance to engage with your neighbors and make your voice heard at the grassroots level. Mark your calendars.

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# 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](mailto: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.

# Opinion

## It's not goodbye; it's 'see you around'

It's not goodbye; it's 'see you around.'

People who love their jobs never really retire from them. The jobs become part of their blood and bones. And that would be me. At age 70, I retired recently from my 20-year job as editor of the *St. Joseph* and *Sartell-St. Stephen Newsleaders*.

But not really; it's not a total retirement because I will continue to write as a freelancer for those newspapers. I just can't totally let go of a job I've loved so long.

My two decades with the *Newsleaders* have been wonderful years, thanks to the unwavering support of its founder/owner/publisher Janelle Von Pinnon. I often dubbed her the "Energizer Bunny" because she is non-stop passionately dedicated to providing local news through thick and thin. The word "quit" is not in her vocabulary.

There are so many people to thank, including the many talented and fun fellow employees I've worked with year after year.

Reporting is such a fascinating job because it involves an endless curiosity, always meeting people, each with a unique life story to tell. I've interviewed people from the entire spectrum of humanity: poets, inventors, gardeners, woodworkers, musicians, mechanics, street workers, high-achieving students, business entrepreneurs, historians, novelists, athletes, brilliant nuns, police officers, artists, doctors, nurses, teachers, stamp collectors . . . well, the list goes on.

In St. Joseph, there were so many happy, upbeat stories to cover: parks and trails developments, the downtown revitalization projects, the formation and ongoing success of the St. Joseph Area Historical Society, the

**Dennis Dalman**  
*Editor*



farmers' markets, businesses opening, the annual birdhouse-building family event, the good-deed projects by the churches and by service clubs such as the St. Joseph Lions and Y2K Lions, the annual quilting ladies and their colorful masterpieces, the opening of the Wobegon Trail and its shelter, the fantastic new city hall and plans for a community center, the many arts events and exhibits in town and on the campuses. Those are just some of the many things I've enjoyed writing about.

Annual events that were always a pleasure to cover were the Fourth of July Parade, the Church Parish Bazaar and the Joe Town Rocks concert the night before with the legendary Bobby Vee, his sons and guest bands. I'd been coming to St. Joseph for the Parish Festival since I was a wee kid in the 1950s so covering that as a reporter was a lot like "coming home" again in a time machine to the past.

Of course, not all news is happy news. For more than 30 years, long before I joined the *Newsleaders*, I had been haunted by the vicious abduction of Jacob Wetterling. It was heart-wrenching to interview his parents, Dr. Jerry and Patty, because I could not even imagine the constant nagging heartache they had to endure for all those years. I had come to the conclusion Jacob would probably never be found, never

## Encore career takes me back to my roots

You've heard about encore careers? That's the work in the second half of life after retirement.

A lawyer becomes an organic farmer, a stockbroker pursues an encore career as a sculptor...you get the idea.

In your encore career, you're supposed to find a job that provides greater personal meaning and social impact.

It turns out my encore career....*Newsleaders* editor...is pretty much the same as my pre-retirement career.

I worked at the *St. Cloud Times* for 42 years in a number of roles including photo editor, assistant managing editor and the No. 2 person in the newsroom. That job ended in October 2016 when my position and about a dozen others, including the publisher and executive editor, were eliminated.

My wife, Marian Rengel, and I planned to leave the full-time workforce in early 2017 so the abrupt end to work had little impact other than creating immediate free time.

For years, I've been an adjunct faculty

**Mike Knaak**  
*Editor*



member at St. Cloud State University teaching a variety of journalism classes. This last fall semester, I taught photojournalism. The man I'm replacing, Dennis Dalman, was one of my students long ago.

Since retiring from full-time work, people ask me if I miss being at the *Times*. Yes, I miss my former colleagues and I miss the news. Newsrooms are filled with the most creative and passionate people you'll find anywhere. But I don't miss managing a daily newspaper, a 24/7 web site and getting calls at all hours of the day and night.

Retirement allowed Marian and me the chance to travel, including visiting our adult daughters. One works in New York City and the other daughter works in Washington, D.C. Those are great cities for trips.

come home again. Then one day, as we all know, his killer confessed. Jacob's remains were found. A terrible ending, closure or not.

What always so impressed me is how the Wetterlings, despite the never-ending agony, reached out to others – other parents and families of children who “disappeared.” It took so much courage and energy to try to bring something good out of something so awful. But they did. They did it so well, and thanks to them, they and their foundation are still helping families, educating people, reaching out to others.

Some years ago, Cori Hilsген, *Newsleader* writer, wrote a great story about a man who had a heart attack in St. Joseph Catholic Church. In that church that day, everyone scrambled to help save the man. They were emergency personnel and people from every walk of life. Cori's story encapsulated so vividly how, when bad things happen, people with big hearts in a small town spring forth to help. That's St. Joseph.

I want to thank our readers, our advertisers and all the people who gave us so many story tips. I hope you continue to keep those good story ideas coming to the *Newsleader*, to the attention of its new editor, Mike Knaak, whom I'm happy to report was my college photojournalism teacher once upon a time. And Mike, lucky guy, I'm also happy to report, is younger than me.

In my retirement – well, OK, partial retirement – I plan to do some traveling, novel-writing, oil-painting and – yes – some newspaper writing.

So instead of saying “So long, goodbye,” I'll say “Hey, hope to see you around.”

And for years we've been Twins, Wild, Gophers, Huskies and more recently Minnesota United fans. Now we have plenty of time for games.

About a year ago, I joined the St. Cloud Municipal Band. I've played saxophone since elementary school but my full-time journalism career didn't leave much time for music.

That music connection led me to the *Newsleaders*. Fellow saxophone player (and *Newsleaders* designer) Patric Lewandowski, arrived at rehearsal one night a few weeks ago and said, “Hey Mike, I've got a job for you.” I replied I wasn't looking for work. But he shared some details and here I am.

During the first meeting with my potential co-workers and boss, I was impressed with their passion, engagement with readers and clear sense of purpose.

So, I'm back. The hours aren't nearly as long but I'm working with creative people reporting and photographing the news. Not bad for an encore career and I still have time for the saxophone.

## Human trafficking surrounding the Super Bowl

*Megan Mechelke, representative of the Sartell High School Students Against Human Trafficking Club*

The Department of Homeland Security defines human trafficking as “a form of modern-day slavery” that uses “force, fraud or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act.” In 2012 the International Labor Organization estimated about 21 million people were enslaved globally, 1.5 million in the United States and Canada. That number continues to grow nationally and statewide. Minnesota Department of Transportation reported in 2015, Minnesota had the third highest number of trafficking cases in the United States, and in 2013 the Twin Cit-



ies was named one of the 13 largest trafficking centers worldwide. The United Nations names sexual exploitation the most common form of human trafficking. A November 2010 study from the Women's Foundation of Minnesota found 45 girls under 18 are sold for sex in Minnesota on any weekend night. Globally, this criminal industry can profit up to \$150 billion a year.

Furthermore, it has been suggested the number of sex-trafficking cases increases around the Super Bowl. In 2011, current Texas governor Greg Abbott called the Super Bowl the “largest human-trafficking event.” In an October 2017 article published by Karell, Sgt. Grant Snyder, head of the MPD Human Trafficking Team, suggested this claim is not entirely accurate. He argued year-round trafficking numbers are equally as high as those seen during the Super Bowl and suggested inflation of trafficking numbers around the time of the game is likely due to the simple fact there is an increase in the number of people in the area. However, Pete Orput, the Washington County Attorney, sees things







# Fischbach becomes state's lieutenant governor

by Dennis Dalman  
editor@thenewsleaders.com

Sen. Michelle Fischbach (R-Paynesville), president of the Minnesota Senate, now serves as the state's lieutenant governor following Gov. Mark Dayton's appointment of Tina Smith to fill the U.S. Senate seat vacated by Al Franken.

Fischbach has long represented District 13, which includes St. Joseph and Sartell in the Minnesota Senate.

Earlier in December, Franken announced he would resign in the wake of several sexual impropriety accusations against him from women he knew or worked with in the past. It was part of a massive wave of similar accusations made in the past couple of months against Hollywood celebrities, politicians and high-profile people in many other professions. Many of those accused, like Franken, have resigned. Franken was serving his second six-year term as a senator from Minnesota, the other being incumbent Amy Klobuchar.

After news of Franken's resignation, Gov. Dayton appointed Minnesota Lieutenant Gov. Tina Smith to the U.S. Senate seat. In the meantime, Fischbach was appointed by Dayton to become lieutenant governor, the 49th in the state's history.

She has said she intends to continue to preside as Senate president while serving as lieutenant governor. That issue is now the subject of a lawsuit in Ramsey County District Court.

Fischbach is the first woman to become president of the State Senate. She was first elected as senator for District 13 in 1996 and has been re-elected to serve seven times since then. She was assistant minority leader for the Senate for a time, then became its president from 2011-2013. In 2016, when Republicans retook control of the Senate, she was elected as its president again in early 2017.

Fischbach attended the College of St. Benedict and then St. Cloud State University where she earned a bache-

lor's degree in political science and then went on to obtain a law degree from the William Mitchell College of Law.

She and her husband, Scott, live in Paynesville and have two grown children.

### Smith

Smith was sworn in on Jan. 3.

Born in Albuquerque, New Mexico, she earned a bachelor's degree from Stanford University, California, then a master's degree in business administration from Dartmouth College, New Hampshire.

Smith moved to Minnesota in the 1980s to take a job in marketing for the General Mills Corp. Later, she started her own marketing firm and also served as vice president of Planned Parenthood of Minnesota/North Dakota/South Dakota. From 2006 to 2010, she was chief of staff for Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Ryback and then joined Mark Dayton's campaign for governor in 2010. Dayton was elected the next year, and Smith was elected as the state's 48th lieutenant governor in 2015.

Smith said she intends to run in the November 2019 election to fill out the last two years of Franken's term.

Smith and her husband, Archie, have two grown children.



contributed photo  
**Minnesota Sen. Michelle Fischbach (R-Paynesville), who represents St. Joseph as part of District 13, has been named the new lieutenant governor for the state. Recently, she and Gov. Mark Dayton (right) met for a luncheon at the governor's mansion.**



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**Minnesota Lieutenant-Gov. Tina Smith was recently sworn in as a U.S. senator to replace incumbent Al Franken, who recently resigned from the seat.**

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