

St. Joseph Newsleader

Friday, March 9, 2018
Volume 30, Issue 10
Est. 1989

Town Crier

Senior Connection hosts photography speaker

The Sartell Senior Connection will host Stan Lewis, retired St. Cloud State University professor, at 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, at the Sartell Community Center, 850-19th St. S. Lewis will speak about St. Cloud photographers in the 19th and 20th centuries. Lewis will talk about the first professional photographer in St. Cloud and how photography helps us learn about the past.

Fare for All set March 12

Fare for All, a budget-stretching program that allows people to save up to 40 percent off fresh fruits, vegetables and frozen meats, will be from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Monday, March 12, at Resurrection Lutheran Church, 610 CR 2, St. Joseph. Distribution is once a month. February Hot Buys include a Farmland boneless ham, Oscar Meyer maple bacon, frozen blueberries and strawberries. This event is open to everyone. Cash, credit, debit cards and EBT cards are accepted. For more information please visit our website at fareforall.org or call 800-582-4291.

Bird house building project set March 18

A youth birdhouse-building project is scheduled from 11a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, March 18, at St. Stephen City Hall, 2 Sixth Ave. SE. The project is sponsored by the St. Stephen Sportsmen's Club and the City of St. Stephen.

Seeking nominations for ATHENA Award

The Women's Fund of the Central Minnesota Community Foundation is seeking nominations for the ATHENA Award which is presented to a woman who has achieved excellence in her career and inspires others. Nominations for this award will be accepted until March 30 and the recipient will be honored at the Central Minnesota Community Foundation Annual Dinner on September 11th. To nominate a candidate for the ATHENA Award, nominators must complete a short form at www.communitygiving.org/athenaaward or by contacting Greta Stark-Kraker at gstark@communitygiving.org.

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

Dads and daughters dance the night away

by Vicki Ikeogu
news@thenewsleaders.com

Men sporting suits and ties. Girls dressed up in high heels, makeup and dresses of all styles and colors.

A scene that could have easily been lifted from the ballroom dance in Disney's Cinderella was replicated inside the Gorecki Center on the College of St. Benedict's on Saturday, March 3.

Now in its fifth year, the Daddy Daughter Date Night celebration gathered fathers and grandfathers from around the area for a night of food, dancing and activities with girls ranging from ages 2 to 15.

"We all lead very busy lives in today's world," said Stephanie Theisen, executive director of Leighton Events, a division of Leighton Broadcasting. "And events like this allow us time to connect with our kids."

Theisen said Daddy Daughter Date Night was the idea of a former employee at Leighton Broadcasting. As a father of three girls, Theisen said, this employee had wanted to create an event to bring fathers and daughters together.

"And Leighton Broadcasting supported the vision of that employee and has continued the event ever since," Theisen said.

For Charles Levi of St. Cloud, Daddy Daughter Date Night is a chance he can spend with his girls.

"I had gotten tickets about two years ago (to go with my oldest daughter)," Levi said. "And she loved it."

Levi brought his four daughters, Shaniah Payton, 9; Jaelynn Tiger, 4; Envi Tiger, 3; and Amiyah Tiger; to this year's event.

"We got to take pictures with the princesses," Levi said. "And we love dancing. I just love my girls so

Dance • page 4

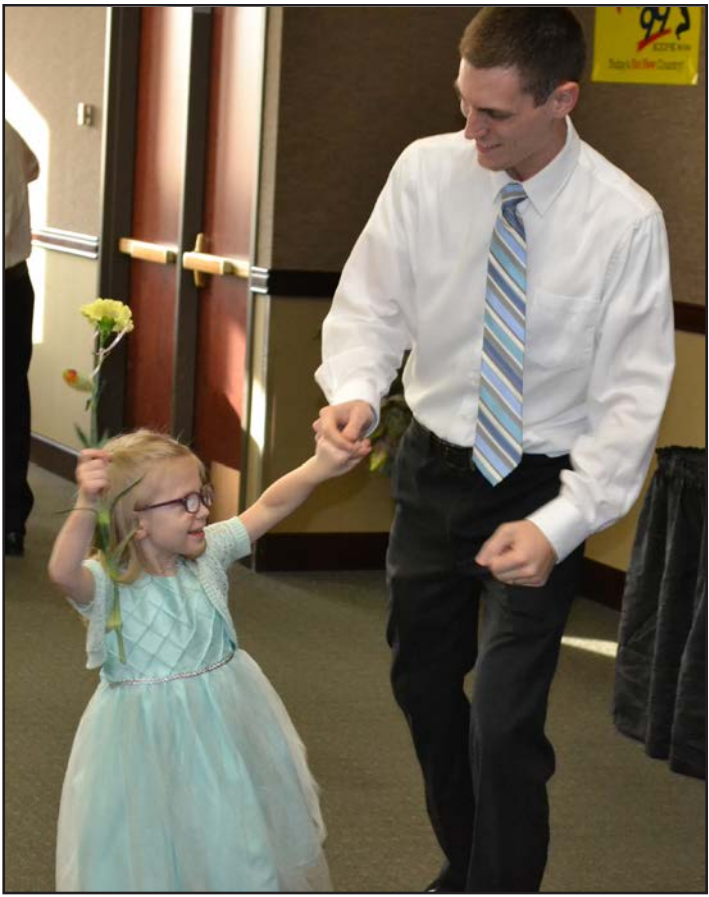


photo by Vicki Ikeogu

St. Cloud resident Tim Schmidt dances with his daughter Brielle at the annual Daddy Daughter Date Night event.

St. Joseph seeks bonding to help fund underpass

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

The city of St. Joseph will formally ask the state of Minnesota to pay half the \$3 million cost of a pedestrian underpass under CR 75, according to Mayor Rick Schultz.

State bonding money would pay half the cost while the 1/2-cent sales tax would pay the rest.

After looking at several options, Schultz said the City Council settled on an underpass just west of the Fourth Avenue Northeast/Northland Drive intersection.

Schultz said it's easier to

manage and maintain an underpass than an overpass.

The underpass will be about 10 feet wide...wide enough for an all-terrain vehicle.

On the north side of CR 75, the underpass and accompanying trail would connect with the Lake Wobegon Trail.

The underpass is needed so it's safer for pedestrians to cross CR 75.

If the Legislature includes the \$1.5 million in this session's bonding bill, the city will meet with Stearns County and the Minnesota Department of Transportation and then move to asking for contractor bids.



City of St. Joseph photo

The orange line shows where the underpass will go under CR 75. Yellow lines indicate approaches and trails.

Long-planned lofts become reality

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

Construction will begin soon on a 17-unit residential and retail complex on College Avenue North.

Developers of 24 North Lofts said Tuesday, March 6, that after four years of planning, the project will be a reality.

Partners Jon Petters and Dr. Gustavo Peña announced in a press release that financing and the construction contract are settled. The project is adjacent to their existing Mill Stream Shops and Lofts.

The rental lofts are designed by Patrick Waddick and each unit will have a west- or south-facing balcony or patio and a fireplace. There will be garages, off-street parking and a private dog-walking area.

Adjacent to the rental units, there will be a 3,900-square-foot retail or restaurant space for lease with additional space available in a historic building that is being restored next to the main site.

The developers planned a ceremonial groundbreaking for Wednesday, March 7, with completion set for fall 2018.



contributed photo

Developers provided this illustration of the 24 North Lofts project on College Avenue.

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF ST. JOSEPH
PUBLIC HEARING
OUTDOOR SPECIAL EVENT

The St. Joseph City Council shall conduct a public hearing at 6 p.m. Monday, March 19, 2018 at the St. Joseph Government Center, 75 Callaway St. E., St. Joseph, Minn. 56374. The purpose of the hearing is to consider the issuance of an outdoor special event on Sept. 8, 2018 for the La Playette. All persons wishing to be heard will be heard and oral testimony will

be limited to five minutes. Written testimony can be mailed to the City Administrator, 75 Callaway St. E., St. Joseph, Minn. 56374.

Judy Weyrens

Administrator

Publish: March 9, 2018

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF ST. JOSEPH
PUBLIC HEARING
OUTDOOR SPECIAL EVENT

The St. Joseph City Council shall conduct a public hearing at 6 p.m. Monday, March 19, 2018 at the St. Joseph City Hall, 75 Callaway St. E., St. Joseph, Minn. The purpose of the hearing is to consider the issuance of an outdoor special event on July 3, 2018 for the Church of St. Joseph. All persons wishing to be heard will be heard and oral testimony will be limited to five

minutes. Written testimony can be mailed to the City Administrator, 75 Callaway St. E., St. Joseph, Minn. 56374.

Judy Weyrens

Administrator

Publish: March 9, 2018

People

Erin Trisko of St. Joseph woman has been named to the fall semester dean’s list at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh.

To qualify for the dean’s list, a student must take 12 credits and earn a grade-point average of 3.75 or higher.

Jennifer Hoffman of St. Joseph

has received her Bachelor of Science in nursing degree from Western Governors University. The university conducted its 64th commencement ceremony at the Disney Coronado Springs Resort in Orlando, Fla., on Feb. 10 to celebrate the graduation of about 15,000 graduates from across the country.

St. Joseph resident graduates from U.S Air Force training in Texas

U.S. Air Force Airman Simon P. Berg-Arnold graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness



and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training also earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Berg-Arnold is the son of Brenda and Mark Berg-Arnold of St. Joseph. He is a 2017 graduate of home-schooling in St. Joseph.

In business

Stearns County Sheriffs Office and the St. Cloud Police Department apply for grant

The Stearns County Sheriff’s Office and the St. Cloud Police Department have applied for a \$30,139 Justice Assistance Grant.

The sheriff’s office intends on purchasing side-by-side all-terrain vehicles for outdoor operations such as searches and other calls in large open areas, events such as parades and other large gatherings and

routine patrols in parks and trails.

The police department intends to buy four spotlight mounted thermal imagers that will be used for general and missing person searches.

Members of the public are invited to submit comments on the grant to: sheriff@co.stearns.mn.us

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.

Feb. 19

8:26 a.m. Suspicious man. 213 Cedar St. E. Officer stopped a man coming out of Coborn’s who said he had been riding his bicycle and stopped to warm up. Officer checked for stolen items but found none.

11:12 a.m. Theft. 516 Schneider Drive. Officer received a report of a missing Samsung Galaxy 8 Note value at \$900.

12:25 p.m. Theft. 516 Schneider Drive. Officer received a report of a theft Wigun Sport 312 Airsoft gun valued at \$159.

Feb. 21

10:34 a.m. Snow removal violation. 120 Minnesota St. E. Snow removal from sidewalk warning tag left on front door.

10:49 a.m. Snow removal violation. 124 Minnesota St. E. Officer left warning tag on front door for snow removal from sidewalk violation.

10:57 a.m. Snow removal violation. 418 Minnesota St. E. Officer left red tag on front door for snow removal from sidewalk violation.

11 a.m. Snow removal violation. 1414 Minnesota St. E. Officer left red tag on front door for snow removal from sidewalk violation.

Feb. 25

6:10 pm. Person with a gun. 912 Baker St. E. Officers responded to a 911 call from a man seeing someone dressed in black and looked like he was carrying an AR-15. Officers arrived and checked area and did not observe any people walking around.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

AUTO BODY REPAIR

Auto Body 2000

(behind Coborn’s in the Industrial Park)
St. Joseph • 320-363-1116

BEAUTY

Mary Kay Cosmetics
Joyce Barnes

St. Joseph • 320-251-8989

CHIROPRACTOR

Dr. Jerry Wetterling

College Ave. • 320-363-4573
jlwchiro.com

CHURCHES

Resurrection Lutheran, ELCA

Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Worship 6:30 p.m.

610 N. CR 2, St. Joseph
320-363-4232 www.rlcstjoe.org

St. Joseph Catholic Church

Masses: Tuesday-Friday 8 a.m.
Saturday 5 p.m.
Sunday 8 & 10 a.m.

St. Joseph • 320-363-7505

www.churchstjoseph.org

LAWN SERVICE

Craig’s Lawn Service
Craig Bertram, Owner

St. Joseph • 320-290-4811

DENTISTRY

Drs. Styles, Cotton & Milbert

1514 E. Minnesota St.
St. Joseph • 320-363-7729

Laser Dentistry

26 2nd Ave. NW
St. Joseph • 320-363-4468

ELECTRICAL

HI-TEC Electric • St. Joseph

Residential • Commercial
Remodeling • General Services
320-363-8808 • 320-980-0514

EYECARE

Russell Eyecare & Associates

15 E. Minnesota St., Ste. 107
St. Joseph • 320-433-4326

PUBLISHING

Von Meyer Publishing, Inc.

32 1st Ave. NW
St. Joseph • 320-363-7741

TRUCKING

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Global Transportation Service
St. Joseph • 320-363-6999
www.brennytransportation.com

YOUR INDUSTRY

Your Business

Address
City • Phone • Website

Call the **St. Joseph Newsleader** at 320-363-7741

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

FREE

Come build a house and take it home!

25th ANNUAL

Wood Duck, Bluebird & Wren House Building Night

Monday, March 19 • 4-6:30 p.m.

FREE

American Legion in St. Joseph
30 Wood Duck Houses
100 Bluebird Houses
80 Wren Houses
16 Bat Houses

All Ages May Participate
Bring a cordless drill with a Phillips head

Questions - Call Al at 363-7568

All Materials Supplied By St. Joseph Rod & Gun Club

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(formerly Index 53)

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Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday; 8 a.m.-noon Saturday

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News Tips?

Call the Newsleader at 363-7741

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Holiday	St. Joseph Newsleader Office
Kay’s Kitchen	SuperAmerica

www.thenewsleaders.com

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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.

P.O. Box 324 • 32 1st Ave. N.W. • St. Joseph, Minn. 56374

Phone: (320) 363-7741 • Fax: (320) 363-4195 • E-mail: news@thenewsleaders.com

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to ST. JOSEPH NEWSLEADER, P.O. Box 324, St. Joseph, MN 56374.

Stearns County warns about pushing snow on roads

The Stearns County Highway Department warns that plowing or shoveling snow from drive-ways or sidewalks onto a road can get you in trouble. Plowing or shoveling snow onto roads and streets is a misdemeanor punishable with a fine of up to \$700 and /or a jail sentence of up to 90 days.

Snow dumped, plowed or shoveled onto a road can create a hazard, not only for drivers but also for snowplows. Even heavy snowplows have been damaged when hitting com-pacted and frozen snow depos-ited on the highways.

In some parts of the county, snow pushed onto a highway causes snowdrifts. The person responsible for depositing snow onto the highway may also be liable in a civil lawsuit if damages or injuries occur as a result of the action.

Township elections Tuesday

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

Area townships conduct elections and annual meetings on Tuesday, March 13.

Poll hours vary by township.

There are no contested elec-tions in any of the area town-ships.

Brockway:
Town Hall, 43710-85th Ave.
3 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Both offices unopposed.

Collegeville:
Town Hall, 27724 CR 50.
1 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Both offices are unopposed.
Supervisor: three-year term - Craig Guggenberger.
Clerk: two-year term - Joe Pohl.

St. Joseph:
Town Hall, 935 College Ave. S.
10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Unopposed supervisor three-year term - Jerome Salzer.

St. Wendel:
Town Hall, 36922 CR 4.
Noon - 8 p.m.
Unopposed supervisor three-year term - David Douvier.

LeSauk Township does not have an election but its annual meeting will be at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall, 220 Fourth Ave. S. Sartell.

Obituary

Virgil J. Christensen, 88
Aug. 4, 1929-Feb. 27, 2018
St. Stephen

Funeral services were Saturday, March 3, 2018, at St. Stephen’s Cath-olic Church in St. Stephen for Virgil J. Christensen, 88, of St. Stephen. Virgil passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2018, at St. Cloud Hospital surrounded by his loving family. The Rev. Eugene Doyle of-ficiated. Burial will take place in Bethlehem Lutheran Cemetery in Askov.

Family and friends called on Friday at the Daniel Funeral Home in St. Joseph and on Saturday at the



church in St. Stephen.

Virgil was born on August 4, 1929, in Askov to the late Harold and Margrethe (Sorensen) Chris-tensen. He proudly served in the U.S. Army from 1948 - 1952 during the Korean Conflict. He was sta-tioned in Okinawa, Japan. Virgil began his career as a Heavy Truck/ Diesel Mechanic in 1952. He met the love his life, Bertha “Dolly” Morris and they were married on November 7, 1964, in Sandstone. They created a loving home, raising four children and enjoying 48 years together.

They settled in St. Stephen in 1998. Virgil was the heart of the family business, C & H Truck Re-pair in Waite Park. He was passion-ate about his work and the shop up until his passing.

He loved spending time with his family and friends, telling a good story, dancing, fishing and tinkering in the garage and with his boat. Vir-gil will be remembered for his hard work ethic and good-natured per-sonality. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend who will be dearly missed!

He is survived by his children, Terry of Sioux Falls, S.D., Victoria Ingram (fiancé Scott MacKissock) of Little Falls, Cindy Christensen (Tom Brausen) of St. Stephen, Wendy (Patrick) Hicks of St. Stephen; grandchildren, Kayla, Steffen, Bri-anna and Meghan; and sister, Doris Hedtke of Fergus Falls.

Virgil was preceded in death by his wife, Dolly in 2011; brother, Thue; and son-in-law, Rick Ingram. Memorials are preferred.

PUBLIC NOTICE

CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME STATE OF MINNESOTA

Pursuant to Chapter 333, Min-nesota Statutes, the undersigned, who is or will be conducting or transacting a commercial business in the State of Minnesota under an assumed name, hereby certifies:

1. The assumed name under which the business is or will be conduct-ed is: Junkie Apparel Company.

2. The stated address of the princi-pal place of business is or will be:

822 Fourth St. N., Sartell, Minne-sota 56377.

3. The name and street address of all persons conducting business under the above assumed name in-cluding any corporations that may be conducting this business: Tra-vis Eugene Elder, 822 Fourth St. N., Sartell, Minnesota 56377.

4. I certify I am authorized to sign this certificate and I further certify

I understand by signing this certifi-cate, I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Minnesota Statutes section 609.48 as if I had signed this certificate under oath.

Dated: Feb. 1, 2018

Filed: Feb. 1, 2018

/s/ Travis E. Elder

Publish: March 2 and 9, 2018



**6'7". 302 POUNDS.
AND STILL FITS IN
YOUR BLIND SPOT.**

**Please start seeing
motorcyclists.**

PUBLIC NOTICE

RESOLUTION 2018-011 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUMMARY PUBLICATION ORDINANCE 502-ZONING ORDINANCE

RECITALS:
WHEREAS, on March 5, 2018, the City Council for the City of St. Joseph amended the text to Ordinance 502 – Zoning Ordinance, Section 502.09, entitled “PUD: Planned Unit Development Overlay District”; and
WHEREAS, the City of St. Joseph desires to publish the Ordinance by Summary Publication; and
WHEREAS, the intent of the amendments are to address chang-es within the zoning ordinance re-lated to the benefit to the public for a PUD, adding to promote mixed uses, removing the minimum site area for a Planned Unit Develop-ment and adding language clar-ifying permitted modifications, including use, setbacks, lot sizes, width and depth.

WHEREAS, the full text of the amended Ordinance is available at the City Offices, 75 Callaway Street East or on the City website, www.cityofstjoseph.com.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:

The City Council has reviewed the proposed Summary Publica-tion and finds that the summary of the Ordinance clearly informs the public of the intent and effect of the Ordinance.

The City of St. Joseph directs the City Administrator to publish the Ordinance by Summary Publica-tion.

Adopted this 5th day of March, 2018, by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

CITY OF ST. JOSEPH

By Rick Schultz, Mayor

By Judy Weyrens, Administrator

Publish: March 9

PUBLIC NOTICE

CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME STATE OF MINNESOTA

Pursuant to Chapter 333, Min-nesota Statutes, the undersigned, who is or will be conducting or transacting a commercial business in the State of Minnesota under an assumed name, hereby certifies:

1. The assumed name under which the business is or will be conduct-ed is: Treasure My Future.

2. The stated address of the princi-pal place of business is or will be: 13257 CR 3, PO Box 347 Avon, MN 56310.

3. The name and street address of all persons conducting business under the above assumed name including any corporations that

may be conducting this business: Christine R. Panek, 13257 CR 3, PO Box 347 Avon, MN 56310.

4. I certify I am authorized to sign this certificate and I further certify I understand by signing this certifi-cate, I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Minnesota Statutes section 609.48 as if I had signed this certificate under oath.

Dated: March 5, 2018

Filed: March 5, 2018

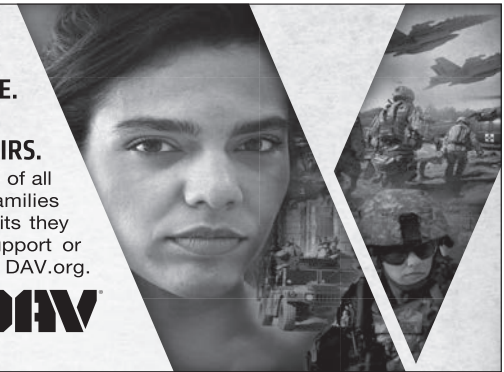
/s/ Christine R. Panek


Publish: March 9 and 16, 2018

**VETERANS FOUGHT
FOR OUR WAY OF LIFE.
IT'S OUR DUTY
TO FIGHT FOR THEIRS.**

DAV helps veterans of all ages and their families receive the benefits they earned. Lend support or get free help at DAV.org.

DAV





Saint John's

UNIVERSITY

Life Safety Officer

Life Safety Services at Saint John’s University seeks applications for a Life Safety Officer. This position is responsible for patrolling campus areas as assigned and attend to matters of security, traffic control, and general health and safety of all members of the Saint John’s community.

The primary responsibility of Life Safety Services is to enhance the living learning environment through the establishment of security and safety for the residents of the campus community. The eight full-time and nine part-time staff members are educators who play a critical role in developing responsibility and accountability in students. As professionals specializing in problems such as alcohol, theft, sexual assault and other real-life issues they seek not only to react to problems after they occur, but to be proactive in their prevention.

For more information and to apply online, visit <http://employment.csbsju.edu>. Women, individuals of diverse racial and cultural backgrounds, and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. Saint John’s University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

Lola Wolf to perform March 11 at Sacred Heart Chapel



contributed photo
Lola Wolf, originally from St. Joseph, will perform an organ concert at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March, 11 at the Sacred Heart Chapel at St. Benedict’s Monastery. The concert will feature music written by female composers and the world premiere of “Quia Ergo Femina” written by Yigit Kolat.

by Cori Hilsgen
news@thenewsleaders.com

Lola Wolf, originally from St. Joseph, will perform an organ concert at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 11, at the Sacred Heart Chapel at St. Benedict’s Monastery. The concert will feature music written by female composers and the world premiere of “Quia Ergo Femina” written by Yigit Kolat of Seattle, Wash. Sister Karen Rose, director of mission advancement at the monastery, said Wolf heard a composition by Kolat and experienced it to be “hauntingly beautiful.” She commissioned him to write an organ work in honor of Mother Benedicta Riepp, foundress of the Sisters of the Order of St. Benedict. Kolat’s composition for amplified pipe organ and voices was inspired from a chant by the 12th century Benedictine abbess, Hildegard of Bingen, saint and doctor of the Church. Wolf’s world premiere of her performance will be re-

corded by Michael Barone of Minnesota Public Radio for Pipedreams, a nationally distributed weekly radio program that began in 1982 and explores the art of the pipe organ. Wolf, who now lives in Seattle, Wash. attended the College of St. Benedict and is well-known in the area. Her family had a local band and she played the organ at the Church of St. Joseph Catholic church from the age of 11 until her early 20s from 1961-74. Rose said Wolf was a child prodigy on the organ and has a long connection with the sisters. Organist Sister Dolores Super has known Wolf since she was in grade school. Wolf was in one of Super’s classes when she attended the College of St. Benedict and majored in music. Wolf began her music studies at the St. Benedict’s Monastery studying piano, organ and Gregorian Chant. She debuted as a guest soloist with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Leonard Slatkin. After completing a graduate degree with Delbert Disselhorst from the University of Iowa in Iowa City, Wolf moved to the Seattle area and continues to teach in a private studio. She has performed in the United States, Europe and Japan. Although her performance has been her passion, Wolf’s mission and vision include introducing children to the music of Bach. Kolat, who also resides in Seattle, earned his Doctorate of Musical Arts at the University of Washington in Seattle, studying with Joël-François Durand. Kolat’s music has been featured throughout the United States, Europe and Asia by leading ensembles and soloists, and he has been recognized by many prestigious international organizations. There will be a reception in the Gathering Place after the concert.

Dance

from front page

much.” David Johnson of St. Cloud was accompanied by his two granddaughters, Kymora Gentry, 7; and Quintiana Gentry, 4. “My wife saw this event online and thought it would be good way for us to spend some time together,” Johnson said. Theisen said this was the first year the Daddy Daugh-

ter Date Night event was sold out well in advance of the event. About 400 fathers and daughters were in attendance. “We’ve added a lot of new elements this year,” said Tara Traut, Leighton Broadcasting promotions and events director. “We’ve got sketch artists, balloon twisters, a photo booth and two princesses. It has really grown and become a great way for fathers and daughters to bond.” The new features included a professional photographer, din-

ner (with special menus for dads and daughters), a DJ-lead dance and a make-it and take-it arts and crafts table. “We wanted to create an event that was special,” Traut said. “An event that would be something dads and daughters would remember forever.” “Events like this are just fun evening to remind your child of how special they are to you,” Theisen said. “It is a fun to get dressed up and get caught up in the moment and just enjoy being with your children.”



photo by Vicki Ikeogu
Charlotte Albers, 2, talks with Snow White at the annual Daddy Daughter Date Night event on Saturday, March 3.



photo by Vicki Ikeogu
Brandon Backes of Big Lake puts the finishing touches on his 5-year-old daughter Nila’s look at the selfie station. The two, along with Backes’ younger daughter Brielle, 3, joined about 400 fathers and daughters at the annual Daddy Daughter Date Night.

View housing trends at Home Show, March 9-11

by Cori Hilsген
news@thenewsleaders.com

The Central Minnesota Builders Association Home Show, will be noon-8 p.m., Friday, March 9, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday, March 10, and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. March 11 at the St. Cloud River’s Edge Convention Center and will again feature the Forever House. This evolving house has four rooms that visitors can walk through to see new home products and styles each year.

The home show features a number of seminars to helps visitors with financing, buying, landscaping, building a new home or remodeling an older home.

Home show visitors can meet with area builders to discuss remodeling projects, design ideas and other questions.

At the Central Minnesota Builders Association Tour of Homes from Feb. 23-25 and March 2-4, visitors were able to view new housing trends such as accessibility, plans for aging, white cabinets and luxury vinyl flooring.

Area builder Elite Development had a St. Joseph house featured on the tour. Other area builders Avalon Homes, Berscheid Builders, Heritage Homes of Minnesota, Infinity Homes, Lumber One Avon, Noble Custom Homes, Werschay Homes and Wollak Construction had homes in the Sartell area featured on the tour.

Tyler Keller of Elite Develop-

ment said he is seeing more of a demand for nicer and more expensive homes. White painted cabinets, neutral grey colors and luxury vinyl flooring instead of wood flooring are recent trends customers are requesting. Luxury vinyl flooring has been a hot product the past couple of years.

Keller said more people are requesting larger lots in the St. Joseph area. The average traditional lot used to be about one-fourth acre, but lots are now averaging just under one-half acre.

Elite Development has built patio, two-story, rambler and other homes in the Grace View Estates development. Keller said there is currently one lot left for sale which backs up to Kleinfelter park.

Owners of Elite Development include Tyler Keller, Al Keller and Rich petty.

Rick Dingmann, owner of Berscheid Builders, said they featured a patio home in the Arbor Village in Sartell, as well as a two-story home in Arbor Trails.

They have 35 lots which are patio homes in the Arbor Village area. A unique feature of these homes is the distinct rear-alley entry garage concept. The Arbor Village area offers yard maintenance and snow removal, a waterfront walking trail, street lighting and a community garden for residents.

Berscheid Builders built 30 homes last year, six in the Arbor Village. Twenty-six of the 30



contributed photo
This St. Joseph home built by Elite Development was featured on this year’s recent Central Minnesota Builders Association Tour of Homes and showcases some of the new housing trends customers are requesting.

homes the company built last year were patio homes.

Dingmann said their patio homes feature current trends such as wheelchair accessibility with no steps, wide doorways, walk-in tile showers with no lifts and higher counters for higher stools.

The Central Minnesota Builders Association Tour of Homes in the spring and fall are where Berscheid Builders does most of its marketing.

Dingmann said it is a good way for his business to show-

case its quality and workmanship styles. Many new home construction leads are generated from the tours.

The home show after the tour often generates more remodeling projects for Berscheid Builders.

Berscheid Builders has been in business for 40 years and Dingmann has been with the business for 29 of those years. Several employees including

Jerry Welinski, John Schmiesing and Harvey Jarnot have worked with Dingmann during those years.

“We are blessed with the best foremen, job supervisor and carpenters in town,” Dingmann said.

This year’s recent tour included 37 homes, most of which were located within 10 miles of St. Cloud.



contributed photo
The interior of this St. Joseph home built by Elite Development features some of the new housing trends customers are requesting. Luxury vinyl flooring has been a hot product for a couple of years.



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1 coupon per 4 people. Expires 3/22/18 CSR

Opinion

Our View After 15 years, time to act on safety report

It's no surprise that gun safety measures aren't going anywhere fast in Washington, D.C., or St. Paul.

Republicans have shown little interest in action.

In St. Paul, a sixth measure gun-related bill has been introduced by five House Republicans that would allow trained and permitted school staff to carry firearms. It's HF3286 and no committee action has been scheduled.

Like most disasters, mass school shooting won't be solved with one law change or one but instead a combination of actions.

Policy makers need to look at the causes such as mental health issues and school culture but also the means such as availability of assault rifles and high-capacity magazines.

In the debate over causes, policy makers point to what they perceive as a lack of clear direction.

At the federal level, Donald Trump needs to look no further than to step out of the Oval Office and ask the Secret Service.

In 2002, the Secret Service and U.S. Department of Education published a report titled "Implications for the Prevention of School Attacks in the United States."

The agencies launched the research after Columbine and other school shootings. The 63-page report attempted to answer two questions that are still being debated: "Could we have known that these attacks were being planned?" and, "What can be done to prevent future attacks from occurring?"

The study is available here: www.secretservice.gov/data/protection/ntac/ssi_final_report.pdf

Here are the 10 key findings of the report:

-Incidents of targeted violence at school rarely are sudden, impulsive acts.

-Prior to most incidents, other people knew about the attacker's idea and/or plan to attack.

-Most attackers did not threaten their targets directly prior to advancing the attack.

-There is no accurate or useful profile of students who engaged in targeted school violence.

-Most attackers engaged in some behavior prior to the incident that caused others concern or indicated a need for help.

-Most attackers had difficulty coping with significant losses or personal failures. Moreover, many had considered or attempted suicide.

-Many attackers felt bullied, persecuted or injured by others prior to the attack.

-Most attackers had access to and had used weapons prior to the attack.

-In many cases, other students were involved in some capacity.

-Despite prompt law enforcement responses, most shooting incidents were stopped by means other than law enforcement intervention.

All of the findings conclude with actions that can be taken to address the causes. Do they sound familiar?

These findings are more than 15 years old. Why haven't they been acted on? Isn't it finally time?

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.

We're No. 2 and guess who's No. 1

Top 10s, Favorites and Bests lists rank just about everything from cars to college degrees.

Some of these are truly silly such as David Letterman's nightly rankings on late-night TV.

Lists aim to inform but more often entertain. Some are serious and useful while others are meant to energize debate and discussion.

U.S. News and World Report has for years ranked colleges. College-bound students and their parents study the rankings looking for the best education at the best price at the coolest campus. Meanwhile, college admissions officials cringe.

This past week U.S. News published another list that might make Minnesotans cringe.

The list of 10 Best States in America ranked Minnesota No. 2.

High scores for Quality of Life (No. 2), Opportunity (No. 3) Infrastructure (No. 6) and Health Care (No. 7) pushed Minnesota to the top. Both those scores were not quite good enough to make Minnesota No. 1.

That ranking went to IOWA.

So how did that happen? A story accompanying the list notes Minnesota's leadership in health care, education, culture and income.

Iowa leads the nation in Infrastructure and gets high Health Care and Opportunity scores.

**Mike
Knaak**
Editor



Minnesota's rivalry with its southern neighbor reaches a full-throated peak when the Gophers play the Hawkeyes in football. When the game is in Minneapolis, thousands of black and yellow-clad fans pay top dollar for admission to see which team gets possession of bronze pig in a rivalry that dates to 1935.

The chant "Who hates Iowa? We hate Iowa" is one of the few that can be shared in a family newspaper.

But mostly it's good fun for all.

Rankings and lists drive the internet. Buzz Feed and other sites have sharpened the obsession to an art form.

For readers, lists provide a mix of entertainment and information. For digital media, lists are serious business that drive their revenue model.

Internet sites live and die by page views, time on site and readers sharing the content.

Lists hit the target on all three. Lists are typically displayed so that readers must click to a new page to see each of the entries on the list rather than viewing the entire list

Blame game hurts gun violence debate

After the horrific shooting in Parkland, Fla., on Valentine's Day, we saw a nation shocked and horrified by yet more scenes of senseless violence. Another 17 innocent lives were lost, and many people's sense of safety, damaged by Sandy Hook and Las Vegas, was further reduced.

Once again, the debate over how to best prevent such incidents from happening has sprung up in full force. Rather than the usual counter-productive bickering that occurs after we should instead work in good faith to come up with solutions that are well thought out, reasonable and that would actually prevent further violence.

Over the last few weeks, we've seen the respective sides retreat to their usual corners, armed with the same arguments.

Many left-wing politicians have come out saying that new restrictions on guns, such as raising the firearms purchasing age or banning certain types of guns, should be implemented.

Those on the right have said that these measures wouldn't prevent criminals from obtaining such weapons, and that it takes deranged people to even commit these atrocities in the first place, regardless of the weapons used.

What's new though, is the new heights to which the vitriol has been raised. Students from Stoneman Douglas High School have been accused of being staged actors for anti-gun causes.

The NRA has been subject to an intense shaming and boycott campaign. Though protected by freedom of speech, such actions speak loudly of the sad fact that many are unable

**Connor
Kockler**
Guest Writer



to see the other side of the argument as real people with legitimate beliefs, rather than deniers or idiots.

To state the talking points, yes, this is the only country in the world where this kind of thing happens on a regular basis. The United States has more gun violence per capita than most industrialized Western nations.

But other nations in Latin America such as El Salvador have much higher rates of gun deaths than the U.S., while having fewer guns per person.

Switzerland is a highly developed country with high rates of gun ownership, and very few gun deaths. I think it's safe to say there's more to this story than is usually stated.

Looking over facts and statistics, there are other problems that go hand in hand with gun violence, such as someone's mental state and their connection to society.

There is also the fact that the FBI did not follow tips into the Parkland suspect sent to them weeks before the shooting, and Parkland police had been aware of him for quite some time. Clearly there were a multitude of failings here that need to be addressed.

We also need to dispel the notion of blaming these shootings on pro-gun rights politicians and organizations. It is said that lawmakers, often Republi-

can, are "bought off" by the NRA, but this misrepresents the overall amount of money operating in politics these days.

According to opensecrets.org, the NRA spent a total of about \$1.1 million dollars on the 2016 election cycle, while the total amount of money raised by presidential, Senate, and House candidates combined was over \$3 billion dollars.

Clinton and Trump earned around the same amount of money from pro-gun control and pro-gun rights groups respectively during 2016.

Rather than continuing to tear each other apart of this, we should come together to come up with common sense solutions that are carefully considered and well planned. Passing ill-advised legislation just to be seen as "doing something" is just as bad as doing nothing. And nothing will happen if both sides of this debate continue to see each other as evil.

Though it's probably far-fetched, my hope is that eventually everyone in our nation can come together with open minds and hearts to consider all parts of this issue.

We may have to abandon our stereotypes and attacks against those who disagree with us, but we need to find a solution to this problem.

There is no silver bullet, any fix will have to be multifaceted and evidence-based, but I know that it is possible if we really make an effort.

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

Ask a trooper; Trains & Active Duty Licenses

How long can a train legally block a road crossing?

Q: I was stuck at a train crossing the other day for half an hour. What is the law on how long a train can block the road crossing and who do I report this to? How do I get this fixed as it seems to happen far too often?

A: Minnesota law says trains are not to block public roads or streets longer than 10 minutes. You can report any problem to the local government (city, county or state), which can then contact the appropriate railroad company. The state law does not apply to cities with more than 100,000 inhabitants, which regulate obstructions of streets by city ordinance.

If there is an ongoing issue, first contact the particular railroad company. If you're unable to locate appropriate contact information, try their central offices

-- typically a public works engineer. If there is no available information, reach out to railroad staff members with the Minnesota Department of Transportation at www.dot.state.mn.us/ofrw/contacts.html

What is the law regarding active duty military driver's licenses?

Q: The law states that an active duty military member with residence in Minnesota can have an expired license. But what will happen if I were to be pulled over for a traffic violation and my license was expired?

A: As long as you are on active duty in the U.S. military, you do not have to renew your expired Minnesota license until after you are discharged from the military. This is regardless of how long you have served in the U.S. military. As a Minnesota driver's license or ID card holder, you must renew your expired license

or ID card within one year of being discharged from the military.

If you are a spouse of an active duty military member, you are also exempt from license renewal if you do not live in Minnesota during the time of active duty.

If you are stopped by a law enforcement outside of Minnesota you may provide your military ID, expired Minnesota license and In Service letter as proof of valid status while in the military. However, not all states may honor the In Service letter. While on leave or prior to you renewing your driver's license, always have your military ID and expired driver's license with you. If you are stopped by a Minnesota law enforcement officer, you can explain your current military status and if you have notified DVS of being in the military, this is noted on your record. To make sure that your driv-

ing records are maintained after your license expires, you should notify Minnesota Driver and Vehicle Services (DVS) of your military status. Send a copy of your military orders showing where you are stationed and your service date or a letter from your commanding officer with the same information to the following address:

DVS
445 Minnesota St Suite 163
St Paul, MN 55101

This will allow DVS to provide you with an In Service letter that outlines Minnesota Statutes that exempts active duty military members from renewal, up to one year from discharge. To expedite this process you may call 651-297-3298.

To renew your license, present your expired Minnesota license and DD214 discharge papers at a DVS location that accepts driver

license applications.

When it comes to vehicle registration, vehicles owned or co-owned by active military men and women kept out of state are exempt from registration tax up to 90 days after discharge, but must pay any applicable sales tax, plate, contributions and filing fees. For complete instructions on how to renew registration call 651-297-2126.

A portion of state statutes were used with permission from the Office of the Revisor of Statutes. If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota, send your questions to Trp. Jesse Grabow – Minnesota State Patrol at 1000 Highway 10 West, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501-2205. (You can follow him on Twitter @MSP-PIO_NW or reach him at, jesse.grabow@state.mn.us).

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.

Saturday, March 10

St. Joseph Farmers' Market, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Resurrection Lutheran Church 610 CR 2.

Central Minnesota Chapter of the Federation of the Blind of Min-

nesota, 12:30 p.m., American Legion, 17 Second Ave. N., Waite Park.

Sunday, March 11

Mid Minnesota Coin Expo, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m., Tuscan Center (Midtown Square Mall), 3333 Division St. W., St. Cloud. 320-260-1971.

Organ Concert with organist Lola Wolf., 2:30 p.m. Sacred Heart Chapel, St. Benedict's Monastery, 104 Chapel Lane, St. Joseph.

Monday, March 12

St. Joseph Food Shelf, 1-3 p.m., Old City Hall, 25 First Ave. NW., St. Joseph.

St. Joseph City Council, 6 p.m., council chambers, St. Joseph City Hall, 75 Callaway St. E. 363-7201.

cityofstjoseph.com.

St. Joseph Rod and Gun Club, 7 p.m., American Legion, 101 W Minnesota St., St. Joseph.

St. Joseph Township Board, 8 p.m., St. Joseph Township Hall, 935 College Ave. S.

Tuesday, March 13

St. Joseph Joint Planning Board, 7 p.m., St. Joseph City Hall, 75 Callaway St. E. 320-363-7201. cityofstjoseph.com.

Holistic Moms Network, 7-8:30 p.m., Good Earth Co-op, 2010 Veterans Drive, St. Cloud. 320-252-2489.

National Alliance on Mental Health, 7-8:30 p.m., Calvary Community Church, 1200 Roosevelt Road,

St. Cloud. 320-259-7101.

Wednesday, March 14

St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce, 11:30 a.m., St. Joseph Community Fire Hall, 323 Fourth Ave. NE. stjosephchamber.com.

Thursday, March 15

St. Joseph Food Shelf, 1-3 p.m., Old City Hall, 25 First Ave. NW., St. Joseph.

Great River Regional Coin Club, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Miller Auto Marine Sports Plaza, 2930 Second St. S., St. Cloud. 320-241-9229.

Friday, March 16

St. Joseph Farmers' Market, 3-6

p.m., Resurrection Lutheran Church fellowship hall, 610 CR 2.

St. Joseph Area Historical Society, 4-7 p.m., Old City Hall, 25 First Ave NW. stjosephhistoricalmn.org.

St. Cloud Singles Club Dance, 8 p.m.-midnight, American Legion, 17 Second Ave. S., Waite Park. 320-339-4533. stcloudsingles.net.

Saturday, March 17

Kids Used Clothing and Equipment Sale hosted by St. Cloud Area Mothers of Multiples, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., free admission, Discovery Community Elementry School, 700 Seventh St. S., Waite Park,. For more information call 320-224-8778 or email amy.seeba@gmail.com.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

GUN SHOW - Pocahontas, IA - March 17 & 18, 2018. Sat. 9-5; Sun 9-3, Pocahontas County Expo, 1 Block East of Courthouse. Food on Site. Buy * Sell* Trade Contact Chad Boyson 712-358-1051. (MCN)

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CSB/SJU to host traveling Arab Film Fest

by Vicki Ikeogu
news@thenewsleaders.com

Hundreds of film lovers and critics from around the Midwest – and the country – gather every fall in Twin Cities to partake in the annual Twin Cities Arab Film Fest.

Sponsored by Mizna, a non-profit organization founded in 1999 to promote Arab-American culture, the film festival showcases both international and domestically made films highlighting the diverse experience of those from the Middle East and North Africa.

“Our festival is very unique in our region,” said Lana Barkawi, Mizna’s executive and artistic director. “It is the second longest and second largest of its kind in country.”

But while the film fest has gained traction in the Twin Cities, Barkawi said the group hopes to expand its reach into outstate Minnesota, particularly central Minnesota.

Starting on Saturday, April 14, and running through Sunday, April 15, Mizna will be taking their film festival on the road to St. John’s University’s Pellegrine Auditorium, 2945 Abbey Plaza in Collegeville.

“We wanted to be in central Minnesota specifically because we know that the community up there is dealing with a lot of racial tensions,” Barkawi said. “And for those reasons we thought it would be an interesting place to bring the tour.”

The St. John’s University stop is the final destination of the Twin Cities Arab Film Festival’s 2018 tour. Several individual films have been shown at the St. Paul campuses of Macalester College, Concordia University, Hamline University, St. Catherine University and Metropolitan State University. However, the stop in Collegeville will have the most variety of films – a total of six – available outside the regular film fest.

“We really want to introduce new audiences to Arab films,” Barkawi said. “And hopefully if they like what they see they might be motivated to come to the Twin Cities for the fall festival.”



contributed photo

Twin Cities-based non-profit Mizna will be hosting its traveling Arab Film Fest at CSB/SJU on April 14 and 15.

Barkawi said Mizna selected different genres of films for the Collegeville stop.

“We looked at films we showed at our most recent festival,” Barkawi said. “Of those films we selected films that were jury and audience favorites. There are some documentaries and experimental films. A wide range from love stories to comedies to really showcase the complexities of the Arab-American community.”

Films that will be shown at the St. John’s University film fest include: “The Wanted 18,” directed by Amer Shomali; “As I Open My Eyes,” directed

by Leyla Bouzid; “A Man in Our House,” directed by Henry Barakat; “Mariam” directed by Faiza Ambah; and “Detroit Unleaded” directed by Rola Nashef.

In addition, the film festival will also show short experimental films directed by CSB/SJU Professor of Art Andrea Shaker.

Barkawi said there will be time for discussion and some question and answer sessions after several of the films.

“We like to think we are showing these films to two different audiences,” Barkawi said. “One is the Arab and Muslim audiences. And the second

is for those who are not Arab or Muslim. We are constantly confronted by the media, the public and Hollywood. And people’s impressions of our community are so negative. We want to highlight films made by people from the Middle East because it is empowering. It is important for them to see some aspects of their stories reflected on the screen. And for members of the non-Arab community, we want

to provide something different than what they see on TV or in the movies.”

The Arab Film Fest kicks off at 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 14. Tickets are \$32.74 for all films or \$12.24 for individual films. Discounts are available for seniors and those who are low-income. Students can attend the entire film fest for free. Tickets are available at <http://bit.ly/2FoNN4R>.

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