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Town Crier

Minnesota Center Chorale to perform *For the Earth*

For the Earth, a Minnesota Center Chorale concert featuring "Song of Wisdom from Old Turtle" by Sartell resident Doug Wood, will be held at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 12 at the Paramount Theater, 913 W. St. Germain, St. Cloud. Tickets are available at the door or by visiting minnesotacenterchorale.org.

Auditions May 22, 23 for GNTC's *Annie*

Auditions for Great Northern Theatre Company's performances of *Annie the Musical* will be held at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, May 22 and 23 at Rocori High School, 534 Fifth St. N., Cold Spring. Watch for signs directing you to the location. Show dates are Aug. 2, 3, 4 and 5 and Aug. 10, 11 and 12. For more information, visit publicist@gntc1.com.

Fare for All set May 14

Fare for All's next distribution will be from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Monday, May 14 at Resurrection Lutheran Church, 610 CR 2, St. Joseph. Fare for All is a budget-stretching program that allows people to save up to 40 percent off fresh fruits, vegetables and frozen meats. Distribution is once a month. This month's Hot Buys are white meat turkey burgers and breaded chicken patties. This event is open to everyone who wants to stretch their grocery dollar. Cash, credit, debit cards and EBT cards are accepted. For more information visit fareforall.org or call 800-582-4291.

Stamp Out Hunger to be held May 12

Stamp Out Hunger will return to Central Minnesota on Saturday, May 12. This one-day, national food drive is hosted by the National Association of Letter Carriers. In the St. Cloud area the drive will benefit the Salvation Army Food Shelf and Catholic Charities Emergency Services Food Shelf.

To participate, residents should leave nonperishable food items near their mail box on the morning of May 12. Cash and checks will also be accepted. Checks can be written out to either Catholic Charities or the Salvation Army.

Find more information at http://www.stampouthungerfooddrive.us/

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

Ice is out just in time for fishing opener

by Darren Diekmann
news@thenewsleaders.com

Opening fishing for walleye, northern, bass and others opens Saturday, May 12, with anglers making plans to fish locally or go north to favorite destinations, while others will stay home because of obligations or to avoid the crowds altogether.

One of the latest ice-out dates predicted for a number of Minnesota lakes this year had many wondering if there would be an opener until a recent stretch of warm weather freed local lakes of ice last week and left resort owners up in the far north to believe lakes will be clear at least a few days before opening.

Ice went out on Lake Minnetonka on May 5 to tie the record in 1857 for the latest ice-out date.

Ice went out on Watab Lake, just north of St. Joseph, at 1 p.m. May 1, according to Al Dahlgren, who lives on the lake and keeps a yearly record of the date to report to the DNR. It is the second latest ice-out date that has been recorded on the Lake.

Not an avid fisherman himself, Dahlgren said he might do some fishing with friends this weekend.

Cabot Headland, who also lives on Watab, and has for more than 40 years, said he is going to stick around and try his luck on his home lake this weekend. He hopes it is a good year for walleye and believes it is going to be good for sunfish, he said. He likes the lake. "It's small enough that everyone is comfortable. It's not too windy and you're close enough to shore" (in case of a minor emergency). He said he expects to see a large group of locals to be out on Watab for the opener.

Fish • page 5

photo by Darren Diekmann

On a warm Spring afternoon Robert Gill, a member of the St. Joseph Rod and Gun Club, was angling for pan fish at the club's boat landing on Watab Lake north of St. Joseph. He said he will be back May 12 hoping to land a walleye or two.

Kennedy students share activities with Woodcrest tenants

by Cori Hilsgen
news@thenewsleaders.com

If you think you might be in the wrong location seeing seniors participating in activities at Kennedy Community School and students participating in activities at Woodcrest of Country Manor in St. Joseph, you aren't.

Students at Kennedy and Woodcrest are implementing a new intergenerational partnership.

Laura Freese, Kennedy Community School's academic coach, said the partnership is very new.

She said she, Kennedy principal Laurie Putnam and Woodcrest directors met and brainstormed some possible activities students could do at both Kennedy and Woodcrest.

Transportation is somewhat tricky because only some of the tenants at Woodcrest drive and they have to rely on the shuttle service to travel.

"Our planning has to revolve around when the shuttle can transport," Freese said.

Because the partnership is very new, Freese said, they are moving a little slower trying to figure out how it will work best.

The first activity they scheduled was bingo in March with some fifth-grade students. On the afternoon of bingo, there was also a choir concert at Kennedy, so a couple of the tenants decided to watch and listen to the choir concert, while the others played bingo.

Some students from Kennedy commented about their experiences.

"I thought it was pretty fun," said fifth-grader Joseph Forbregd. "I liked playing bingo with a mix of people. I would like to have played with more of the senior residents."

"I thought it was fun because you got to meet new people," said fifth-grader Kaela Jenderseck. "It was nice to play with some of the seniors from Woodcrest. I would like to do it again."

Woodcrest tenant LouAnn Huss participated in the bingo event.

"It was real(ly) enjoyable to play bingo with the fifth-graders," Huss said. "They were a very nice group of kids. I look forward to our next visit."

With warmer weather, seventh-grade students, walked to Woodcrest on May 1 to deliver some surprise May Day baskets containing candy to tenants. The students also shared punch and cookies with some of the tenants.

To create the baskets, the stu-

Students • page 5

photo by Dennis Dalman

Joyce Sauer-Brenny visits with Sartell resident Jack McCann after she spoke to an audience about her years in the trucking industry, Along with her husband, Todd, she owns and operates Brenny Transportation from its headquarters in St. Joseph.

Insights of a life in trucking

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

Even though it's long been her driving passion, Joyce Sauer never set out to become a trucker.

But while growing up on a farm in Collegeville, she became adept at driving all kinds of heavy farm equipment. During a recessionary period circa 1980, jobs were hard to come by, and Sauer decided to work as an over-the-road trucker for an area company. Her first job involved hauling railroad ties to the Duluth area.

Years later, in 1996, she and her husband, Todd Brenny, also a trucker, started their own company. They met when Joyce was general manager of an area trucking company and Todd was an over-the-road trucker for the same company. At first there were only three employees in a small Waite Park office. Later, the company moved to St. Joseph, where it remains, having flourished for 22 years. It now employs 100 people.

Brenny Transportation is lauded widely for its expert truckers, for its meticulous attention to customers' needs, for its unwavering support for employees and for its extraordinary safety records.

Sauer-Brenny was the featured

Trucking • page 4

Council earns a clean bill of financial health

by Dave DeMars
news@thenewsleaders.com

The St. Joseph City Council learned they have been doing a pretty good job of keeping revenues and expenses in check at their regular May 5 meeting. With one chair on the dais sitting empty because of the recent resignation of Matt Killam, the council heard Janel Bitzan of BerganKDV auditing firm.

Bitzan summarized the 134-page audit in a 15-minute presentation giving the council the highlights which included a surplus balance of unrestricted net position amounting to $2,967,863. After deducting for the governmental enterprise indebtedness, the balance still showed a positive balance of $1,150,122.

The complete audit can be found at the following web address: http://doclf.cityofstjoseph.com:8080/weblink/0/doc/615995/Page1.aspx

The city uses a segregated fund system for financial management. In addition to the general account which is used for many day-to-day activities, the city has many proprietary accounts for things such as water, sanitary sewer, refuse, storm-water sewer and street-light utilities.

The report showed the proprietary accounts were well managed and they showed a combined balance increase of $755,514.

The city tries to maintain a four- to six-month working capital cushion in its general account to help in smoothing out liabilities incurred during various projects that are undertaken. Because of higher-than-expected collected revenues and fewer tax delinquencies, the city had a 2 percent increase in income.

Also careful management and lower costs on some projects resulted in around $180,000 of lowered expenditures.

A motion to accept the audit was approved unanimously.

Other business

Stearn County Engineer Jodi Teich appeared before the council to request approval and allowance for resurfacing work of CR 75. The project is scheduled to start in midsummer.

"This is a formality," Teich said. "I am asking for municipal approval of the project because a portion of the project will go right through the city."

The project will last through most of the summer and into the fall and will stretch from Interstate Hwy. 94 through St. Joseph and into Waite Park ending around 15th Avenue in Waite Park. As the highway passes through the city, the county is required to seek a permit to perform the work which the council approved.

City Engineer Randy Sabart requested the council approve a request to the Minnesota Department of Transportation for a limited-use permit in order to facilitate the construction of the proposed pedestrian trail along CR 2 which is within the MNDOT right-of-way as it passes under the I-94 interchange bridge. Council approved the request.

The council also approved purchase of playground equipment at Millstream Park in the amount of $31,000. Council had previously made a provision for the purchase of equipment up to $40,000 as part of the Millstream renovation plan. This purchase was a significant cost savings and was approved by the council.

City Administrator Judy Weyrens requested the council approve a refunding resolution in the amount of $1.1 million in order to qualify for a Business Development Public Infrastructure matching grant under the auspices of the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development. The city is required to illustrate it has the available money to match the BDPI grant. Once the BDPI grant is awarded, the city will recoup its outlay through bond proceeds. Council approved the refunding.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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Wednesday Worship 6:30 p.m.
610 N. CR 2, St. Joseph
320-363-4232 www.rlcstjoe.org

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Sunday 8 & 10 a.m.
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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.

PUBLIC NOTICES

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEARNS

DISTRICT COURT
SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Court File No. 73-PR-18-3546

In Re: Estate of
Robert Walter Kemper,
a/k/a Robert W. Kemper
and a/k/a Bob Kemper,
Decedent.

NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on June 8, 2018 at 8:45 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at 725 Courthouse Square, St. Cloud, Minnesota, on a petition for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Decedent's Will dated March 2, 1985, and for the appointment of NancyAnn L. Kemper, whose address is P.O. Box 24, Melrose, Minn. 56352 as personal representative of the Decedent's estate in an unsupervised administration.

Any objections to the petition must be raised at the hearing or filed with the Court prior to the hearing. If the petition is proper and no objections are filed or raised, the personal representative will be appointed with the full power to administer the Decedent's estate, including the power to collect all assets; pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses; sell real and personal property; and do all necessary acts for the Decedent's estate.

Notice is further given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the Decedent's estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court within four (4) months after the date of this notice or the claims will be barred.

BY THE COURT

Dated: April 27, 2018

/s/ Shan C. Wang
Judge of District Court

Dated: April 27, 2018

/s/ George A. Lock
Court Administrator

Mark F. Uphus
MN# 141136
310 E. Main St. – P.O. Box 158
Melrose, Minn. 56352
Telephone: 320-256-7491
Facsimile: 320-256-7612
e-mail: manager@uphuslaw.com

ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER

Publish: May 4 and 11, 2018

CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME
STATE OF MINNESOTA

Pursuant to Chapter 333, Minnesota 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 conducted is: The Rustic Wildflower.

2. The stated address of the principal place of business is or will be: 10482 385th St., St. Joseph, Minn. 56374.

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: Amanda Sanborn, 10482 385th St., St. Joseph, Minn. 56374.

4. I certify I am authorized to sign this certificate and I further certify I understand by signing this certificate, 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 19, 2018
Filed: March 30, 2018

/s/ Amanda Sandborn

Publish: May 4 and 11, 2017

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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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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.tricountycrimestoppers.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.

April 17

6:08 p.m. Burglary in progress. 329 Seventh Ave. SE. Officers were dispatched for a report of an unknown man and woman in the building. Officers searched the complex and did not locate anyone. All tenants and staff were OK and the report was changed to suspicious behavior.

8:36 p.m. Drug complaint. Baker Street E. Officers responded to a report of marijuana being smoked. Officers made contact with a resident who said he was burning incense.

8:47 p.m. Suspicious activity. Elm Street E. Officer responded to a report of a woman screaming at a man in a vehicle. The vehicle and people were gone when the officer arrived.

April 21

2:13 p.m. Open container. Minnesota Street W. An officer observed a man walking on the sidewalk carrying a can of beer. The man was under age. He was cited for open container and minor consumption. Three more cans of beer were taken from him.

2:33 p.m. Public urination. Minnesota Street W. An officer saw a man urinating on a portable toilet. The officer detained the man and he was cited for public urination and minor consumption.

2:39 p.m. Intoxicated man. College Avenue S. An officer assisted College of St. Benedict security with an unconscious, intoxicated man. He was transported by Gold Cross Ambulance and a mail citation was sent.

4:19 p.m. Public urination. Second Avenue NW. An officer observed a group of men urinating behind a garage. Officers detained two men. One man was underage. Citations for minor consumption and public urination were issued and officers confiscated 10 cans of beer.

4:22 p.m. Minor consumption. Minnesota Street W. An officer stopped a woman carrying a can of beer. She showed the officer a fake Illinois ID. She was warned for open container and cited for minor consumption.

7:17 p.m. Underage drinking. College Avenue S. An officer responded to a call of an underage man drinking and urinating off the roof of Mary Hall Commons. The man was cited and the remainder of the man's alcohol was dumped out.

9:09 p.m. Minor consumption. Minnesota Street W. An officer saw a man with glossy, watery eyes. After he was given a breath test, the man was cited for minor consumption.

April 22

12:25 a.m. Minor consumption and false ID. While making bar checks, an officer saw a man try to evade him. The man produced a fake Idaho ID. He was given a breath test and then cited for minor consumption and fake ID.

April 23

2:43 a.m. Suspicious vehicle. Minnesota Street W. An officer saw a parked vehicle occupied by a man and a woman. The officer saw a meth pipe with residue on the center console. The man was cited for drug paraphernalia.

People

The Second Annual Superhero Day at All Saints Academy-St. Joseph took place April 27. The students were encouraged to dress up in superhero costumes, bought or homemade, based on their individual strengths and "super powers." The students participated in cup stacking, hula hooping and jump-roping contests. They also enjoyed a fun-filled afternoon of games, crafts and activities within the superhero theme. The day's sponsored organization was the Epilepsy Foundation, and students and families contributed donations. Lori Braegelmann from the Epilepsy Foundation educated third- through sixth-grade students about epilepsy. Nikki Klohr, a person with epilepsy, shared about her experiences with her service dog, Lacey.

contributed photo

Andrew and Camden Breth.

contributed photo

Lori Braegelmann from the Epilepsy Foundation and Nikki Klohr with her service dog Lacey.

Two St. Joseph students graduated cum laude from Minnesota State University-Moorhead. **Samantha Smoley** and **Kendra Johnson** received bachelor's degrees during commencement on May 11.

Ulises Ayala, a St. Joseph student, graduated May 5 from Minnesota State University-Mankato, with a master's degree in Spanish for the professions.

The Central Minnesota Arts Board awarded arts scholarships to 14 students totaling $21,000. The Student Arts Scholarship Program is designed to support individuals entering or enrolled in an accredited institution and who are pursuing undergraduate degrees in the arts. Applicants are eligible to receive up to four Student Arts Scholarships in a lifetime.

The scholarship recipients included **Alexus Jungles**, Avon, an art major at the College of St. Benedict, and **Carter Scheele**, St. Cloud, music, at St. John's University/CSB, who both received $1,500 scholarships.

Tristalyn Smith

In business

Matt Eggert was recently hired as a regional sales representative at **Heartland Security**. His position will cover the central and western Minnesota area. Heartland Security is unique to the alarm industry, as the company was created in 1999 by nine electric cooperatives in Minnesota and Iowa. Heartland Security is now owned by 13 electric cooperatives and has grown to more than 8,000 customers.

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Bennie & Johnny **by the Marvelous Patric**

Trucking

from front page

speaker May 3 for the weekly Coffee and Conversation get-together at the Sartell Senior Connection. She shared anecdotes and insights about her years in the trucking industry and gave many safety tips for drivers on how to avoid accidents with trucks.

Joining her in the presentation was Sarah Wishnefski, public-relations director for Brenny Transportation.

Mission

One day in the mid-1990s, Joyce told her husband she was ready to quit the trucking business. She had become fed up with the disrespectful ways truckers were treated by so many people, including at times by some trucking firms.

She and her husband agreed if they continued in the trucking business and started their own firm, they would work very hard to see truckers are treated with the utmost respect and doing outreach educational efforts to inform the public how truckers and the work they do is often completely ignored or dismissed with the worst forms of negative stereotypes.

Their work paid off, and Brenny Transportation is now recognized far and wide as a model business for its professionalism, safety, employee satisfaction, local charitable fundraising work and community connectiveness. It has been honored with a slew of awards. They include being named one of the Top 100 Employers in Minnesota six times, the Good Samaritan Award, Champion of Business by the St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce, two Drivers of the Year awards, first-place Minnesota Business Ethics Award and countless safety awards for the business and its truckers.

Customers

One of Brenny's biggest customers is the Sartell-based Dezurik Inc., a maker of giant valves. Brenny has had a contract for all of its 22 years to haul valves all over the world for Dezurik.

Brenny had a very important long-term contract with Verso paper mill in Sartell until an explosion there forced the closing of that company. The explosion, which killed a Verso worker, was a terrible shock to the staff and crew at Brenny, said Joyce Sauer-Brenny.

Brenny truckers also haul items for – to name a few – Ron's Cabinets, Park Industries, Cold Spring Granite. The truckers hauled hundreds of loads of granite to New York City for use in building the new World Trade Center.

Locally, Brenny drivers are constantly busy – everything from hauling bridge beams for the new Sauk Rapids bridge to hauling dairy cases for Coborn's grocery stores.

Truckers and the work they do, said Sauer-Brenny, are practically invisible to the public – out of sight, out of mind. People, she added, would be stunned if they fully understood how lives are touched by truckers. Without trucking, many of life's functions would cease, some of them within a day or two – hospital services, fuel-pump gas, food and drugs, virtually all the give-and-take of commerce.

Growing

There are more trucks on the nation's roads than ever, Sauer-Brenny said, adding more people means more trucks.

In the United States, there are currently 3.5-million trucks who drive, collectively, 279 billion miles a year. The safety records for that many truckers, that many miles, is astonishing, she said.

Truckers generally make between $70,000 and $80,000 per year, but it can be a tough life, with truckers often away from their families on those long miles. And that is one reason why there is now a shortage of truckers.

Sauer-Brenny and others are meeting with legislators, school officials and other officials to help kick-start an interest in the profession. Another ongoing problem is a shortage of overnight parking spaces for truckers to rest. Truckers have electronic-recording logs that keep track of the time each day they drive. After 10 hours of driving, a trucker must cease driving and get sleep. Some truckers have no choice but to break the law when they cannot find a place to park their truck and get the required sleep.

Another more recent challenge is roundabouts. It is very difficult for some trucks to maneuver around them without taking up both lanes. Sauer-Brenny urges people to be courteous and to hold back, giving the truck extra space when they see a truck at a roundabout.

Drug testing is also required for all truckers. Sauer-Brenny said in the 22 years of Brenny Transportation, there has never been a trucker who failed a drug test. She also said she thinks all professionals should be drug-tested as long as truckers are singled out for testing.

Some trucking companies have a 100-percent turnover rate in truckers every year. Brenny has been fortunate, with its 80-percent retention rate, Sauer-Brenny noted.

Driverless trucks, so-called, will not be seen on roads for at least 10 to 15 years, she said. Electrically-powered trucks are already being used in some companies.

Road safety

Wishnefski played for the audience a video tape of a Lakeville trucker who addressed safety issues.

He said in his 29 years of trucking, he has witnessed from the cab of his truck an increase in unsafe-driving practices: car drivers using cell phones, texting, eating while driving, weaving rapidly lane to lane and speeding.

The trucker shared safety tips:

Do not tailgate a truck. It takes a truck almost 200 feet to come to a stop, twice as far as the stopping distance of a car.

Never attempt a "squeeze play." That means trying to "squeeze" past a truck when it is making a turn.

Do not drive for any length of time at the side of a truck. If you want to pass a truck, do it as quickly as is safely possible. When pulling into the lane in front of the traveling truck, make sure the front of the truck is visible in your rear-view mirror. That is because there are four "blind spots" a trucker cannot see while driving: up to 20 feet in front of the trucker's cab, on either side of the truck trailer and up to 200 feet in the rear.

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contributed photo

Kennedy Community School seventh-grade students Avianna Bishop and Hailey Mueller surprise Woodcrest of Country Manor tenant Mary Jost with a May Day basket. Kennedy staff and Woodcrest staff hope to plan other future intergenerational activities for students and tenants.

Students

from front page

dents decorated paper and created the baskets from that paper. They taped ribbon strips to the bottom of the baskets to give them some extra flare and used ribbon to make the handles. The baskets were filled with shredded paper to make use of recycled materials.

The students used advisory and several lunch times to work on this project.

Freese said she thinks the partnership is a great way to build multigenerational connections.

"It provides another opportunity for building compassion and kindness in our students," she said.

Emily Frericks, marketing director of Country Manor Campus/Woodcrest of Country Manor, said Woodcrest staff thought of the idea while planning activities to add to the tenants' social calendar.

Woodcrest staff has expressed excitement about being so close to Kennedy and the many possibilities for intergenerational programming.

She said the programming offers unique therapeutic benefits for both seniors and students.

Woodcrest coordinator Jason Jones remembered the excitement he felt as a child surprising unsuspecting friends and neighbors with May Day baskets and thought it would be a chance for students to explore their creativity while helping brighten the day for Woodcrest tenants.

Frericks said the students' eagerness upon arrival was obvious and they couldn't wait to present their gifts to the "grandmas and grandpas."

Students first stopped at the Woodcrest Memory Suites where tenants engage in daily life-enriching programming. During regularly scheduled activities on May 1, tenants were surprised when the students came in with the baskets. People applauded and thanked the students for the baskets.

Staff at the memory suites said the students' acts of kindness brought many smiles and joy to the tenants.

Students next stopped to visit the tenants in the apartments.

"There was a knock on my door, but by the time I got to the door they were gone," said Woodcrest tenant Al Pflipsen, who was not expecting a May Day surprise. "My neighbor was looking out her room and said I just saw them go that way."

The apartment tenants enjoyed both the baskets and watching the students hurry as they successfully left baskets without being "caught."

"This was the best knock on the door I've ever had," said tenant LaVern Hruska.

"It was such a nice surprise to meet some of the Kennedy students," said tenant Therese Wiener. "It made my day."

Frericks said tenants are still discussing the May Day surprise.

"It truly is the simplest acts of kindness that often mean the most," she said.

Frericks said staff at Woodcrest are looking forward to many more events with Kennedy students, which they are sure will be just as impactful as May Day 2018.

Woodcrest of Country Manor, which opened in November 2017, includes patio homes, senior apartments and suites. Tenants can choose from a variety of lifestyle options ranging from independent living to 24-hour licensed memory care.

Tenants have access to a non-denominational chapel, fitness classes, salon and spa, store, coffee shop and exclusive hobby rooms such as the "Man Cave." The campus is on 137 acres and walking trails are underway.

For additional information, call 320-271-1200 or visit the woodcrestofcountrymanor.org website.

Fish

from front page

Lee Eisenscheck, St. Joseph, said he would like to be on Lake Osakis this weekend, "but I'm not sure the ice will be out or even if they will have docks out yet."

He and his wife Elaine have kept a travel trailer on a resort on Osakis for 25 years and are friends with most of the other 13 seasonal campers. He began staying at that particular resort after the owner invited him to stay after being impressed with some of Eisenscheck's wood carvings he displayed at a craft show.

Brad Philip, commander of Legion Post 328, said he would love to make the opener but he has to work spraying fields. And he won't be done with it until mid-August. "I work 18 hours a day seven days a week. . . I might get the boat out on rainy days but that's about it." he said. But then, he added it isn't as much fun to fish in the rain.

Dale Schneider, St. Joseph, said she won't make the opener either, but only partly because of work. She is a waitress at Sal's Bar and Grill on the weekends. She doesn't like the crowds on the lake that first weekend, she said, or on weekends at all for that matter. She fishes during the week, mostly up in Hackensack, near Leech Lake.

Jerry Reischl, St. Joseph, used to fish the opener in the past, but now he too avoids the crowds.

"I don't do that anymore," he said. "Too many people trying out their new boats. They fish for a half an hour, then they try to see how fast the new motors will go. That's not for me." When he does fish, Reischl said he usually goes to the chain of lakes south of Richmond, a popular destination for several anglers in the St. Joseph area.

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10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday May 12
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photo by Darren Diekmann

Cabot Headland, who lives on Watab Lake is looking forward to trying his luck for some walleye on his home lake.

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NATIONAL POLICE WEEK MAY 13-19

Let's hear it for all our police officers

They help our kids when they're lost. They're on call at all hours of the night to mediate the worst domestic disturbances. They do all the legwork that drives a successful conviction when the law has been broken. During National Police Week this May 13-19, let's shout a big Woot! Woot! to our local police officers who carry the badge and swear to keep us safe.

NPW is celebrated across the country in many different ways. Our local police departments hold special events for families and kids, such as National Night Out and many other gatherings throughout the year.

The goal is always to raise awareness about the important role these men and women play in keeping our streets as safe as possible every day of the year.

It's not easy to be a crime-fighter and police officer. On a daily basis, officers witness the heart-wrenching destitution and violence experienced by the homeless, the mentally ill and the substance-addicted. They console the parents of missing children and investigate criminal acts. They see the tough side of life that wears people down and that many lucky people in our cities and towns never really have to deal with. But worst of all, they battle negative public perception in the very streets they patrol.

During National Police Week, wave and give a friendly smile to a police officer. And remember they are our front-line buffers between safety and chaos.

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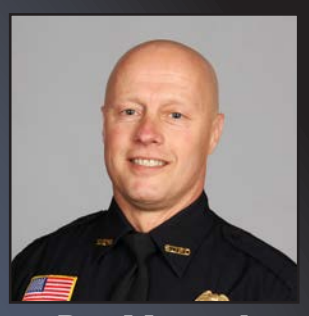
Joel Klein
16 years
Chief #7701

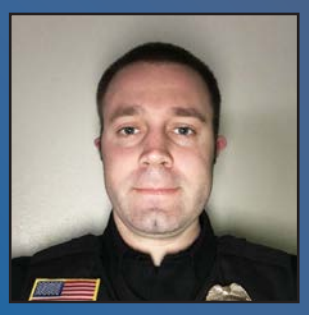
Dwight Pfannenstein
15 years
Sergeant #7702

Matt Johnson
15 years
Officer #7707



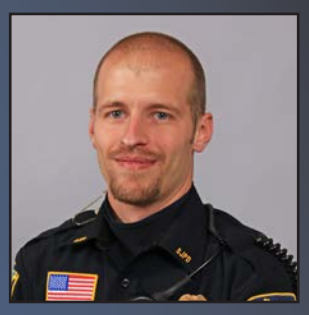
Dan Magaard
12 years
Officer #7708

Richard Etshokin
12 years
Officer #7712



Daniel Pfannenstein
9 years
Officer #7711

Eric Brutger
6 years
Officer #7704
(Former Reserve Officer)



Travis Manderscheid
5 years
Officer #7706

Jason Luethmers
2 years
Officer #7709

Celeste Walz
2 years
Officer #7703

Reserve Officers

Shirlie Brill, 14 years
Shane Johnson, 3 years
Nate Honkomp, 3 years
David Boese, 2 years
Madison Honer, 4 months
Brady Casselman, 4 months
Cynthia Jasso, 4 months
David Sweeter, 4 months

NEVER FORGOTTEN

"We have Memorial Day coming up at the end of this month on which we celebrate the memory of those brave soldiers who were struck down on the field of battle in their prime. Whether it was on foreign shores or in our own land, these deaths are to be viewed as heroic and a mark of valor and bravery.

However, we have another group of men and women who have made no less of a sacrifice for our country: the police officers who have fallen in the line of duty. These are the men and women who defend us daily on our streets and towns. They stand up for the law, that system of the Social Contract that makes ours a civil society.

On this day, May 15, we set aside to honor those officers who so bravely and skillfully served their cities and friends and family. They have made the ultimate sacrifice in their line of duty. They have exhibited the valor that is so valued to a democratic society."

~ Gerald Boerner

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Ethens named Knights' Family of Year

Bernadette and Robert Ethen have been named the Knights of Columbus Father Werner Council Family of the Year for 2018 for exemplifying the value of faithful Christian living, according to a recent announcement from the Knights.

Robert has been a member of the Father Werner Council for 31 years.

The Ethens have five children and 17 grandchildren. Robert has been active in a number of church activities. He is an honor guard for funerals, and distributes flyers for KC breakfasts, works as breakfast head cashier and works at breakfasts and hamburger sales.

Bernadette volunteers at these fundraising events for the Knights. The entire Ethan family has been involved in the Knights of Columbus. Sons Jerry and Tom have been KC members most of their lives. Their sons-in-law David Waletzko, Ryan Scherping and Eric Johnnes are members as well. Their grandsons Taylor Waletzko and Aaron Bartz are also KC members.

Robert is a lifelong member of the Church of St. Joseph, is a graduate of the St. Joseph Catholic School and Cathedral High School. Robert and Bernadette are Sunday and funeral ushers and usher mentors. Robert coordinates ushers to fill all the services for Christmas and Easter. Robert and Bernadette are sacristans for weekend services, funeral lunch workers and Fourth of July volunteers. Bernadette is a Eucharistic minister and serves the church as a wedding coordinator.

The Ethan, Waletzko and Scherping families are involved in the church community as instrumentalists, cantors, ushers, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, sacristans, catechists and Fourth of July volunteers. All of the grandchildren have been or are presently altar servers.

contributed photo

Bernadette (in blue dress) and Robert Ethen (holding plaque) and the Ethan, Waletzko and Scherping families.

contributed photo

Knights of Columbus members Janelle Thell; Jeff Stang, grand knight; and Mike Thell. Mike was recently named KofC Knight of the Year.

Thell named Knight of Year

Mike Thell has been named the 2018 Knight of the Year for St. Joseph Council 7057. According to the recent announcement, Thell is a "steadfast member of the Father Werner Council and daily lives out the Knights of Columbus tenets of Unity, Charity, Fraternity and Patriotism."

Thell has been a member for 15 years.

Janelle and Mike have three children who attended the St. Joseph Lab School. The Thells were involved in school activities, especially fundraising efforts. Their children moved on to Cathedral High School where Janelle and Mike continued volunteering and stayed active in their children's lives.

Mike has been an usher for many years and he and Janelle are greeters before Mass. Mike helps at the Fourth of July parish festival by setting up and taking down equipment. Mike has supported the council by working at KC Breakfasts along with his family. For three years, he was a dining room coordinator, which involves setting up the tables for the breakfasts, serving coffee, keeping the tables clean and resetting the tables so other diners can have a seat.

Two years ago, Thell took on the responsibility of co-chairing the monthly breakfasts. In this position he recruits KC members to work the various jobs at the breakfast and looks for ways to make the breakfasts more successful. Often Mike helps to make the caramel rolls Saturday afternoon.

Mike was instrumental in organizing a breakfast to raise money to support a school in Puerto Rico that is run by the Sisters of St. Benedict and was affected by the hurricane, and also organized a specific breakfast to raise money for All Saints Academy, St. Joseph Campus.

Mike has been a St. Joseph Jaycee member for seven years and as such helped with the Children's Easter Party and the Youth Punt, Kick and Pass Competition. He also participated with the Adopt-A-Highway cleanup for several years as a Jaycee member.

PUBLIC NOTICE

City of St. Joseph
Summary Financial Report
For the Year Ended 2017

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of financial information concerning the City of St. Joseph to interested citizens. The complete financial statements maybe examined at the City Offices, 75 Callaway St E. Questions regarding this report should be directed to Lori Bartlett, Finance Director, 320-363-7201.

The following summaries are from the General Purpose Financial Statements of the City of St. Joseph for the year ending December 31, 2017.

Revenues and Expenditures for General Operations
(Governmental Funds)

	2017	2016	% Increase (Decrease)
Revenue:			
Taxes	2,075,677	1,831,949	13.30
Sales Tax	437,232	432,227	1.16
Lodging Tax	12,595	8,046	100.00
Franchise Fees	129,242	126,817	1.91
Licenses and Permits	356,990	270,780	31.84
Special Assessments	408,736	425,867	(4.02)
Intergovernmental Revenue	1,147,379	2,732,942	(58.02)
Charges for Services	937,237	966,698	(3.05)
Fines and Forfeits	55,474	46,747	18.67
Miscellaneous	191,457	260,027	(26.37)
Total Revenues	5,752,019	7,102,100	(19.01)
Per Capita	853.54	1,048.74	(18.61)
Expenditures:			
General Government	749,008	617,764	21.25
Public Safety	1,537,183	1,459,196	5.34
Streets and Highways	342,806	353,421	(3.00)
Culture and Recreation	275,945	323,966	(14.82)
Economic Development	133,485	187,700	(28.88)
Capital Outlay	3,290,302	5,100,861	(35.50)
Debt Service	1,425,000	1,205,000	18.26
Interest and Fiscal Charges	316,153	416,776	(24.14)
Total Expenditures	8,069,882	9,664,684	(16.50)
Per Capita	1,197.49	1,427.15	(16.09)
Excess of Revenues Under Expenditures	(2,317,863)	(2,562,584)	(9.55)
Total Long Term Indebtedness	12,168,429	12,879,033	(5.52)
Per Capita	1,805.67	1,901.81	(5.05)
General and Special Revenue Funds Unreserved	1,438,837	1,402,200	2.61
Per Capita	213.51	207.06	3.12

Published May 11, 2018

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES
IN NET POSITION - PROPRIETARY FUNDS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

	Water	Sanitary Sewer	Refuse	Storm Water	Street Light Utility
OPERATING REVENUES:					
Charges for Services	$ 968,823	$ 1,271,765	$ 288,151	$ 127,167	$ 61,359
OPERATING EXPENSES:					
Wages and Salaries	165,607	135,543	20,621	34,581	8,748
Materials and Supplies	59,424	35,280	2,790	252	-
Repairs and Maintenance	26,374	31,785	2,225	17,042	10,996
Professional Services	33,437	18,121	4,061	10,695	-
Insurance	11,690	10,653	-	-	-
Utilities	68,613	17,610	578	-	44,771
Depreciation	417,012	481,406	6,606	105,213	-
Contracted Services	-	220,528	251,100	-	-
Equipment	-	6,152	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	9,622	2,070	1,576	1,606	351
Total Operating Expenses	791,779	959,148	289,557	169,389	64,866
Operating Loss	177,044	312,617	(1,406)	(42,222)	(3,507)
NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES):					
Investment Income	5,882	11,174	2,214	2,314	201
Special Assessments	701	84	80	8	17
Loss on Disposal of Asset	(1,458)	(208)	-	-	-
Property Taxes	23,893	-	-	-	-
Interest Expense	(133,955)	(151,289)	-	-	-
Amortization of Bond Premium	6,896	3,981	-	-	
Other Income	67,679	18,855	3,360	10	3,532
Total Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)	(30,362)	(117,403)	5,654	2,332	3,750
Income before Capital Contributions and Transfers	146,682	195,214	4,248	(39,890)	243
Capital Contributions	104,499	144,159	-	219,638	-
Transfers In	263,980	95,000	-	-	-
Transfers Out	(41,770)	(44,540)	(770)	(19,250)	-
Change in Net Position	473,391	389,833	3,478	160,498	243
NET POSITION:					
Beginning of Year	8,187,697	8,245,226	272,409	4,094,448	20,906
End of Year	$ 8,661,088	$ 8,635,059	$ 275,887	$ 4,254,946	$ 21,149

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - PROPRIETARY FUNDS
As of December 31, 2017

	Water	Sanitary Sewer	Refuse	Storm Water	Street Light Utility	Total
Current Assets:						
Cash and Investments (Including Cash Equivalents)	$ 670,382	$ 2,346	$ 257,764	$ 280,964	$ 23,577	$ 1,235,033
Taxes Receivable - Delinquent:	327	-	-	-	-	327
Special Assessments Receivable:						
Delinquent	605	-	-	-	-	605
Deferred	24,557	84	80	2,814	17	27,552
Accounts Receivable	159,810	221,288	49,370	16,954	10,523	457,945
Interest Receivable	1,650	3,135	621	649	57	6,112
Due from Other Governments	68	-	315	-	-	383
Total Current Assets	857,399	226,853	308,150	301,381	34,174	1,727,957
Noncurrent Assets:						
Capital Assets:						
Land	372,941	4,941	-	-	-	377,882
Easements	-	-	-	67,915	-	67,915
Construction in Progress	93,860	451,979	-	159,257	-	705,096
Buildings	7,502,432	1,295,254	-	-	-	8,797,686
Plant and Lines	10,372,479	8,724,026	-	5,178,613	-	24,275,118
Machinery and Equipment	199,940	530,068	45,842	2,382	-	778,232
Sewer Rights	-	9,068,746	-	-	-	9,068,746
Total Capital Assets	18,541,652	20,075,014	45,842	5,408,167	-	44,070,675
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(5,270,138)	(4,968,606)	(32,830)	(1,417,358)	-	(11,688,932)
Net Capital Assets	13,271,514	15,106,408	13,012	3,990,809	-	32,381,743
Total Assets	14,128,913	15,333,261	321,162	4,292,190	34,174	34,109,700
Deferred Outflows of Resources:						
Deferred Outflows of Resources Related To Pensions	36,428	29,512	3,816	7,298	1,526	78,580
Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources	$ 14,165,341	$ 15,362,773	$ 324,978	$ 4,299,488	$ 35,700	$ 34,188,280
Current Liabilities:						
Accounts Payable	$ 18,438	$ 2,656	$ 20,583	$ 9	$ 4,246	$ 45,932
Due to Other Governments	2,238	57,571	2,725	-	-	62,534
Salaries and Benefits Payable	7,229	5,604	810	1,424	316	15,383
Interest Payable	12,161	42,622	-	-	-	54,783
Long-Term Liabilities Due Within One Year	584,427	643,528	934	2,619	373	1,231,881
Total Current Liabilities	624,493	751,981	25,052	4,052	4,935	1,410,513
Noncurrent Liabilities:						
Compensated Absences	59,620	59,620	8,650	11,890	3,459	143,239
Notes Payable, Net Unamortized Premiums	-	4,723,061	-	-	-	4,723,061
Bonds Payable, Net Unamortized Premiums	5,248,737	1,710,334	-	-	-	6,959,071
Net Pension Liability	131,829	106,802	13,809	26,411	5,524	284,375
Less Amounts Due Within One Year	(584,427)	(643,528)	(934)	(2,619)	(373)	(1,231,881)
Total Noncurrent Liabilities	4,855,759	5,956,289	21,525	35,682	8,610	10,877,865
Total Liabilities	5,480,252	6,708,270	46,577	39,734	13,545	12,288,378
Deferred Inflows of Resources:						
Deferred Inflows of Resources Related To Pensions	24,001	19,444	2,514	4,808	1,006	51,773
Net Position:						
Investment in Capital Assets, Net Related Debt	8,022,777	8,673,013	13,012	3,990,809	-	20,699,611
Unrestricted	638,311	(37,954)	262,875	264,137	21,149	1,148,518
Total Net Position	8,661,088	8,635,059	275,887	4,254,946	21,149	21,848,129
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Net Position	$ 14,165,341	$ 15,362,773	$ 324,978	$ 4,299,488	$ 35,700	$ 34,188,280

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS - PROPRIETARY FUNDS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

	Water	Sanitary Sewer	Refuse	Storm Water	Street Light Utility
CASH FLOWS - OPERATING ACTIVITIES:					
Receipts from Customers and Users	$ 952,959	$ 1,270,825	$ 292,127	$ 128,526	$ 62,006
Payments to Suppliers	(198,163)	(396,345)	(260,787)	(31,740)	(56,331)
Payments to Employees	(165,995)	(135,521)	(25,862)	(43,004)	(8,584)
Other Miscellaneous Receipts	91,638	18,855	3,360	2,816	3,532
Net Cash Flows - Operating Activities	680,439	757,814	8,838	56,598	623
CASH FLOWS - NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES:					
Loan from Other Funds	-	(30,000)	-	-	-
Transfer from Other Funds	263,980	95,000	-	-	-
Transfer to Other Funds	(41,770)	(44,540)	(770)	(19,250)	-
Net Cash Flows - Noncapital Financing Activities	222,210	20,460	(770)	(19,250)	-
CASH FLOWS - CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES:					
Principal Paid on Debt	(490,000)	(558,944)	-	-	-
Interest Paid on Debt	(132,096)	(153,120)	-	-	-
Proceeds from Disposal of Capital Assets	353,000	508,878	-	-	-
Acquisition of Capital Assets	(30,975)	(586,618)	-	-	-
Net Cash Flows - Capital and Related Financing Activities	(300,071)	(789,804)	-	-	-
CASH FLOWS - INVESTING ACTIVITIES:					
Interest and Dividends Received	6,936	8,098	2,034	2,118	182
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	609,514	(3,432)	10,102	39,466	805
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS:					
Beginning of Year	60,868	5,778	247,662	241,498	22,772
End of Year	$ 670,382	$ 2,346	$ 257,764	$ 280,964	$ 23,577

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is accepting applications for a full-time seasonal worker, starting late May and ending in September.

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Application Deadline 3 p.m. Thursday, May 24.

CITY OF ST. JOSEPH
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
VACATION OF DRAINAGE & UTILITY EASEMENTS

The St. Joseph City Council shall conduct a public hearing at 6 p.m., or shortly thereafter as the matter may be heard, on Monday, May 21, 2018 in the St. Joseph Government Center, 75 Callaway St. E., to hear all persons upon the proposed vacation of certain internal drainage and utility easements between Lots 1, 2 and 3, Block 1, Jasmine Plat. The request has been submitted by CLC Partners, LLC, for the purpose to readjust lot lines.

Judy Weyrens
Administrator

Publish: May 4 and 11, 2018

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Opinion

Our View

Last chance to speak as legislators race to session deadline

Now it's time to get serious.

The Legislature has been in session since Feb. 20. But there are only 10 days left before the session deadline and the Legislature must act on two huge measures affecting every Minnesotan.

Now is the last chance for Minnesotans to speak up as the legislators race to the deadline.

The state needs to align the Minnesota tax code to accommodate changes made in federal tax laws. Otherwise, Minnesotans may end up with some surprises when filing their 2018 taxes.

The House and Senate have different plans but both Republican-controlled bodies claim their measures will reduce taxes.

The Senate plan keeps some deductions the federal plan eliminated and also lowers the bottom tax rate. House members want to eliminate some deductions and lower the tax rate for about 2 million Minnesotans.

Gov. Mark Dayton, a Democrat, doesn't like either plan. He'd like to raise business taxes and cut taxes for individuals.

Bonding bills typically dominate the second year of a legislative session and this year is no different. Four months ago, Dayton proposed bonding for $1.5 million to fund roads, water projects and fix state buildings. The Senate has yet to unveil its bonding plan.

The current House plan includes $2.7 million for a new fence at the St. Cloud prison, $5 million for Waite Park's quarry redevelopment and $4.45 million for St. Cloud armory repairs. Bonding for St. Joseph's pedestrian underpass and community center, called for by bills introduced by Rep. Jeff Howe, are not in the House bonding bill.

School-safety funding has already been included in bills passed by both chambers. But there's no agreement between Republicans and Democrats on whether gun-safety legislation should be part of school safety. Those measures include expanding background checks and keeping guns away from people believed to be a risk.

This is an election year, but Dayton isn't running for re-election and Senators aren't on the ballot until 2020. But House Republicans have criticized Dayton's tax plan as an increase. When they start campaigning full time after the session ends, Republicans will want to argue they are tax cutters.

This is the week to let your legislators know your opinion.

Contact **Sen. Michelle Fischbach** at
95 University Ave. W.
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 2113
St. Paul, Minn. 55155
651-296-2084
Email: sen.michelle.fischbach@senate.mn

For voters in the St. Joseph area, contact
Rep. **Jeff Howe** (13A) at
527 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155
651-296-4373 or 800-947-8264
Email: rep.jeff.howe@house.mn

Act now. Ten days from now it will be too late.

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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.

Look past shenanigans for enduring Washington inspiration

Mike Knaak
Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Watching from Area Code 320, the nation's capital appears to be the land of shenanigans and ridiculousness.

Consider these recent events:

• For the first time, a House of Representatives chaplain was fired, apparently because he offered a prayer that was not sufficiently supportive of the Republicans' tax plan. The chaplain is a Jesuit, a religious order known for its intellectual rigor and social-justice stands. He was unfired a few weeks later.

• Emmanuel Macron and Donald Trump planted a tree on the White House grounds meant to symbolize the deep ties between France and the United States. The act exposed the obvious – Trump and Macron have never used actual shovels to do actual work. Then in a few days, the tree disappeared. It was unplanted until the tree could pass quarantine as a foreign plant.

• The director of the Environmental Protection Agency, whose job it is make sure we have clean air and water, ordered up a bullet-proof Chevy Suburban, complete with lights and siren so he could get to dinner on time and respond to environmental emergencies without delay.

• The director also rented a Capitol Hill condo for $50 a night. He unrented it on nights he wasn't in town. I was not able to find a similar deal on Airbnb or anywhere else in the shared economy during my trip to Washington last week.

I was in Washington to see my younger daughter, who works in the District. Over the last 40 years, I've visited the city perhaps two dozen times, including living there for a few months in the 1980s. Early May is a good time to visit. The hordes of high-school students on spring break trips are long gone and the cherry blossoms have fallen. Families pushing strollers and buying trite souvenirs from street-side vendors are yet to arrive. Plus, May weather is usually breezy and pleasant before the summer heat and swamp-like humidity sets in.

I've done the standard tourist activities long ago and as much as I'd like to check out the phantom White House tree and Scott Pruitt's armored SUV, I chose a few activities that are more enduring.

There are three photo exhibits on display at the Newseum. On the 50th anniversary of the Tet Offensive, *The Marines and Tet: The Battle That Changed the Vietnam War* showcases the work of Stars-and-Stripes photographer John Olson.

Another gallery features the most comprehensive collection of Pulitzer Prize-winning photographs ever assembled, including photographs from every Pulitzer Prize-winning entry since 1942, when the award was first presented.

The third exhibit I wanted to see was *Pictures of the Year: 75 Years of the World's Best Photography* featuring seven decades of award-winning images from the archives of Pictures of the Year International, one of the world's oldest and most prestigious photojournalism competitions. The pictures were selected from POYI's archive of more than 40,000 photos, tracing the evolution of photojournalism from World War II to today.

Any visit to Washington should include a short walk to visit Lincoln, MLK, FDR and Jefferson. Starting with the Lincoln Memorial at the west end of the Mall and then heading south around the Tidal Basin, a visitor will find inspiring words.

On the north wall of the MLK memorial, a visitor can read: "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of convenience and comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

Walk another 500 yards to the south and FDR reminds us: "We must scrupulously guard the civil rights and civil liberties of all our citizens, whatever their background. We must remember that any oppression, any injustice, any hatred, is a wedge designed to attack our civilization."

The shared human moments captured by the award-winning news photos and the timeless quotations will endure, while the shenanigans and ridiculousness of the current administration will be swept away as soon as the next election or perhaps with a string of federal indictments.

Bell's ferocious love of life wins

Dennis Dalman
Reporter

Bob Bell, unable to move, was on his back helpless in the hospital. Dreading the neurosurgeon's dire verdict, he finally found the courage to ask, "Will I ever walk again?"

"Son, you're a quadriplegic," said the neurosurgeon.

And Bell thought to himself, "I'd asked him if he knew whether I'd walk again. I had no idea if quadriplegics walked. Actually, let's forget this walking crap. I wanted to know if I'd have sex again."

Bell is the author of a true-life book with an odd title (*Un Moving Four Ward: Tales and Tips for Keeping Perspective Despite Life's Challenges*). Bell is a survivor, and his book is brimming with a deadpan sense of humor that comes from facing impossible odds – and winning. Comedian Carol Burnett once said humor is tragedy, plus time. That well describes Bell's book.

Published in 2014, *Un Moving Four Ward* (a double-meaning pun) is an inspirational book with a kick. Unlike so many advice books that wallow in goo-goo pablum, this one packs a real punch, alternating between trauma and hilarity, from no-nonsense survival tips to good insights into the art of living.

Bell is an associate professor of accounting and finance at the College of St. Benedict/St. John's University.

Raised in Pensacola, Fla., he decided to study at SJU. He was on campus only a few months before the life-changing moment happened at 6:30 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 21, 1989, in a dorm hallway. A fellow Johnnie, in a fit of horseplay, put a full-nelson headlock on Bell. In the process, he broke Bell's neck. At the hospital, the Johnnie visited Bell and, crying inconsolably, told Bell how sorry he was, that he never meant to cause such suffering. Bell decided then and there to forgive him, an important start of his healing process.

Bell's book recounts the agonizing struggle to adjust to life as a quadriplegic. It's a rough-and-tumble journey, but along the way there are plenty of triumphs. Readers learn quickly that "quitting" is not part of Bell's vocabulary.

How can a book so filled with pain and suffering be called "enjoyable?" Well, it is just that – enjoyable, mainly because of Bell's ferocious love of life and his comical remarks and observations. As a youth, Bell was a bit of a goof-off hooligan, a smart-aleck, a wisecracker, but an amusing one with lots of friends. That kind of off-the-wall, irreverent humor pervades his book.

Un Moving Four Ward is also a pleasure to read because of Bell's vivid descriptions of the campuses of SJU/CSB and student life in Collegeville, St. Joseph, St. Cloud and Bell's journeys throughout the world. He has visited more than 50 countries.

He alternates his life story with short chapters of his hard-won wisdoms and tips for readers.

Two examples:

From Life is Short – Make the Most of It: "Bizarre as it may sound, I believe my ability to handle my injury – both in the early days and today – has been helped by knowing so many people who died much too young."

From Hospital Tips: "Ask questions of nurses. Nurses often know much more than the doctors. Avoid any doctor who disregards the opinion of a nurse or disrespects a nurse."

And here's an example of Bell's deadpan humor:

"It's certainly not that I was the worst kid in the world, it's just that I wasn't always the best kid either: held back by the Juder (his mother's nickname) in second grade, a regular cigarette smoker by third grade, arrested in front of my class for burglary and vandalism in fourth grade and started drinking alcohol by eighth grade . . . As my sweet, skinny, church-going granny used to say, 'We pray for C's for Bob.'"

I bought Bell's book via amazon.com, but it is also available at local libraries. It was recommended to me many times. I finally read it. Glad I did. Now it's happily my turn to recommend *Un Moving Four Ward*.

Is it just me, or is it getting crowded in here?

Patric Lewandowski
Guest Writer

A decade ago, as I was running a small preorder for my latest book on my website, a friend emailed asking me if I had heard about this Kickstarter thing and if that would work for preorders. It was in beta and looking for people to use it. A year later, Kickstarter was out of beta and the word was starting to spread.

Kickstarter was the first of a slew of crowdfunding sites. For those not in the know, crowdfunding relies on a small crowd of people each pledging to pay for a project before the project is completed and get various rewards for their support when the project is completed.

Kickstarter is cool because unless a project raises all the money it says it needs (or more!), no one is charged. (Other sites such as Indiegogo have no such rules.) Once that threshold of pledges is reached, it's game on! For instance, a cartoonist may want to print their latest book, the cartoonist says they need $1,000 to print the books. Visitors to the site can pledge to support the project to help raise that $1,000. In return, there are rewards at different levels of pledges. There are usually a lot of different levels of pledges and the more a person pledges the more they get. Someone may just want the finished book and pledge $15 to get that, but a superfan may want the book, a signed print, a personalized drawing or other cool things and will pledge more to get that reward.

It didn't take long for crowdfunding to become a massive game changer. My friend Spike ran a Kickstarter to pay for the production of a comic called "Poorcraft" with a goal of $6,000 and raised over $13,000, which helped launch her company. Today, Iron Circus Comics is a massive comic book publisher and uses Kickstarter to fund the creation of all its books. The coolest part of that $13,000 was it was raised by only 703 backers.

It's not just unknowns either. Amanda Palmer, former lead singer of the Dresden Dolls, left her label when they felt 25,000 sales in the first week wasn't enough. With Kickstarter, Palmer raised the most for an independent musician ever for her new album: over $1 million with about 25,000 backers. Her album hit the Billboard Top 10.

Artists have embraced crowdfunding and entire companies are being built by crowds. Sadly, there are other uses. Another site called GoFundMe is used by people who are having financial problems to gather donations. A lot of people use GoFundMe to pay medical bills and even funeral expenses.

It just takes a small crowd to be successful. While most projects will offer amazing rewards for high-dollar pledges, the truth is most projects are funded by small pledges. A lot of times, people will pledge and select "no reward," just wanting to help artists create their art. Of course, a big part of it is also being part of the community that comes with that crowd. The direct communication between the artist (or inventor) and the audience has become a key component. People like to help their friends, and that's what crowdfunding feels like – helping your friends.

As for me, on May 14, my latest Kickstarter launches to fund the creation of my first graphic novel. I can't wait to see how the crowd likes Anna Chronism.

To see Patric's latest Kickstarter, head to www.marvelouspatric.com/anna

Community Calendar

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

Friday, May 11

St. Joseph Farmers' Market, 3-6:30 p.m., near the Wobegon Trail Center, CR 2.

Aladdin Jr.**,** featuring fifth- and sixth-grade All Saints Academy students, 7:30 p.m., All Saints Academy, 32 W. Minnesota St., St. Joseph.

Satruday, May 12

Make a Cake for Mom, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Cold Spring Bakery, 308 Main St., Cold Spring, 320-685-8681.

Make a Cake for Mom, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Cold Spring Bakery Connection, 103 Second St. S., Waite Park. 320-253-1423.

Mom and Daughter Vendor/ Craft Sale, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m., St. Cloud Eagles Club, 731 41st Ave. N., St. Cloud.

Visit and Pet with Lambs at Wooly Meadow Lamb Farm, noon-4 p.m., 2551 110th Ave. Bowlus, 320-587-5770.

Central Minnesota Chapter of the Federation of the Blind of Minnesota, 12:30 p.m., American Legion, 17 Second Ave. N., Waite Park.

Aladdin Jr.**,** featuring fifth- and sixth-grade All Saints Academy students, 7:30 p.m., All Saints Academy, 32 W. Minnesota St., St. Joseph.

Monday, May 14

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

Market Monday, 3-6:30 p.m., parking lot of Hardware Hank, Seventh St. N., Sartell. marketmonday.org.

Brady Campaign Chapter Meeting, a conversation about gun reform, 7-8 p.m., Great River Regional Library, Bremer Room, 1300 St. Germain St., St. Cloud. www.facebook.com/events/474315339667061.

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

Tuesday, May 15

St. Cloud Area Genealogists, 7 p.m., Stearns History Museum, 235 33rd Ave. S., St. Cloud. stearns-museum.org.

St. Joseph Lions Club, 7:30 p.m., Millstream Park Pavilion 101 Fifth Ave. NW., St Joseph. Joanne Bechtold, 320-363-4483.

Wednesday, May 16

St. Joseph Economic Development Authority, 5 p.m., St. Joseph City Hall, 75 Callaway St. E. 320-363-7201. cityofstjoseph.com.

St. Cloud Area Regional Human Rights Commission open forum on Civic Engagement, 6-7 p.m., St. Cloud City Hall Council Chambers 400 Second St. S. 320-310-2246.

Thursday, May 17

St. Joseph Food Shelf, open 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.

Pillow Cleaning and Perennial Sale, sponsored by St. Joseph Y2K Lions, noon-7 p.m., St. Joseph Fire Hall, 323 Fourth Ave. NE.

Friday, May 18

St. Joseph Farmers' Market, 3-6:30 p.m., near the Wobegon Trail Center, C.R. 2.

St. Joseph Area Historical Society, open 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.

Pillow Cleaning and Perennial Sale, sponsored by St. Joseph Y2K Lions, 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m., St. Joseph Fire Hall, 323 Fourth Ave. NE.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GILBERT'S SALE YARD MACHINERY CONSIGNMENT SALE, JUNE 4, 9:00 A.M.. Advertising Deadline May 18. No Small Items, Tires after May 25. CONSIGN TODAY, 641-398-2218, Hwy 218, Floyd, IA, www.gilbertsaleyard.com (MCN)

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Dollars for Scholars recipients named

The St. Joseph Area Dollars for Scholars chapter awarded 18 scholarships to recipients who were recognized at the May 2 award ceremony.

Dollars for Scholars is a national nonprofit foundation that includes local chapters that help area students by raising funds for scholarships.

Mark Lambert and Boulder Ridge apartments awarded a scholarship to **Justin Barg**, who is a graduate of Apollo and currently attends the University of Minnesota majoring in criminology.

Pam's Auto awarded a scholarship to **Rachel Bedel**, who is a graduate of the Immaculate Conception Academy and currently attends the University of Minnesota-Morris and is majoring in elementary education.

Drs. Styles, Cotton and Milbert awarded a scholarship to **Emily Boysen**, who is a graduate of Apollo and currently attends Augustana University majoring in nursing.

The St. Joseph Firefighters awarded a scholarship to **Samuel Clausen**, who is a graduate of Rocori and currently attends North Dakota State University majoring in finance.

The St. Joseph Area Dollars for Scholars awarded a scholarship to **Matt Jagielski**, who is a graduate of Apollo and currently attends the University of Minnesota-Morris majoring in business.

The St. Joseph Jaycees awarded a scholarship to **Marissa Gaetz**, who is a graduate of St. John's Prep and currently attends M.I.T. majoring in mathematics.

Laser Dentistry awarded a scholarship to **Alisha Ophoven**, who currently attends North Dakota State University majoring in pharmacy.

The St. Joseph Lions awarded a scholarship to **Kaitlyn Johnson**, who is a 2017 graduate of Holdingford currently attending Minnesota State-Moorhead and majoring in biology, and health and medical administration services.

The St. Joseph Lions awarded a scholarship to **Sarah Schroden**, who is a 2017 graduate of St. Cloud Christian School and is currently attending Crown College majoring in elementary school and early childhood education.

Sentry Bank awarded a scholarship to **Tess Jacobson**, who is graduating from Cathedral High School and will attend Providence College majoring in economics.

Steve Schirber awarded a scholarship to **Keaton Ficker,** who is graduating from Rocori and will attend St. John's University majoring in finance and economics.

Pam's Auto awarded a scholarship to **Rose Kellner**, who is graduating from Holdingford and will attend the University of Minnesota-Duluth majoring in chemical engineering.

The *St. Joseph Newsleader* awarded a scholarship to **Aerajean Moscho**, who is a graduate of Rocori High School and will attend Concordia College in Moorhead majoring in music.

The Mike Hazen Memorial Scholarship was presented to **Mackenzie Huesers**, who is a graduate of Cathedral currently attending Winona State University majoring in elementary and early childhood education.

The St. Joseph Lions awarded a scholarship to **Elizabeth Rennie**, who is graduating from Holdingford and will attend St. Cloud State University majoring in special education.

MidContinent Cable awarded a scholarship to **Mitchell Alvord**, who is graduating from Apollo and will attend St. John's University majoring in physics.

The Iver Linneman Memorial/St. Joseph Lions and Knights of Columbus Scholarship was awarded to **Alex Alvord**, who is graduating from Apollo and will attend St. John's University majoring in biology and elementary education.

Sunset Cos. awarded a scholarship to **Haley Walker**, who is a graduate of Apollo currently attending St. Cloud State University majoring in visual arts.

photos by Carolyn Bertsch

Dollars for Scholars recipients pictured from left to right are Rose Kellner, Ali Ophoven, Haley Walker and Tess Jacobson, all of St. Joseph.

The Dollars for Scholars event took place May 2 at the St. Joseph Fire Hall. Several St. Joseph students were awarded scholarships. Pictured from left to right are Sarah Schroden, Alex Alvord, Keaton Ficker and Elizabeth Rennie.

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