

Sartell-St. Stephen Newsleader

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Town Crier

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breaking news, visit
thenewsleaders.com.

Sartell's Market Monday boasts summer produce

Sartell Market Monday is held from 3-6 p.m. Mondays in the Coborn's parking lot, South Pinecone Road. Summer is here and so are the vegetables. You can now find tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, zucchini, beans, potatoes, berries and much more. Also available are flowers, breads, baked goods, canned goods, meats, eggs and caramel corn. Coming soon – sweet corn and melons.

Section of First Street N. closed July 19

A section of First Street NE/CR 29 on the east side of Sartell will be closed starting at 6 p.m. Thursday, July 19.

The road will be closed between the Mississippi River bridge and Benton Drive through Tuesday, July 24.

Benton Drive will be open to traffic. First Street NE/CR 29 will be open for eastbound traffic only east of Benton Drive.

The roadway between the bridge and Benton Drive will be reconstructed.

'Star Wars: The Last Jedi' to show July 20

"Star Wars: The Last Jedi" is the July 20 selection for Movies Under the Stars, hosted by St. Cloud Park & Recreation and sponsored by Capital One. The free event begins at dusk at Field C-3 in Whitney Memorial Park. Concessions are available. Rain site is Whitney Rec Center. The Aug. 10 movie is to be determined by a community vote. Check out Facebook for community vote @cityofstcloudmnparkandrec. For more information, visit ci.stcloud.mn.us or call 320-255-7277.

INSERTS:
Girl Scouts
Good to Go
Rep. Tim O'Driscoll



photo by Mike Knaak

Sartell-St. Stephen School District Superintendent Jeff Schwiebert points out details of the new high school and grounds during a bus tour for Sartell Chamber of Commerce members on July 10.

Bus tour highlights community progress

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

Two busloads of Sartell Chamber of Commerce mem-

bers viewed updates on community developments during a tour led by city and school officials on July 10.

On the way to the new high

school site, riders saw the major construction work underway on Pinecone Road and navigated the detours on the north side of the city.

At the school site, Superintendent Jeff Schwiebert pointed out the location of athletic fields surrounding the school

Bus • page 5

Council approves Celebration drainage solution

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

By a unanimous vote, the Sartell City Council decided at its July 9 meeting to go ahead with the long-discussed drainage solution in the city's Celebration neighborhood.

The final proposal was outlined by April Ryan, a water engineer.

The council approval happened at a public hearing on the matter. Two men, both Celebration residents, spoke at the hearing. Both said they oppose the proposal because their lots do not have drainage problems,

that it would be better just to fix the lots where there are problems.

However, Sartell City Engineer Jon Halter noted a project of that nature is best done in a consistent manner rather than spot-fix this or that problem lot. Water amounts vary from year to year, thus no one can predict which lots will have problems and which will not.

For years, many of the residents of Celebration experienced drainage problems, causing water to pool up, especially in alleys, and cause slimy patches, frozen areas and slippery conditions causing safety wor-

ries. Residents there used sump pumps but had, at best, spotty success in getting rid of the pooled-up water.

City staff and engineers met with Celebration residents in their neighborhood last January. A feasibility study by the city's engineering firm of Short, Elliot, Hendrickson was authorized in February and presented to the council in May. The study came up with several alternatives, and the firm recommended, with city-staff agreement, Alternative 3. That variation will put an overlay on the alleys. Drain tiles will be added to yards where they don't currently exist. Drain-

tile stubs will be extended to the right-of-way at each property line, and each lot will have a yard drain installed. Existing curb and gutter will remain except for areas that need repair.

The cost of the project is \$373,000 for the overlay portion, to be paid by the city. The drainage portion will cost about \$90,000 and \$62,000 of that would be paid for by assessments, estimated at about \$800 per lot. The exact cost of assessments will be calibrated once the project bids are in.

The work is expected to be done this fall.



photo by Cori Hilsgen

George Torrey discusses how he hopes donations will help beautify the area around Lake Francis by adding additional trees and benches for people to enjoy.

Residents can help beautify city parks, trail areas

by Cori Hilsgen
news@thenewsleaders.com

With the continued growth of the Sartell area, people who enjoy being outdoors can appreciate being able to spend time with nature in areas such as around Lake Francis, near the Sartell Community Center and Chateau Waters, and other parks and trails around the city.

Sartell resident George Torrey is encouraging people to donate to help beautify the Lake Francis area.

He said donations of more benches, trees and paver stones will help increase the beauty

around the lake. The benches will also give people a chance to walk for exercise around the lake and rest on a bench when they need to.

People using the trail will have a place to sit and enjoy the beauty around them.

Torrey, 85, and his wife, Shirley, 81, were some of the first residents to move into Chateau Waters when it opened in July 2016. They had previously lived on Big Fish Lake by Cold Spring.

"I am an outdoor person," he said. "It was important for me to be able to sit outside and

Parks • page 4

People

Eight students from Sartell graduated May 12 from the College of St. Benedict on May 12.

The graduates are: **Alexis Flaherty**, daughter of Robert and Stacie Flaherty, bachelor's in nursing; **Lauren Hennen**, daughter of Gregg and Amy Hennen, bachelor's in biochemistry; **Kathryn Hoppert**, daughter of Richard and Merly Hoppert, bachelor's in accounting; **Anna Lindstrom**, daughter of Matt Lindstrom and Amy Braig Lindstrom, bachelor's in psychology; **Elizabeth Plaine**, daughter of Kelly and Cara Plaine, bachelor's in psychology; **Dana Svensson**, daughter of Michael and Margaret Svensson, magna cum laude, bachelor's in history and philosophy; **Allison Eikmeier**, daughter of Jeffrey and Michelle Eikmeier, bachelor's in nutrition; and **Rachel Gerdes**, daughter of Jeffrey and Terri Gerdes, bachelor's in psychology.

The 2018 graduating class included 505 women, the third-largest class in school history.

Two Sartell students graduated May 13 from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.

Haley Klundt, graduated with highest honors and earned a bachelor's with majors in economics and mathematics.

Taylor Pasell, graduated with honors and earned a bachelor's with a major in communication studies, professional communication emphasis.

Austin Sura of Sartell was named to the spring dean's list in the College of Engineering at the University of Notre Dame,

Indiana.

The students who achieve dean's honors at Notre Dame represent the top 30 percent.

Stearns Bank was named Best in Class for Large Companies at Minnesota Business Magazine's 100 Best Companies to Work For, the top prize for this size group of companies. In 2017, Stearns Bank earned second place in the large company category.

"Stearns Bank employees are the foundation of what we do here," said Pam Bjerke, VP/director of human resources for Stearns Bank. "We strongly encourage self-improvement opportunities, along with a commitment to the greater good, all of which help us to retain top talent year after year."

Four Sartell students recently graduated from the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks. The students are **Mary Bachman**, doctor of physical therapy; **Kelsey Ramseth**, bachelor's in nursing, cum laude; **April Seim**, master's; and **Lisa Trnka**, master's in education.

Erin Waterbury of Sartell earned a master's in social work from Simmons College in Boston.

Three Sartell-St. Stephen school district employees have retired.

The retirees are Food Service Director **Brenda Braulick**, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds **Claude Dingmann** and Business Manager **Steve Wruck**.

"Brenda, Claude and Steve have been instrumental players

in the success of this school district and their presence will be greatly missed," said Superintendent Jeff Schwiebert in a news release. "We wish them the very best as they begin this next chapter of their lives."

Braulick was hired in 1999 after working in other districts.

Dingmann remembers being a young person in the late 1960s and marching on Riverside Avenue with others to support the building of a new school district. He graduated from Sartell High School in 1974 and became an employee of the district in 1985. In addition to his role as building and grounds supervisor, Dingmann served as the head custodian at the high school and coached discus in track and field.

Wruck joined the Sartell-St. Stephen school district after 17 years working in other school districts to be closer to his family and to accept the challenges of working in a growing district. In his position as business manager, Wruck oversees transportation, custodial, food service and operations.

Jayne Ericson will serve as the food services director starting in July. Ericson started with the district in 2017 as the food and nutrition supervisor. **Felicia Kittok** has been hired to fill Ericson's previous position, which will be retitled assistant food services director.

Joe Prom was hired as the school district's new director of business services and started July 1. Prom comes to Sartell-St. Stephen from the Becker school district where he has served as the director of business services for the past seven years.

Adam Kramer of Sartell graduated in May with a bachelor's degree majoring in animal science from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

Thirteen Sartell students were named to the spring dean's list at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. The students are: **Mohammad Ayyub**, senior, biological sciences; **Matthew Bowe**, senior, management; **Sarah Erickson**, senior, nursing; **Abigail Lahn**, sophomore, liberal arts; **Jillian Lawson**, junior, liberal arts; **Madeline Meier**, senior, liberal arts; **Zachary Motschke**, senior, food, agriculture and natural resource sciences; **Brooklyn Pederson**, senior, liberal arts; **Kaitlin Reichel**, senior, food, agriculture and natural resource sciences; **Isaac Schneider**, sophomore, biological sciences; **Erik Skoe**, senior, biological sciences; **Rory Spanier**, sophomore, science and engineering; and **Erica Stambaugh**, junior, liberal arts.

To qualify for the dean's list, a student must earn a 3.66 grade-point average

The following 29 Sartell students received degrees on May 4 from St. Cloud State University: **Christopher Babich**, master's in business administration (graduate); **Kayla Beam**, bachelor's in accounting; **Thomas Bevans**, bachelor in biomedical sciences, magna cum laude; **Ashley Broughton**, bachelor's in liberal studies, magna cum laude; **Brittany**

Ceesay, master's in social work; **Arielle Gapinski**, bachelor's in psychology, summa cum laude; **Jaime Garas**, master's in school counseling; **Justin Hall**, bachelor's in information systems; **Donovan Hample**, bachelor's in mechanical engineering; **Amanda Hines**, bachelor's in liberal studies; **Nicole Horstman**, bachelor's in management; **Meghan Kirby**, bachelor's in graphic design, cum laude; **Sarah Kremer**, bachelor's in music teaching, magna cum laude; **David Kroger**, bachelor's in mass communications, cum laude; **Robin Laudenbach**, master's in school counseling; **Megan Lien**, bachelor's in management, cum laude; **Jessica Lundsetter**, master's in marriage and family therapy; **Nathaniel Mason**, bachelor's in criminal justice studies; **Melissa Palmer**, bachelor's in chemical dependency; **Cody Partch**, bachelor's in athletic training; **Molly Lou Pintok**, master's in geographic information science; **Jason Robinson**, bachelor's in history; **Hannah Rodness**, bachelor's in communication sciences and disorders, summa cum laude; **Cassandra Schiller**, master's in college counseling and student development; **Tiffany Schultz**, master's in mass communications; **Joshua Toftey**, bachelor's in statistics, cum laude; **Kirsten Uran**, master's in information media; **Jeffrey Van Slooten**, bachelor's in technology management; and **Lucas Vossen**, master's in business administration (graduate).

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Parks

from front page

enjoy the outdoors.”
Torrey, a former president of Herberger’s in St. Cloud, said now that the fountain and lights have been installed around the lake trail, more benches and trees for adequate shade would be nice.
“A lot of people use the trail

around the lake,” he said. “It is pretty active. This is a chance to enhance the beautification of that body of water. I want to do what I can to make it as beautiful as can be.”
The benches, trees and paver stones enable people to honor a loved one or commemorate a special event.
Currently, there are eight benches along the trail surrounding the lake.
Memorial benches include several by George and Shirley

– one for their deceased son, David; one for the July 2016 Chateau Waters opening; and another for when they moved into Chateau Waters.
Another bench was an Eagle Scout Project by Peter Amundson and was sponsored by Quality Electric Services Inc. A bicycle repair station is by this bench.
Other benches around the lake include those donated by Alice and Frank Brown and the Great River Bowl and Partners Pub.
There are also swing benches behind the Sartell Community Center.
Sartell City Administrator Mary Degiovanni said the paver stones are unique to the Lake Francis area, but donations for trees and benches can also be designated for other parks and trail areas as long as people work with the city.
The paver stones are placed at the base of the Angel of Hope in the Townsquare development, south of Scout Drive off of Pinecone Road South at Lake Francis.
The Angel of Hope was donated by What Would Bri Do as a memorial where mourning parents, families and friends can find solace.
The cost of a swing bench is \$2,250, a bench is \$1,500, a tree is \$250 and a paver stone is \$150.
People who are interested in donating to the Lake Francis or any other city park or trail area should contact the city of Sartell at 320-253-2171 or visit the website sartellmn.com/city-donations for more information.

Creekview Park meeting set for July 24

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

The Sartell Park Commission members and city staff are seeking ways to improve Creekview Park, but first they need input from city residents, especially from the people who live near that park in southwest Sartell.
Sartell City Planner Nate Keller is encouraging people to take an online survey concerning Creekview Park. Copies of the survey can also be obtained at Sartell City Hall. Once the survey results are collected, Keller will share them with the members of the Park Commission and residents. Keller said a community conversation will take place at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 24 in Creekview Park during which the survey results will be shared with residents followed by input from those gathered. It is just one of many community conversations Keller and the Park Commission sponsors each year with the goal of improving the city’s parks based on what residents want.
The online survey can be taken at www.surveymonkey.com/creekviewpark
There are five questions on the survey with room to type in suggestions. Taking the sur-

vey requires only three to five minutes.
Creekview Park is at 1504 Lavender Ave. S. The neighborhood is situated north and east of the city’s southwest water treatment plant on CR 4. That neighborhood park and surrounding area are in “Park Neighborhood 8,” one of 10 neighborhood designations mapped by the city. One need not live in that area to take the survey, Keller noted.
The current amenities at Creekview Park include playground equipment, shade trees, picnic tables and green opens spaces.
On the survey, there are suggestions respondents can check as to what else they would like in the park: more playground equipment, a community garden, a pathway from playground to sidewalks, more picnic tables and benches, public art and more landscaping.
During the past two years, similar surveys and meetings were conducted for three other Sartell parks: Morningstar, Meadow Lake and Sabre Oaks. Minor improvements were made, such as more picnic tables and a pathway. As more funds become available, more improvements can be made, and thanks to the surveys and meetings, city staff knows which amenities are wanted and/or needed by residents.
Keller said the meetings are called community conversations because that is what they do. They initiate open-ended conversations between residents and a variety of city employees. Each park meeting is attended by members of the police department, planning and zoning, public works and city hall staff. And the meetings, Keller added, can turn from focus on park needs to anything the residents want to ask, suggest or talk about.
“It’s a form of city outreach,” he said, “and it really helps to break down barriers. The turnouts for the community conversations have been really good.”



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Photo © Patrick M. Rose

Muskie baseball roundup

by **Dave DeMars**
news@thenewsleaders.com

Sartell Muskie bats pound the Becker Bandits 14-0

John Schumer was the winning pitcher June 6 as he pitched six innings and gave up two hits while striking out seven in a lopsided 14-0 shut-out against the Becker Bandits. The Muskie bats were merciless and scored four runs in the first inning. They failed to score a run in only two innings played

and the game was called after seven innings.

The Muskies collected a total of 15 hits and scored 14 runs. The Muskies were led by Jake Sweeter who knocked in three of the 14 runs.

Sartell Muskies shut out the Clear Lake Lakers 6-0

David Deminsky had his arm humming as he threw a three-hit shutout on June 10 against the Clear Lake Lakers. Deminsky struck out 21 batters. It was

a good thing Deminsky was as masterful as he was because after scoring the first run in the first inning off a two-out single by Jake Sweeter, the Muskie bats went silent and the score stood at 1-0 for the next six innings.

In the seventh inning Ethan Carlson managed a single to left field scoring Braeden Dykhuzen and Sweeter knocked in two more runs. In the ninth the Muskies were able to score two more runs giving them their 6-0 victory.

Bus

from front page

and told chamber members the district hoped to offer building tours starting in the fall. Schwiebert highlighted landscaping plans that call for collecting all rainwater on the site and reusing it.

On the way to the new community center, Community Development Director Anita Archambeau told riders the latest estimate for the city's population has increased to 18,200 people.

So far this year, the city has issued 29 building permits, exceeding last year at this time.

Archambeau said when the baseball season ends, Champion Field will be reconstructed to improve the field and also upgrade dugouts and bleachers.

Plans are being developed for the new public safety facility on Pinecone Road north of Sixth Street S. with construction on the 14-acre site expected in 2019. Future use of the current police building, which is shared with Le Sauk Township, has not been decided.

Plans for the community center grounds include adding a stage near Lake Francis.

Stearns Electric names new CEO

Stearns Electric Association has named a new chief executive officer.

Robin Doege, who currently serves as CEO of Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative, will replace current CEO Dave Gruenes on Aug. 13.

Doege was chosen after the board of directors conducted a national search.

Doege worked eight years at Todd-Wadena and 10 years at Connexus Energy. He holds a bachelor's degree in agricultural business administration and a master's degree in business administration.

Doege and his wife Stacey will relocate to central Minnesota. They have five children and one grandchild.

Retiring CEO Gruenes Doege has provided co-operative leadership for 19 years, the last three years as CEO.

Stearns Electric Association serves more than 27,000 members in six counties including Stearns, Todd, Morrison, Kandiyohi, Pope and Douglas.



SMS assistant principal, pitmaster



photo by Carolyn Bertsch
Assistant Principal Zach Dingmann (left) and Blake Field, building supervisor, prepare nearly 1,300 burgers May 25 during a picnic for students and staff of the Sartell Middle School.

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Opinion

Our View

Voters do have a choice in future Supreme Court cases

The debate about how Justice Anthony Kennedy’s Supreme Court seat should be filled and how an expected “conservative” justice might rule on past issues misses the point.

Voters don’t get to decide who Donald Trump nominates or who the Senate approves. But voters do have a voice.

Many issues that reach the high court end up there because of a challenge to a law passed at the state or local level.

Voters do have a huge voice in who makes those laws.

While debating if a new justice would overturn *Roe v. Wade*, roll back affirmative-action laws, loosen restrictions on campaign financing or reverse rulings on marriage equality, advocates forget those cases all began with local legislation.

The Supreme Court doesn’t decided to reverse a previous ruling in a vacuum. A case usually begins with a challenge to a state law or policy and ends up at the Supreme Court because lower courts don’t settle a dispute.

For example, across the country, state legislators are ready to pass restrictions on abortion rights and same-sex marriage. If these new laws pass, they are likely to invite challenges that could reach the Supreme Court. With seven in 10 Americans opposed to overturning *Roe v. Wade*, those who want to limit abortion rights will look for restrictions that come just short of a ban.

Minnesotans have a unique opportunity in this election to decide if any of those cases originate here.

This fall, we’ll elect a new governor and all the members of the House of Representatives. State senators weren’t supposed to be on the ballot this November, but a unique set of circumstances created a special election that will decide whether Democrats or Republicans control the Legislature.

When Al Franken resigned his Senate seat, Gov. Mark Dayton appointed Lt. Gov. Tina Smith to the U.S. Senate, automatically elevating the president of the Senate, Michelle Fischbach, to lieutenant governor. Fischbach resigned her Senate seat at the end of this year’s session and created a need for a special election in District 13, which includes the cities of Sartell, St. Joseph, Cold Spring and Paynesville areas.

By choosing between Democrat Joe Perske and Republican Jeff Howe, the 80,000 or so voters in District 13 will decide who controls the Senate and possibly if one party controls the legislative and executive branches. Right now, the Republicans hold a 20-seat edge in the state house.

For at least the past eight years, a divided government has blocked legislation (along with a referendum on marriage equality) that would bump up against past Supreme Court rulings.

If one party controls all of state government, legislation that has been blocked in the past by liberals or conservatives could become state law and set up legal challenges that could reach the Supreme Court.

On the issue of abortion rights, advocates expect conservatives to introduce legislation that would add restrictions without an outright ban. Right now Minnesota places two restrictions on abortion rights: A woman must receive state-directed counseling that includes information designed to discourage her from having an abortion and then wait 24 hours, and the parents of a minor must be notified before an abortion is provided.

Voters do have a voice in future Supreme Court decisions.

Candidates for governor and the legislature should be pressed for what new laws they would support addressing social issues such as abortion rights, LGBTQ rights, voting rights, affirmative action and campaign finance.

Conservatives, if you’ve been waiting for a chance for the high court to support your social agenda, the effort begins with holding the state House and taking over the Senate and governor’s office.

Back on the trail, Pawlenty campaigns by asking questions

Not all political campaigning happens at rallies for thousands of supporters or in summer festival parades.

Sometimes, politicians seek votes in very small informal groups.

Recently, I followed Tim Pawlenty and Michelle Fischbach on two St. Cloud visits focused on jobs and workforce development.

Pawlenty served two terms as governor, from 2003 to 2011. He bypassed the state Republican convention this year and he’ll face GOP-endorsed candidate Jeff Johnson (who Gov. Mark Dayton beat in 2014) in the Aug. 14 primary. Pawlenty chose current lieutenant governor (and former longtime state senator) Michelle Fischbach to run with him.

Pawlenty and Fischbach first stopped at the St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce office. President Teresa Bohnen gathered a small group of people to talk about jobs, skills and education issues.

Over box lunches, Pawlenty asked the group about many workforce issues.

After eight years as governor and 10 years before that in the state House, Pawlenty knows the nuts and bolts of state policies and programs, but he’s been out of Minnesota politics for eight years, working as a lobbyist for the financial services industry. Reconnecting with past contacts and supporters and hearing about current issues in an informal setting is a smart form of campaigning.

Pawlenty and Fischbach heard about successes with apprenticeships, ideas for certificate programs and alternatives to four-year college degrees.

Pawlenty zeroed in on a current problem, workforce participation. The former governor told the group Minnesota’s workforce participation rate has improved to 70 percent, but the answer to the state’s worker shortage is “How do we bring back the other 30 percent?”

Mike
Knaak
Editor



Pawlenty and Fischbach focused their questions on what the state could do to lower barriers to that goal.

As an example, Pawlenty suggested legislation that would give employers “safe harbor” to hire people with a non-violent criminal past or with chemical dependency issues who need a second chance.

The business leaders cited recent local ordinances, such as one approved in Minneapolis, that raised the minimum wage in the city to \$15 by 2022. Currently, state law sets the minimum wage at \$9.65. Paying the same people different wages for work done in different jurisdictions is a barrier to business that should be removed, the business people asserted.

Although a court ruling supported Minneapolis’ ordinance, Pawlenty said labor and wage and hour laws are by tradition and custom set at the state or federal level.

After the meeting, Pawlenty and Fischbach moved on to St. Cloud Technical & Community College where they were met by a small group of administrators.

Here was another chance for Pawlenty to reconnect with past successes. His hosts shared with him a photo that was taken when he cut the ribbon for an SCTCC expansion during his second term.

The SCTCC educators talked about their successes building relationships with local businesses.

Other topics included how to deal with the expected layoffs when the Electrolux plant closes and the need for

health-care professionals.

When Pawlenty asked what they needed, a medical simulation center that could be shared by the education community as well as health-care providers topped the list.

Pawlenty asked the group about being “nimble and agile” as workplace needs change for emerging programs as well as fading programs.

When I covered Pawlenty when he was governor, I always found him to be informal, inviting and low-key in small groups. When I was president of Minnesota’s chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, he agreed to speak at our annual meeting and awards dinner. A few years before that, Gov. Jesse Ventura spoke at the same event. Although Ventura enjoyed a love-hate relationship with reporters, I’ll just say Pawlenty’s approach was a little different.

Whether meeting with reporters or voters, he fielded questions, even hostile ones, with patience and a smile. In today’s climate of anger and fear, Pawlenty’s style is almost shocking.

But behind his easy manner, he has a long record to defend after eight years as governor. He’s taken strongly conservative stands on social issues, and critics can justifiably attack his record on financing public education, especially higher education.

Pawlenty won 44 percent of the votes in the three-way 2002 race and was re-elected with 46 percent in 2006. He left office with approval ratings around 50 percent.

During his visit to St. Cloud, he asked significant policy questions. I hope if voters return him to the governor’s office, he comes up with answers that move away from the right and more toward the middle so he can unite a solid majority of Minnesotans.

World Cup finding its way into Americans’ hearts

Connor
Kockler
Guest Writer



zero points. After this group stage has been completed, the two teams in each group with the most points advance to the knockout round, with ties being broken based on how many goals teams have scored.

In the knockout stage, no tie games are allowed, and a loss sends a team straight home. To break ties in soccer, there is first a 30-minute overtime, followed by a penalty shootout much like in hockey. Passions run high in these games, and you can see the excitement of the fans as their country’s fate lies with the 11 players on the field, hoping to score and protect their net from the opposing team.

By the time the final is reached, the two best soccer teams in the world are now face to face with each other. The anticipation has been building throughout the weeks of the tournament, and a victor will finally be crowned. The final in 2014, between Germany and Argentina, was watched by more than 1 billion people, almost 10 times what the Super Bowl can claim here in the United States.

So if the World Cup is such a big

deal, why do we not hear as much about it in the United States? This can be explained by two major reasons. For one, the U.S. men’s soccer team is not very successful on the global stage. We were defeated by Belgium in Round 16 in 2014, and failed to even qualify for the 2018 World Cup. Secondly, the United States is known for its strong domestic sports leagues. Football, basketball, baseball, hockey and other sports leave less room for soccer than in other nations where it’s the primary sport.

However, I do think this is changing. Soccer is a popular sport among young Americans such as myself, who have grown up playing it in the summer and in school. Our nation’s own domestic soccer league, Major League Soccer is also growing, with Minnesota United FC joining as our local team. On the world stage, the U.S. women’s team has been very successful, and the United States also recently won its bid to host the World Cup in 2026, along with Mexico and Canada, which will bring even more awareness to the sport in our nation. As a soccer aficionado myself, I look forward to seeing the sport continue to grow and pick up new players and fans. Who knows, maybe someday our country could win the World Cup trophy ourselves.

Connor Kockler is a student at St. John’s University. He enjoys writing, politics and news, among other interests.

Letters to the editor

Aim to find ‘a little good news’ each day

Barbara Nelson, Sartell

Recently a friend talked to me about the troubled world we currently live in and that it’s challenging to have hope for better times. I remember Anne Murray’s song with the words, “We sure could use a little good news today.”

I have decided to think positively about our world and what goes on around me so I can be the optimist I want to be. So here goes!

President Trump has insisted coal still be a viable option for electricity. In spite of this, I see numerous solar-powered plants

all over the countryside, as well as many wind turbine farms. The energy-efficient options continue to prevail.

It is tough to find proof the present leadership respects women and their role in society. Thus, it pleases me in the upcoming election, more women than usual are running for political office. There is hope.

St. Cloud can be proud considering the acceptance of the diverse populations in the community. At times attempts have been made to block the openness the St. Cloud area promotes, yet the optimistic spirit of the community still marches

on. All of this makes me have hope there are many folks who care about the right things.

I was pleased when our granddaughter told me last year she learned in school about being aware of what news is fake, what is real. Perhaps the younger generation will learn from this generation what is truly best for our country.

So, we cannot give up hope. We must continue to strive to be our best where we are and not let others get us down. Aim to find “a little good news” each day.

Don’t blame Trump for following the law

Nancy Schramel, Sartell

Our President Donald Trump is the voice of the patriotic American people!

We proudly stand with him to honor and defend our country, flag and veterans. He won the election which speaks volumes. He is strong and a very great leader. He is not racist. He is stopping Planned Parenthood

from killing babies of EVERY race. He is trying to keep out radical Islamic terrorists who torture, rape and kill many people throughout the world. He is trying to keep out violent gangs and MS13, drugs and more.

ICE cannot be eliminated or there will be more violence in the country. We need the wall and that would stop chaos and crime. No one should be

shocked some children have been separated from their parents. If we do something illegal that puts us in jail, we will be separated from our children and this was carried out by Clinton, Bush and Obama with minimum outcry. So don’t blame President Trump for following the law.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF FILING DATES FOR ELECTION TO THE SCHOOL BOARD
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 748 SARTELL-ST. STEPHEN SCHOOL DISTRICT
STATE OF MINNESOTA

Notice is hereby given that the period of filing affidavits of candidacy for the office of school board member of Independent School District No. 748 shall begin on Tuesday, July 31, and shall close at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2018.

The general election shall be held on Tuesday, Nov. 6. At that election, three members will be elected to the school board for terms of four years each.

Affidavits of Candidacy are available from the school district clerk, 212 Third Ave. N., Sartell, Minn. 56377. The filing fee for this office is \$2. A candidate for this office must be an eligible voter, must be 21 years of age or older on assuming office, must have been a resident of the school district from which the candidate seeks election for 30 days before the general election, and must have no other affidavit on file for any other office at the same general election.

The affidavits of candidacy must be filed in the office of the school district clerk and the filing fee paid prior to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 14.

BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

/s/ Pamela Raden
School District Clerk

Publish: July 13 & 27, 2018

Calendar

from page 3

American Legion-Sartell, open to all veterans young and old, 6 p.m., Liquid Assets, 1091 Second St. S., No. 600, Sartell. john.denney@charter.net.

Friday, July 20
Benton County Museum, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 218 First St. N., Sauk Rapids. 320-253-9614. mnbentonhistory.org.
St. Joseph Farmers’ Market, 3-6:30 p.m., Resurrection Lutheran Church, under the water tower near the Wobegon Trail Center, C.R. 2.
St. Cloud Singles Club Dance, 8 p.m.-midnight, American Legion, 17 Second Ave. S., Waite Park. 320-339-4533. stcloudsingles.net.

Saturday, July 21
Community Meal, 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1107 Pinecone Road S., Sartell.

Sunday, July 22
Pet Blessing, 10 a.m., Unity Spiritual Center, 931 Fifth Ave. N., Sartell.

Monday, July 23
Lunch and cards, sponsored by Helping Hands Outreach, noon-3 p.m., Rusty Nail, 4 CR 2 S., St. Stephen. (through February)

Market Monday, 3-6 p.m., parking lot of Coborn’s Market Place, 1725 Pinecone Road S., Sartell. marketmonday.org.
Sartell City Council, 6 p.m., Sartell City Hall, 125 Pinecone Road N. 320-253-2171.

Tuesday, July 24
Central Minnesota Market, 3-5:30 p.m., VA Hospital, 4801 Veterans Drive, St. Cloud. 320-251-2498.

Wednesday, July 25
Biblical archaeologist Tom Meyer, 6:30 p.m., Grace Baptist Fellowship, 1197 Pinecone Road, Sartell.

Thursday, July 26
Coffee and Conversation, a senior discussion group, 9 a.m., Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S.
Family Farmers’ Market, 2-6 p.m., River East parking lot, CentraCare Health Plaza, 1900 CentraCare Circle, St. Cloud. 320-252-2422.
Sauk Rapids Farmers’ Market, 3-6 p.m., Coborn’s parking lot, 110 First St. S., Sauk Rapids.

Friday, July 27
Benton County Museum, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 218 First St. N., Sauk Rapids. 320-253-9614. mnbentonhistory.org.
St. Joseph Farmers’ Market, 3-6:30 p.m., Resurrection Lutheran Church, under the water tower near the Wobegon Trail Center, C.R. 2.

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF ST. STEPHEN
NOTICE OF FILING

The City of St. Stephen will have two (2) Council Member positions to fill in the 2018 General Election. Each position is for a four (4)-year term.

City residents are encouraged to consider participation in City government.

Dates for filing are July 31-Aug. 14 at 5 p.m. The cost to file is \$2.

Please contact the City Clerk at 320-251-0964 for paperwork and assistance.

/s/ Cris M Drais
City of St. Stephen City Clerk

Dated: June 12, 2018

Publish: July 13, 2018

ANNOUNCEMENTS
GILBERT’S SALE YARD MACHINERY CONSIGNMENT SALE, AUGUST 6, 9:00 A.M.. Advertising Deadline July 20. No Small Items, Tires after July 27. CONSIGN TODAY, 641-398-2218, Hwy 218, Floyd, IA, www.gilbertsaleyard.com (MCN)

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And all that (Riverside) Jazz

by Patric Lewandowski
news@thenewsleaders.com

There are many signs of summer in central Minnesota, from longer days, warm temperatures and the inevitable mosquitos to the various celebrations. But, for 16 Sartell and St. Joseph musicians, the surest sign of summer is coming together as Riverside Jazz.

Riverside Jazz is the brainchild of Peter Olson, a retired band director from Sartell.

“We started about five years ago,” Olson said. “I put together a jazz group to play for the Sartell Arts Festival. I had directed the Sartell Community Band for a year or two a few years prior and knew a few players from that group that might be interested. We have the support of Sartell Community Education, and the Sartell band directors, which makes this group possible since we have always practiced at Sartell Middle School.”

The mission statement of Riverside Jazz is simple: have fun playing music.

“We strive to have fun in our rehearsals and in our concerts,” Olson said. “This is a talented group of musicians and a really nice group of people. Like all musicians, we want our audiences to have a good time and we hope the fun we have playing for them comes through in our performance and the audience also enjoys themselves.”

Riverside Jazz plays a wide va-



photo by Mike Knaak

Riverside Jazz plays in Sartell’s Lions Park. The band consists of Alto Sax: Gary Wallinga & Tammy Myhrwold; Tenor Sax: Jessi Wacha & Amy Schrank; Baritone Sax: Patric Lewandowski; on Trumpet we have: Brad Savola, Milissa Nelson, Lucy Amundson and Jim Sutton; Trombone section includes: Steve Kunkel, Lowell Larson, Gabe Fern and Pete Olson; Piano: Virginia Shimota; Bass: Josef Weber; Drums: Tom Garberick; Guitar: Greg Rolling and Joe Lundy.

riety of jazz, but tends to feature a lot of traditional favorites such as “St. Louis Blues” and “A String of Pearls.” Olson has his favorites, such as a number called “Hay Burner” by Sammy Nestico.

“Any jazz chart by Sammy Nestico seems to work well because they are so well written,” Olson said.

The band consists of a traditional

jazz band or big-band setup with 16 members. The musicians come from all walks of life and ages, from retirees to the youngest member in his mid 20s.

“What really sets Riverside Jazz apart,” said Brad Savola, a trumpet player, “is the synergy between the players and the joy we find in not only a performance setting but also

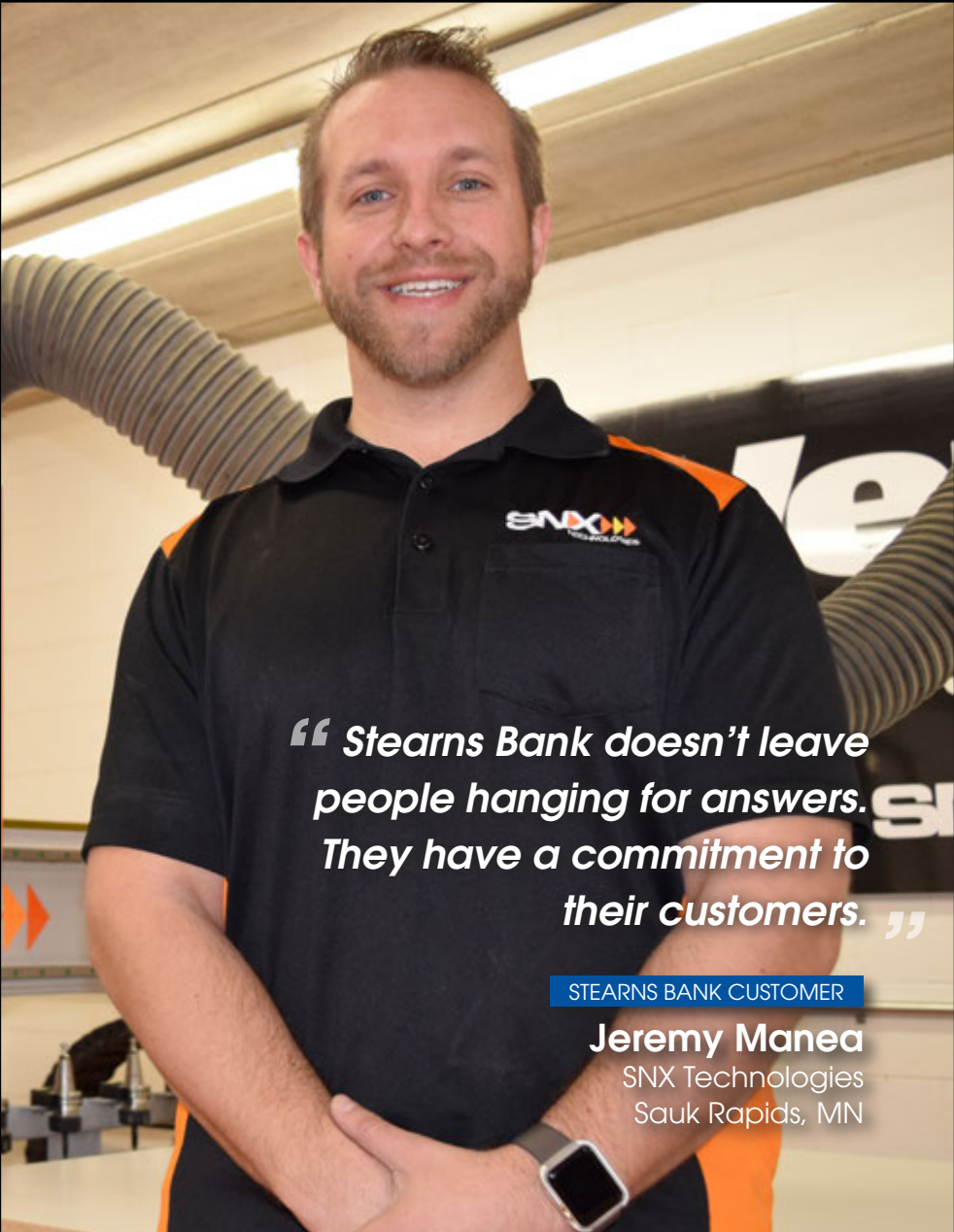
at rehearsals.”

This season, Riverside Jazz has played at Lions Park in Sartell to help kick off SummerFest, thanks to Ann Doyscher-Domres of Sartell-St. Stephen Community Education. The band also played at a private surprise anniversary party at Milk and Honey Ciders in St. Joseph. There is also the “friends and family concert”

at Olson’s home coming up on July 15.

Beyond that, the band has been invited to play at the Sartell Community Center this August.

Make sure to check out Riverside Jazz’s Facebook page, and if you are interested in the band playing for your event, email Pete Olson at pe-termindrumolson@gmail.com.



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