

# Sartell-St. Stephen Newsleader

Friday, Aug. 24, 2018  
Volume 23, Issue 28  
Est. 1995

## Town Crier

### Volunteers sought for Sept. 8 ALS Walk

The ALS Association needs volunteers for the Walk to Defeat ALS scheduled for Sept. 8. Volunteers will help set up the site and route, register participants, give out T-shirts, hand out food, sell merchandise, paint faces and take photographs. Contact Laura, ALS Association volunteer coordinator, at 888-672-0484 or volunteercoordinator@alsomn.org.

### Local food shelves seek garden veggies

Donate extra garden produce to your local food shelf. Favorites include carrots, zucchini, beans, beets, kohlrabi, corn, potatoes, cabbage, peppers, onions and asparagus. Any produce that has a longer shelf life is accepted at both Catholic Charities Emergency Services at 320-229-4560 and the Salvation Army at 320-252-4552.

### Work with youth at Pathways 4 Youth

Pathways 4 Youth focuses on providing meaningful one-time and long-term opportunities that allow volunteers to make a difference in the lives of the young people they serve, including acting as mentors, seeking donations and preparing meals. There are also group volunteer opportunities on-site as well as for those willing to hold drives or put on fundraisers. Contact Callie Olson, program manager for Pathways 4 Youth, at 320-316-1635 or colson@pathways4youthmn.org.

**INSERTS:**  
**Heidi for House**  
**Woodcrest**  
**of Country Manor**

**Stories only on**  
**thenewsleaders.com**

- Muskies head to state baseball tourney; Joes eliminated
- Portions of Wobegon Trail to close for maintenance
- Lions clubs donate to Stearns County dive team

## East-side road improvements finally reach design stage

by **Dennis Dalman**  
news@thenewsleaders.com

It's been a long time coming, but plans for an ambitious street improvement project in east Sartell are now approaching a final form.

At a public hearing during the Aug. 13 city council meeting, more than a dozen east-side residents voiced their concerns to the council. Those concerns included assessment questions, water-flooding issues and requests not to widen all the streets to a 32-foot width.

After the hearing, the council voted unanimously, 5-0, to proceed with the next stage of the plans. The project can begin in May 2019.

**Background**  
For years, the succession of

city councils in Sartell have talked of plans to make improvements and add amenities to Sartell's east side, the portion of the city in Benton County to the east of the Mississippi River.

Some of the improvements were made, including amenities to Val Smith Park and, most recently, the major reconstruction of CR 29, which is mainly a county project. That project is still underway.

In 2014, street improvement proposals were presented to the city council. In November 2015, a public information meeting took place at city hall, followed by another public information meeting in August 2017. In March 2018, the council ordered a feasibility report and a preliminary assessment hearing that would be presented at the

Road • page 12

## Summer fun heats up in Sartell



photo by Carolyn Bertsch  
**Brody Petersen, 4, of Sartell, reacts with giggles as a ball he tried to catch bounces right over his head and into the wading pool at Celebration Park.**

## Soyka, Bentrud win Stearns sheriff primary

by **Mike Knaak**  
editor@thenewsleaders.com

Steve Soyka and Dave Bentrud will compete for Stearns County sheriff in the Nov. 6 general election.

Voters chose Soyka and Bentrud from a four-candidate field in the Aug 14. primary election.

Soyka finished with 7,346 votes followed by Bentrud with 6,335 votes, Robert Dickhaus with 4,112 votes and Dwight Pfannenstien with 1,115. Although his name remained on the ballot, Pfannenstien with-

drew from active campaigning after his appointment as St. Joseph police chief in June.

According to preliminary results from the Minnesota Secretary of State, 24 percent of Stearns County's 86,741 registered voters cast ballots. Statewide, primary turnout surpassed a 20-year high. Democratic Party voters outnumbered Republicans two-to-one.

In the sheriff's race, both candidates have extensive law enforcement backgrounds. Soyka is a Stearns County Sheriff's Office sergeant and Bentrud is

Waite Park Police Chief. Stearns County will elect a new sheriff for the first time in 16 years. Donald Gudmundson was appointed sheriff after Sheriff John Sanner resigned.

In Sartell, Bentrud came out on top with 784 votes compared with Soyka's 702.

St. Joseph area voters followed the countywide trend with Soyka gathering 399 votes and Bentrud gathering 293 votes in the city of St. Joseph and St. Joseph Township.

Statewide, former two-term governor Tim Pawlenty failed

in his bid to return to the governor's office. Hennepin County Commissioner Jeff Johnson, the Republican-endorsed candidate, won with 53 percent of the vote compared with Pawlenty's 44 percent. Johnson will face Democrat Tim Walz in the general election.

In Stearns County, Pawlenty and his lieutenant governor running mate, Michelle Fischbach, edged out Johnson by 26 votes. Fischbach, a longtime Stearns County elected official, resigned as District 13 state senator.

## Neighbors, city staff meet at Creekview Park



photo by Dennis Dalman  
**Creekview Preserve Park in southwest Sartell is a green space up on a hill surrounded by many trees and homes.**

by **Dennis Dalman**  
news@thenewsleaders.com

About a dozen neighbors living near Creekview Preserve Park met in that park July 24 with city officials to discuss the park and possible improvements.

The session was part of a series of "community conversations" about Sartell parks between residents and city staff. As in previous meetings, residents had a chance to take a city survey about a particular park – a survey that included possible new or improved amenities, concerns about the park and safety fac-

tors.

All in all, the neighbors expressed satisfaction with the park, although some said they would like to see a pathway to its playground area. Creekwood Preserve Park, at 1601 Lavender Ave. in southwest Sartell, is a green space surrounded by many trees in a residential area.

City Planner Nate Keller coordinates the surveys and the meetings. He was present at the Creekview Preserve Park meeting, along with John Kothenbeutel, Sartell public-works director; Larry Then, parks supervisor; Kelly

**Park • page 6**



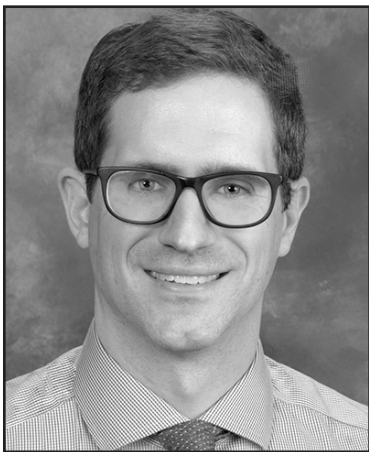
## People



contributed photo

### Conrad

**Patricia Conrad**, a teller at Deerwood Bank, has been promoted to retail manager in the Sartell office. Conrad has worked with Deerwood Bank, formerly Plaza Park Bank, for several years in both the Sartell and Waite Park offices before being promoted to this position. Deerwood Bank has 13 bank locations throughout Minnesota.



contributed photo

### Dickinson

**Dr. James Dickinson** joined Regional Diagnostic Radiology, 1990 Connecticut Ave. S., Sartell, in July, 2018.

Dickinson received his doctorate from New York Medical College in Valhalla, New York. He completed a vascular and interventional radiology fellowship and a diagnostic radiology residency at University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. Dickinson's professional interests include oncology interventions, peripheral arterial and venous disease, pulmonary embolism management, biliary and urologic interventions, and dialysis access maintenance. Numbering 17 physicians, Regional Diagnostic Radiology has partnerships with eight facilities that provide innovative imaging solutions across Central Minnesota.



contributed photo

**Acceleration 16U** finished the summer season at MOA Nationals in Hudson, Wis., by winning 22 summer softball games. Team members include the following: (front row left to right) Assistant Coach Amber Hedstrom-Koepl, Faith Hall, Brooke Koelln, Emilie Houge, Delaney Capretz, Shauna Schmidt and Kaylee Oehrlein; (back row) Assistant Coach Joe Stangle, Kamille Dougherty, Brooke Corrigan, Rainna Stangle, Alayna Tavale, Ava Williams and Head Coach Rod Houge.

## Obituaries

### Sharon E. Heim, 79

St. Cloud

March 1, 1939-Aug. 17, 2018

Sharon E. Heim, 79, of St. Cloud, died Aug. 17 at her home. Her funeral was held Aug. 17 at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Sartell. The Rev. Tim Baltes officiated. Burial was in the parish cemetery.

Heim was born March 1, 1939 in

St. Cloud to Kenneth and Lucille (Hengel) Gordon. She married David A. Heim on Aug. 22, 1959 at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Sartell. She lived in Sartell and later St. Cloud all of her life. Heim was a beautician and later a bookkeeper for many years. She was a Charter



Member of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church where she was a Eucharistic Minister, and St. Monica's Christian Women.

Heim loved traveling, gardening, sewing and crafting. The most important things in her life were her family and her Catholic faith. She will be remembered for her unwavering optimism and her sense of humor.

Survivors include her husband David; children: Debbie Spaniol (Joe), Sartell, Daniel Heim (Sue), Sartell,

Bob Heim (Deb), Sartell, Jerry Heim, Sartell, Beth Lange (Brian), Upsala; grandchildren: Bridget Brackin (Ryan), Mary Spaniol, Patrick Spaniol, Annie Burns (Mac), Michael Heim, Zachary Heim, Nathan Heim, Emma Heim and Jessi Lange; great-grandchildren: Connor and Madeline Brackin.

She was preceded in death by her parents, three sisters Marla Nagel, Diane Bell and an infant sister.

Memorials are preferred to St. Francis Xavier Grade School.

### Charles "Chuck" G. Schafer, 89

Sauk Rapids

Jan. 29, 1929 – Aug. 11, 2018

Charles "Chuck" G. Schafer, 89, of Sauk Rapids, died Aug. 11 at the St. Cloud Hospital. His funeral was held Aug. 18 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Sauk Rapids. The Rev. David Hinz officiated and burial will be at Trinity Lutheran Cemetery at a later date.

Charles George Schafer was born on Jan. 29, 1929 in St. Cloud to Charles and Minnie (Hiltel) Schafer. He

married Delores Madsen on Sept. 26, 1953 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in St. Cloud. He lived in the Sartell/Sauk Rapids area for all of his life. Schafer worked as a conductor for Great Northern Railroad/Amtrack/BNSF Railroad for more than 43 years and retired in 1992. He also owned and operated Schafer Spraying Service. Schafer was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Sauk Rapids and acted as zone secretary. He was a charter member of the



Sartell Lions Club, where he received the Melvin Jones Award, the Helen Keller Award and was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the organization. Schafer enjoyed being involved in his community, such as with the Whitney Wood Shop and with RSVP. He loved hunting, fishing and traveling. He was extremely hardworking, always smiling and was always willing to help others. The most important things in his life were his strong faith and his great dedication to his family.

Survivors include his loving wife Delores "Dee" of St. Cloud; children, Jeffrey of Rice, Mark (Sandy) of Big Lake, Jil (Mike) Maurer of Rice and Jodi (Tom) Fischer of St.

Cloud; daughter-in-law Jackie Schafer of Rice; grandchildren: Rachel, Jesse (Sara), Dawn (Andrew) Vitek, Marie (Chad) Eggert, Staci (Peter) Nestoss, Tim (Nikki) Fischer, Allison and Shelby; and great-grandchildren: McKenzie, Madeline, Jackson, Blaise, Eliana, Cora, Morgan, Teagan, Bria, Ella, Kendal, Carson, Adalyn and Harlow. He was preceded in death by his son Craig; his parents; brother, Clarence and sister, Esther Elmquist.

Memorials are preferred to Trinity Lutheran Church or the Lions Club.

Obituary, video tribute and guest book available online at: [www.williamsdingmann.com](http://www.williamsdingmann.com).

Sartell-St. Stephen • St. Joseph

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Published each Friday by Von Meyer Publishing Inc.

**Publisher/Owner**  
Janelle Von Pinnon

**Designer**  
Patric Lewandowski

**Editor**  
Mike Knaak

**Assignment Editor**  
Carolyn Bertsch

**Delivery**  
John Herring

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



Blotter

*If you have a tip concerning a crime, call the Sartell Police Department at 320-251-8186 or Tri-County Crime Stoppers at 320-255-1301, or access its tip site at tricounty-crimestoppers.org. Crime Stoppers offers rewards up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for a crime. This information is submitted by the Sartell Police Department.*

Aug. 8

10:04 p.m. Suspicious activity. 15th Avenue N. An officer was dispatched for a report of a possible burglary in progress. The officer was advised the home security system was alerting the garage door was open. The officer arrived and saw the garage door was closed. He checked the exterior of the residence and noticed the garage service door was unsecured. The home was cleared of any unwanted persons. The homeowner arrived and informed the officer nothing was missing.

Aug. 9

10:20 p.m. Suspicious smell. Seventh Street N. Officers were dispatched to an apartment complex for a report of an odor of marijuana. Officers arrived and spoke with the complainant. The woman reported the number of the apartment she believed the smell was coming from. Officers approached the door and could smell a faint odor of burned marijuana. Officers knocked on the door and made contact with the tenant. The man stated he knew why the officers were there and handed over a backpack containing a small amount of marijuana and some paraphernalia. The contraband was seized and the man was cited.

Aug. 10

3:03 p.m. Suspicious vehicle. Third Street N. Officers were dispatched for a report of

a vehicle on the road with no plates. Officers stopped the vehicle and met with the driver. While speaking with the driver, the officer learned there was no insurance on the vehicle and the female driver didn't have a license. While speaking with the occupants of the vehicle, an officer observed an odor of marijuana. Through further investigation the officer learned there was marijuana and paraphernalia in the vehicle. He also learned a female passenger also had a warrant out for her arrest. The vehicle was impounded due to it not having insurance, the driver was cited for driving after revocation, the male passenger was cited for possession and the female passenger was arrested for her warrant.

Aug. 11

1:19 p.m. Intoxicated person. 601 Pinecone Road N. Officers were dispatched to the Grand at Mulligans for a report of an overly intoxicated woman who was unable to care for herself. Officers met with the woman and family members. Officers observed the woman was very intoxicated and had vomited on herself. Officers administered a breathalyzer test, which indicated the woman was twice the legal limit. Gold Cross Ambulance transported the woman to the hospital because of her intoxication level.

Aug. 12

10:23 a.m. No pay. 212 Riverside Ave. S. An officer was dispatched to take a report of a driver who had pumped \$31 worth of gasoline into his vehicle and then drove off. The officer met with an employee who had a partial plate and a description of the vehicle. The officer was able to locate the vehicle and called the registered owner. The owner admitted to being at the Holiday Store. He

stated he thought his wife had paid for the gas but she stated she had not. The officer learned the incident was an honest mistake. The man provided the officer with a credit card number for the gas. The information was forwarded to the Holiday Store.

Aug. 13

5:10 p.m. Domestic. Hwy. 15 and CR 1. Officers were dispatched to assist St. Cloud police in locating a man who was wanted for committing a domestic assault against a woman in Sartell. Officers located the man's vehicle traveling on Hwy. 15. The vehicle was stopped and the man was taken into custody. The man was transported to Stearns County Jail and could be charged with fifth-degree domestic assault.

Aug. 14

2:18 a.m. DWI. Pinecone Road S. and Second Street S. While on routine patrol, an officer observed a vehicle swerving heavily. The vehicle crossed the centerline and fog line several times. The officer stopped the vehicle and the officer smelled an odor of alcohol. The woman was told the reason for the stop and she admitted to drinking. Field sobriety tests were conducted and the woman showed several signs of impairment. A preliminary breath test was conducted and indicated the woman was nearly four times the legal limit. She was arrested and could be charged with DWI; her vehicle was impounded.

Aug. 15

6:21 a.m. Traffic stop. Riverside Avenue and CR 78. While on patrol near the intersection of Riverside Avenue S. and CR 78, an officer observed a dark-colored sport utility vehicle headed his direction. The officer recorded a speed of 43

mph in a posted 30-mph zone. The office stopped the vehicle. The driver stated he was unsure how fast he was going but did know the speed limit was 30 mph. The officer issued a citation for speed.

Aug. 16

8:59 p.m. DWI. Pinecone Road S. Officers were dispatched for a report of an intoxicated man leaving a restaurant in a vehicle. Officers located the vehicle as it was exiting a liquor store's parking lot. Officers initiated a stop on the vehicle and met with the driver. The man was unable to pass field sobriety tests. The man's preliminary breath test indicated he was nearly three times the legal limit. The man was taken into custody and could be charged with DWI. His vehicle was impounded.

Aug. 17

6:25 p.m. Medical. 207 CR 120. Officers were dispatched to Sam's Club for a report of a woman who was choking. When the officer found the woman in the food court, the officer learned a good Samaritan had successfully performed the Heimlich maneuver, removing the obstruction. The woman said her ribs were sore from the Heimlich maneuver, but she was otherwise OK. The officer monitored the woman until paramedics arrived to check her out. She was cleared by Gold Cross.

Aug. 18

11:19 a.m. Driving complaint. Pheasant Drive. Officers were dispatched for a report of a vehicle that was out of control and had struck a pole. Officers were advised the vehicle left the scene. Officers located the vehicle parked at the SuperAmerica on Pinecone Road. Officers located the driver inside the store. Through further investi-

gation the man was placed under arrest and could be charged with controlled substance DUI.

Aug. 19

4:08 p.m. Crash. Riverside Avenue S. An officer observed a motor-vehicle accident that had occurred in the 1100 block of CR 1. The officer met with all occupants of both vehicles who stated they were fine. Through further investigation it was determined that vehicle one had entered the shoulder intending to make a U-turn. The driver of vehicle one didn't see vehicle two in his blind spot and initiated the U-turn. Vehicle two was struck in the passenger rear quarter panel by vehicle one.

Aug. 20

7:37 p.m. DWI. Evergreen Drive. Officers were dispatched for a report of an intoxicated driver. Officers located the vehicle described in the complaint disabled in the parking lot behind AmericInn. Officers located the registered owner who admitted to drinking and driving. He failed field sobriety tests and was taken into custody. The man was arrested and could be charged with third-degree DWI. He was transported to The Stearns County Jail.

Aug. 21

8:31 p.m. Disorderly. Bridgeport Drive. Officers were dispatched for a report of a woman who was out of control, throwing items and breaking TVs. Officers were advised the woman had a knife and had locked herself inside the home. Officers were able to make entry into the home. Officers were able to defuse the situation and detain the woman without causing any harm to anyone. The woman was transported to St. Cloud Hospital for an evaluation.

Council welcomes new police officer

by Dennis Dalman  
news@thenewsleaders.com

The Sartell Police Department has a new patrol officer, Nate Frieler, who took the oath of office administered by Police Chief Jim Hughes at the last City Council meeting.

Frieler was raised in Sauk Rapids. Starting in 2012, he became a police officer in Fergus Falls. He now lives in Sartell.

Hughes noted Frieler is a drug-recognition expert and can test for the presence of legal

and illegal drugs that suspects may have ingested. Frieler, said Hughes, will be a welcome addition to the Narcotics Task Force.

"He is a huge asset to our department," Hughes said.

Frieler completed his sessions of field training and is now ready to become a full-time patrol officer for Sartell.

The Sartell Police Department now has 21 full-time officers, 14 reserve officers, one full-time community-service officer, two full-time clerical staff and one part-time clerical staff person.

After taking the oath of office, Frieler received applause and then handshakes from the city-council members.



Frieler

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PUBLIC NOTICE

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
SARTELL-ST. STEPHEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO 748  
JULY 16, 2018 - DISTRICT SERVICE CENTER BOARD ROOM

The regular school board meeting of Independent School District 748 was called to order at 5:03 p.m. by Chair Jason Nies. Members present: Nies, chair; Mary McCabe, vice chair; Pamela Raden, clerk; Jeremy Snoberger, treasurer; Lesa Kramer, director; Patrick Marushin, director; and Jeff Schwiebert, superintendent. Members absent: None.

A motion was made by Marushin and seconded by Snoberger to APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS: remove Action Item C9 – Approve the official Sartell-St. Stephen Activities/Athletics logo suite from the agenda. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Kramer and seconded by McCabe to APPROVE CONSENT ITEMS A-D AS PRESENTED BELOW. All in favor. Motion carried.

a. Minutes of the regular school board meeting held on June 19, 2018  
Minutes of the board work session held on July 11, 2018

b. Checks in the amount of \$2,514,771.04 as presented:

General Fund	1,981,128.63
Food Service Fund	23,585.10
Transportation Fund	135,035.24
Community Service Fund	26,507.25
Capital Expenditure Fund	317,798.29
Scholarship Trust Fund	16,200.00
Summer Rec Agency Fund	14,516.53
Check numbers 172224 - 172486	

Receipts in the amount of \$4,846,710.27 as presented:

General Fund	2,851,140.70
Food Service Fund	107,534.92
Transportation Fund	393.56
Community Service Fund	100,824.35
Capital Expenditure Fund	22,587.79
Building Fund	12,199.29
Debt Service Fund	1,730,221.16
Summer Rec Agency Fund	21,808.50
Receipts 44759-44843	

Wire transfers in the amount of \$2,559,723.60 as presented:

General Fund	33,206.32
Capital Expenditure Fund	12,725.00
Debt Service Fund	2,512,648.75
Summer Rec Agency Fund	1,143.53
Wire transfers 201700092 – 201700094 and 201800001-201800006	
Building Fund Checks in the amount of \$112,567.81 as presented:	
Building Fund	112,567.81
Check number 600291-600292	

c. Accept the resignation of Lorie Duevel, SHS, special education, 8/31/18; Corinne Lyon, ORE, kindergarten, 8/31/18; Jina Schoenborn, DSC, youth program coordinator, 7/25/18.

d. Accept the following donations:  
Oak Ridge Elementary PTC, ORE, \$4949.01, climbing wall.

Student Representative Report:  
No report.

Construction Manager Report on Building Process:

Construction Manager Lee Gruen reported concrete work is 100cpercent complete on the second level and all concrete work should be close to complete by the end of August. Structural steel is nearing 100-percent completion on the main body of the building. Roofing is on pace to be 99 percent complete by the end of July, with the remaining 1 percent representing the activity storage areas. The irrigation system is 95 percent completed and the pump should be operational the first week of August.

Superintendent Report: Jeff Schwiebert, superintendent

Schwiebert reported the Resource Training Membership was being approved with its payment in the check report at tonight’s meeting. The GeoComm program was briefly discussed and it should have a positive impact for the K-12 students. Pine Meadow has had the final new carpet which concluded building improvements, which included exterior wall rust removal and roof maintenance. Oak Ridge had its parking lot chip-sealed and curbing modified to accommodate safe snow removal. The Middle School’s rear access roads near the baseball and softball fields were paved today.

School Board Committee Report:

Director Raden reported on the Communications Committee meeting she attended. Highlights include the updated website, levy information and the brand refreshing.

Principal Evaluation Plan Report:

High School Principal Brenda Steve and Middle School Principal Kurt Stumpf reported on a proposed Principal Evaluation Plan that would be put into effect for the 2018-19 school year.

A motion was made by Raden and seconded by Marushin to APPROVE #1-7:

New Employees/Changes:

Kevin Argueta, SHS, assistance soccer, \$3,289 (8.35 percent), BA, 00 (\$39,394), replacing Matt Horning, 8/13/2018; Josh Bentley, DSC, school board secretary, \$6,000, new position, 7/1/2017; Rachel Miller, SMS, instructional technology specialist, \$52,563, MA, C, replacing Brad Scherer, 8/27/2018; Allison White, SMS, special education, \$42,334, BA, C, replacing Alaina Anderson, 8/27/2018.

New Employees – Pending Licensure:

Hannah Carey, Early Childhood, pre-school/ECFE, \$27.58/hour, BA, A, replacing Melissa Smith, 8/27/2018; Shirley Janu,

SHS, FACS, \$22,744, BA20, A, .5 FTE, new position, 8/27/2018; Michele Rogers, Early Childhood, early childhood coordinator, \$78,369, MA30, R, replacing Sarah Funk, 7/1/2018.

Leaves of Absence:

None.  
All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Snoberger and seconded by Raden to APPROVE THE CONTRACT WITH TROBEC’S SCHOOL BUS SERVICE INC. FOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AS PRESENTED. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by McCabe and seconded by Kramer to APPROVE MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR MSBA FOR THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Marushin and seconded by Kramer to APPROVE THE MEMBERSHIP FEE FOR SEE FOR THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Raden and seconded by Marushin to APPROVE THE REVISED SARTELL-ST. STEPHEN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 748 EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by McCabe and seconded by Snoberger to APPROVE CHANGES IN THE 2018-2019 PINE MEADOW ELEMENTARY, OAK RIDGE ELEMENTARY, SARTELL MIDDLE SCHOOL, SARTELL HIGH SCHOOL AND ACTIVITIES POLICY HANDBOOKS WITH EDITS. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Marushin and seconded by Snoberger to APPROVE THE LONG-TERM FACILITY MAINTENANCE 10-YEAR EXPENDITURE APPLICATION. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Marushin and seconded by McCabe to APPROVE THE RESOLUTION RELATING TO REVOKING THE EXISTING REFERENDUM REVENUE AUTHORIZATION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, APPROVING A NEW AUTHORIZATION AND CALLING AN ELECTION THEREON. All in favor. Motion carried.

Schedule Work Session and Committee Meetings:

Future Board Meeting – Monday Aug. 20, 2018 – District Service Center at 5 p.m.

Committees

Committee assignments for 2018 were reviewed.

A motion to ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 5:41 p.m. was made by Raden and seconded by Snoberger. All in favor. Motion carried.

/s/ Pamela Raden, clerk

Publish: Aug. 24, 2018

Summer’s last shot



photo by Carolyn Bertsch

**Aidan Knaus and friends gather to shoot hoops Aug. 17 at the Pine Meadow Elementary School basketball courts.**

Incumbents file for St. Stephen offices

St. Stephen’s city government will look the same after the Nov. 6 election.

Incumbents filed for the open positions of mayor and the three city council seats.

Gene Skaj and Danita Traut filed for re-election to serve four-year terms on the City Council.

Stephen Trobec, who was appointed Aug. 1, filed for a two-year council term.

Jeff Blenkush, a council member who was appointed mayor on July 11, filed for a two-year term as mayor.

5 candidates file for 3 Sartell-St. Stephen school board seats

Five people have filed for three seats on the Sartell-St. Stephen school board.

The candidates are Taryn Gentile, Melinda Vonderahe, Jeremy Snoberger, Patrick Marushin and Amanda Byrd.

Snoberger and Marushin are current board members.

The general election is Nov. 6 and winners will serve four-year terms.

Filings closed Aug. 14.





Bennie & Johnny

WOW! SUMMER WENT FAST!

NO!

IT'S NOT OVER YET!

WELL, IT IS THE END OF AUGUST.

THERE'S STILL PLENTY OF TIME!

SCHOOL STARTS IN A FEW DAYS.

IT'S STILL SUMMER!

QUICK! STAY UP LATE!

LET'S GO TO THE BEACH!

IT'S SO HOT! CRANK THE AC!

FIRE UP THE GRILL!

FACE IT, SUMMER IS ENDING, BENNIE.

I REFUSE TO GO QUIETLY INTO THAT GOOD NIGHT.

Council approves new roundabout sign

by Dennis Dalman  
news@thenewsleaders.com

The Sartell City Council unanimously approved a new city sign that will be installed on a roundabout at 35th Street N. by the new high school now under construction.

At a meeting late last year, the city council approved the style of the sign, similar to the “Daybreak” welcoming sign by the Daybreak neighborhood in the city.

At the council’s last meeting, Sartell City Engineer Jon Halter presented details about the sign. It will, he said, be comprised of metal letters that spell out “Sartell” on the north side of the roundabout so motorists entering the city from the north will see it. The tallest letter will be the “S” at 3 feet. The following letters will each be 2-feet tall. The length of the sign will be 13.5 feet, and it will be curved

to mimic the curve of the roundabout. The letters will be secured to a concrete pad and will be illuminated by lights at night by ground-mounted lighting.

The metal letters, Halter explained, will be treated with a chemical solution so, over time, they will acquire a kind of rust-colored patina.

The total cost for the sign and its installation will be \$3,500.


Council members asked several questions about the sign. Member David Peterson asked Halter if the sign’s lighting would spread beyond the roundabout. Halter said no, that the lights will shine on the sign only and that the berm behind it will serve as a backdrop for the lights.

For safety reasons, the letters – if hit by a vehicle – will just fall over. That is why, Halter said, brick walls and other forms of solid signs are not recommended for roundabouts.

Won’t the letters be damaged during snow-plowing? Public-Works Director John Kothenbeutel said that will not be a problem as snow is never pushed onto a roundabout.

Some on the council suggested similar signs could be placed on the other roundabouts at road entrances to Sartell. All of the members said they like the look of the new sign, but one asked about Sartell’s other style of welcome sign, the one showing the city’s stylized logo of a sun and river. Some on the council like that style of sign (Peterson and Pat Lynch); the other members not so much, with Mayor Sarah Jane Nicoll saying she has never liked that particular logo sign.

Finally, the council decided to wait until the sign is installed before making a decision to put similar signs on other roundabouts. It’s expected to be installed this fall.



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# Park

# Lake Wobegon Regional Trail Ride set for Sept. 8

from front page

Mader and Matthew Gray, police officers; and Dennis Molitor, Rachel Lolmasteymaugh, Dave Lindbloom and Diane Schellinger, members of the Sartell Parks Commission.

Residents expressed satisfaction with their green-space park but noted a pathway to the playground area would be a welcome addition. Issues that impinge on park use, they said, include concerns about the safety of crosswalks on 15th Street S., at Pinecone Road and at 19th Avenue S., which are all roads near the park.

The city staff members will take the neighbors' concerns under consideration. Community surveys and conversations will be scheduled for other Sartell parks in the future. Information about the surveys and conversations will be published in upcoming issues of the Sartell Newsleader, and notices will also be available on the Sartell website at [www.sartellmn.com](http://www.sartellmn.com).

by Cori Hilsgen  
[news@thenewsleaders.com](mailto:news@thenewsleaders.com)

Bicyclists who enjoy riding the Lake Wobegon Regional Trail and want to do so for a good cause will once again have a chance to start pedaling their legs.

For the 13th year, Chuck and Lucy Rieland and their family are helping organize the annual Lake Wobegon Regional Trail Ride benefiting Day Services at Catholic Charities' St. Cloud Children's Home.

The event will take place Saturday, Sept. 8, starting with an 8:30 a.m. check-in and 9 a.m. start.

Riders will start at the trailhead in St. Joseph and ride round-trip to their preferred destinations. The event is not a race; instead, it's a leisurely ride during which riders can enjoy some beautiful scenery on the trail.

Route options include riding from St. Joseph to Avon, Albany, Freeport, Melrose or Sauk Centre. The event ends in Sauk Centre.

There will not be any return transportation back to St. Jo-

seph.

The donation to ride is \$35 on the day of the event. Helmets are required.

Because they have learned of how much of a need there is to help so many children, the Rielands continue to fight for them.

The primary beneficiary of donations from the ride is Day Services at Catholic Charities' St. Cloud Children's Home. Working with children and their families, this program endeavors to help students with behavioral and emotional problems to increase their ability to function more successfully in their homes, schools and communities.

## Background

Chuck and Lucy, founders and directors of the ride, have helped organize the event since the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center in New York City on Sept. 11, 2001.

Chuck works as a first vice-president and financial adviser for Morgan Stanley Wealth Management, a brokerage firm that occupied many floors of the Trade Center. Both were greatly affected by the attacks and realized they needed to find something positive to counter them.

At the time of the attacks, many employees were able to evacuate the south tower of the center before the second plane hit, but many security personnel lost their lives after helping evacuate other people.



contributed photos

**Last year's Lake Wobegon Regional Trail Ride participants gather for a photo. This is the 13th year that Chuck and Lucy Rieland and their family helped organize the annual Lake Wobegon Regional Trail Ride benefiting Day Services at Catholic Charities St. Cloud Children's Home. The event will take place Saturday, Sept. 8.**

At the time, the couple was working on a project for the Catholic Charities' Children's Home in St. Paul.

In the middle of the night, Chuck had an idea about the Wobegon Trail and a fundraiser for a children's home, even though he didn't know that there was a children's home in St. Cloud. He did, however, know about the trail because he grew up in New Munich and was familiar with the area.

After some soul-searching, Chuck and Lucy came up with the idea for the Lake Wobegon Trail Ride fundraiser and have been helping organize the event ever since.

Chuck, Lucy, daughter Brenda and husband Max Larson, son Greg and wife Sara, son Mark and four grandchildren (Carly, Matt, Joey and Amelia) have participated in making the ride an annual tradition for their family as well as for the Morgan Stanley employees and foundation.

The Morgan Stanley foundation has donated yearly to the event and employees also offer a great deal of encouragement.

"Catholic Charities has been honored to be the recipient of the Lake Wobegon Regional Trail Ride and we want to thank Chuck and Lucy Rieland and their families for their tre-

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Bikers participate in the Lake Wobegon Regional Trail Ride in Avon. This year’s event will take place Saturday, Sept. 8, with a 9 a.m. start at the St. Joseph trailhead.

mendous efforts in putting this event on for over 13 years,” said Bobbie Mattison, director of organizational advancement at Catholic Charities. “Every dollar raised by the Lake Wobegon Trail Ride is used to help children in our Day Services program at Catholic Charities’ St. Cloud Children’s Home.”

Another event the Rielands have helped organize to raise funds for the Children’s Home is the Lake Wobegon Golf Benefit. The annual golfing fundraiser is held in Albany, a city on the Wobegon Trail.

This year, the 12th annual golf event was held Aug. 20.

Funds raised

Chuck said his health has been good and enables him to continue to be a part of these

fundraising events.

As of last year, organizers have raised \$988,000 and he said he hopes to reach \$1,000,000.

“This is a milestone of a kind to have raised almost \$1,000,000,” Chuck said. “We are so graciously thankful to all donors who have been a part of this movement.”

He said they are very appreciative of the time, encouragement and financial support people have and continue to so generously give.

For registration information, visit [ccstcloud.org/events](http://ccstcloud.org/events). If you have an interest in being a sponsor, volunteer or donor, contact Rieland at 952-475-4156 or Hoffman at 320-650-1641.

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## BACK TO SCHOOL GUIDE | GETTING BACK IN GEAR

# Making Back to School Fun

**P**arents, rejoice! Summer is over and it's time to send the kids back to school. While you may be dancing a jig, chances are your children may be a little more glum. Here are some ways to cheer them up and make going back to school easier.

## ESTABLISH TRADITIONS

Start your own back-to-school traditions like a special first-day breakfast or picture to get the year started on a good foot. You can also break out balloons or other special gifts to get the kids going and ease the jitters on the first day. If you can, spend extra time helping them get ready; maybe with a new hairstyle or a new backpack to make the day fun.

## TAKE A HOLIDAY

Pack the weekend before school starts with your child's favorite activities. Hit the park, the beach, go camping, anything to take their mind off the looming start of school and end the summer with a bang. Just make sure you're back home in time for them to start the year with plenty of rest.

## GET ON THE GOOD FOOT

It may seem like common sense, but with summer coming to a close and everything that entails, it might be hard to remember. Make sure your kids get plenty of rest and a good, healthy breakfast before they

head out of the door on the first day of school. Have them lay their stuff out the night before so there's no last-minute scramble.

## STARTING A NEW SCHOOL

If your child's starting a new school for the first time, there are going to be some extra jitters on that first day. But there are some things you can do to take the sting out. If you can, try to tour the school before the first day so she's familiar with the layout, if nothing else. Meet her new teachers and, if possible, make some connections with kids her age that go there.

Remember that while it may seem trivial to our adult problems, the first day of school is a huge event in your child's life. Keep lines of communication open and give them plenty of love during the first couple of weeks. Give them time to process their feelings and encourage them to talk to you about it. Listen to your children and take their feelings seriously, even if their missing favorite pencil pales in comparison to what you deal with every day.

While it may seem trivial to our adult problems, the first day of school is a huge event in your child's life.



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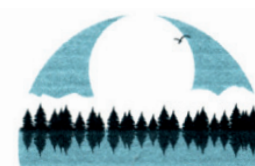
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# Tips for Going to College

Freshman year is a milestone for parents and students alike. Here are some tips for a successful freshman year.

**GET THE RIGHT GEAR**  
Send your student off with all the supplies the school recommends for the first year, including the right tech. Families planned to spend a total of \$12.8 billion on electronics for their college student during back-to-school 2017, including laptops, tablets, calculators, smartphones and accessories.  
Talk to your student and the university's student services office about what electronics they'll need on campus. Then visit the local tech store for good advice on what brands and models to purchase to get the most bang for your buck.

**KNOW THE FREE SERVICES AVAILABLE**  
Many campuses have a variety of free services available to students. Parents, know what they are so you can point your student in that direction. Students, know what they are so you don't have to ask your parents. These may include medical services, counseling, financial advising, career centers and more. This is the last time many of these will be free. Go take advantage of them.



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**GET YOUR FINANCES IN ORDER**  
Speaking of financial services, college is expensive. Both students and parents should know what they're paying for and know the terms of any loans taken out. Parents, see that your children know the basics of banking and budgeting and maybe even some more advanced banking like taking out and paying for loans and credit cards. Choose a bank for your student that also has branches in your town so that you can help out quickly in case of emergencies.

**MAINTAIN GOOD HEALTH**  
Everyone knows about the Freshman 15 (or 20), so show your students how to eat and shop for good health. If they don't know how to cook, show them how to prep and make a few meals. Get a check up before they leave town and help them find a doctor and a pharmacy near or on campus that accepts their insurance. And don't forget mental health. Talk to your child about stress and relieving stress, about available counseling services, and keep lines of communication open.

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# Council fails to endorse speed study

by Dennis Dalman  
news@thenewsleaders.com

The Sartell City Council decided not to endorse a speed study proposed to be done on CR 120 from Hwy. 15 to CR 4.

The study would be undertaken by the Minnesota Department of Transportation at the request of Stearns County. There would be no cost to Sartell. Currently, the speed on that roadway is 45 mph.

All four members of the Sartell City Council (member David Peterson was absent) took issue with a need for the study. They also wanted to know if MnDOT decides the speed there should be decreased

or maybe even increased, will the City of Sartell have to accede to that decision. Sartell City Engineer Jon Halter said he would have to check to be sure but that he is fairly certain a decision by MnDOT and/or the county would be the final say-so. All council members wondered aloud why a study there is necessary at all because all said they believe 45 mph is a reasonable and safe speed, especially with the roundabouts there that have the effect of slowing traffic down and

discouraging speeding. Council member Pat Lynch said besides the roundabout there are not a lot of entrances or exits along CR 120, which tends to make the road even safer. Mayor Sarah Jane Nicoll agreed, saying why should a study be done when all agree 45 mph is reasonable and safe. After further discussion, the council failed to approve a motion to endorse the speed-study proposal. The vote was 4-0 against the study.

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# Dog days of summer



photo by Carolyn Bertsch  
Steven Maus of Sartell and his dog, Timber, a poodle-Australian-shepherd mix, play together Aug. 17 at Pinecone Central Dog Park.


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photo by Dennis Dalman  
**This roadway in east Sartell is one of many on that side of the city that will be redone next spring. The fix-it projects are expected to start in May 2019 and will cost more than \$7 million, funded by city money and assessments to residents of that area.**

# Road

from front page

Aug. 13 council meeting.

## The report

The feasibility study was presented to the council at the Aug. 13 meeting by April Ryan, project engineer for the city’s contracted engineering firm of Short, Elliot, Hendrickson Inc. Using overhead graphics and maps, Ryan gave an outline of three areas for improvement. There will be a partial mill and overlay done on Scott Drive, which will make the

first section of that road 32-foot wide for a distance of 356 feet, and the rest of the road will remain its current urban-street width of 36 feet. The Scott Drive improvement will make the entire stretch of road good for 12-foot to 14-foot driving lanes, as well as an 8-foot parking lane. The storm sewer along the road will also be replaced. A full-reconstruction project will involve improving streets and replacing or updating storm sewers, sanitary-sewer lines and the water main. The streets will be widened to 32 feet, allowing for two 12-foot driving lanes and an 8-foot parking lane.

The roadways for full reconstruction are the following: Second Avenue NE, Third Avenue NE and Fourth Avenue NE. (the section between First Street to 160 feet north of Third Street NE), as well as all the streets from Second Street NE (the section between Third Avenue and Fourth Avenue) to Eighth Street NE (the section between

First Avenue NE and Third Avenue E). Alley reconstruction (resurfaced with a bituminous layer) will be done between First Avenue E and Second Avenue E, as well as an alley just off of Scott Drive. The third portion of the east-side roads project will be a mill-and-overlay of the following roadways: Fourth Avenue E, Fourth Avenue NE (160 feet north of Third Street to the north end), Fifth Avenue E, Eighth Street NE from Third Avenue E to the east end, Ninth Street NE from Third Avenue E to the east end, 10th Street NE, 11th Street NE, Highway Drive W and High Drive. Those roadways will be 36 feet wide, except for Eighth Street NE, which currently is 38 feet wide. The roads will be redone with an 8-inch milled edge and a 2-inch bituminous overlay.

**Costs**

The entire project, all three

portions, will cost an estimated \$7,179,000. The overlay work will be paid entirely by the city, and assessments to residents will help cover the other portions of the project. The city’s total cost is \$6,628,000, which means about \$500,000 must be raised through assessments. The planners decided to place a cap on assessment costs to make it easier for property owners to bear the burden. The cap will be an assessment amount of 8 percent of estimated market value of a resident’s property or \$8,000, whichever is less. Assessments will show up on the 2020 tax statements. It was also noted there will be another tax assessment hearing after the plans and designs are finalized.

One speaker at the public hearing thanked the city for the assessment cap, noting he and other neighbors in east Sartell are blue-collar workers mainly and certainly not millionaires. That same speaker, along with some others, questioned the need to widen all the roads in the project, partly because neighbors there do not want to lose the stately trees near the current roadsides – oaks, basswood, silver maple. The speaker, who had been laid-up because of surgery, said he recently observed traffic by his home one morning from 5-9 a.m., and there were only 16 vehicles.

Why, he asked, is there a need for 32-foot wide urban-standard roads in a quiet neighborhood? Some streets in that area are 24-, 25- and 27-foot wide, he noted. Sartell City Engineer Jon Halter took note of the speakers’ comments and questions during the hearing. The plans, he said, are by no means finalized, and engineers are willing to work with residents regarding individual problems and concerns, including efforts to save as many trees as possible and to consider allowing some road widths in some areas to remain the same. Council members also weighed in on road widths and agreed roads should not be widened in some places if at all possible.

## Other improvements

The storm-sewer pipes on east side of Sartell are a kind of mish-mash of various ages and sizes, and there are breakages here and there in the pipes, as well as root-intrusions, as videos have shown. The project will replace and improve the sewer and water system, ensuring it’s more uniform, consistent and functional to an optimal level. Twenty fire hydrants will be replaced as part of the east-side project. A pond storage-drainage system in that area will also be developed.



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# Night Out in Sartell ‘another great success’

by **Dennis Dalman**  
news@thenewsleaders.com

National Night out in Sartell was “another great success,” said Sartell Police Chief Jim Hughes in a memo to the city council.

Twenty-eight neighborhoods in Sartell hosted various kinds of get-togethers for the national annual event, which took place Aug. 7.

Hughes thanked the Sartell Fire Department for participating as well as the Sartell Public Works Department, which set up barriers to close off some residential streets for activities hosted by neighborhood residents.

The purpose of National

Night Out is to give people a chance to know one another and to learn about neighborhood safety measures with knowledge presented by police, firefighters and other emergency personnel. Many Sartell neighborhoods had cookout get-togethers that evening.

Hughes credited former city-council member Sandra Cordie for her efforts to popularize National Night Out years ago, and it has grown in popularity ever since that time – about 10 years ago.

Council member Ryan Fitzthum agreed with Hughes’ comments. He said National Night Out was not only a lot of fun but that it is a great way for residents, police, firefighters

and other city employees to interact and share concerns.

The annual National Night Out began in 1984 when it was sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch in North America. In its first years, it mainly involved people turning on their porch lights and sitting in front of their homes. Since then, it grew in purpose to feature cookouts, games for children, formation of Neighborhood Watch groups and guest speakers, especially police officers and sheriff deputies. Currently, an estimated 38 million neighbors participate in the event in more than 16,000 towns, cities and townships across the nation.

## Sliding toward fall



photo by Carolyn Bertsch

**A younger brother reaches for his older brother’s hand as the two careen down a slide together Aug. 17 at Sartell Lions Community Park. They are (left) Ethan Robillard, 2, and Aiden Robillard, 5, both of Sartell.**

## 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, Aug. 24

**Benton County Museum,** 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 218 First St. N., Sauk Rapids. 320-253-9614. mnbentonhistory.org.

### Saturday, Aug. 25

**Go Far Together,** run walk and picnic, check-in at 8:30 a.m. Lake George, St. Cloud. Register at the St. Cloud school district 320-200-3600 or isd742.ce.eleyo.com.

### Monday, Aug. 27

**Market Monday,** 3-6: p.m., park-

ing lot of Coborn’s Marketplace, 1725 Pinecone Road S., Sartell, marketmonday.org.

**Sartell City Council,** 6 p.m., Sartell City Hall, 125 Pinecone Road N. 320-253-2171.

**Benton County Museum,** 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 218 First St. N., Sauk Rapids. 320-253-9614. mnbentonhistory.org.

**Lunch and cards,** sponsored by Helping Hands Outreach, noon-2 p.m., Trobec’s Bar & Grill, 1 Central Ave. S., St. Stephen.

### Tuesday, Aug. 28

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

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

### Wednesday, Aug. 29

**Free immigration services,** 9 a.m.-noon, Discovery Community School, 700 Seventh St. S., Waite

Park.

### Thursday, Aug. 30

**Sauk Rapids Farmers’ Market,** 3-6 p.m., Coborn’s parking lot, 110 First St. S., Sauk Rapids.

**Coffee and Conversation,** a senior discussion group, 9 a.m., Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S.

**Nordic walking,** 9:30 a.m., meet at the granite fountain at Lake George in St. Cloud. Call Linda at 952-475-0891.

**Family Farmers’ Market,** 2-6 p.m., River East parking lot, CentraCare Health Plaza, 1900 CentraCare Circle, St. Cloud. 320-252-2422.

### Friday, Aug. 31

**Benton County Museum,** 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 218 First St. N., Sauk Rapids. 320-253-9614. mnbentonhistory.org.

### Monday, Sept. 3

**Market Monday,** 3-6: p.m., parking lot of Coborn’s Market Place, 1725 Pinecone Road S., Sartell, mar-

ketmonday.org.

### Tuesday, Sept. 4

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

**Memory Writers Group,** develop topics and turn in stories, 10 a.m., Stearns History Museum, 235 33rd Ave. S, St Cloud.

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

### Wednesday, Sept. 5

**Free immigration services,** 9 a.m.-noon, Discovery Community School, 700 Seventh St. S., Waite Park.

**St. Stephen City Council,** 6:30 p.m., St. Stephen City Hall, 2 Sixth Ave SE.

### Thursday, Sept. 6

**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.

**Sauk Rapids Farmers’ Market,** 3-6 p.m., Coborn’s parking lot, 110 First St. S., Sauk Rapids.

**Coffee and Conversation,** a senior discussion group, 9 a.m., Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S.

**Nordic walking,** 9:30 a.m., meet at the granite fountain at Lake George in St. Cloud. Call Linda at 952-475-0891.

**Family Farmers’ Market,** 2-6 p.m., River East parking lot, CentraCare Health Plaza, 1900 CentraCare Circle, St. Cloud. 320-252-2422.

### Friday, Sept. 7

**Benton County Museum,** 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 218 First St. N., Sauk Rapids. 320-253-9614. mnbentonhistory.org.

### Saturday, Sept. 8

**Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Awareness Walk,** 9 a.m.-noon, Building 92, St. Cloud VA Health Care System. 4801 Veterans Drive. St. Cloud.

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# Opinion

## Our View

### Government shouldn't try to censor social media

Misconceptions about free speech and the First Amendment are getting tangled up in the growing controversy over the role of social media companies in public debate.

Don't let confusion about free speech, companies' business decisions and technology lead to government regulation.

Let's start with the First Amendment:

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

With minimal exceptions (such as yelling fire in a crowded theater) people can say whatever they want. The government can't dictate speech or what the press reports.

But Facebook and Twitter aren't the government. They are companies. They can set terms of service and decide what appears on their platforms.

But those companies and the technology they rely on have failed. Hate speech, threats, totally baseless opinion and lies masquerading as truth threaten the usefulness of those platforms.

In a simpler technology time, publishers and broadcasters were legally liable for the content they presented. But the law protects social media companies. Newspapers and broadcasters can be sued for libel. Editors and news directors serve as gatekeepers not only for fact-based stories but also to block wacky opinions and hateful, threatening statements.

However, legally, the social media companies can't be sued, just the poster. As a result, companies opened their platforms to mostly unmoderated comments in the idealistic belief that "good" speech would drive out "bad" speech. And from the business standpoint, that policy helped build traffic and revenue.

Social media companies developed software to block comments and posts that violated terms of service and common sense. As we've seen, the technology hasn't kept up with mischief from posters with a variety of motives. It's turning out social media companies are needing to hire thousands of workers to review posts and comments instead of depending on software. It's about time they take some responsibility whether or not the law requires it.

Anybody can stand on a soapbox in the public square and spout whatever goofy ideas they want. The government can't stop it. But when that soapbox (Twitter, Facebook) amplifies those wacky comments millions of times, social media companies need to yank away the soapbox.

What we don't need is government getting in the business of regulating who speaks or writes the words. Recent legislation requiring online political ads to carry who paid for them is a good idea. Those rules apply to newspapers and broadcasters. But the government has no business regulating what's said or who says it.

Donald Trump's recent tweets accused social media of unfairly censoring social media. "Censorship is a very dangerous thing. Speaking loudly and clearly for the Trump Administration, we won't let that happen," Trump tweeted.

He's right, censorship is dangerous.

We've got the First Amendment to protect the free press and free speech. We don't need the government deciding what's good speech or bad speech on social media.

## First Amendment: Freedom of Speech Tweets

**Patric Lewandowski**  
*Guest Writer*



Roseanne Barr was a comedian with a successful sitcom in the '90s. Said sitcom made a comeback last year and was a hit, especially with the more conservative members of the country. Barr was fired from her new hit show (the show was cancelled, then rebooted without her) after a racist joke was tweeted by her.

Alex Jones is an extremely conservative radio/tv host and proprietor of the Info Wars website. His specialty is conspiracy theories such as the massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary was a hoax and all the parents you saw were paid actors. Recently, all of his podcasts and videos were removed from the services of Apple, Spotify, Facebook and Youtube for offensive content.

Finally, James Gunn is the liberal director of the first two movies of the extremely successful Marvel movie franchise "Guardians of the Galaxy." He was working on the third installment up until about a month ago when Disney, the owners of Marvel, fired him from the film after decade-old tweets of his resurfaced with offensive jokes.

What do each of these three very disparate people have in common? They've recently had issues with social media impacting their careers.

In each case, much has been said by the fans about these three individuals and their First Amendment rights and how they are being censored or punished for what they have said. For the record, the First Amendment does not protect you from the consequences of your speech. In each of these cases, the individual in question is being punished by private companies, not the government. The First Amendment only protects individuals from having the government punish them for what they said (or tweeted). Now, if the president ordered the firing of these people and the companies complied, then we'd have something, but as it stands, private companies can and will hold people responsible.

In the case of Jones, unlike Barr and Gunn, he wasn't fired from a company he worked for but private companies removed his content from their distribution networks. Again, those companies are free to decide what to

allow on their networks. If they do not agree with what someone says, they have no legal obligation to host their content.

None of this has anything to do with the First Amendment, especially considering these services are available worldwide. However, it is a good reminder that we are all responsible for what we say and do and must accept the consequences for our actions. Every right we have comes with responsibilities. We have the freedom to say or write or post what we want, but we also must realize that whatever we say others can find and hold against us. There are a lot of job applicants who don't make their social media private wondering how their prospective employer saw that photo of them giving the finger with a joint in their mouth. Again, free to post it, but likewise a private company is free to use that against you. People have found themselves losing jobs for offensive jokes even in mundane fields like accounting.

The First Amendment does not protect you from bad things that happen when you say stupid things. The internet is written in ink and it takes a very long time for that ink to fade.

## Imagine Aretha singing with the angels

**Dennis Dalman**  
*Reporter*



When I first heard it on the radio one day in 1968, it's as if I were hearing the sky rip wide open.

All my hairs were tingling. Goosebumps.

"You better think, think, think about what you're trying to do to me . . ."

What a voice! I'd never heard anything like it. It was a powerful, rollicking, grounded voice that grabbed my immediate attention and wouldn't let go. It was an earthy voice filled with passion and conviction. A commanding voice with a kind of regal sass to it – a bit slyly taunting, scolding, somewhat mischievous, swooping from bold verbal warnings to its jubilant crescendo of "Freedom, Freedom, Freedom." It was a voice of a strong, confident, no-nonsense woman who knew what she was singing about down to the bottom of her very soul. She sounded like she was laying down the law and no back-talk please.

It was, of course, the voice of Aretha Franklin, who died Aug. 16 at age 76.

Before the day that song struck me like lightning, I had somehow managed to miss Franklin's earlier radio hits. I'd heard her name but did not know her works. "Think" re-

mains my favorite of her many great songs, although "Respect," "Chain of Fools" and "Natural Woman" are also top favorites.

Franklin was a powerhouse, a force of nature, a towering vocalist, a wonderful piano player and a key influence for the Civil Rights struggles of the mid- to late-1960s. At the age of 16, before she was widely known, she sang at Martin Luther King Jr. rallies before he became a household name. And later, on such a mournful day in April 1968, she sang an earth-shattering version of "Precious Lord" at King's funeral after he was assassinated in Memphis, the city of Franklin's birth.

She was also a force for social/cultural change, her powerful vocal performances underlining the Women's Movement. Here was a woman who knew deep down what she was saying, what she was singing, and when Franklin sang with her confident, bold, no-nonsense voice, people stood at attention and listened.

Here was a woman you didn't want to mess with, a woman who didn't indulge in sloganeering, and a woman with a voice that evoked "women's liberation" far more powerfully than a crowd of bra-burners.

Franklin's genius – besides the obvious magnificent gift of her voice – was her uncanny ability, like that of Elvis Presley, to blend musical forms: gospel, rhythm-and-blues, jazz, rock 'n' roll. She created a fresh-and-funky sound by synthesizing those musical forms, along with the jubilant congregation shouts heard in her girlhood at the New Bethel Baptist Church where her father C.L. Franklin was pastor.

Another sign of her genius is that every song she sang she made entirely her own, including – most notably – "Natural Woman" written by Carole King and Gerry Goffin; and "Respect" written by Otis Redding. It is almost unthinkable that any other singer would be foolish enough to attempt those songs.

In my imagination, I keep seeing and hearing the immortal Aretha Franklin, Queen of Soul, shakin' up the heavenly joint, leading a choir of other angels with that powerful voice, those soaring emotions and those commanding convictions.

**GOT AN OPINION?**

Please include your full name for publication (and address and phone number for verification)

**The Newsleaders**  
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# In search of votes, Read meets voters one-on-one

Jim Read has walked many miles since last winter and, at least figuratively, it's mostly been uphill. He's running as a Democrat for a seat in the state House of Representatives in the deeply red District 13A.

He intends to knock on the doors of at least two-thirds of the district's 13,000 households with registered voters by election day. So far, he's visited about 6,000.

Last week, his door-knocking campaign found him in Lynden Township in the district's east end.

While other candidates hold rallies, send out volunteers armed with brochures, fill their voters' mailboxes with mailings, jangle their phones with robot calls and spam them with email, Read prefers the time-consuming one-on-one approach.

"You're showing you are going to make the effort to meet them and listen to them and hear what their concerns are," Read said.

"I've had many people say you're the first candidate who has been out to talk to me. A lot of people don't feel like they've been listened to."

Read works from a list of registered voters. On this Thursday

afternoon with the temperature in the upper 80s, he saunters from house to house.

If someone answers the door, he'll talk with them for five to 10 minutes. As he walks to the next house, he makes notes for a follow-up postcard.

If there's no one home, he leaves a card about his campaign.

During two hours, he visits 24 houses and speaks with 18 potential voters.

Read engages people with a casual, conversational tone honed after decades coaxing opinions from college students in the classroom.

He wants to know what concerns each citizen has.


"I've learned how many are struggling with health-care costs," Read said. Other frequently mentioned issues are education funding, affordable housing and in this portion of the district with limited internet service, people mention how much their kids need fast, reliable internet access to do homework.

Democrat or Republican, many voters ask why both parties can't work together to produce results.

Many of the issues are the same ones Read encountered

Mike Knaak

Editor



when he ran for the Legislature in 1992 with one exception.

"I was unpleasantly surprised at how much anti-Somali sentiment is out there. It's a very vocal minority. They have fears and misconceptions about Somalis and immigrants," he said.

Read says when he faces the immigration issue, he talks about his own experiences with Somalis and other immigrants as co-workers, friends and neighbors.

District 13A covers most of southern Stearns County. It stretches from Paynesville, northeast to Avon and St. Joseph, then south to Kimball and Lynden Township.

In 2016, the Republican House candidate bested the Democrat by more than 30 percentage points. This year, the incumbent, Jeff Howe, decided to run in the special election for the Senate District 13 seat. Read's opponent is Republican Lisa Demuth.

Lynden Township is Trump Country with the president win-

ning 67 percent of the votes.

That red wave doesn't deter Read from visiting every house.

Read met one of those Trump voters who was working in his yard. He asked Read if he supported Trump and when he found out Read didn't, he said the conversation was over and added "Get off my grass."

But not all voters who might not totally agree with Read are as abrupt.

He told this story about a recent conversation:

"We talked about gun rights, abortion, we partly agreed, partly disagreed. His major concern is political honesty. He said I passed the test by giving him straight answers. 'If you're elected I'm not going to cry about it,' the man said. He may not vote for me, but he doesn't see me as the enemy. He sees me as somebody who has listened and is at least fair. We've become so politically divided many people have trouble seeing someone as a fellow citizen. I always feel good when there is respect across political lines."

Unlike door-knocking in the city, Lynden Township's homes are spread out. In this slice of the township between Interstate Highway 94 and the Mississippi River, the homes are

surrounded by large lawns that are more like parks, with neatly trimmed grass, flower gardens and playsets.

Behind the house, there's usually a large garage that doubles as a workshop and many places have dogs.

Read hasn't been bitten yet and he laughs when he says dogs are louder than doorbells to let residents know he's at the door.

Some campaigns target a small slice of voters who are their most likely supporters.

"If I just ignore the people who are unlikely to vote for me, how can I represent that district?" Read asks.

"(If I'm elected) I don't only represent the people who voted for me, I have to be accountable to everybody. A piece of mail doesn't have to be accountable to anybody," Read said. "I try to give everyone a chance and don't write them off ahead of time."

Lynden Township is only 65 miles from St. Paul but it seems like a million miles. Read surely has an uphill walk to get there, but if he does, his constituents will know he's heard their voices...one at a time.

# Minnesota State Fair has impressive history

It's time once again for the Minnesota State Fair. Although, I do have an admission to make. Despite all of the excitement and buzz that is generated around the event each year, I have never been to the State Fair in my memory. My parents took me there when I was about 2, but that doesn't really count since I don't really remember. Every year, it just doesn't work out for my family to go, but it always makes me wonder about how this event I keep hearing about got started.

The Minnesota State Fair, or the "Great Minnesota Get-Together" began in 1859, the year after Minnesota was admitted to the United States, following an earlier fair in the same area that started in 1854. In its 159-year history, the fair hasn't been held only five times. According to their website, these

are 1861 and 1862 due to the Civil War and Dakota War, 1893 because of conflicts with the Chicago World's Fair, 1945 owing to World War II and 1946 following a polio outbreak.

If a history almost as long as our state itself isn't an impressive enough achievement, the size of the fairgrounds in Falcon Heights is also an impressive statistic. The 322 acres of buildings, booths, rides and other attractions is equivalent to almost 250 football fields. This, combined with attendance numbers makes your average county fair seem rather small by comparison.

Last year's fair drew a record 1,997,320 people over 12 days. This beat the previous record from 2016 by more than 50,000 people. This is almost twice as many visitors as our neighbor Wisconsin with their state fair

Connor Kockler

Guest Writer



in 2017, which according to the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, attracted a little more than a million people over 11 days.

And if you're wondering how many people it takes to operate such a large undertaking as the fair, you would be correct in thinking a large number. From 80 full-time employees, the fair staff expands to more than 3,500 members during the time of the event. Since about 5,500 people live in Falcon Heights

where the fair is located, this means the total staff of the fair is equivalent to around 60 percent of the local population.

From my experiences of the Benton County Fair, which I have been to several times, an event the size of the State Fair seems almost ridiculous. Though it isn't the largest, the Benton County Fair has a wide array of things to do that if you really spent your time combining through all the exhibits and events, it would take a long time to accomplish.

The State Fair by the sheer size of it all would be almost impossible to take in all at once, which is perhaps why so many people go back year after

year to see what is new or to enjoy their favorite foods and attractions.

Though I haven't really experienced it myself, from hearing in the news and listening to friends and acquaintances that have been to the State Fair it is truly a great experience to visit it. More than anything, it's a great thing to do with family and friends to get out and have fun and make memories, before summer is over and this busy world kicks back into gear.

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

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.

Sartell-St. Stephen • St. Joseph

Newsleaders

Reaching EVERYbody!



SAYBA Travel Basketball Registration for the 2018-19 season is now open!!

Register online at: [www.saybabball.org](http://www.saybabball.org)

Registration Fees:

3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade = \$160	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade = \$235
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade = \$210	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade = \$235
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade = \$220	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade = \$260
Family Maximum = \$400	

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- ☑ August 11<sup>th</sup> - Last day to register to receive the Early Bird Discount
- ☑ September 1<sup>st</sup> - Last day to register without paying a \$25 Late Fee
- ☑ September 15<sup>th</sup> - **Last day to register** (no late registrations accepted)

Register prior to August 11th

\$25

Early Bird Discount

- Try-out dates will be set at a later date. Please check the website and email for further information

- If your child does not make a team, the full registration will be returned.

- Registration fees will not be refunded after try-out dates

- Any refund requests are subject to a \$25 processing fee



# 2018-19 Sabres Varsity Fall Sports



Photos by Greg Kremer

### Football

8/25/18	9 a.m.	Scrimmage at Bloomington	Away
8/31/18	7 p.m.	Cambridge-Isanti	Home
9/7/18	7 p.m.	Alexandria	Away
9/14/18	7 p.m.	St. Cloud Apollo	Away
9/21/18	7 p.m.	St. Cloud Tech	Home
9/28/18	7 p.m.	Sauk Rapids-Rice	Away
10/5/18	7 p.m.	Moorhead	Away
10/12/18	7 p.m.	Bemidji	Home
10/17/18	7 p.m.	Brainerd	Home



### Volleyball

8/30/18	7 p.m.	Fergus Falls	Away
8/31/18	3 p.m.	Hutchinson	Home
9/4/18	7 p.m.	St. Cloud Apollo	Home
9/6/18	7 p.m.	Rocori	Home
9/11/18	7 p.m.	St. Cloud Tech	Home
9/13/17	7 p.m.	Sauk Rapids-Rice	Away
9/15/18	9 a.m.	North Branch tournament	Away
9/18/18	7 p.m.	Willmar	Home
9/22/18	9 a.m.	Dassel-Cokato Invitational	Away
9/25/18	7 p.m.	Brainerd	Away
9/27/18	7 p.m.	Alexandria	Away
10/2/18	7 p.m.	Fergus Falls	Home
10/4/18	7 p.m.	St. Cloud Apollo	Away
10/9/18	7 p.m.	Rocori	Away
10/11/18	7 p.m.	St. Cloud Tech	Away
10/16/18	7 p.m.	Sauk Rapids-Rice	Home
10/18/18	9 a.m.	Invitational	Home

### Girls Swimming

8/30/18	6 p.m.	Fergus Falls	Home
9/6/18	6 p.m.	St. Cloud Apollo	Away
9/11/18	6 p.m.	Alexandria Area	Away
9/13/18	6 p.m.	Willmar	Away
9/20/18	6 p.m.	St. Cloud Tech	Home
9/22/18	TBD	U of M Aquatic Center	Away
9/27/18	6 p.m.	Sauk Rapids-Rice	Away
10/4/18	6 p.m.	Brainerd	Home
10/6/18	10 a.m.	True Team TBD	Home
10/9/18	6 p.m.	Little Falls	Home
10/13/18	1 p.m.	True Team at U of M	Away
10/16/18	6 p.m.	Rocori	Home
10/27/18	10 a.m.	Conference Championship	Willmar



### Boys Soccer

8/27/18	5 p.m.	Princeton	Home
8/28/18	7 p.m.	Alexandria	Away
8/30/18	5 p.m.	Fergus Falls	Home
9/4/18	7 p.m.	St. Cloud Apollo	Away
9/8/18	2 p.m.	St. Francis	Away
9/10/18	7 p.m.	St. Cloud Tech at SCSU	Away
9/11/18	5 p.m.	Sauk Rapids-Rice	Home
9/13/18	5 p.m.	Willmar	Away
9/20/18	5 p.m.	Brainerd	Home
9/22/18	1 p.m.	Moorhead	Away
9/24/18	5 p.m.	Sauk Rapids-Rice	Away
9/25/18	5 p.m.	Alexandria	Home
9/29/18	Noon	Bemidji	Home
10/2/18	5 p.m.	St. Cloud Apollo	Home
10/4/18	5 p.m.	Rocori	Home
10/8/18	5 p.m.	Cathedral at Whitney	Away



### Cross Country

8/25/18	10 a.m.	St. Cloud Apollo Invitational	Away
8/30/18	10 a.m.	Thief River Falls Invitational	Away
9/8/18	10 a.m.	Monticello Invitational	Away
9/13/18	4 p.m.	Little Falls Invitational	Away
9/22/18	10 a.m.	Milaca Invitational	Away
9/29/18	1 p.m.	Willmar Invitational	Away
10/6/18	10:30 a.m.	Alexandria Invitational	Away
10/9/18	3:30 p.m.	St. Cloud Area Invitational	Away
10/16/18	4 p.m.	Conference Championship-Willmar	Away

### Girls Soccer

8/25/18	Noon	St. Croix Prep Academy	Away
8/28/18	5 p.m.	East Grand Forks Green Wave	Home
8/30/18	7 p.m.	Fergus Falls	Away
9/4/18	5 p.m.	St. Cloud Apollo	Home
9/11/18	5 p.m.	Sauk Rapids-Rice	Away
9/13/18	5 p.m.	Willmar	Home
9/15/18	11 a.m.	St. Cloud Tech	Home
9/18/18	7:30 p.m.	Becker	Away
9/20/18	5 p.m.	Brainerd	Away
9/22/18	1 p.m.	Moorhead	Home
9/25/18	7 p.m.	Alexandria	Away
9/29/18	2 p.m.	Little Falls	Home
10/2/18	7 p.m.	St. Cloud Apollo	Away
10/4/18	5:30 p.m.	Rocori	Away
10/8/18	7 p.m.	Cathedral at Whitney	Away

### Girls Tennis

8/28/18	4:30 p.m.	Willmar	Away
8/30/18	4:30 p.m.	Alexandria	Home
9/4/18	4:30 p.m.	Moorhead, East Grand Forks Green Wave	Away
9/6/18	4:30 p.m.	St. John's Prep	Home
9/11/18	4:30 p.m.	Apollo/SRR/Cathedral	Away
9/13/18	4:30 p.m.	Fergus Falls	Home
9/18/18	4:30 p.m.	Rocori	Away
9/20/18	4:30 p.m.	Willmar	Home
9/24/18	4:15 p.m.	Annandale	Away
9/25/18	2:30 p.m.	Alexandria	Away
9/27/18	4:30 p.m.	St. Cloud Tech	Home
10/1/17	4:30 p.m.	Brainerd	Away

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