

# Reaching Everybody! Newsleaders

Friday, Nov. 30, 2018  
Volume 30, Issue 35  
Est. 1989

## Town Crier

### Winterwalk is tonight in downtown St. Joseph

Winterwalk activities will be held Friday, Nov. 30 at Church of St. Joseph, 12 W. Minnesota St. Come for supper and shop at the craft/vendor sales and bake sale all from 4-8 p.m. Stay for the 25-foot tree lighting at 6 p.m. outside on the church grounds. Visit and take a photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus starting at 6:30 p.m. The Heritage Hall will also have refreshments, craft-making for the children, as well as a variety of music. Shop downtown for business specials, refreshments and a chance to win prizes. Winterwalk is sponsored by the St. Joseph Y2K Lions, Church of St. Joseph and local sponsors.

### Sartell Farmers' Market Dec. 1 at Community Center

Sartell Farmers' Market will be held from 4-7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1 inside Sartell's Community Center, 850 19th St. S. Come enjoy the lights and stop by for great farmers' market items including: meat, eggs, baked goods, canned goods, caramel corn and many more items that make great gifts.

### Winter Wonderland set Saturday, Dec. 8

Winter Wonderland, for children 12 and under and their families, will be held from 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8 at the Lake George Municipal Complex, 1101 Seventh St. S., St. Cloud. Santa and Mrs. Claus have taken time off from their busy schedule to join you and your family for a winter celebration. Create arts and crafts, decorate a cookie, see the reindeer exhibit, enjoy a hayride around the lake and much more; don't forget your camera. The big trucks will be rolling in again this year for Touch-a-Truck, where children can see, touch and safely explore their favorite big trucks and heavy machinery.

### Fare for All set Dec. 10

Fare for All's next distribution will be from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 10 at Resurrection Lutheran Church, 610 CR 2, St. Joseph. Holiday packs, including a 9- to 11-pound spiral ham, a whole chicken, chicken drumsticks, mild Italian sausage, frozen mixed vegetables, frozen corn, meatballs and a Dutch apple pie, will be available. Fare for All is a budget-stretching program that allows people to save up to 40 percent off fresh fruits, vegetables and frozen meats. Distribution is once a month. This event is open to everyone who wants to stretch their grocery dollar. Cash, credit, debit cards and EBT cards are accepted. For more information, visit fareforall.org or call 1-800-582-4291.

Criers • back page

## 'Teen Idol: The Bobby Vee Story' returns to the History Theatre

by Cori Hilsgen  
news@thenewsleaders.com

"Teen Idol: The Bobby Vee Story," a musical about the life of Bobby Vee, has returned now through Dec. 16 at the History Theatre in St. Paul.

The musical, which premiered in October, 2016, was written by Bob Beverage in collaboration with Vee's sons, Jeff and Tommy Vee, and is directed by Ron Peluso. George Maurer provided musical direction and arrangements for the production.

The production follows the life of 15-year-old Bobby Veline, who charmed audiences at the Winter Dance Party in Moorhead Feb. 3, 1959, when local talent was asked to fill in after famed rock 'n' rollers Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and

the Big Bopper were tragically killed that same day in a plane crash in Iowa, bound for Moorhead.

Vee soon became a teen idol, appearing on "American Bandstand" with Dick Clark, as well as an international star, entertaining audiences with a series of Top 40 hits.

From 1959-1970, he produced 38 Top 100 hits, including six gold records.

From his first hit single "Suzie Baby," in Minneapolis, Vee's musical journey included pop stars such as Little Anthony and The Imperials, Ronnie and The Ronnettes, Dion and Del Shannon.

In addition to honoring other musical performers, the musical is also a story about the love between Vee and his wife,

Vee • page 5



Contributed photo.

A scene from "Teen Idol: The Bobby Vee Story" at the History Theatre.

## Demuth says voters are looking for results

by Mike Knaak  
editor@thenewsleaders.com

Just two days after winning election to the Minnesota House of Representatives, Lisa Demuth gathered in St. Paul with 38 other newly elected house members for orientation.

"It was awesome," Demuth said of the program. "To hear the history of the Capitol from an inside perspective was humbling. The magnitude of what I have been elected to do and sitting in the original desks and looking around. What a privilege."

The group of new repre-

sentatives includes 34 Democrats and five Republicans.

"The thing that stuck out to me the most, all of us are in the same position," Demuth said, "wanting to do what's best for Minnesota."

Demuth defeated Democrat Jim Read in the Nov. 6 election to represent District 13A, which runs from St. Joseph southeast to the Kimball area and then west to Paynesville. The seat opened up when Jeff Howe decided to run for the state Senate District 13 seat in a special election. Howe defeated Democrat Joe Perske.

Demuth will be sworn in on Jan. 8. In the next six weeks,

her schedule includes a three-day retreat with other new legislators to learn the operational details of



Demuth

legislation. After the Democrats took control of the House by flipping a number of seats in the Twin Cities suburbs, Demuth will be a member of the minority party. Howe's election means the Republicans will keep control of the Senate while Democrat Tim Walz was elected gover-

nor.

Howe was a member of the minority when he was elected to the House and he told her being a member of the minority will make her a better legislator.

"It will allow the House to work better across the aisle and build relationships," Demuth said.

"What can we agree on? If we are very far apart, can we make small steps?"

While campaigning, Demuth said health-care costs topped all issues with voters.

"That message was driven home," she said. "Making

Demuth • page 4

## Community Center ready for pickleball action, more

by Dave DeMars  
news@thenewsleaders.com

After years of hoping and wishing, the establishment of the St. Joseph Community Center is finally taking shape. The first recreational sport laid out in the new center is two pickleball courts. Now what's needed are people to use them.

When the city took over the care and maintenance of the old Kennedy Elementary School, there were lots of things planned for the building.

Part of the building is rented and used for daycare. A section of it is being used for foodshelf activity. And the historical society is in the process of setting up its area. But there is lots of room for other activities.

"We have open gym now," said St. Joseph City Administrator Judy Weyrens. "We have open gym on Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., and on Tuesdays from 6-8 p.m. We have stripes and courts for pickleball and we could add pickleball nights.

Center • page 3



photo by Dave DeMars

A sign announces the kickoff of the city-sponsored Community Center program in St. Joseph. The program is looking for anyone who wants to take part in a little physical activity twice a week.



People



contributed photo  
**Brenny Transportation staff (from left) Erin Turcotte, customer service; and Bonnie Supan, vice president of operations and finance; with Ellen Voie, president and CEO of Women in Trucking.**

**Brenny Transportation Inc.** of St. Joseph was named a “Top 50 Company for Women to Work For in Transportation” by Redefining the Road magazine, the official magazine of the Women In Trucking Association. According to Brian Everett, publisher of Redefining the Road, there are five key features that distinguish companies recognized on this list: corporate cultures that foster gender diversity; competitive compensation and benefits; flexible hours and work requirements; professional development opportunities; and career advancement opportunities. Nearly 150 nominations were received, and more than 7,000 votes were cast to identify the companies named to the list.

**Brenny Specialized Inc.** of St. Joseph received the for-profit established company 2018 Innovation Award from the Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation for creating its own Young Driver Training/Apprentice program in response to an industry shortage in drivers. The Innovation Awards recog-



contributed photo  
**Brenny Specialized staff (front row) Kelly Klegstad, logistics team lead; Jerry Rau, significant other of Annette Brenny; Annette Brenny, Todd Brenny’s mother (Todd and Joyce Brenny are the owners of Brenny); Bonnie Supan, vice president of operations and finance; (back row) Karl Penner, specialized team lead; Lawrence Schreiner, over-the-road driver; Wyatt Ahrens, logistics team lead; and Todd Plante, over-the-road driver/trainer.**

nize St. Cloud area for-profit and nonprofit organizations employing innovation to solve problems and create opportunities.

**The St. Cloud school district Local Education & Activities Foundation** awarded \$21,250 during its fall activities granting cycle, \$1,500 in fall academic contingency grants, \$10,916 in PAKRAT Program grants, \$5,330 in fall-activities participation grants, \$18,500 in adopt-a-classroom grants, \$4,373 in fall Homeless Student Services grants, and \$12,000 in support of the district’s Elementary Talent Development Program.

**Kennedy Community School** received \$825 for its drama program and \$230 from the participation fund.

**Apollo High School** received \$1,000 for Nordic ski boots, \$1,000 for girls softball uniforms, \$950 for Math League, \$700 for yearbook camera lenses, \$1,000 for Swim Camp transportation and expense and \$1,150 from the participation fund.

**Jamie Deuhs** of St. Joseph has been accepted for admission for the 2019-20 academic year at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa. Deuhs has been awarded the President’s Scholarship.

## BUSINESS DIRECTORY

### AUTO BODY REPAIR

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

**St. Joseph Catholic Church**  
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### TRUCKING

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### PUBLISHING

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**Call the St. Joseph Newsleader at 320-363-7741**  
if you would like your business included! Check out the online Business Directory at thenewsleaders.com which hyperlinks to each business’ website.

Thank you for your votes!

**Brian THEISEN**

**CITY COUNCIL**

PRID for Br Theisen for City Council 316 Third Ave. N.E., St. Joseph EMAIL: brisendtheisen@gmail.com

Introducing new owner, Dr. Brian Koltes!

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103 College Avenue North, St Joseph

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# Newsleaders

Reaching Everybody!

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Kwik Trip

Local Blend  
St. Joseph Meat Market  
St. Joseph Newsleader Office  
Sliced on College Ave.  
Sisters of the Order of St. Benedict  
SuperAmerica

**www.thenewsleaders.com**

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

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# News for Refugees

**Ogeysiis! Importante para Usted, por favor léalo Please read!**

Announcements brought to you by Cultural Bridges of St. Joseph, a volunteer-run organization and committee of Central Minnesota Community Empowerment Organization. We are dedicated to easing your transition into our community.

Check this space to make announcements that especially apply to our Refugee Neighbors in St. Joseph as well as those whose first language is other than English. Please tell your family and neighbors about this information.

## Voting

Congratulations to all of you who were able to vote in this

last election Nov. 6.

Do you want to become an American citizen so that you, too, can vote? Central Minnesota Adult Basic Education offers citizenship courses at two locations. Hands Across the World classes are at the Great River Regional Library. In Waite Park, classes are at Quarryview Education Center, 800 Seventh St. S. The classes are designed to prepare individuals for the US-CIS examination.

Quarryview class times are 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on Saturdays. For information call 320-370-8220. Hands Across the World classes are 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Fridays at the library, 1300 St. Germain St. For information call 320-260-1072.

St. Joseph will schedule another citizenship class in 2019.

## English as a Second Language

St. Joseph continues to hold ESL classes from 9-10:30 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays and from 6-8:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. For questions contact the Adult Basic Educa-

tion main office at Quarryview Education Center at 320-370-8220. They will give you the locations of classes in St. Joseph.

## Soccer for boys ages 7-15

Yahye Weheleye from St. Cloud has already formed two soccer leagues in St. Cloud and some teams in Willmar. He has offered to help start soccer teams in St. Joseph this coming summer. Cultural Bridges and CMCEO hope to form partnerships with the city of St. Joseph, St. Joseph businesses and other organizations in creating a community summer sport that will provide a new opportunity for all boys who live here and are not already involved in other sports camps or leagues. Be watching this space for more information.

If you have any questions, please contact Dianne DeVargas at 320-345-0593. Please share this message with other refugees and immigrants you know who live in St. Joseph.

# Center

## from front page

We would like to hear from the public as to what they want to see for hours.”

Weyrens explained the facility could be set up for basketball, floor hockey, maybe volleyball, and they have quite a number of board games for those who want competition but aren’t quite so athletically inclined. Right now there are two gymnasium activity areas. Extra rooms can be used for other activities such as card playing, chess and checkers.

Cost for use of the building is \$2 per person, or one can purchase a pass card for \$30 and get 20 uses of the facility. That way patrons can save \$10.

As the facility gets going and

activities expand, more information will be published in the St. Cloud Community Ed booklet, including some free lessons on how to play pickleball and other games.

“More and more activities are going to be offered out here and we want everybody to take advantage so they continue to offer classes,” Weyrens said. “If patrons have suggestions for classes they would like to see, they should let us know so we can get the information to District 742.”

Right now the city is depending on the St. Cloud school district for support in establishing activities in the center, but Weyrens said as the city grows and the use of the building grows, so will the kinds of activities and the days of operation.

# Obituary

**Richard ‘Dick’ Schneider, 77**  
Corinth, N.Y., formerly of St. Joseph  
Dec. 5, 1940 – Nov. 16, 2018

Richard “Dick” C. Schneider, 77, of Corinth, N.Y., died Nov. 16. His funeral was held Nov. 20 at William J. Burke and Sons Funeral Home, Saratoga Springs, N.Y. Burial with military honors was in the Gerald B.H. Solomon, Saratoga National Cemetery, Schuylerville, N.Y.

Schneider was born in St. Joseph, Minn., on Dec. 5, 1940, to Herman “Bootie” and RoseMarion “Mac” (Loso) Schneider. After high school, he entered the U.S. Navy. He married Donna M. (Jolly) on May 1, 1965 in St. Joseph. Schneider served our country for 25 years and retired as lieutenant command-

er in 1984. He became building inspector for Greenfield Center focusing his engineering skills in overseeing building construction and installation of wood flooring.

Survivors include the following: his wife; daughter Cinda Schneider; siblings, Bob and Joyce of Plymouth, Minn., Tom and Margie of Stockton, Calif., Roseann and Mark Mjolphus of St. Cloud; Joe and Loreen Schneider of Calistoga, Calif.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Online remembrances may be made at [www.burkefuneral-home.com](http://www.burkefuneral-home.com).



## Loretta E. Dullinger, 93

St. Joseph

May 15, 1925 – Nov. 25, 2018

Loretta Dullinger, 93, of St. Joseph, died Sunday, Nov. 25 at Quiet Oaks Hospice House, St. Cloud. Her funeral was held Nov. 29 at St. John’s Abbey Catholic Church in Collegeville. The Rev. Ian Donmer, OSB, officiated and burial was in St. John’s Catholic Cemetery in Collegeville.

Dullinger was born on May 15, 1925 in Waite Park to Herman and Clara (Baggenstoss) Schleicher. She married Claude

Dullinger on Feb. 14, 1942. Dullinger’s faith gave her a sense of strength and comfort. She was a member of the American Legion of St. Joseph and VFW Auxiliary of St. Joseph. She was a 4H leader, a volunteer at church, former owner of Treasure City and she farmed many years with her husband. She had many hobbies some of which were gardening, canning, cooking, sewing, playing cards, but most of all she loved being a grandma.



Survivors include the following: her daughter, Carole and (Ralph) Sauer; grandchildren: Joyce (Todd) Brenny, Vern (Julie) Sauer, Ken (Tina) Sauer; great-grandchildren, Holly (Scott) Simon, Alisia (Craig) Soenneker, Nik Sauer and Jessie Sauer; great-great-grandchildren, Bryce, Trentin and Kinley Soenneker and Sutton Simon; sisters: Donna, Janet and Irene and brothers: Harold, Junior and Fred.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Claude; sister, Alice and brother, Archie.

## Rita J. Bruggman, 69

Sartell

July 1, 1949 – Nov. 14, 2018

Rita J. Bruggman, 69, of Sartell died Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2018 at Quiet Oaks in St. Cloud. Her funeral was held Nov. 19 at The Waters Church in Sartell. The Rev. Rachel Koubsky officiated.

Bruggman was born July 1, 1949 to Oscar and Elizabeth (Helt) Bruggman in Bismarck, North Dakota. She was the youngest of 13 children. She married Randy Honer, they raised two children together and later divorced. She worked as a trade-show manager for Wolters Kluwer (Banker’s Systems) for 30-plus years. She was a member of the Waters Church in Sartell and volunteered at Country Manor Nursing Home. She loved reading a good book and spending time with her grandkids. She enjoyed sunshine and spending time at her seasonal site at Two Rivers Campground. Bruggman was an active member of AA

and was very proud of her sobriety. She had a quick wit, contagious laugh, giving heart and a great love for the Lord.

Survivors include the following: her children, Holly (Mike) Warner of Sauk Rapids and Justin (Dawn) Honer of St. Joseph; special friend, Kevin Julson of St. Cloud; grandchildren, Ryan,



Madison, Bryce; brothers and sisters, Jo Bomberger of Lincoln, Nebraska, Louise Bartlett of Hastings, Clare Zimmerman of St. Cloud, Lori (Jim) Rausch of Alpharetta, Georgia, and John (Patricia) Bruggman of Louisville, Kentucky.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers and sisters, Betty, Terry, Jane, O.J., Francis, Ann and Patricia.

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

# ADOPT A PET

Gypsy is a beautiful 6-year-old spayed medium haired dilute calico looking for a home where she can be the only pet. Jingle balls and cardboard boxes are on her list of favorite toys. Gypsy has an independent personality and likes attention on her own terms. A quiet household where she can truly rule the roost would be best for this diva. For seniors and veterans, Gypsy’s adoption fee would be waived and for all others she qualifies for our Name Your Own Price promotion.

*“Helping one animal won’t change the world ... but it will change the world for that one animal!”*

**Tri-County Humane Society**  
735 8th St. NE • PO Box 701  
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[www.tricountyhumaneociety.org](http://www.tricountyhumaneociety.org)

*Hours: Monday-Thursday Noon-6 p.m., Friday Noon-8 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m.-5 p.m. & Sunday Noon-5 p.m.*

# Drive Carefully!

## School is in Session

# Office Space for rent.

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## 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](mailto: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, Nov. 30**  
**Bag-of-Books Sale**, sponsored by Friends of the Library, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Great River Regional Library, 1300 St. Germain St., St. Cloud. Buy a bag of books for \$4.

**Festival of Nativities**, 5-8 p.m. Trinity Lutheran Church, 2163 Mayhew Lake Road NE., Sauk Rapids. Nativities from around the world will be displayed. The free festival features local musicians performing Christmas music, a live historical nativity and a children's area where a Christmas craft can be created.

**Winterwalk**, sponsored by St. Joseph Y2K Lions and St. Joseph Church, downtown St. Joseph. 6-8 p.m. tree lighting, Santa, crafts, refreshments and music; 4-8 p.m. light supper, crafts/vendors, Heritage Hall, 12 Minnesota St. W.

**Saturday, Dec. 1**  
**Bag-of-Books Sale**, sponsored by Friends of the Library, 10 a.m.-1

p.m., Great River Regional Library, 1300 St. Germain St., St. Cloud. Buy a bag of books for \$4.

**Kringlefest**, 1-3 p.m., Stearns History Museum, 235 33rd Ave., S., St. Cloud. Family event with crafts, Santa, treats and food.

**Homespun Holiday Sale**, 1-4 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Home, 1115 Fourth Ave. N., Sauk Rapids. Arts, crafts and holiday gifts.

**Festival of Nativities**, 2-6 p.m. Trinity Lutheran Church, 2163 Mayhew Lake Road NE., Sauk Rapids. Nativities from around the world will be displayed. The free festival features local musicians performing Christmas music, a live historical nativity and a children's area where a Christmas craft can be created.

**Monday, Dec. 3**  
**St. Joseph Food Shelf**, open 1-3 p.m., 124 First Ave. SE, St. Joseph.  
**St. Joseph City Council**, 6 p.m., council chambers, St. Joseph Government Center, 75 Callaway St. E. The 2019 preliminary budget and projected property tax will be presented. 320-363-7201. [cityofst-joseph.com](http://cityofst-joseph.com).

**Tuesday, Dec. 4**  
**Memory Writers** group develops topics and turns in stories. 10 a.m., Stearns History Museum, 235 33rd Ave. S, St Cloud.

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

**Wednesday, Dec. 5**  
**Advocates for Independence**, 2-4 p.m., Independent Lifestyles, 215 Benton Drive N., Sauk Rapids. 320-529-9000.

**St. Cloud school board** work session, 6:30 p.m., Talahi Community School, 1321 University Drive SE., St. Cloud.

**Thursday, Dec. 6**  
**St. Joseph Food Shelf**, open 1-3 p.m., 124 First Ave. SE, St. Joseph.  
**Great River Regional Coin Club**, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Miller Auto Marine Sports Plaza, 2930 Second St. S., St. Cloud. 320-241-9229.

**Friday, Dec. 7**  
**Post-polio Support Group**, 10:30 a.m., Independent Lifestyles, 215 Benton Drive N., Sauk Rapids. 320-529-9000.  
**St. Joseph Area Historical Society**, open 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Old City Hall, 25 First Ave. NW. [stjosephhistoricalmn.org](http://stjosephhistoricalmn.org).

**Saturday, Dec. 8**  
**Drop and Shop** free child care, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Grace United Methodist Church, 2615 Clearwater Road, St. Cloud. Child care while you shop. Children 3-10

will hear the Christian Christmas story, songs and crafts. Register by Dec. 1 at <https://vbspro.events/p/gracestclouddropandshop>.

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

**Monday, Dec. 10**  
**St. Joseph Food Shelf**, open 1-3 p.m., 124 First Ave. SE, St. Joseph.  
**Fare for All**, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Resurrection Lutheran Church, 610 CR 2, St. Joseph. 800-582-4291. [fareforall.org](http://fareforall.org).

**St. Joseph Planning Commission**, 6-7 p.m., Government Center, 75 Callaway St. E.

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

**Tuesday, Dec. 11**  
**Holistic Moms Network**, 7-8:30 p.m., Good Earth Co-op, 2010 Veterans Drive, St. Cloud. 320-252-2489.

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

**Wednesday, Dec. 12**  
**Rewriting the Rural Narrative at Breakfast Club**, 9 a.m., Stearns History Museum, 235 33rd Ave. S., St. Cloud. Benjamin Winchester, a

rural sociologist from the University of Minnesota Extension, will speak.

**St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce**, 11:30 a.m., St. Joseph Government Center, 75 Callaway St. E. [stjosephchamber.com](http://stjosephchamber.com).

**St Joseph Y2K Lions Club**, 6:30 p.m., St. Joseph Community Fire Hall, 323 Fourth Ave. NE. Kay Lemke, 320-363-8663.

**St. Cloud school board**, 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, 400 Second St. S., St. Cloud.

**Thursday, Dec. 13**  
**St. Joseph Senior Citizens**, 1:30 p.m., St. Joseph Community Fire Hall, 323 Fourth Ave. NE.

**St. Cloud Area Mothers of Multiples**, 7 p.m., VFW Granite Post 428, 9 18th Ave. N., St. Cloud.

**St. Joseph Food Shelf**, open 1-3 p.m., 124 First Ave. SE, St. Joseph.

**Saturday, Dec. 15**  
**Historic Salem Church Christmas Program**, 4:30 p.m., 4 miles north of Paynesville on 220th Street. Sleigh rides from 3-4:15 p.m.

**Sunday, Dec. 16**  
**Breakfast**, 8 a.m.-noon, American Legion, 17 Second Ave. N., Waite Park.

# News Tips?

## Call the Newsleader at 363-7741

## Demuth

from front page

progress in that area would be a (legislative) success. We should work to lower premiums, and maintain pre-existing conditions (coverage) and the ability to choose health providers.”

Voters also said they were looking for results, not gridlock.

“That was why I was so encouraged meeting the other freshmen,” she said. “There were no enemies sitting in the room that day. Let’s get the job done.”

In addition to health care, Demuth said top issues will be workforce development and education funding.

She said she’ll be looking for solutions for workforce training and apprenticeship and work-based career development. She attended a meeting in Richmond recently where the Department of Labor and Industry present-

ed information about current programs.

“Are employers aware of these programs? Is the word getting out?” she asked. “Is everyone aware of this? If not, why not?”

“Education funding doesn’t mean more money, but we should be looking at funding and making it fair (across the state),” she said. “We need to make sure our districts have local control. What is right for Rocori may not be the same as the suburban schools.”

Demuth said she is looking forward to opening day. Legislators’ families join the members for swearing in. Before then, there are other details to settle, such as office space and committee assignments.

“Thank you to the voters who have entrusted me with this,” she said. “My goal all along is to represent 13A well. Even those who did not vote for me, their thoughts and concerns are valuable to me.”



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# Vee

## from front page

Karen.

Tyler Michaels, who stars as Bobby Vee in the musical, commented on his role.

“Most central to Bobby was his kind and whole-hearted spirit,” he said. “In nearly every moment of his life he took time to really be with people – his family, his friends, his fans – and always looked for the good in them. Playing him onstage has really instilled that same value in me.”

Michaels said he would like to think he is a very small part of continuing the legacy of Vee’s music, his story and his spirit.

“His music has (had) such

an amazing effect on the world, but so many people in my generation have never heard of Bobby,” Michaels said. “It was, is, so influential and universal that (I) think it should be shared with as many audiences as possible.”

Michaels said he was thrilled to be returning to the role, which is easily one of his favorite roles he’s played in the past few years.

Audiences will see some new surprises, such as new scenes and songs, in performances this time.

He added after seeing the show, he hopes the message people will take away from it is to find your dream and follow it. Also, no matter how much success you might have in your life, how much fame and fortune, if you don’t have fam-

ily and dear friends to share your life with, it will all mean nothing.

When the musical first premiered in 2016, the Vee family had just lived the final scenes of the play in their own lives.

“We had recently lost our mother and our father was slipping away by the day,” said Jeff and Tommy Vee in a press release. “It was emotional and surreal to see our story suddenly on a stage played by actors, as if in a parallel universe.”

At the time, they said they wanted to seize an opportunity with the History Theatre to tell what they thought was a sweet and unique story, to pay tribute



to their parents and to preserve a great legacy.

“We, of course, grew up on dad’s music – it was the soundtrack of our lives,” they said. “We were fortunate to sit along many stages and (television) tapings as kids and eventually travel the world performing alongside him for (more than) 25 years.”

They said Vee was an internationally known “Teen Idol,” a singer, pop star, writer, musician, but to them, he was much more important than that, as he was an amazing father and grandfather, the leader of the band and their best friend.

“Our dad never forgot where he came from, or the people along the way,” Jeff and Tommy Vee said. “He brought joy to all he encountered on and off the stage by simply sharing music, stories and memories.”

The two said it has been a pleasure to work with and become friends with Peluso, Beverage, Michaels, Maurer, Jan Puffer (choreography) and the rest of the amazing cast, crew and staff at the History Theatre.

The Killer Vees, which includes Jeff Vee, Tommy Vee, nephew Matt Vee and grandson Bennett Vee, will also be performing concert shows of Bobby Vee’s music at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 30, and Thursday, Dec. 31, at the History Theatre.

To purchase tickets or for more information, visit historytheatre.com or call 651-292-4320.

The History Theatre is at 30 10th St. E., St. Paul.



photo courtesy of Scott Pakudaitis

Tyler Michaels (center) stars as Bobby Vee and performs with Holiday Singers in the musical “Teen Idol: The Bobby Vee Story” which will be performed now through Dec. 16. at the History Theatre in St. Paul. The musical, which first premiered in Oct. 2016, follows the life story of BobbyVee.



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# Opinion

## Our View

### Measures needed to increase turnout, protect the vote

Minnesotans voted in record numbers on Nov. 6, again leading the nation with the highest voter turnout – almost 64 percent. Stearns County’s turnout reached 70 percent compared with the national average turnout of about 50 percent.

That is the highest percentage of voter participation in Minnesota for a midterm election since 2002 and the raw turnout of 2,593,922 was the largest for a midterm election in Minnesota history.

Before the next general election, changes should be made to insure a high voter turnout, not only in Minnesota, but across the nation. These measures should make it as easy as possible for every eligible voter to cast a ballot.

Since 2014, Minnesotans could take advantage of “no-excuse” absentee voting and vote in person at county offices. Stearns County opened three sites for early voting by this method for six weeks before Election Day.

Across the state, about 540,000 people took advantage of this option.

For 2020, the Secretary of State should rename this option and call it what it is – early voting – instead of using the “no-excuse” absentee voting name. The media should continue to inform the public about the early voting option. Voting officials should find more ways to get the word out, including multiple notices in official communications such as property tax bills and vehicle license renewals.

If you voted early this year, make sure you spread the word with friends and family. With six weeks to vote in person or by mail, participation should be 100 percent.

Other steps should be taken as well not only to make it easy to vote, but to protect the voting system.

Because of a legislative deadlock between the state’s Democratic governor and Republican-controlled Legislature, Minnesota wasn’t able to accept \$6 million in federal money to update the state’s election infrastructure. If that money is available in 2019, the Legislature and governor should agree on a bill to get the money. Voting is not a red vs. blue issue.

In Washington, one of Sen. Amy Klobuchar’s legislative priorities — protecting elections from cyberthreats — stalled amid opposition from Republican lawmakers and the White House.

Klobuchar should try again to move the legislation that would ensure the Department of Homeland Security quickly shares information about cybersecurity threats with local elections officials and provides money to states to enact cybersecurity measures and voting-machine upgrades.

Donald Trump and his supporters need to stop the voter fraud nonsense. Trump and his crew continue to claim, without any evidence, that there’s widespread voter fraud. Study after study has found no evidence. Even his own so-called voter fraud commission crashed. Trump’s ridiculous claim of ineligible voters donning disguises to vote multiple times sounds like an Onion headline instead of serious leadership. Trump needs to knock it off before his own re-election. Claiming any election he loses is rigged is the political equivalent of yelling “fire” in a crowded theater.

Democrats who will control the House of Representatives in January have outlined their first legislative efforts.

The key points of their proposal would establish automatic voter registration and reinvigorate the Voting Rights Act, crippled by a Supreme Court decision in 2013. It would take away redistricting power from state legislatures and give it to independent commissions.

Other provisions would overturn the Supreme Court’s Citizens United ruling, which declared political spending is First Amendment free speech, and they would mandate more disclosure of outside money and establish a public financing match for small contributions.

News about election security, foreign influence and attempts to suppress the vote have received lots of attention the past two years.

From local governments to Washington, there are ideas to address these issues that Republicans and Democrats should agree on and act.

A free, fair election for every voter is not a partisan issue.

## How will future generations commune with dead?

My wife spends many hours communing with the dead.

She’s found friends who lived in Civil War-era St. Cloud, then a city of about 2,100, while doing research for St. Cloud State University Archives and Stearns History Museum. These folks have come to life, not by time travel or supernatural powers, but through the pages of the city’s early newspapers.

While researching the history of the neighborhood that would later become the St. Cloud State University campus and downtown St. Cloud, she’s read about the people of that time in the pages of the St. Cloud Visiter, St. Cloud Democrat and St. Cloud Journal. These papers, founded by Jane Grey Swisshelm and then handed down to her nephew, William Bell Mitchell, chronicled St. Cloud’s early days.

The papers, now online at the Minnesota Historical Society, were digitized from microfilm of the printed pages and the files can be word-searched.

With more and more news found only online and print newspapers shrinking, I wonder where and how researchers 160 years from now will learn about today’s characters like the ones from the 1850s, ‘60s and ‘70s?

For example, some neighborhood issues never change. Take the case of Mr. Hayward, who kept “a large number of hogs” in his yard on Percy Street. The May 30, 1872, St. Cloud Journal reports that at the May 27 City Council meeting, Hayward’s neighbor, John Winslade, petitioned the Health Committee. The committee agreed that indeed the hogs were a nuisance and instructed the police chief to tell Hayward to “abate” the nuisance. The story did not mention if a barbecue ensued.

As today, calamities and accidents are duly reported, such as the odd demise of the Rev. Calhoun and the serious injury to his wife.

The couple were riding their surrey across a new bridge over the “great ravine” that joined Lake George to the Mississippi River. Approaching the bridge on what is now Third Avenue South, one of the carriage’s wheels got caught and the pressure on the horse’s collar caused the horse to bolt, dumping the couple 25 feet to the bottom of the ravine. Calhoun died three days later.

We have these stories and thousands more because we can easily search and read preserved printed pages.

But what about today’s digital world? Online news is posted, updated and soon lost in the millions of words shared each day. What will be

Mike  
Knaak  
*Editor*



the source a century or two from now for researchers, historians and genealogists?

Do we want to depend on Google instead of professional archivists and librarians who collect and curate reliable, trusted sources? Will Google even be a thing?

What about your own photos taken on your phone, shared on Twitter, Facebook or Instagram? Will your children and grandchildren be able to connect with their history when there are no more family albums with pages of faded photos?

As a journalist, I think about my own work. For the first 20 years of my professional career, all my photos were made on film, and with proper storage and archiving, the images will live forever. But what about the digital photos from the last 25 years? Those files live on various servers, DVDs and CDs. Will those survive and will today’s digital formats be accessible on the digital equipment of the future? If you think that’s not a problem, try finding gear to play a VHS tape.

My predecessor at the St. Cloud Times, Myron Hall, photographed St. Cloud’s events for 40 years. All his images are safely stored and archived at the Stearns History Museum where they are a daily resource for researchers.

Will today’s digital words and photos be as easy to visit, years from now? If you have a solution, you will be richly rewarded?

## We should keep Thanksgiving special

Now that Thanksgiving has come and gone, the Christmas holiday season is in full swing. However, something I see every year is that Thanksgiving, the traditional American holiday of being grateful and enjoying time with family and friends, is increasingly being absorbed into the Christmas season. Whether you are in favor of this trend or not, I believe it is worth it to preserve Thanksgiving as a special time rather than just for shopping and holiday pomp.

Though the origins of Thanksgiving aren’t quite as simple as the stories would have us believe, Thanksgiving has come to represent a holiday for many Americans to do just that, give thanks and be with those they love and appreciate. In my opinion, the big dinners and turkey and assorted festivities all serve the ultimate goal of bringing people together in a special way. It wouldn’t be the same if the family gathered around an order of pizza would it?

This is always what I have remembered about Thanksgiving from my earliest years. It was the time when I would get to see my whole family all gathered at once. My grandparents, aunts and uncles and cousins all assembled at one time before the chaos of Christmas time. It was the time to see and catch up with those people you didn’t get to see that often or at all the rest of the preceding year.

Our family members would, and still do, come over to my grandparents’ house in the morning and stay late into the evening having the traditional meal, playing games, watching movies or just talking. Even with the proliferation of cell phones as I’ve gotten older, their use has been strongly discouraged in favor of the family doing things together and in person.

However, the modern world seems to no longer favor this state of affairs. This year, an early harbinger of the season, Christmas music, appeared on the radio almost a week before Thanksgiving. Black Friday sales that have long been creeping into Thanksgiving Thursday opened at times such as 2 p.m. or earlier on Thanksgiving Day. Now Christmas music is fairly innocent, despite my belief it should be saved until the day after Thanksgiving, but Black Thursday/Friday sales are a bad development.

Though many contend partaking in Black Thursday/Friday sales is a choice, having them on Thursday undermines family dynamics in multiple ways. First, if the best deals start on Thanksgiving Thursday, people who rely on these sales to save money

Connor  
Kockler  
*Guest Writer*



on Christmas gifts then adapt their schedules to prioritize the sales at this time rather than gather with family. Second, for those who have to work the stores during these sales, they have a dilemma of being able to earn additional holiday pay at the expense of giving up Thanksgiving Thursday to spend with their own families.

It almost seems like Thanksgiving is becoming a skipped or half-acknowledged holiday. Even Halloween is under threat. There were many sales of Christmas decor even during mid-October. Though I am a big fan of Christmas and the December holiday season, I firmly believe each holiday has its time and place, which is increasingly not the case in our shopping and advertising cycles.

Thanksgiving should be kept special and separate as a holiday because its message of gratefulness and family is a strong one in these increasingly hectic times. It’s important we don’t lose it in the growing trend of sales and jumping straight into the Christmas season. Though Christmas is an important holiday, I believe it shouldn’t have to eclipse another holiday that is just as important and special.

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

Please contact me with any questions or concerns you may have for the upcoming session at phone: 651.296.2084 or email: Sen.jeff.howe@senate.mn.

Thanks again and good luck.

Letter to the editor

Howe thanks District 13 voters

Jeff Howe, Rockville

I want to thank the residents of District 13 for the support and the privilege of serving as your next Minnesota Senator. I am humbled by the

support I have received and do not take this responsibility lightly.

I want to assure you I will represent all of District 13 and will continue to do my best to represent everyone and work for what is best for our area and the State.



# Place of Hope seeks help to bring Christmas joy

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

Place of Hope Ministries, based in St. Cloud, is planning a wide range of holiday activities for people who are less fortunate financially or who are currently homeless.

However, public help is being requested from all who live in the greater St. Cloud/Central Minnesota area.

The first of the events/activities is an open house from 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2. The address of Place of Hope is 511 Ninth Ave. N. in St. Cloud. During the open house, the public will have a chance to find out more about the many services Place of Hope offers, its daily meal program and its residency options. Visitors will be able to take tours of the housing wings, including a new one for single women, one for single men and another for women with small children. There is also a wing for homeless

veterans and, now under-way, a fourth-floor wing for an additional 14 bedrooms. Visitors will hear testimonials from people who have been helped, whose lives have been turned around because of Place of Hope.

The other events and requests for donations, volunteers and other help include the following:

### Kids’ Hope Shop

This event, featuring an interactive walk through called “Journey to Bethlehem,” is scheduled from 4-7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 20.

A free meal will be provided for more than 400 children during the event. Children of all ages will receive Christmas gifts. What’s needed are unwrapped gift donations, wrapping paper and food. Donations can be dropped off at any Bremer Bank in the area. Call Linda Guggenberger at 320-251-3300 for drop-off information or directions. In addition, donations of any kind can be

brought in person to Door 4 at Place of Hope’s St. Cloud building, 511 Ninth Ave. N.

### Adopt-a-family

Place of Hope, with help from generous donors, sponsors a Christmas adopt-a-family program. About 50 local families are up for adoption, which means each family member will receive Christmas gifts and gift cards to grocery stores so they can purchase food for a Christmas dinner. Gift items and grocery store gift cards are welcome. Again, they can be brought to any Bremer Bank or monetary contributions and gift cards can be sent to Place of Hope Ministries, 511 Ninth Ave. N., St. Cloud, Minn. 56303.

### Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve activities for homeless people and Place of Hope residents will take place starting with a noon meal Monday, Dec. 24, at Place of Hope and a special Christmas dinner at

5 p.m.

In addition, there will be an ecumenical worship service at 3 p.m. in east St. Cloud at 413 Franklin Ave. NE. and a 4:30 p.m. worship service at Place of Hope, 511 Ninth Ave. N. in St. Cloud.

At 6 p.m. there will be the singing of Christmas songs and gift-giving.

What’s needed are backpacks to hold personal-care items that will be given to people experiencing homelessness.

Email: [hope@placeofhopeministries.org](mailto:hope@placeofhopeministries.org).

### Christmas Day

Meals served at noon and at 5 p.m. on Christmas Day, Tuesday, Dec. 25 at Place of Hope.

For more information about how to donate and/or volunteer opportunities, visit [www.placeofhopeministries.org](http://www.placeofhopeministries.org).

### Background

Place of Hope Ministries’ motto is Rebuilding, Repair-

ing, Restoring Lives. Every day of the year, meals are served to the less-fortunate and homeless people, including many children. More than 7,000 meals are served every month.

There is also a temporary residency program during which clients can have a roof over their heads as they work in a support network to find jobs and to learn to become self sufficient.

There are also church services at the east-side and west-side locations – a Sunday service at 9:30 a.m. and a Wednesday family night with a meal at 5:30 p.m. followed by Bible study at 6:30 p.m.

Place of Hope also operates other programs, such as Hope Outreach for young children and teens, and a prison outreach effort for people in the jails of Benton and Stearns counties. Outreach programs for the poor even reach as far as Africa and Asia.

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# A life of opening doors inspires book

by Mike Knaak  
editor@thenewsleaders.com

Jerry Peterson’s life has been about opening doors. Those doors led to military service, world travel, multiple academic degrees and careers as a youth minister, hospital chaplain and landscaping business.

Now his “doors” are the centerpiece of a self-published book, “99 Doors to High Level Wellness: How to Live to be 100.”

The book features photographs of doors he’s taken on his world travels and on facing pages you’ll find inspirational quotes.

You can’t buy Peterson’s book online or in a bookstore. He gives it away and asks readers to pay him back by passing it along to others.

On the dedication page he writes, “A simple book. Pro-found ideas from people, books, etc. (and) Pictures from all over the world....Open it, read and look at it one page at a time, think about it and add your own thoughts in the margin. Ideas may increase your happiness which leads to health, optimism, joy, longer life and spiritual renewal.”

Peterson, 86, lives in Cold Spring. Two of his three adult children live in St. Joseph and the third lives in St. Cloud.

Peterson’s path to doors began with his 1932 birth in Sleepy Eye and his youth in Springfield. He served in the Army during the Korean War and then on to college at Hamline, Boston University and Duquesne University where

he earned undergraduate and graduate degrees in sociology, psychology, Christian education and theology.

Peterson served as Methodist youth minister for more than 20 years and then served as a chaplain at Hennepin County Medical Center. He started a landscaping business in St. Cloud. “Every six or seven years it’s time to move....time to move into another profession,” Peterson said.

He found the doors for his book during his travels.

“As I traveled, every state in the union and around the world, I got caught up with doors,” he said. “I was fascinated by doors in cathedrals and castles. A door around here isn’t much, you don’t look at it twice. The castles and great big cathedrals have got great doors.”

The quotes facing the doors come from a variety of sources and people including Mahatma Gandhi and Albert Schweitzer.

His door photography began in the early 1990s as he traveled through Europe, South America, the West Indies and Asia.

He’s given away about 75 copies of the book to friends, family and neighbors and there are copies at St. Cloud Hospital, the St. Cloud VA hospital and several nursing homes.

“I never thought I’d have so much pleasure out of writing a book and giving it away,” Peterson said.

Peterson’s modest one-bedroom apartment mirrors his life philosophy and adventures. Photos and paintings line the walls. A copy of van Gogh’s “Café Terrace at Night” hangs

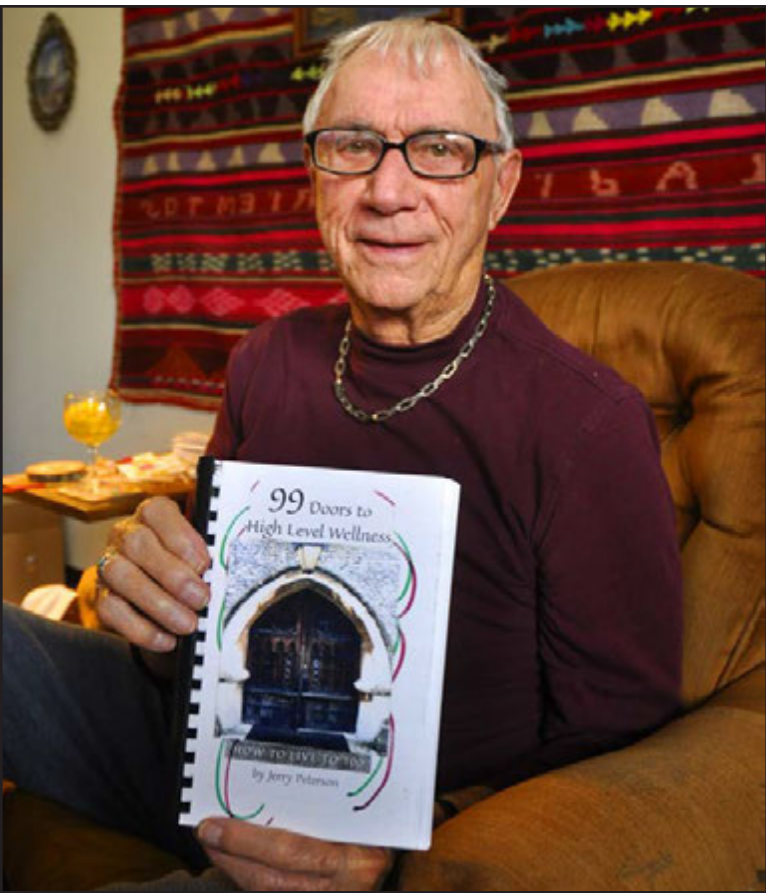


photo by Mike Knaak  
**Jerry Peterson holds a copy of his self-published book, “99 Doors for High Level Wellness.”**

next to an image of a cabin in the north woods...reminding him of the canoe trips he’s taken with youth ministry groups and grandchildren. A handwoven rug from Bolivia hangs on another wall and a corner table holds a wooden bowl from Ireland.

Peterson proudly explains that he travels economically with a backpack and that his Kia gets more than 40 mpg. He keeps in shape by following a daily exercise routine he’s been

doing for 40 years. He rides a stationary bike every day and lifts weights three times a week.

“My wealth is in my health, my family and friends. That means more,” he said.

His book is dedicated to his family and friends and “all who create doorways and those who have the courage to enter them.”

Peterson certainly has created and entered more than his share.

## Criers

from front page

**Funsingers to kick off holiday season Dec. 11**

Join the Sartell Senior Connection as it hosts the St. Cloud Area Funsingers for an afternoon of music and merriment to kick off the holiday season at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 11 at the Senior space in the Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S. This event is free and open to the public.

**GNTC to hold auditions for ‘The Spitfire Grill’**

Auditions for the Great Northern Theatre Company musical production, “The Spitfire Grill,” will be held at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, Dec. 11 and 13 (this is a change from earlier announcements). Dinner theater show dates are Feb. 22, 23, 24 and Feb. 28, March 1, 2 and 3 at the Blue Heron Supper Club in Cold Spring. Audition information is available at [www.gntc1.com](http://www.gntc1.com) or by emailing [publicist@gntc1.com](mailto:publicist@gntc1.com).

**St. John’s Boys’ Choir to perform Dec. 15**

Celebrate the season with one of Central Minnesota’s beloved traditions, “A Ceremony of Carols!” Performances are at 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15 at St. Mary’s Cathedral, downtown St. Cloud. Dr. Rachel Brandwein returns for her fifth performance of Benjamin Britten’s Christmas masterpiece with the St. John’s Boys’ Choir. The boys sing new and familiar carols, combining with the talents of the SJBC Orchestra, the Heavenly Metal Handbells of Salem Lutheran Church and a special Alumni Chorus. To order tickets and learn more, visit [sjbchoir.org](http://sjbchoir.org) or call 320.363.2558.

**HISTORIC SALEM CHURCH**  
**Christmas Program**  
**Saturday, Dec. 15**

Everyone Welcome!

Reindeer-pulled sleigh rides from 3 to 4:15 p.m.  
Old-fashioned Christmas Program—4:30 p.m.

Collecting gifts of toys and non-perishable food items  
for the Paynesville Community Center.  
A free-will offering will be taken for maintenance  
& restoration of Salem Church.

Historic Salem Community Church, 4 miles north of Paynesville on 220th Street.  
Call 320-249-0373 or 320-493-1657 for more information.

**Cookie Trays**  
for your  
**Holiday Parties or Gift Giving**

1 pound to 5 pound  
**\$9.19 to \$36.99**

**COLD SPRING BAKERY**

308 Main Street • Cold Spring, MN 56320 • 320-685-8681  
Cold Spring Bakery Connection • 103 Second St. S. • Waite Park

**HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE**

Holiday Photo booth (2:00 pm - 5:00 pm)  
Holiday treats and refreshments  
Register to win prizes  
Decorate a Christmas tree ornament

**St. Joseph CMCU Branch**  
Friday, December 14, 2018  
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

**Central Minnesota Credit Union**