

Reaching Everybody! Newsleaders

Friday, Feb. 22, 2019
Volume 24, Issue 4
Est. 1995

Town Crier ABC Kinder Olympix is March 9 at Whitney

Explore letters and numbers while being active with your children! ABC Kinder Olympix will be held from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday, March 9 at Whitney Recreation Center, 1529 Northway Drive, St. Cloud. The morning will be filled with fun activities for improved reading skills and healthy lifestyles! Events include the following: inflatables, arts and crafts, obstacle course, alphabet games, healthy snacks and much more! This event is for ages 6 and under and their families. A nominal fee will be charged.

Evening of Hope set March 9

An Evening of Hope, sponsored by What Would Bri Do, will be held from 5-9 p.m. Saturday, March 9 at The Grands at Mulligans, 601 Pinecone Road N., Sartell. The sixth annual event includes a dinner, acoustic music by Levi Pelzer, a silent auction, games of chance, a cash bar and more. Advanced tickets available at wwbdinc.org or Mackenzie's, 1091 Second St. S., Sartell. Proceeds will be used to build a grief lodge in central Minnesota.

Sartell Summer Baseball registration is still open

The 2019 Summer Sartell Baseball registration will be closing soon. Register today at SartellBaseball.com!

Sartell Swarm seeks participants

The Sartell Swarm 2019 summer season registration is open now through April 1. Fastpitch softball teams for girls ages 6-18 will be formed by grade for school year 2019-20. For more information or to register, visit sartellfastpitch.com or contact Angela Swenson at angela@sartellfastpitch.com.

SYHA Raffle: \$41,000 in prizes

Sartell Youth Hockey is now conducting its annual Scheels raffle with a grand prize of \$1,499.99; 100 prizes in total; 1:20 odds.

Winners can choose the awarded firearm, with proper credentials, or a gift card for the awarded value. The gift card is redeemable for any merchandise in the St. Cloud store. Tickets may be purchased at both Blue Line Bar & Grill locations, the Firing Line Indoor Range & Gun Shop, during varsity hockey games at Bernick's Arena or from SYHA members.

For more information, visit sartellhockeyraffle.com.



photo by Mike Knaak

RSVP's Readers' Theater visited Oak Ridge Elementary School on Feb 15. The volunteers (from left) Barb Wilmesmeier, Lee Woods, Duane Otremba, Mary Kruger, Louise Lenzmeier and Lois Sjoberg, read to first-graders. So far this school year, Readers' Theater volunteers performed 34 times, read to 2,874 students including 548 in Sartell schools. There are 30 cast members who dedicated a total of 828.5 volunteer hours to the project. Check out this story online at www.thenewsleaders.com for a video of the reading session.

Demand for books fills library lockers

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

The growing popularity of the library lockers at Sartell's Community Center has created challenges for readers as well as library staff.

Book orders outpace the number of available lockers, so readers have to wait longer than they'd like to receive books.

The program, launched in October 2017, allows readers to place online orders for books from any of the Great River Regional Library's 32 brick-and-mortar libraries.

Library staff deliver the books on Tuesdays and Fridays for patron pickup. When the

books are delivered, the patron receives an email to pick up the book order by scanning their library card at the locker control panel and the correct locker pops open.

Demand for books is so great that the 44 lockers are constantly full.

Library officials estimate more than 11,500 materials were checked out during 2018.

Started as a joint venture between the library system and the city of Sartell, the three-year pilot project is the only one of its kind at a public library. Sartell paid \$66,000 for the lockers and pays for staff while the Great River Regional Library picks up
Books • page 2



photo by Mike Knaak

Heavenly Christensen, Great River Regional Library distribution assistant, places books in the lockers at Sartell Community Center.

'Waters' group connects with orphans in Kenya

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleasders.com

In faraway Kenya, a boy named Titus grabbed his brother and fled what had once been his family farm. At night they had to sleep in trees for fear of dangerous animals and possibly just-as-dangerous people.

Their father had died and then their mother had been poisoned before some mean people moved in and took over the farmland. Titus and his brother were suddenly orphans, helpless and alone

in the world. Sad to say, such cruel crimes and displacements are not uncommon in Kenya, as elsewhere.

That's the bad news. The good news is Titus and his brother are now doing fine, thanks to a mission program dubbed We Are Zoe. Now 21, Titus owns a restaurant, plans to study to be a psychologist and currently helps others who were in such dire straits like him and his little brother.

The Titus success story is one of many sad but ultimately inspiring stories a group of Sartell resi-

dents is sharing with others after a recent trip to Kenya. The 15 people are members of The Waters church in Sartell, which sponsors a Zoe group in Kenya. One of the members, Tina Schmidt, is the United States Midwest director for the We Are Zoe organization. In a recent interview with the Sartell-St. Stephen Newsleader, another group member, Liz Schultz shared highlights of the group's mission trip to Kenya.

Schultz
Liz Schultz owns Unique De-

sign, an interior-design company; and co-owns with her husband, Ryan, the engineering firm of Schultz Engineering and Site Design in Sartell. The couple has three boys – Tom, 16; Josiah, 13; and Daniel, 11.

A member of The Waters church, Schultz joined the other 14 members for the one-week trip to Kenya. Schultz participated in a previous (non-Zoe) labor-work mission trip to El Salvador with a delegation from The Waters.

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St. Stephen Optical

(formerly Index 53)

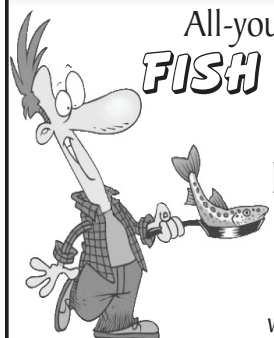
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Books

from front page

the \$5,820 maintenance bill.

"It's an awesome service. I had a library card for 20 years, I didn't use the library because it wasn't very handy. This is incredibly handy," said Sartell resident Ann Doyscher-Domres. "My husband had never been a library user. He had never ordered a book before the locker system."

On a recent Friday, Heavenly Christensen, a library distribution assistant, delivered bags of books and placed them in the 4-inch by 14-inch lockers. Christensen delivers between 70 and 100 items per trip that includes books, CDs and DVDs. Most

orders included multiple items bundled together with rubber bands.

"It's a fantastic system," said Sartell resident Gary Orman. "It has always worked very well for me. The books are there when they are supposed to be and the locker has functioned correctly."

Orman usually orders fiction such as mysteries, thrillers and spy novels. He used to travel to the Waite Park branch but with the locker system, he doesn't make that trip as often.

Users offer two solutions to the locker logjam – add more lockers or shorten the pickup time window.

Adding more lockers comes with a price tag. But all users can free up locker space by picking up books right away when the email notice arrives. Now,

readers have seven days to pick up their books, the same time period for the branch libraries. Cutting that hold time to, for example, three days would free up more space.

Delivery wait time varies throughout the year. Summer-time is busy, then demand slows when school starts and picks up again in October. During slow periods, the wait for books is usually less than a week. During busy periods, it can be up to two-and-a-half weeks.

In addition to picking up books at the community center, readers can drop off books for return as well as use a kiosk to conduct library business including paying fines.

"It's a great service," Doyscher-Domres said. "I hope it continues."

Funeral

Eugene "Gene" J. Bidinger, 86

Sartell

March 10, 1932-Feb. 19, 2019

Eugene "Gene" J. Bidinger, 86, of Sartell died Feb. 19 at the St. Cloud Hospital.

The Mass of Christian burial will be held at noon Monday,

Feb. 25 at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 219 Second St. N., Sartell. The Rev. Eberhard Scheffers will officiate and burial will be in the parish cemetery. Visitation will be from 3-7 p.m. Sunday at St. Francis and one hour prior to the services Monday also at the church. Parish prayers will be

at 7 p.m. Sunday at the church. Arrangements have been entrusted to Williams Dingmann Family Funeral Home, Sauk Rapids. To read this obituary in its entirety, visit thenewsleaders.com. The obituary will also be published in the March 8 edition of the Sartell-St. Stephen Newsleader.

Obituary

William C. Gallipo, 72, Sartell

June 7, 1946-Feb. 3, 2019

William "Bill" Charles Gallipo, 72, of Sartell, died Sunday, Feb. 3, at Edgewood Senior Living in Sartell. His funeral

was held Feb. 15 in the Daniel Funeral Home, St. Cloud.

Gallipo was born June 7, 1946, in Aberdeen, South Dakota to Darwin (Tom) and Paula (Cochrane) Gallipo.

He attended Aberdeen High School, but after a move, he graduated from Omaha Central High School in Nebraska and went on to attend and play football at Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell, South Dakota where he received a bachelor's degree in physical education.

Gallipo met Sheri Bierne while in college and they were married on Dec. 28, 1968 at the First Lutheran Church in Mitch-

ell. Gallipo's first job out of college was as a PE teacher and football coach in Elmore, Minn.

After spending 16 years teaching physical education and coaching several sports in Elmore, Blue Earth and Swea City, Iowa, he was given the opportunity to become the dean of students in Holdingford, where he was also the coach of the boys' basketball team.

Holdingford led him to Sartell High School and then eventually to Becker High School where he finished up his teaching, administrative and coaching career before retiring in 2004.

Gallipo was a true sports fanatic! Whether playing, coaching, cheering or watching, he loved it all! His greatest pride and joy was to be around his children and grandchildren.

There wasn't an activity that they had – that he ever wanted to miss. He maintained close relationships with the dear friends he made throughout his life – especially on the golf course.

Survivors include his wife of 50 years Sheri; children: Shan-

na (Brian) Oberg of Camas, Washington, Kyle of Washougal, Washington, and Brandon (Katie) of Sartell; four grandchildren: Brody Oberg, Mason Oberg, Ruby Gallipo and Dylan Gallipo; sisters: Alona (Alan) Moller and Tania Huston both of Camas.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Paula and Tom Gallipo.

The entire Gallipo family would like to give its heartfelt thank yous to the staff at Edgewood Senior Living. They went above and beyond not only for Bill, but for all of us.

He will be greatly missed! Please come and visit with family and friends and share stories.

The Day You Left

*With tears we saw you suffer,
As we watched you fade away,*

Our hearts were almost broken,

*As you fought so hard to stay.
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But you never went alone,
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The day you left your home.
– Anonymous*

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Kenya

from front page

We Are Zoe

We Are Zoe, Zoe being the Greek word for “life,” was founded in 2004 by the Conference of the United Methodist Church and African community leaders, We Are Zoe is an organization that empowers orphans to acquire the skills and confidence they need to survive, to thrive through self-sufficiency and connections with others.

The Zoe organization was inspired by the Christian call for people to help one another, especially vulnerable children. A North Carolina United Methodist Church spearheaded the Zoe movement after learning about a 15-year-old African girl who felt called to care for AIDS orphans in her country.

The group went through many changes, from a focus on charity to models for empowerment and self-sufficiency. Now, groups of orphans attend Zoe schools for three years and have access to basic training and resources needed to grow their own food, start businesses, enroll in various schools, attend vocational training, learn how to prevent diseases, learn about their legal rights as children and develop positive connections with others.

According to Zoe board members, there is an 85 percent success rate for empowering orphans into self-sufficiency. They, in turn, contribute to Zoe and help it grow into more successes for more orphans. More than 70,000 orphans have been empowered via Zoe, and it takes only a \$90 contribution per year per child to sustain the program. The young women Zoe graduates often start businesses related to seamstress work, clothing tailoring and beauty salons because there is a high demand for those services in Kenya. Many boys become farmers or farm workers, barbers, small grocery shop owners and other forms of work. And a number of young boys and girls go onto further schooling to become professionals in various careers.

Zoe participants tend to be in their mid- to late-teens.

Purity

Schultz told the story of a young woman named Purity. An orphan, she worked as a house cleaner for clients who treated her very badly. She earned \$20 a month and struggled to support her younger siblings.

After graduating from the Zoe program two years ago, she became a seamstress in her own shop with two employees, and now she is training other Zoe orphans. She made enough money to help her siblings get back into schools.

Purity even returned to the clients who had treated her so badly, and they apologized and re-established a comfortable rela-

tionship with her, contributing to the Zoe program.

Answer to poverty

After landing in Nairobi, Kenya, The Waters group was driven to a mountainous area to visit some of the Zoe groups. Although there were interpreters on hand, they were mostly not needed because almost all Kenyans speak excellent English. The country, Schultz noted, was a colony of Britain for many decades until its independence in the 1960s.

They were welcomed by a jubilant group of dancing and singing children, all of them nearing graduation from the three-year Zoe program.

“It was pure joy,” Schultz said. “We joined in and danced with them. The weather was beautiful there, but we danced so hard we were sweating.”

The second day The Waters delegation met another Zoe group of orphans in their second year of the program and the next day spent time with a group in their first year.

“They were awesome to see,” Schultz said. “There were about 100 of them, including siblings, so about 30 families total. In their first year, they were already thriving. It was so apparent that this (Zoe) is the answer to poverty among orphans.”

The last group they met were not so thriving, however. The children had just started the Zoe program a month ago.

“The kids all held their heads down,” Schultz said. “They were so scrawny (from malnutrition), and they had no hope in their eyes. There were about 25 to 30 children in that group. We heard terrible stories, heartbreaking stories. Our hearts just broke, and there was a lot of sobbing.”

It was a long, sad ride back to the group’s quarters.

“It was so heartbreaking, but I just know those kids will be doing well in a few months,” said Schultz, referring to the other groups now thriving.

What so impresses Schultz and others is how Zoe graduates raise and pool money and then give hands-on help to keep the program going. The self-sustaining mission of Zoe is being constantly extended, making more groups possible, more successes.

The group from Sartell was so elated by the successes they saw first-hand, they intend to sponsor more Zoe groups in the near future. They welcome contributions and volunteers to help out. The effort is nondenominational and so anyone can contribute or even go along on a trip.

“Some churches sponsor as many as 12 or 15 Zoe groups per church, especially churches in the American South,” Schultz said. “So many thousands of orphans have been helped and not just in Kenya. In other African countries like Rwanda, and now in India, too.”

For more about the Zoe organization, visit www.wearezoe-net.



contributed photo

The Waters church group visited many salons in Kenya that are often staffed by teenagers who learn salon jobs via the Zoe program. In this photo, Sartell resident Liz Schultz gets her hair braided with a red-extension braid.

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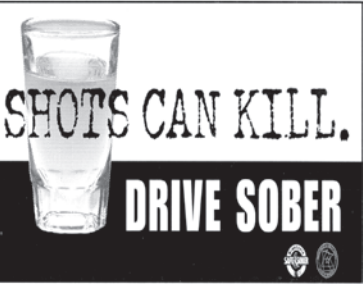
NOTICE OF HEARING ON STREET IMPROVEMENTS TO SIXTH AVENUE SE, ST. STEPHEN, MINNESOTA

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of St. Stephen will meet in the Council Chambers of the St. Stephen City Hall at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 6, 2019, to consider the making of street improvements on Sixth Avenue SE from County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 5 (Main Street East) south to the St. Stephen city limits by reconstruction to a 30-foot wide or a 32-foot wide rural road consisting of two 11- or 12-foot wide driving lanes and two 4-foot wide paved shoulders of the above street and replacement of the deteriorated CMP driveway and centerline culverts, pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§429.011 to 429.111. The estimated total cost of the improvement is \$2,376,750. A reasonable estimate of the cost of the assessment will be available at the hearing. Such persons as desire to be heard with reference to the proposed improvement will be heard at this meeting.

/s/ Cris M Draiss
City Clerk

Dated: Jan. 28, 2019

Publish: Feb. 8 & 22, 2019



PEOPLE

Drake Lalim of Sartell accepted a football scholarship on Feb. 6 with the University of Mary in Bismarck, N.D. Lalim received offers from seven Division II colleges. Lalim started playing football in third grade. He is the son of Chris and Theresa Lalim.



Madeline Smith of Sartell has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2018 semester at University of Iowa in Iowa City. To qualify, students achieve a 3.5 grade-point average.

Two area students recently graduated during winter commencement at the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks. **Shawna Buelow** of St. Stephen earned a bachelor's degree in nursing. **Matthew Bakken** of Sartell earned a bachelor degree in business administration.

The Sartell Bantam B1 hockey team concluded its regular-season tournaments going three for three. They went undefeated at the Hibbing scrimmages Nov. 16-18, came home with the first-place trophy from the Moorhead tournament Dec. 14-16 and then earned first place at the Little Falls tournament Jan. 25-27.

Kelsey Frank of Sartell recently earned a bachelor's degree in special education from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

Six area students were named to the first-semester dean's list at Concordia College, Moorhead. The students are **Jasmine Engstrom-Bolstad**, **Amanda Flemming**, **Hannah Kosloski**, **Joshua Maricle-Roberts** and **MacKenzie Nies** of Sartell and **Morgan Vouk** of St. Stephen. To qualify, a student must carry a minimum of 12 credits and have a minimum 3.7 grade-point average.

Council approves city hall lot repairs

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

The Sartell City Hall parking lot is going to be resurfaced this June and early July.

The city council, at its last meeting, approved the project and awarded the low bid to Knife River Corp. for \$115,000. The engineer's estimate for the project had been \$127,000.

The parking lot was constructed in 2001 at the time the new city hall opened.

Sartell City Engineer Jon Halter gave an overview of the upcoming project. The entire lot surface will

be milled by 2 inches, then overlaid with a bituminous surface. In addition, there will be some repair work on the concrete medians, some curb-and-gutter repair and replacement of pedestrian ramps.

The lot, Halter said, has begun to show cracks and other wear and tear. Typically, the life span for parking lots and roads is seven to 10 years, but periodic overlays can extend that life to 15 to 20 years, Halter noted.

The construction process will be planned so there will always be motorized and pedestrian access to city hall, Halter noted.

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Please apply at the Sartell–St. Stephen ISD 748 School District website:
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High-kick champs three years in a row

The Sartell High School dance team won its third consecutive high-kick state championship in the state high school tournament on Feb. 15-16 in Minneapolis. The team also captured third place in the jazz competition.

City garden plots available

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

With the recent barrage of snow and cold, it’s hard to imagine gardens bloom come summer, but that’s just what some people are doing – day-dreaming about summer gardening.

Many people have already signed up for the community-garden plots in Sartell, but there are still some openings left, said garden coordinator

Dennis Molitor.

The Sartell Community-Garden project began in the city about a dozen years ago, thanks to Molitor, Kaye Wenker and others, including help from the Sartell city outdoor work crews.

Each plot, which measures 20 feet by 20 feet, costs \$25 per summer. City workers till the lots and add fertilizer so each is ready and weed-free for planting in May. There are two community-garden sites in

Sartell, one on the east side near the water-treatment plant, the other near Oak Ridge Elementary School. There are currently some plots available on a first-come-first-served basis at the Oak Ridge site. For the \$25 cost, gardening tools are provided, water is available at the sites and a compost heap, also at the site, is free to be used.

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Opinion

Our View

Voters asked for results instead of deadlock; will legislators deliver this time?

There's a new look at the Capitol. Tim Walz replaced fellow Democrat Mark Dayton in the governor's office, while Democrats won control of the House of Representatives. Thirty-nine new members, including 35 DFLers, entered the 134-member House. Over in the Senate, Republicans hold a 35-32 advantage.

In addition to how to spend the state's money and balance the budget, the new faces will find some old issues such as gun safety, health care and education achievement. Last year, legislators and the governor deadlocked over spending and other issues, leaving voters frustrated.

The governor's budget proposal released Feb. 19 includes money for education, health care and community development. Walz proposes spending \$733 million in additional pre-K through grade 12 education funding during the next two years, and \$158 million in funding to support Minnesota's higher education system, including \$62 million in grants to students.

The governor's budget provides every Minnesotan with an additional health-care option, encourages stability in the individual market and makes health care more affordable in Minnesota. By leveraging the state's purchasing power, his budget lowers prescription drug prices, increases transparency and ensures access to comprehensive drug coverage statewide.

For what Walz calls "community prosperity," Walz proposes spending \$432 million during the next two years, with an additional \$1.9 billion in transportation and infrastructure.

Whether the new faces can lead to results gets its first test this week as Walz released his budget and House and Senate leaders counter with their own spending plans and how to manage the state's \$1.5-billion surplus. Democrats want to spend some of the surplus while Republicans are calling for tax cuts.

Last year, the Legislature approved money to buy down expensive insurance premiums. That debate will return this year as lawmakers must decide whether to extend that state-funded effort that delivered short-term results.

Nearly 1,865 individual claims were covered by the program in the first nine months of last year at a total cost of \$84 million. The final 2018 tally could reach as high as \$150 million once all affected claims are tallied. Some questioned whether the cost is worth it.

Democrats want increased funding for schools as well as closing Minnesota's persistent achievement gaps. Their likely plan is more funding on the state-aid formula, a closer look at early education options and community schools that provide education and childcare all in one place.

Minnesota's gun laws have remained mostly unchanged for years, with a strong tradition of recreational gun use in the state and a powerful lobbying force at the Capitol. Senate Democrats rolled out a series of gun control bills on Jan. 24. The proposals would expand background checks and block potentially dangerous individuals from getting a gun.

Walz wants to raise the gas tax by 20 cents for transportation, but Republicans want to use the surplus for road projects.

As debate moves ahead this spring, keep an eye on two dates. By law, the session ends on May 20. Will the two parties stand firm on their opening policy positions until the last minute or will they work, as voters told them, to find solutions to avoid another deadlocked session?

And then there is June 30, the end of the fiscal year. The legislators can't leave without a balanced budget. Let's hope they spend June enjoying summer instead of waiting for the other side to give in at the Capitol.

Emmer aims to get out front on blockchain technology

Technological innovation moves fast. Today's hot new gadget is tomorrow's candidate for recycling.

It's tough to keep up with 4K, 5G, AI and VR. No place is that struggle more obvious than in government.

Legislation and regulation moves slowly as the gears of government creak. Meanwhile, technology and the marketplace determine what "rules" govern how the latest inventions operate.

Two recent examples highlight the challenge.

When Congress conducted hearings on how social media influenced the 2016 elections, it was painfully, embarrassingly obvious that members, the aged ones as well as younger members, were totally clueless. They haltingly read questions obviously prepared by more knowledgeable staffers while tech-genius witnesses could barely hide their giggles.

And then there are drones. They've been zipping through the skies for years while the FAA and lawmakers try to figure out how to regulate their impact privacy and safety.

Rep. Tom Emmer, our Republican member of Congress from the Sixth District, isn't going to let that happen as the government deals with digital currency.

Emmer, who was just named a co-chair of the Congressional Blockchain Caucus, announced three bills to support blockchain technology and digital currencies.

Specifically, the legislation expresses "support for the industry and development of these promising technologies in

**Mike
Knaak**
Editor



the United States, provides clarity to entities that never take control of consumer funds and establishes a safe harbor for taxpayers with 'forked' digital assets."

"The United States should prioritize accelerating the development of blockchain technology and create an environment that enables the American private sector to lead on innovation and further growth, which is why I am introducing these bills," Emmer said.

The Caucus believes in a hands-off regulatory approach to allow this technology to evolve the same way the internet did – on its own. The federal government should provide a light touch, and a consistent and simple legal environment, they contend.

Blockchain technology is a digital, decentralized ledger that keeps a record of transactions and allows for the transfer of financial assets directly between users.

The technology enables the existence of cryptocurrency. Bitcoin is the name of the best-known cryptocurrency, the one for which blockchain technology was invented. A cryptocurrency is a medium of exchange, such as the U.S. dollar, but is digital and uses encryption techniques to control the creation of monetary units and to verify the transfer of funds.

The 30 percent should pay for 'The Wall'

We shouldn't have to wonder any longer why President Donald Trump shows such high-five admiration for thugs posing as national leaders – that rogue's gallery that includes Vladimir Putin, Kim Jung-Un, Recep Erdogan and Rodrigo Duterte. Trump apes their autocratic attitudes.

His declaration of a "national emergency" over his obsessive fixation on "The Wall" puts him square in the camp of the thugs – that is, egomaniacal power-mongers who stop at nothing to get their own way.

Not to insult sweet (or even naughty) kids, but these thugs are grotesque kids – dangerous ones – right out of a nightmare cartoon. They lash out and throw hellacious fits. They whine and pout, they strut and sneer, they brow-beat and threaten (or worse), they belittle and squelch any opposition because in their little minds they are the only ones who count. Nobody else matters. In Trump's case, "nobody else" includes the U.S. Constitution and the U.S. Congress.

On Feb. 15, during his Rose Garden announcement of his "national emergency," Trump told yet another whopper, crowing like a strutting rooster on his hill: "I've already done a lot of Wall!"

Done a lot of damage is more like it. Damage to democracy; to the Rule of Law; to American institutions like the Department of Justice, the Congress and the Constitution.

From Day One, Trump has insisted that HE is the best – HIS inaugural ceremony was the biggest and best ever, HIS 2015 doctor's report (dictated by Trump himself) was the best of all; HIS tax cut was the biggest and best of all time; HIS Wall is going to be the biggest, the most beautiful in all of history.

Does that rampant narcissism sound

**Dennis
Dalman**
Reporter



like derangement? Well, let's put it this way: There are some people tragically suffering from delusions of grandeur, many of them under care in institutions. Some, sadly, might even imagine themselves to be president of the United States.

Trump has constructed his own world with its own twisted latitudes and cock-eyed longitudes – with HIM being the center of it. He was – and is – furious when others in the regular world do not recognize and accede to his centrality, his all-knowingness, his royal Trumpness.

From his first day in office, it became quickly obvious he thought the entire government apparatus belongs to him. Legislators, law enforcement, attorneys, agencies exist as HIS things, pawns to protect him, to cover for him, to serve him, to do his bidding. That is how autocrats and thugs think – and act.

The Wall is yet another symptom of Trump's autocratic bluster. To millions of his supporters that one word "Wall" is a code word for exclusionary attitudes and white nationalism: Keep "them" out of "my" country.

This desperate and dangerous announcement of a "national emergency" is only the latest symptom of total contempt for the U.S. Constitution and the Rule of Law. Even some Republican legislators, who have so long enabled Trump's every crazy whim, are speaking up against this latest usurpation of pow-

Emmer's bill specifically points to the use of blockchain along with smartphones to provide banking and financial services to people who are currently underserved by the financial industry.

Emmer's bill also recognizes future uses that go beyond value transfer including "identity, security for the Internet of Things, rights management for digital content, efficiencies in insurance, energy, health care and instant execution, monitoring and enforcement of contractual terms."

The bill lays out the role of government, balancing the need to encourage private-sector development and innovation while also protecting users from illicit use of digital currencies and other blockchain services.

Financial institutions are exploring how they could also use blockchain technology to upend everything from clearing and settlement to insurance.

As a member of the House Financial Services Committee, Emmer has a stake how banking, insurance and international finance are regulated. I'm often critical of Emmer's policy positions, but this time, he's on the right track. Blockchain technology is probably not high on most voters' lists of key issues so Emmer deserves credit for taking the time to dig into it.

Becoming an expert and leader on the emerging and fast-developing blockchain technology may save him and his fellow lawmakers from embarrassing moments at future Congressional hearings.

er. The only hope is that they, along with Democrats, put a stop to it.

Statistics prove the so-called need for a Big Wall is not a national emergency in any way, shape or form. Border security? By all means. Wall as solution? Absurd.

Who can forget that Trump's "I'm going to build a Wall" started as a campaign chant, a chunk of red meat, cynically tossed to frenzied rally-goers.

"And who's going to pay for it?!" Trump would shout with a defiant sneer on his face.

"Mexico!" they would roar back. "MEXICO!"

Very funny. As if that was going to happen. No. That asinine fixation called "Wall" should be paid for by taking up a collection from the 30 percent of Americans who still insist Donald Trump and his Wall are the greatest things since cupcakes.

Letter to the editor

Clean up after your pet

Daryl Stevens, Sartell

While on a morning run Jan. 11, I tripped on a pile of frozen dog poop. This occurred on the 12th Street running path, about 25 yards east of Pinecone Road in Sartell. This caused serious injury to my left shoulder.

I think most dog owners are responsible for their dogs. The city of Sartell does a great job providing receptacles for dog waste. I since have chiseled that pile of dog waste off the path.

Dog owners: please be respectful and clean up after your dog. I know most of you do. Thanks.



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Abduction Awareness 2019

Tips for Talking to Your Child About Abduction

- 1) Don't forget your older children. Children ages 11 to 17 are equally at risk for victimization. At the same time you are giving your older children more freedom, make sure they understand important safety rules as well.
- 2) When you speak to your children, do so in a calm, nonthreatening manner. Children do not need to be frightened to get the point across. Fear can actually work at cross-purposes to the safety message, because fear can be paralyzing to a child.
- 3) Speak openly about safety issues. Children will be less likely to come to you if the issue is enshrouded in secrecy. If they feel you are comfortable discussing the subject matter, they may be more forthcoming to you.
- 4) Do not confuse children with the concept of "strangers." Children do not have the same understanding of who a stranger is as an adult might. The "stranger-danger" message is not effective, as danger to children is much greater from someone you or they know than from a "stranger."
- 5) Practice what you talk about. You may think your children understand your message, but until they can incorporate it into their daily lives, it may not be clearly understood. Find opportunities to practice "what if" scenarios.
- 6) Teach your children it is more important to get out of a threatening situation than it is to be polite. They also need to know it's OK to tell you what happened, and they won't be a tattletale.

The Most Important Things to Explain

- 1) Children should always check first with you or a trusted adult before they go anywhere, accept anything or get into a car with anyone. This applies to older children as well.
- 2) Children should not go out alone and should always take a friend with them when they go places or play outside. It's OK to say no if someone tries to touch them or treats them in a way that makes them feel scared, uncomfortable or confused, and to get out of the situation as quickly as possible.
- 3) Children need to know they can tell you or a trusted adult if they feel scared, uncomfortable or confused.
- 4) Children need to know there will always be someone to help them, and they have the right to be safe.

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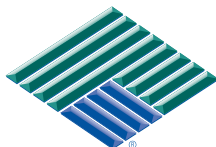
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