

Reaching Everybody! Newsleaders

Friday, March 8, 2019
Volume 24, Issue 5
Est. 1995

Town Crier ABC Kinder Olympix set Saturday 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.

Daylight Saving begins

Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 10 at 2 a.m. Clocks should be moved forward one hour, giving us more daylight in the evening, and less in the morning.

Sartell Summer Baseball registration is still open

The 2019 Summer Sartell Baseball registration will be closing soon. Register today at Sartell-Baseball.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.

April 22 will be a snow day makeup

Sartell-St. Stephen students will make up one more of their five snow days from this winter. The school board decided Feb. 25 that classes will be in session April 22, the Monday after Easter. Earlier, classes were in session on Presidents Day, Feb. 18, a previously scheduled day off, as a makeup day. If there are no other canceled days, those three days won't be made up. The last day of classes will be May 31.

GNTC to holds auditions for 'Nun of your Dam Business'

Great Northern Theatre Company will hold auditions for the world premiere of "Nun of your Business," a comedy, at 6:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, March 11 and 12 at GNTC "Off Broadway" facility at 12383 234th St., Cold Spring. Performances will be held Friday-Sunday, April 26-28. For more information, visit gntc1.com or call director Amy Hunter at 218-894-1925.

School staffing of Community Center more 'enhancement' than change

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

What will change when the Sartell Community Center becomes staffed and managed starting in May by the Sartell-St. Stephen school district's Community Education Program?

The changes will likely not be apparent because the center will still be owned by the city, and the school district's input to the center will be an enhancement of what has already been taking place.

At the Feb. 25 city council meeting, members voted unanimously to allow the school district to operate, manage and staff the Center. The school board also unanimously approved the partnership the same night. It's not a brand-new development because from the get-go that was in the plans – to have the district provide lots of input for the center as a partnership with the city.

The \$11-million Sartell Community Center opened 17 months ago. During that time, the city contracted with a St. Cloud-based company, ProFields, to do management, staffing and operations. That contract was meant to expire so the school district could take on the job. Currently until May 1, ProFields employees are working with school employees to share their expertise.

The city's agreement with the district is identical to the one it had with ProFields, Sartell City Administrator Mary Degiovanni said.

"The city," she said, "will continue the same functions as we do now. We own the building and are responsible for everything about it, but we are contracting day-to-day staffing to the school district."

The city will maintain the building, she noted.

If the city council decides change-



photo by Mike Knaak

The city will save about \$20,000 a year by having the district operate the center rather than a private company.

School • page 4

Fibranz wins second at state wrestling

by Darren Diekmann
news@thenewsleaders.com

Two Sartell wrestlers competed in the Minnesota state wrestling tournament last weekend at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul. One, Jackson Penk, was eliminated early. The other, Cole Fibranz, came away with second place.

Fibranz, a senior, with a record of 45-3, is ranked No. 2 in the state at 220 pounds in Class 3A and ranked 14th overall nationally, according to InterMat. He made his way through the state bracket to the finals with three wins and a record of 45-2.

In the first round, he hand-



photo by Angie Heckman

Cole Fibranz (left) lost to Ezayah Oropeza, Rosemount, who is ranked 1st in the state and 11th nationally, in the championship match.

ily beat Charles Dressel from Mounds View by technical fall

in 5:10, 16-1. Next, he dominated Nick Staska, Owatonna, 8-0.

In the semi-finals, he beat John Noll, Centennial, 7-3.

The last match was not as close as the score indicated.

"I felt like I was in total control, the whole time," Fibranz said.

Penk, also a senior, qualified for state with a stellar performance in the Section 8 tournament placing first at 132 pounds, with a record of 39-2, and a ranking of sixth in the state.

"Not a lot of people can shoot on him," said Sabres coach Cory Olson commenting on Penk's unusually low stance, and his ability to scramble.

Fibranz • page 4

New pool or splash pad at Watab Park?

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

Plans for the Watab Park wading pool have hit a snag, although the snag might just morph into an opportunity, depending on what Sartell residents decide they want.

The Sartell City Council wrestled with new details about the plans at its Feb. 25 meeting.

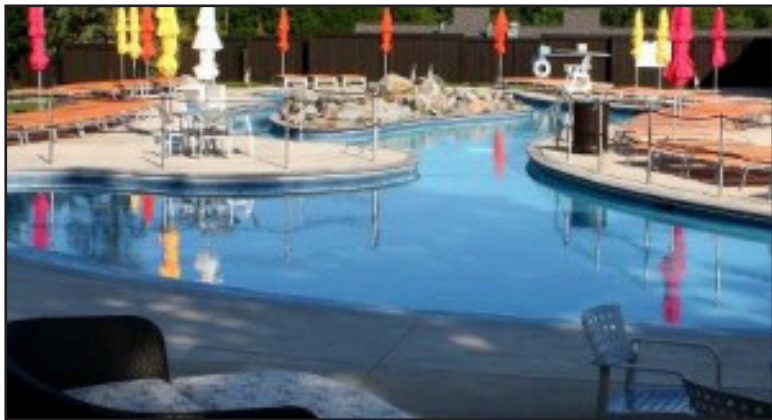
The presenter at the meeting was Nick Nowacki of a Big Lake aquatic-design and engineering company called "Reengineered, Inc." To help develop a plan,

Nowacki has met many times with Sartell Public Works Director John Kothenbeutel and Sartell City Administrator Mary Degiovanni.

The pool project is one of several improvements, updates and additions slated for Watab Park.

Months ago, the pool renovation project was estimated to cost about \$70,000. Further study, however, determined to do a renovation, including concrete work, would cost more than twice that – about

Pool • page 2



contributed photo

This water park in Dellwood, Minnesota combines a meandering "river-style pool," lounge areas that mimic beaches and splash features. It was designed by Reengineered Inc. of Big Lake.

Pool

from front page

\$150,000, Nowacki told the council. He said he spoke with many contractors who said they wouldn't even consider doing such a project because it is just not worth doing since the renovation just would not amount to much difference, that the project would merely be a Band-Aid to extend the life of the pool somewhat.

"It would just not be a good return for the money," Nowacki said.

A far better solution, he said, would be to create something new that would excite children and parents and offer lots of summer fun – either a splash pad or a new wading pool with play features added. A new pool would cost about \$280,000, Nowacki noted, and any play features could be added from a kind of a la carte menu of choices, depending upon what residents would like. The \$280,000 amount would pay for a new pool (or splash pad), all the water piping, concrete decking, a surrounding fence and some play features for either pool or splash pad.

Many such projects have been created throughout Minnesota, such as one in Onamia that includes a dozen play features such as water jets and playground equipment. Waite

Park's River's Edge Park also has a similar splash-park playground. Nowacki showed the council slides of some of the examples of splash pads. The one in Onamia, he said, cost about \$240,000.

A state grant of \$145,000, with matching funds from Sartell, could pay for the project, but Degiovanni told the council she would have to ask the state grant program if those funds could be used for a redefined project. Another option, she said, is to use funds in the sales-tax revenue stream if the council should so decide.

One advantage of a splash park vs. wading pool is that there would be no need for life-guards, Nowacki noted.

Kothenbeutel told the council the city made "Band-Aid" improvements to the wading pool about 10 years ago. He told the council that, in his opinion, he could not guarantee the wading pool's condition would hold out for much beyond a year.

Council members agreed they do not have a strong opinion on pool vs. splash pad. They also agreed to refer the question back to committee and for discussion at the new planning commission, which now handles issues of park development as well as citywide planning. Council members also agreed they need wide public input before making a decision, and efforts will be made to seek such input.

Eighteen Sartell students recently graduated from St. Cloud State University during fall commencement on Dec. 21. The students, their degrees and majors are: **Wendy Albjerg**, bachelor's in nursing, summa cum laude; **Tara Asseln**, master's in social work; **Courtney Boe**, bachelor's in early childhood education, summa cum laude; **Jessica Condon**, bachelor's in social studies education, summa cum laude; **Katelyn Dykhuizen**, bachelor's in social work, cum laude; **Kayla Ferraro**, bachelor's in early childhood education, magna cum laude;

Caleb Forberg, bachelor's in mass communications, cum laude; **Alicia Freihammer**, bachelor's in liberal studies; **Alicia Freihammer**, bachelor's in nursing; **Katherine Gatzke**, bachelor's in social work, magna cum laude; **Melissa Gohman**, bachelor's in art education; **Ryan Koenigs**, master's in educational administration plus leadership; **Ethan Licht**, bachelor's in chemistry Professional ACS approved, magna cum laude;

Jessica Meichsner, bachelor's in English, magna cum laude; **Trevor Nystrom**, bachelor's in liberal studies; **Parker Olson**, associate's in liberal arts and sciences; **Nathan Rockwell**, bachelor's in liberal studies; **Bret Schwinghammer**, bachelor's in graphic design, magna cum laude; and **Joshua Toftey**, certificate in actuarial science.

Forty-five Sartell students were recently named to the fall semester dean's list at St. Cloud State University. To be eligible for the honor, students must have a minimum grade-point average of 3.75.

The students are: **Brooke**

People



contributed photo

Sartell Squirt C Blue team won first place in the 2018-2019 Minnesota District 5 Hockey Squirt C Championship tournament on March 3. Coached by Lewis Solarz and Andy Berger, the team's district record for the season was 11-0. The players are Nikolas Berger, Brandon Cihlar, Noah George, Evan Hanson, Karson Kuznia, Lane Larson, Ronin Lester, Cael Mueller, Jaden Oxley, Liam Solarz and Owen Yasgar.

Amundson, Casey Becker, Deborah Beumer, Courtney Boe, Jessee Bramstedt, Jordyn Brandt, Kyle Cielinski, Kayla Clark, Caleb Clemens, Tyler Cronquist, Paige Elyea, Andrea Flategraff, Caleb Forberg, Alexis Gent, Paige Grabow, Alexis Haas, Angelica Hagen, Gabrielle Hagen, Matthew Hegland, Jordan Heinen, Kyle Helland, Anna Hince, Luke Kessler, Bailey Klinghagen, Christine Koch, Christopher Leach, Donovan Magney, Kayleen Martins, David Moore, Jonathan Oleson, Courtney Olund, Zachary Osga, Aaron Randall, Brian Robillard, Laurie Robles Ramirez, Nathan Rockwell, Hannah Ronyak, Paige Schaefer, Alyssa Schoon, Nicholas Schramel, Michael Sorensen, Mikayla Stockinger, Jennifer Thompson, Logan Weihs and Lidiah Zipp.

Two Sartell students were named to the fall semester dean's list at Hamline University College of Liberal Arts. To be named to the list, a student needs a minimum 3.5 grade-point average. The students are: **Echoe Bilben** and **Madie Thieschafer**.

Four Sartell-St. Stephen students were recently named to the high honor list for fall semester at Minnesota State University, Mankato. They include **Mackenzie Dockendorf** of St. Stephen and Sartell students **Kira Haglin, Mathew Huver** and **Bailey Mumm**. To qualify for the high honor list, a 4.0 grade-point average is needed.

Nine Sartell-St. Stephen students were recently named to the honor list for fall semester at Minnesota State University, Mankato. To qualify for the honor

list, students maintain a 3.5 to 3.99 grade-point average. They include Sartell students **Cora Cielinski, Madeline Davis, Madison Dobis, Megan Pederson, Nicole Schefers, Taylor Schmidt, McKenzie Specht, Melissa Thompson** and St. Stephen's **Caroline Brand**.

New Horizon Academy in Sartell has been named the Susan K. Dunkley 2018 School of Excellence. This award is given to just one of more than 70 New Horizon Academy locations.

In order to receive this award, a school must not only meet, but exceed, the criteria for outstanding performance in program application, staff leadership and development, and commitment to enrolled families and the community.

Eighteen Sartell students have recently been named to the fall semester dean's list at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. To qualify for this honor, a student must attain a minimum 3.66 grade-point average.

The students are the following: **Hosam Alkhatib, Logan Anding, Joseph Becker, Cami Doman, Aline Glazos, Kali Killmer, Kirsten Koskinen, Abigail Lahn, Jillian Lawson, Sophie Loberg, Matthew Markman, Eric Minnerath, Zachary Motschke, Justin Scherer, Isaac Schneider, Abby Silman, Rory Spanier** and **Samantha Venables**.

Madison Vonderahe, a 2016 graduate of Sartell High School and daughter of Melinda and Adam Vonderahe, made the dean's list at the University of Cincinnati for the fall semester. She earned a grade-point average of 3.833 in the College-Conservatory of Music.

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Call the Sartell-St. Stephen Newsleaders at 320-363-7741 if you would like to be in the business directory.

Weekly Lenten *Fish Fry*

March 8, 15, 22, 29 and April 5 & 12

March 15 & 22 Live music by Gone Fishin' Gospel Group

5-7:30 p.m.

Adults: \$9

12 & under: \$5 • Under 4: free

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Community Calendar

Is your event listed? Send your information to: Newsleader Calendar, 1622 11th Ave. SE., St. Cloud, MN 56304., 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, March 8
Fish fry fundraiser, sponsored by St. Joseph Rod and Gun Club, 4:30-8 p.m., American Legion, 101 W. Minnesota St., St. Joseph. www.stjoerodandgunclub.org.

Saturday, March 9
Winter Market, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., fellowship hall, Resurrection Lutheran Church, 610 CR 2, St. Joseph.
Central Minnesota Chapter of the Federation of the Blind of Minnesota, 12:30 p.m., American Legion, 17 Second Ave. N., Waite Park.

Monday, March 11
Sartell City Council, 6-8 p.m., City Hall, 125 Pinecone Road N.
Sartell-St. Stephen school board work session, 7:30-9 p.m., District Service Center, 212 Thirid Ave. N.

Tuesday, March 12
Sartell Chamber of Commerce, 11:30 a.m., Waters Church, 1227 Pinecone Road. 320-258.6061. info@sartell-chamber.com.
Central Minnesota Civil War Rountable, 3 p.m. Stearns History Museum, 235 33rd Ave., S., St. Cloud. “Baseball and the Civil War” presented by Adam Katz.

St. Stephen Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m. 2 Sixth Ave. SE. St. Stephen. 320-251-0964.
National Alliance on Mental Health, 7-8:30 p.m., Calvary Community Church, 1200 Roosevelt Road, St. Cloud. The group helps parents raising a child with mental illness learn coping skills and develop problem-solving skills. 320-654-

1259.
Wednesday, March 13
Breakfast Club, 9 a.m., Stearns History Museum, 235 33rd Ave. S., St. Cloud. Johanna Ellison, director of the Cokato Museum and Akerlund Studio, will talk about the Gust Akerlund glass-plate photography collection.

Thursday, March 14
Coffee and Conversation, a senior discussion group, 9 a.m., Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S. Topic: Crime Stoppers.
St. Cloud Area Mothers of Multiples, 7 p.m., VFW Granite Post 428, 9 18th Ave. N., St. Cloud.

Friday, March 15
Baked Fish Dinner, 5-7 p.m., St. Paul’s Parish Center, 1125 11th Ave. N., St. Cloud.
St. Cloud Singles Club Dance, 8 p.m.-midnight, American Legion, 17 Second Ave. S., Waite Park. 320-339-4533. stcloudsingles.net.

Saturday, March 16
Community meal, 11:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1107 Pinecone Road S. Free.

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

Monday, March 18
Blood Drive, 1-7 p.m., American Legion, 17 Second Ave. N., Waite Park. 320-363-4664.

Wood Duck, Bluebird and Wren House building, sponsored by St. Joseph Rod and Gun Club, 4-6:30 p.m., American Legion, 101 Minnesota St. W., St. Joseph.

Sartell-St. Stephen school board, 6:30 p.m., District Office, 212 Third Ave. N.

Tuesday, March 19
Memory Writers group develops topics and turns in stories. 10 a.m., Stearns History Museum, 235 33rd Ave. S, St Cloud.

Alzheimer’s and dementia information meeting, 1 p.m., The Sanctuary, 2410 20th Ave. SE., St. Cloud.
St. Cloud Area Genealogists, 7 p.m., Stearns History Museum, 235 33rd Ave. S., St. Cloud. stearns-museum.org.

Wednesday, March 20
SALT (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together), 9 a.m., Sartell Police Department, 310 Second St. S., Sartell.

Thursday, March 21
Coffee and Conversation, a senior discussion group, 9 a.m., Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S. Topic: Carie Essig, executive director of the Stearns History Museum.

Red Cross blood donation, 1-7 p.m., St. Francis Xavier, 308 Second St. N. To donate call 800-733-2767 or redcrossblood.org.
American Legion-Sartell, open to all veterans young and old, 6 p.m., Liquid Assets, 1091 Second St. S. No. 600, Sartell. john.denney@charter.net.

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 tricountycrimestoppers.org. Crime Stoppers offers rewards up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for a crime.

Feb. 20
8:10 p.m. Vehicle collision. Second Street S. Officers arrived on scene of a vehicle crash with injuries and cared for the injured party until medical services arrived and took the injured party to the hospital. Officers cleared the area of the vehicles.

Feb. 21
12:15 p.m. Disorderly conduct. CR 120. Officers were dispatched to a business parking lot regarding a verbal altercation between two individuals resulting from a traffic disagreement. Officers separated the two individuals without incident. Officers warned all parties about their behavior and had the two parties go their separate ways.

Feb. 22
6:50 p.m. DWI. Riverside Avenue N. A caller reported bad driving conduct. Officers witnessed the driving conduct as well and stopped the vehicle.

The individual failed the field sobriety tests, was arrested for DWI and transported to Stearns County Jail.

Feb. 23
2 a.m. Traffic stop. Hwy. 15. An officer witnessed a vehicle conduct a U-turn at an intersection. The officer stopped the vehicle to find the driver had a suspended license from another state. The officer cited the driver for not having a valid driver’s license and waited for a valid driver to arrive to collect the vehicle.

Feb. 24
1:55 p.m. Assault. 11th Avenue E. Officers were dispatched to a call involving a dispute over property. Officers arrived to witness the two parties assaulting each other. Officers separated the two individuals and cited them both for assault.

Feb. 26
12:35 a.m. Loud music. 10th Avenue N. Officers were dispatched to a complaint of loud music at a residence. Officers discussed the issue with the tenant about the loud music and encouraged them to contact site management if it should happen again.

Feb. 27
3:20 p.m. Traffic stop. Seventh Street S. An officer running a license plate check found a vehicle whose owner had a suspended license. The officer stopped the vehicle to investigate. The officer issued a citation for driving with a suspended license.

Feb. 28
11:45 p.m. Traffic stop. Pinecone Road. A citizen called police regarding erratic driving. Officers witnessed the same conduct and stopped the vehicle. The driver did not have a valid driver’s license and was unfamiliar with Sartell. The officer waited with the driver until someone could pick up both occupants. The driver was cited for not having a valid license.

March 1
Noon. Warrant. CR 120. An individual with an arrest warrant

was called in by a citizen. Officers stopped the vehicle transporting the individual and took him into custody. The individual was transported to Stearns County Jail.

March 2
9:50 p.m. Domestic. Fourth Avenue S. Officers were dispatched to a loud argument. Officers arrived and heard it as well. Officers took one individual into custody for domestic abuse and transported the individual to Stearns County Jail.

March 3
12:55 a.m. DWI. 17th Street S. An officer saw a vehicle stuck in a snow bank. Stopping to assist, the officer witnessed signs of impairment of the driver and passenger who were juveniles. The officer turned the juveniles over to their parents and cited them for underage drinking and

driving and minor consumption. The vehicle was towed.

March 4
5:50 p.m. Traffic stop. River Avenue. An officer witnessed a vehicle traveling at a higher speed than the speed limit. Conducting the stop, the driver admitted to knowing the speed limit and that they were speeding. The officer cited the driver.

March 5
12:05 a.m. Traffic stop. Riverside Avenue S. An officer stopped a vehicle for speeding. The officer smelled marijuana in the vehicle. The driver admitted to possessing the marijuana and the officer took possession of it. The driver showed no signs of impairment. The officer cited the driver for the speed and the possession of marijuana.

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School

from front page

es or additions should be made at the center, it will work with the district to implement any changes, Degiovanni said, noting the city will still have the final say-so about any aspects of the center’s functioning and its policies.

The city, she said, will save about \$20,000 a year by having the district operate the center rather than a private company. “The school district has staff with the experience and expertise in this type of facility management, and so contracting with them for day-to-day staffing makes sense and it lowers the cost for our taxpayers,” Degiovanni said.

She said district staff at the center could be a variety of people with a minimum of two staff members present in the building during open hours. They could well be students, interns or others who enjoy people and activities, she said. The district’s Community Education staff includes its director, youth-program coordinator, adult-program coordinator and a scheduler. That kind of expertise, Degiovanni said, is a “great fit” for the Center and its visitors’ needs.

Staffing also involves many part-time building attendants who help with set-up operations for events, activities and serving customers.

Degiovanni said she anticipates a smooth transition to



photo by Mike Knaak

The \$11-million Sartell Community Center opened 17 months ago. During that time, the city contracted with Pro-Fields, to do management, staffing and operations.

school district staffing and operations.

“The Community Ed staff already schedules and manages so many things for the school district that adding our Community Center to the mix just seems like a great fit,” she said.

“We thought it would be good to get it (the center) up and running and have a full year of operations under our belt so they can walk into a system that is already running well, and that is how it has played out. So now we take our time to transition over the coming months and then we work to keep it a great asset for Sartell.”

Fibranz

from front page

ble. “So you don't get to see that a lot, but it's really fun to watch him get out of when it does happen.”

At state, Penk was eliminated from the tournament in an unexpected 11-9 first-round loss to Conner Higgins of Rochester John Marshall.

For the championship match at state, Fibranz wrestled Ezayah Oropeza, Rosemont, who is ranked 1st in the state and 11th nationally with a 45-0 record.

Fibranz fell behind early in the match and struggled to catch up for the remaining time.

The two had met at the beginning of this season with Oropeza coming out on top 2-1. So Fibranz knew what to expect and that he had to bring his best match in order to win.

A few hours after the loss, Fibranz was philosophical about it.

“If I have the energy to be mad, then I didn't use enough on the mat,” he said. “I am content ... I tried everything I could and it just didn’t work

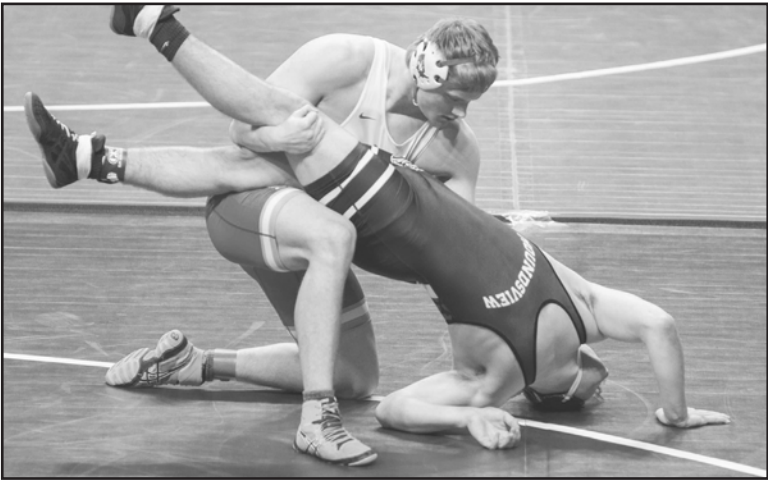


photo by Angie Heckman

Cole Fibranz beat Charles Dressel from Mounds View 16-1 in the first round of the state tournament.

my way,” He said, that at least he could use the loss as a learning experience.

This was his third state tournament, at 220 pounds. Fibranz was a state champion two years ago as a sophomore. He placed third last year, losing in the semi-final to the same guy that he beat in the finals the year before.

He won the section tournament this year by beating another nemesis, Andrew Reigstad of Willmar, 5-1 in the finals. Reigstad is ranked third in the state and that is where he finished in the state tournament.

“I've had to wrestle him ev-

ery single year,” Fibranz said with a hint of weariness. This year’s section tournament was the fifth time. Fibranz has beaten him all five.

As a team, the Sabres had a somewhat disappointing individual section tournament. They expected to have more guys qualify for state.

Senior Nick Pelach at 138 was having an outstanding year, was ranked fifth and had experience with his two state tournament wins last year. A late-season shoulder injury ended hopes of wrestling at sections and not just qualifying but placing at the state tournament.

Celebration project contract awarded

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

The much-discussed and long-awaited Celebration neighborhood drainage-improvement project was awarded a work contract by the Sartell City Council at its last meeting.

Landwehr Construction of

St. Cloud was the low bidder at \$424,173, which is within the city’s budget and considerably less than a previous project estimate of nearly \$500,000.

Throughout the years, there have been persistent flooding problems in the streets, yards, basements and alleys in much of the Celebration neighborhood area.

The flooding was not only a safety concern, but it also did damage to some alleys, streets, curb-and-gutter and yards.

The project, to be done this spring and summer, will involve overlays of parts of alleys and roads and drainage solutions that include tiling.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GILBERT’S SALE YARD MACHINERY CONSIGNMENT SALE, APRIL 8, 9:00 A.M.. Advertising Deadline March 22. No Small Items, Tires after March 29. CONSIGN TODAY, 641-398-2218, Hwy 218, Floyd, IA, www.gilbertsaleyard.com (MCN)

AUCTIONS

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Overcome Your Fear

According to the American Dental Association, an estimated 40 million Americans avoid the dentist because of fear and anxiety.

If you fall into this category, you can probably relate to your friends and neighbors who feel this way as their dentist appointment approaches on the calendar.

Why are people so fearful of dental visits? Many people associate pain or uncertainty when thinking about their dental experiences. It doesn't have to be this way. Your dental professionals are there to ensure your comfort and wellbeing.

Instead of treating a trip to the dentist as an inconvenience, think of it as the most effective way of making sure your teeth are as healthy as possible. If you let fear overtake your mental connection with the dentist, you may put off critical appointments or procedures. Doing so is a surefire way of opening the door for future dental health issues.

TALK ABOUT YOUR FEARS

Studies have proven that the most important factor in overcoming dental anxiety is good relationship with your dental professional and his or her staff. If you trust your dentist, you are more likely to feel at ease in the dentist's chair.

Open the lines of communication with your dentist to share how you're feeling. Be honest and frank by explaining why you are anxious. Dentists are trained in easing patient fears and delivering outstanding bedside manner.

If you feel like your dentist is lacking in any of these areas, it's time to search for a new dentist.



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WHAT TO DO AT THE DENTIST

There are also things you can do when the time comes to walk through your dentist's doors. Follow these tips from Delta Dental:

- Focus on breathing regularly, deeply and slowly during dental procedures. This will help facilitate the flow of oxygen throughout your body and decrease any feelings of panic.

- Ask your dentist if you're allowed to wear earbuds to listen to your favorite band or podcast during your visit. Doing so can serve as a welcome distraction from any sounds of the dentist's office that make you feel uncomfortable.

- Avoid caffeine before a dental appointment. Instead, eat high-protein foods that produce a calming effect.

- Try to choose a time for your dental visit when you're not under a time crunch. This means avoiding tight windows such as lunch breaks or before work.

- If you are looking for a dentist, ask friends and relatives for their experiences and recommendations. A good review from a trusted source can start you off on the right foot.



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DENTAL CARE | THE PROS

Experts in Dental Care

When you think of oral health, you probably think of scheduling appointments with your dentist. There are several types of experts who specialize in different conditions in the dental field. It is important to know which professionals to seek for your specific situation.

ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGEON

These specialists are required to complete four additional years of hospital-based training after dental school. The additional lessons focus on diagnosing and treating conditions in the face, mouth and jaw.

The University of Rochester Medical Center reports that these experts are efficient in procedures like:

- Dental implants and associated bone grafting or soft tissue grafting.
- Outpatient anesthesia.
- Removal of tumors and growths from the jaws and mouth.
- Jaw reconstruction.

Their knowledge is vast, and an appointment can be beneficial if you fear you require serious attention.

ORAL PATHOLOGIST

While they typically don't provide direct patient care, an expert in pathology researches and diagnoses diseases which begin orally. The American Dental Education Association states the career typically requires 37 months of lessons. They will work close with dentists to

perform biopsies and radiographic or microscopic examinations.

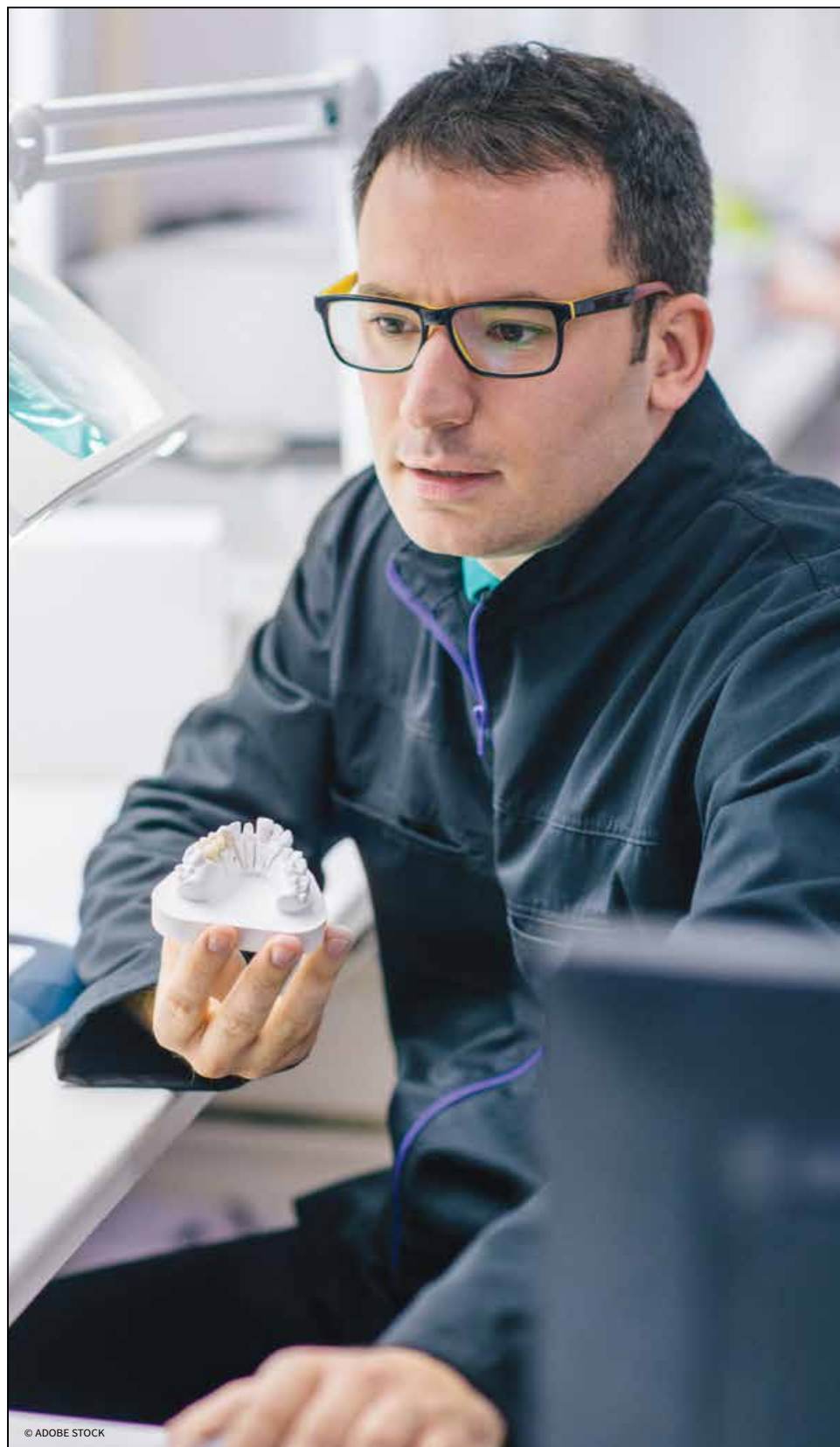
ORTHODONTIST

Another aspect of proper oral health is the straightening of teeth, correcting over- or underbites and closing gaps. This is best achieved by another specialist – an orthodontist. Certain issues with the jaw are also better left to these professionals as their training prepares them to provide the most effective treatment.

PROSTHODONTIST

According to the American College of Prosthodontists, prosthodontics is defined as the diagnosis, treatment planning, rehabilitation and maintenance of the oral function, comfort, appearance and health of patients with missing or deficient teeth.

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DENTAL CARE | ROUTINE CLEANING

The Power of Flossing

Brushing twice a day is recommended by all of the major dental organizations, but if you're not flossing, you are missing out on an opportunity to optimize your oral healthcare.

The American Dental Association urges people to floss at least once a day to help remove plaque from the areas between the teeth where the toothbrush simply cannot reach.

Flossing is important because it helps prevent gum disease and cavities. And according to the ADA, it doesn't matter if you floss before or after brushing — as long as you're doing it. A 2015 poll by MouthHealthy.org found that 53 percent of its readers said they brush before, while 47 percent said after.

The key is finding the time to floss. Bring some floss with you to work to take care of it during your lunch break. Wake up a few minutes early or stay awake a few minutes later to give your teeth some extra attention. With just a little effort, you can make a big difference in the present and future health of your teeth.



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DON'T FORGET THE KIDS

As an adult, it's up to us to be great role models. Proper dental care is a behavior we can easily pass on to our children by teaching them the importance of taking care of their mouths. You should be flossing your child's teeth as soon as you see two teeth

touching.

The ADA recommends parents flossing their children's teeth until they are about 10 years old. By this age, children have the dexterity to effectively floss by themselves.

Encourage your children to floss by reassuring them that the experience is not a painful one. Flossing should be done

in a firm yet gentle manner. If you're feeling pain while you're flossing, you're not doing it correctly.

HOW TO FLOSS

The ADA has found that only about half of Americans floss their teeth. Considering the ease of flossing, this number should be much higher. The process is sim-

ple and straightforward, as these tips from the ADA point out:

- Break off about 18 inches of floss and wind it around the middle fingers of each hand.
- Guide the floss between your teeth using a gentle rubbing motion.
- When the floss reaches the gum line, curve it into a C shape against one tooth; gently slide it into the space between the gum and the tooth.
- Bring the floss back toward the contact point between the teeth and move the floss up or down the other side.
- Hold the floss tightly against the tooth; gently rub the side of the tooth, moving the floss away from the gum with up-and-down motions.



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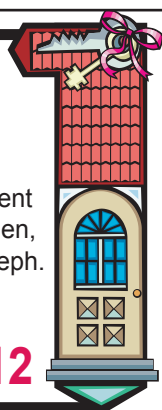
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Except for auxiliary gym, high school to be closed next year

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

Starting in August, the current Sartell High School will be closed for public use except for the auxiliary gym, the Sartell-St. Stephen school board learned Feb. 25.

Superintendent Jeff Schwiibert said that while remodeling takes place to convert the building for middle school students, there won't be enough entrances and exits available to meet fire code so that more of the building can be open.

Auxiliary-gym use will be limited to 100 people so it will be available for practices and youth sports but gymnastics meets will need to be held elsewhere. There will be two doors available for auxiliary-gym users.

New logos approved for schools

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

New logos for administration and school activities have been adopted by the Sartell-St. Stephen school board.

The administration logo features a stylized S inside a shield.

Primary and secondary logos for teams and activities can

be adapted to include group names. The basic logo includes a sabre slashing through an S.

An optional logo leaves space for a name under the large word.



(Left) The district administration logo features a stylized S. The basic activities logo (middle) includes a sabre slashing through an S and an optional version (right) leaves space for a team or activity name.

Two Sartell students named National Merit Scholar finalists

Two Sartell High School seniors have been named National Merit Scholar finalists.

The students are Yash Hindka, son of Chanchal and Dinesh Hindka, and Megan Mechelke, daughter of Kathryn and Mark Mechelke.

Hindka and Mechelke are two of the 15,000 finalists out of 1.6 million students who took the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test in October 2017. They scored high enough to be named semifinalists in the fall of 2018 and completed a rigorous application to be named finalists.

Both students have been



Hindka

for the school board, Hindka is a member of the Minnesota State AA Knowledge Bowl Championship team, volunteers at the Catholic Charities Food Shelf and achieved a perfect ACT score.

Mechelke achieved Sartell High School varsity letters in Academics, Spring Musical, Fall Play and Knowledge Bowl. She

very involved in school and community activities.

In addition to serving as a student representative for the school



Mechelke

Sabre Splash Mentor, for Sabre Splash Advisory Council, ORE/PME Musical in a Week with GREAT Theatre, Tri-County Human Society Event and Office, and the SCSU Chemistry Outreach Program.

National Merit Scholarship winners will be announced between April and July.

Breitkreutz receives second statewide leadership award

by Cori Hilsgen
news@thenewsleaders.com

The Sartell-St. Stephen school district's director of technology has received his second statewide award in the past four months.

Kyle Breitkreutz received the Minnesota Association of School Administrators 2019 Outstanding Central Office Leader Award. Breitkreutz received this award for exhibiting a willingness to risk, possessing strong communications skills, being a progressive change agent and having high expecta-

tions for himself and others. He will be honored at a statewide recognition ceremony during the group's spring conference March 7-8, at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest in Brooklyn Park.

In December, Breitkreutz received the Sourcewell Technology Minnesota Leader of the Year Award in Minneapolis.

The award recognizes "demonstrated effective leadership in using information technologies to increase opportunities and accessibility for student learning."

Assistant superintendent Kay

Nelson nominated Breitkreutz for the award.

"It was fantastic to be recognized by Independent School District 748 (and) Kay Nelson, who nominated me," Breitkreutz said. "To then be selected by past award recipients across the state was really an honor."

Breitkreutz said as director of technology he has learned from many others in his position from across the state.

"The award is a reflection of the district's team approach with instructional technology."

Award • back page

Citizen of Year Nordmann starts new business

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

Sonia Nordmann, Sartell Citizen of the Year, is starting out 2019 with vim, vigor, hard work and determination.

She opened a new business in early November. At 234 Pinecone Road S., it's called Sartell Vibe, a smoothie-and-juice bar that promotes good nutrition and healthy lifestyles.

Nordmann was named Citizen of the Year by the Sartell Chamber of Commerce at its annual awards banquet in November. She was praised for her many good works on behalf of the city, most notably last year's concert fundraiser for the Sartell Police Department. Instead of celebrating her 40th birthday, she decided to organize

the fundraiser on that date at the Sartell Community Center, which resulted in \$10,500 for the police department's training-equipment fund.

On her 30th birthday she also did a fundraiser for an autism organization because one of her friends has a son who was struggling because of autism.

Nordmann has been active in the Sartell Chamber and serves on its board of directors and served as its president in 2018. Another ongoing community-service task is her membership since 2005 in the Le Sauk Lions Club, for which she is secretary.

Nordmann said she has had some tough times in her own life when people so gladly came to her aid and helped her out. She was so grateful for that sup-



contributed photo
Sonia Nordmann (right) accepts her Sartell Citizen of the Year award in November from then-Sartell Mayor Sarah Jane Nicoll (left).

port that she loves, in turn, to help others.

"With my new business, I won't have time – at least for the near future – for some of those volunteer efforts," she said. "This business takes a lot of time, but I'm determined to make an impact on Sartell. I want to make everybody in it healthier and happier."

Raised in Cold Spring, Nordmann moved to Sartell as a single mom 22 years ago.

"When I moved here, I just knew in my heart I was choosing a forever place to raise my son, Andrew," she said. "And sure enough, I picked the right city."

Nordmann earned a degree in biomedical science in 1999 from St. Cloud State University. Her most recent job, before starting her own business, was as the director of business develop-

ment for El-Jay Plumbing and Heating, based in Sauk Rapids.

Nordmann and her husband, Aaron, have two children – Andrew Hessler, 23, who lives with his wife, Melissa, in St. Cloud; and Aidan, 12.

Nordmann is people-oriented, through and through. Even though her new business takes a lot of time and work, she often finds herself energized by her customers.

"They are amazing," she said. "They have so much energy when they come into Sartell Vibe. It's so much fun to meet new people. I get to make all kinds of new friends. I get to know them, and they keep coming back, and I get to know them even more. I guess you could call me a collector of people."

Obituaries

Eugene "Gene" J. Bidinger, 86 Sartell
March 10, 1932-Feb. 19, 2019

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

His funeral was held Feb. 25 at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 219 Second St. N., Sartell. The Rev. Eberhard Schefers officiated and burial was in the parish cemetery.

Bidinger was born March 10, 1932 in Le Sauk Township to Frederick and Loretta (Theisen) Bidinger. He served our country in the U.S. Army in Korea. He married Darlene Robatcek on July 1, 1958 at St. Francis Xavier church in Sartell. He worked



at St. Regis Paper Mill in Sartell for 40 years and also at Red's Transfer in St. Cloud, and was a volunteer firefighter for the Sartell Fire Department. Later in life Bidinger worked at St. Francis Xavier in lawn care. Having a strong foundation in his Catholic faith, he was a member of St. Francis Xavier, where he served as a Eucharistic minister. He was also a member of American Legion Post #277 of Sartell and a former member of St. Cloud Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #622. Bidinger enjoyed golfing, bowling, playing cards, outdoor activities, traveling and spending winters in Lake Havasu, Arizona. He was a friendly, outgoing, generous, compassionate, humorous and quick-witted man. Bidinger was a devoted and loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Darlene of Sartell; children, Dale (Carol) Bidinger of Sartell, Pam (Scott) Gnan of Chanhassen, Jodi (Bob) Traut of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, and Rory (Tiffany) Bidinger of Sartell; brother and sister, Bob (Vi) Bidinger of Sartell and Mary (Kenny) Pietron of Sartell; nine grandchildren, Fred and Tom Bidinger, Aaron and Alex Gnan, Alicia Carlson and Brianna Traut, Keegan, Gavin and Landyn Bidinger; great-grandchild, Knox Carlson and a Bidinger on the way.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and sisters, Marcy (Marvin) Traut and LaVern (Lee) Kruchten.

Memorials will be used for dementia research.

Arrangements were entrusted to Williams Dingmann Family Funeral Home, Sauk Rapids.

Melvin "Mel" M. Fiereck, 92 Sartell
Aug. 9, 1926-Feb. 25, 2019

Melvin M. Fiereck, 92, of Sartell, died Monday, Feb. 25 at Country Manor Nursing Home in Sartell. His funeral was held Friday, March 1, at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Sartell. The Rev. Eberhard Schefers officiated and entombment was in Assumption Cemetery in St. Cloud.

Fiereck was born Aug. 9, 1926 in St. Cloud to Ignatius and Lorraine (Wagner) Fiereck. He married Patricia (Forcier) Fiereck on June 24, 1952 at Holy Angels Catholic Church, St. Cloud. He was employed as a machinist at DeZurik Manufac-



turing for 29 years until retiring in 1991. He was a member of St. Francis Xavier Church and Machinist Union Local #623. He enjoyed bicycling, traveling, fishing and golfing.

Survivors include his wife; children, Linda (Michael) Holm of Plymouth, Pamela Vogel of Chaska, Michael (Phyllis) of Big Lake, Sheila (Joseph) Bethke of Buffalo, Patrick (Sheila) of Big Lake, Lisa (Kris) Friedrich of Sartell and Laurie (Doug) Rodewald of Maple Grove; 11 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; brother and sisters, Lorraine "Bebe" Warhol of Phoenix, Betty Haynes of Sierra Vista, Ariz. and Jerry (Audrey) Fiereck of Gilbert, Ariz.

He is preceded in death by his parents; sister, Joyce Nelson; and a granddaughter.

Arrangements were made by Williams Dingmann Family Funeral Home, St. Cloud.

Council approves waiver for hockey benefit concert

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

At its last meeting, the Sartell City Council approved a special permit and waiver of fees for a party/fundraiser dubbed "Hairball Concert" set to take place from 7-11:30 p.m. Saturday, April 13, at the Bernick's Arena.

The event is a fundraiser sponsored by the Sartell Youth Hockey Association. While the concert is planned as an outdoor activity,

inclement weather may change the venue to inside the arena. The council mulled over that uncertainty with regards to fees. If the concert is held inside, the sponsor will have to pay a fee to the state fire marshal's department. If held outside, the hockey association would have to pay a total fee to the city of \$525 – that is, \$375 for a fire-department standby fee and \$150 for a fire-department permit fee.

The council voted unanimously to waive the city fees (total of \$525)

for the event. It also authorized the special permit request for the concert and granted an exception to the city's noise ordinance, extending it from 11 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Residents in the area have been notified of plans for the concert.

Besides the Bernick's Arena parking lot, there will be places for concert-goers to park at Pine Meadow Elementary School and at Sartell City Hall. Shuttle buses will be available to and from the concert.

Snow-removal crew gets council kudos

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

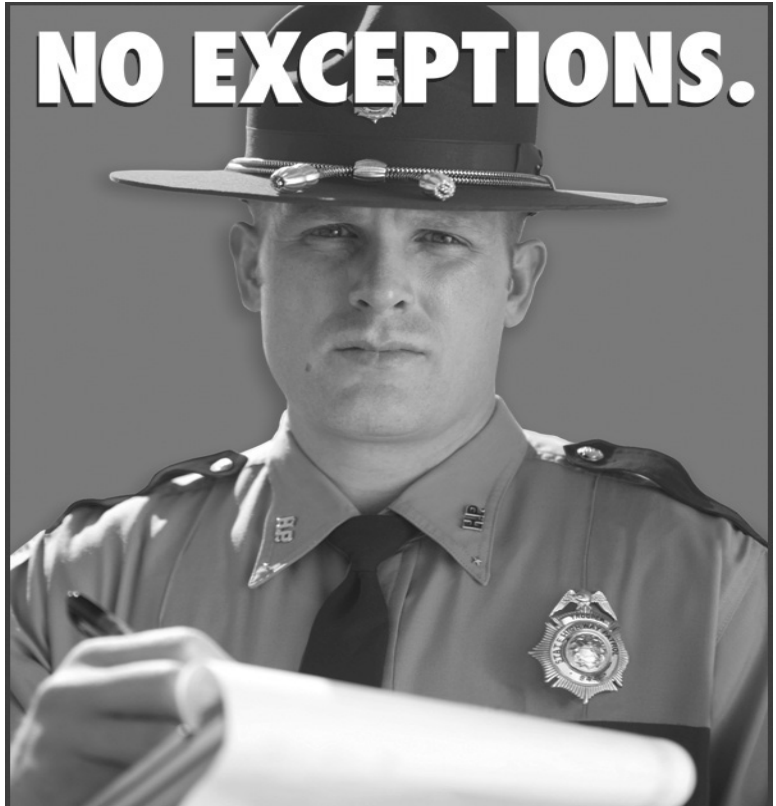
The Sartell Public Works Department employees and its director, John Kothenbeutel, received high praise from the Sartell City Council for their round-the-clock effort at snow removal from streets and pub-

lic parking lots.


At the Feb. 25 council meeting, Mayor Ryan Fitzthum and council member Brady Andel praised Kothenbeutel and the work crews for the mammoth amounts of work and long hours they put into removal of snow from streets. This winter has been one of the snowiest, not to

mention one of the coldest, winters ever recorded in central Minnesota.

Council member Andel, besides giving praise, also said residents should all remind themselves to keep the snow well-shoveled around fire hydrants so firefighters can have quick and easy access to them in case of fires.



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Opinion

Our View

Finish the job: bring Northstar to St. Cloud

Question: When is a subsidy not a subsidy?
Answer: When the money is used to support public transit, such as Northstar Commuter Rail, Republicans in the state Legislature call the money a subsidy. When it's used to build highways, the money is an investment.

Ten years after the first trains rolled, there's a serious effort to extend Northstar Commuter to St. Cloud. Rep. Dan Wolgamott (DFL-St. Cloud) has sponsored a bill that would provide \$7.3 million to get the project started. Of that amount, \$850,000 would pay for an analysis to see if an extension is appropriate. The remaining money would fund preliminary work, such as engineering, environmental analysis and land acquisition. Cost estimates for extending Northstar to St. Cloud have varied throughout the years, from \$40 million to \$150 million.

Meanwhile, in an attempt to ease traffic and fix wear and tear on the highway, the Minnesota Department of Transportation plans to spend \$350 million during the next three years to add lanes to Interstate Highway 94, repair the roadway and add interchanges. There's no talk of that money subsidizing freeway drivers.

During a Feb. 22 hearing in St. Cloud, Republicans asked if extending Northstar from Big Lake to St. Cloud would lower the commuter lines's subsidy. It's a fair question. The most recent figures show each of the almost 800,000 annual passengers comes with an \$18 subsidy. That's more than \$14 million a year.

Rep. Tim O'Driscoll (R-Sartell) introduced another bill to study whether Northstar should run all the way to Camp Ripley, north of Little Falls. O'Driscoll argues in time of emergency, Northstar could be used to evacuate Twin Cities residents to Ripley for medical care and refuge.

About 150 people attended the hearing and about 50 of them spoke in support of Wolgamott's bill including public officials, business leaders, railway workers, students and commuters.

Business leaders say the line could bring workers to the St. Cloud area as well as delivering workers to the Twin Cities. Central Minnesota residents could travel safely in all weather conditions, without clogging I-94, for recreation, medical care and entertainment. After arriving at the Target Field Station in downtown Minneapolis, it's a few steps to transfer to buses and trains. The Blue and Green light rail lines connect St. Paul, the University of Minnesota, the airport and the Mall of America.

Northstar opened in 2009. It cost \$320 million and was funded by the federal (\$161.9 million) and state (\$98.6 million) governments, the regional rail authorities for Anoka (\$34.8 million), Hennepin (\$8 million) and Sherburne (\$8.2 million) counties, the Metropolitan Council (\$5.9 million) and the Minnesota Twins (\$2.6 million). The 40-mile stretch ends at Big Lake and riders need to transfer to a bus to complete the trip to St. Cloud.

Area legislators should get behind Wolgamott's bill and stop hiding behind the subsidy question. Rep. Tama Theis (R-St. Cloud) joined Wolgamott as a co-author. Lisa Demuth (R-Cold Spring) should support the measure. O'Driscoll should drop his Camp Ripley study. It stands no chance in the DFL-controlled House anyway and he should back Wolgamott's plan. In the Senate, Jerry Relph (R-St. Cloud) has introduced a companion bill. Sen. Jeff Howe (R-Rockville) should sign on to it.

All transportation – highways, airports, trains – receive some form of “subsidy.” All of it comes from tax money. It's time for the Legislature to finish the job started 10 years ago and bring Northstar to St. Cloud.

It's time to consider a mayor for president

Mike
Knaak
Editor



South Bend, Ind., population 101,000. He is a graduate of Harvard University, a Rhodes Scholar and a veteran of the war in Afghanistan. He is the first openly gay Democratic candidate to run for president.

Buttigieg argues “you could be a senior senator and have never managed more than a hundred people in your life,” he said. “I not only have more years of government experience than the president of the United States, but I have more years of executive experience than the vice president of the United States and more wartime experience than anybody who arrived in the office since George H.W. Bush.”

Pointing out that you have more government service and military experience than the current occupant is setting the bar pretty low. But he has a point.

Sen. Bernie Sanders, 77, was mayor of Burlington, Vermont, in the 1980s when the city's population was about 40,000. He was re-elected three times. While in office, Sanders balanced the city budget and drew a minor league baseball team to Burlington. Burlington sued the local television ca-

ble franchise, winning reduced rates for customers. Sanders led extensive downtown revitalization projects. One of his primary achievements was the improvement of Burlington's Lake Champlain waterfront.

Not a bad record for a socialist.

A third mayor finally decided not to run but he would have been an impressive candidate. New York City's three-term mayor Michael Bloomberg, 77, is an actual billionaire with no bankruptcies in his background. He built a real company, not a mom-and-pop licensing scheme. A global financial services, mass media and software company bears his name.

Why a mayor? Because they are executives who manage large enterprises. They actually have to form and execute policy and deliver results. They can't hide in the crowd of 99 other senators when a policy fails. If the snow doesn't get plowed or the garbage doesn't get picked up, a mayor hears about it face-to-face while standing in the checkout line at the grocery store.

Mayors need to choose qualified subordinates, make wise policy choices and deliver results. At minimum, voters expect a competent government, not the three shutdowns managed by Donald Trump. Wise policy developed by ethical, experienced leaders would be a bonus.

Give a mayor a chance for a change.

Chisum deserves praise for soil testing

Phil Ringstrom
Guest Writer

I believe council member Mike Chisum should be commended for pulling the “engineering and soil testing item” regarding the Sauk River Regional Park from the consent agenda during the Jan. 28 Sartell City Council meeting. When an elected representative performs his/her due diligence, their effort should be praised for representing their constituents and democratic principles.

One year ago, the Sartell City Council was undecided on how to spend the \$950,000 remaining grant money for either amenities as overlooks, shelters, restrooms or for recreational facilities to be made available by June 30, 2020, and operated by the city. One item considered was a pedestrian bridge to connect 14 acres across the Sauk River. It was disclosed at that time that it was up to the City Council to present the options to the public. Then Mayor Nicoll stated the “bridge was pretty expensive” and was not sure to be the right choice. Well, here we are now, looking at soil testing to build a bridge without plans for amenities other than a promise that city staff will complete or use remaining state

funds.

I ask where/when was the public provided an opportunity to discuss, explore options? What was the recommendation from the Sartell Park Commission? What collaboration have we had with the Mayors of the Mississippi Rivers Initiative for the sharing of educational, environmental and recreational impacts and benefits? Have we conferred with the Sauk River Watershed District for collaboration on educational kiosks describing the legacy of the Sauk and the Mississippi rivers confluence? Have we explored the historical significance of the indigenous people's utilization of this area?

When I look at the efforts of the Sartell Lions Club that established the Lions Park on Pinecone Road, I think of the many opportunities that exist for the Sauk River Regional park to benefit those less physically able to access outdoor spaces. Our small Lions Park maintains a paved walking

trail with handrails. We constantly attempt to keep the paths clear by volunteers and with assistance from city staff. We have plans to upgrade our playground equipment for safety and accessibility. We are raising funds to build a shelter with restrooms and a kitchen that meets ADA standards. These efforts are possible from local, national and international Lions Clubs contributions and local volunteers who maintain the gardens. I ponder what more could we do if provided a fraction of the dollars that exists for the Sauk River Regional Park. Well, as a committee member of the Lions Park, we voted down building a bridge for a number of reasons, most obvious was the practical need of accessibility and recreational opportunities and eventually an overlook to the Watab River.

I hope my letter helps to open a dialogue among the citizens of Central Minnesota and Sartell so we may all have an opportunity to explore our options for this beautiful stretch of land and water and so as many people as possible may experience and participate in its legacy.

GOT AN
OPINION?

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PUBLIC NOTICE

**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
SARTELL-ST. STEPHEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO 748
JAN. 28, 2019
DISTRICT SERVICE CENTER BOARD ROOM**

The regular school board meeting of Independent School District 748 was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Chair Jason Nies. Members present: Nies; Jeremy Snoberger, vice chair; Pamela Raden, clerk; Amanda Byrd, treasurer; Lesa Kramer, director; Patrick Marushin, director; and Jeff Schwiebert, superintendent. Members absent: none.

A motion was made by Raden and seconded by Snoberger to APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. All in favor. Motion carried.

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

- a. Minutes of the regular school board meeting held on Dec. 17, 2018
- Minutes of the board organizational meeting held on Jan. 7, 2019
- b. Checks in the amount of \$3,642,302.14 as presented:
- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| General Fund | 3,110,045.21 |
| Food Service Fund | 203,581.20 |
| Transportation Fund | 171,078.52 |
| Community Service Fund | 64,404.77 |
| Capital Expenditure Fund | 93,091.10 |
| Summer Rec Agency Fund | 101.34 |
- Check numbers 174064 - 174476
- ACHs in the amount of \$3,975.43 as presented:
- | | |
|-------------------|----------|
| General Fund | 3,747.98 |
| Food Service Fund | 227.45 |
- ACH numbers 181900004-181900031
- Receipts in the amount of \$3,928,553.51as presented:
- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| General Fund | 3,168,322.68 |
| Food Service Fund | 234,817.65 |
| Transportation Fund | 2,481.89 |
| Community Service Fund | 45,896.95 |
| Capital Expenditure Fund | 900.00 |
| Building Fund | 6,657.12 |
| Debt Service Fund | 467,477.22 |
| Scholarship Trust | 2,000.00 |
- Receipts 45444 - 45555
- Wire transfers in the amount of \$6,343,448.45 as presented:
- | | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| General Fund | 1,096.93 |
| Food Service Fund | 4,297.12 |
| Community Service Fund | 1,035.65 |
| Capital Expenditure Fund | 62,7 |

25.00

Debt Service Fund	6,274,293.75
-------------------	--------------

Wire transfers 201800041-201800051

Building Fund Checks in the amount of \$4,113,432.59 as presented:

Building Fund	4,113,432.59
---------------	--------------

Check numbers 600428 to 600453

c. Accept the following donations: Wee Trees, Pine Meadow Elementary, \$135, supplies for students at Pine Meadow Elementary; Sartell-St. Stephen Education Foundation, ISD #748, \$3,000, One District One Book initiative.

d. Accept the resignation of Kathy Sell, District, receptionist, 1/1/19. Accept the retirement of Cindy Heins, SHS, cook’s helper, 5/31/19. Accept the Early Teacher Retirements Qualifying For Incentive: Donald Dockendorf, ORE, physical education teacher, end of 18-19 school year; Shelley Gould, PME, kindergarten teacher, end of 18-19 school year; Mary Gruenes, SMS, fifth-grade teacher, 3/1/19; Mary Hille, SHS, FACS teacher, end of 18-19 school year; Thomas Kuhn, SHS, instructional technology specialist, end of 18-19 school year.

Student Representative Report: Lauren Lindmeier, student representative

Lindmeier reported on happenings around the district. Pine Meadow and Oak Ridge had a Kindergarten Information Night scheduled, but will be moved due to the school closure and both buildings start One District, One Book this week. The Middle School had 10 students who participated in the geography bee competition, Student Council is doing Heart-Grams for the American Heart Association and the Stock Market and Chess clubs have started. The High School had Winter Wonderland at The Grands at Mulligans and it was very successful.

The One-Act play performed last week, Mock Trial is undefeated so far this season and finals week finished on Jan. 18; new classes beginning for students on Jan. 22. The High School was named a best high school by U.S News.

Multi-Tiered System of Support Report:

Kim Gibbons, director of the Center for Applied Research and Educational Improvement (CAREI) provided a brief overview of the Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) framework and discussed the implementation review conducted last school year in the District.

Saint Cloud Area Child Response Initiative (CRI) Report:

Paige McConkey, Trauma Informed Advocate provided a brief overview of the St. Cloud Area Child Response Initiative.

Construction Manager Report on Building Process:

Construction Manager Lee Gruen reported the flooring process will begin soon in the music wing while rigging is the next step in the theater area. The auxiliary gym is complete with gym equipment arriving. The pool tile has been installed and the flooring in the learning wings is being finished. Mixers have been slowed by the extreme cold weather, but the project remains on pace.

Superintendent Report: Jeff Schwiebert, superintendent

Schwiebert reported the closing of school on Jan. 29 and 30 due to the extreme cold was in reaction to two specific numbers; air temperature and wind chill. A chart from the National Weather Service was reviewed with the board regarding these numbers.

School Board Committee Report:

Director Kramer reported on the Drug Free Coalition meeting held on Jan. 8 and reported the coalition name will be changed to Substance Free Coalition.

Student Activity Account Report:

Director of Business Services Joe Prom reported on the 2018-2019 student activity account.

Enrollment Report:

Superintendent Schwiebert reported on the current enrollment numbers for each school.

A motion was made by Marushin and seconded by Snoberger to APPROVE #1-15:

New Employees/Changes:

Maria Davis, ORE, student supervisor, \$13.87/hour, RI, S1, two hours/day, rate correction, 12/4/2018; Zachary Dingmann, 3-5 building principal, \$105,765, elementary principal, S8, new position, 7/1/2019; Shirley Janu, SHS, student supervisor, \$13.87/hour, R1, S1, two hours/day, replacing Ashley Petschen, 1/22/19-3/21/19; Cindy Kerfeld, ORE, temporary part-time cleaner, \$15.27/hour, R1, S1, four hours/day, replacing Laura Becker-Pallister, 1/14/19-5/31/19; Nikki Mor-tezaee, ORE, para, \$16.42/hour, RIV, S1, 6.25 hours/day, replacing Carrie Kadoun, 1/28/2019; Susan Oachs, DSC/Early Childhood, para, \$16.42/hour, 2.5 hours/day, Tuesday and Thursday, new position, 1/24/2019; Kayla Olson, District, crossing guard, \$10 per shift, replacing Anita Rooney, 1/17/2019; Angie Thomas, PME, student supervisor, \$13.87/hour, RI, S1, 2 hours/day, replacing Bonnie Mehr, 12/19/2018; Eric Thompson, PME, student supervisor, \$13.87/hour, RI, S1, two hours/day, replacing Tracy Christian, 1/2/2019; Eric Thompson, PME, para, \$16.42/hour, RIV, S1, 4.25 hours/day, replacing Tracy Christian, 1/2/2019; Tracey Watkin, SHS, industrial technology, \$10,176, BS10, R, .1667 FTE, replacing Ariel Torborg, 1/21/19-6/3/19; Raleigh Woodruff, SHS, assistant track, \$4,208 (9.5 percent), BA, E (\$44,294), replacing Chad Claybaugh,3/11/2019; Shannon Zinken, SMS, junior high track, \$1,728 (4.5 percent), BA, 0 (\$38,410), replacing Cody Rose, 3/13/2019.

Leaves of Absence:

Kira Rosenkrans, SMS, SLP, LOA, 8/26/19-11/4/19; Beverly Wiebe, SMS, custodian, LOA, 1/22/19-3/19/19.

All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Snoberger and seconded by Byrd to APPROVE ST. CLOUD AREA CHILD RESPONSE INITIATIVE (CRI) MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Raden and seconded by Kramer to APPROVE ST. CLOUD AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERSHIP. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Marushin and seconded by Snoberger to APPROVE SARTELL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERSHIP. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Raden and seconded by Marushin TO APPROVE AWARDING CONTRACT 58 TO LOW BID AS RECOMMENDED:

Contract 58: AV Audio Visual Equipment and Programming Tierney Brothers, Inc. \$697,877.42

Materials & Installation

All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Kramer and seconded by Snoberger TO APPROVE AWARDING CONTRACT 51, ALTERNATE 29, ALTERNATE 31, ALTERNATE 32 AND ALTERNATE 33 TO LOW BID AS RECOMMENDED:

Contract 51: Controls Complete – Material & Installation UHL Co., Inc.

Alternate 29 – Controls at Existing High School \$308,950.00

Alternate 31 – Controls at Pine Meadow Elementary \$194,380.00

Alternate 32 – Controls at Oak Ridge Elementary \$167,800.00

Alternate 33 – Controls at District Service Building \$77,385.00

All in favor. Motion carried.

Schedule Work Session and Committee Meetings:

Future Board Policy Committee Meeting - Tuesday, Jan. 29 @ District Service Center - 6:30 p.m.

Future Board Community Schools Planning Committee Meeting - Wednesday, Feb. 6 @ Sartell Middle School HUB - 6:30 p.m.

Future Board Work Session - Monday, Feb 4 @ District Service Center - 6:30 p.m.

Future Board Meeting - Monday, Feb. 25 @ District Service Center - 6:30 p.m.

Committee assignments were reviewed.

A motion to ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:19 p.m. was made by Raden and seconded by Snoberger. All in favor. Motion carried.

/s/ Pamela Raden, clerk

Publish: March 8, 2019



contributed photo
Sartell-St. Stephen school district Director of Technology Kyle Breitreutz receives the Sourcewell Technology Minnesota Leader of the Year Award on Dec. 10.

Award

from page 8

gy specialists and information technology, along with administration and school board support, to help better equip our fantastic teaching staff and our end goal of helping students," he said.

"The district is very proud of Kyle in receiving this award," Nelson said. "His leadership and efforts to enhance our student experience are well respected throughout our school community. It is just great to see him recognized at a state level as well."

Breitreutz leads the district's Full Access technology plan which provides a device to every student in third- through

12th grades and expanded access to kindergarten through second-grade. He also leads a team of instructional technology specialists who created an annual event, Education Done Differently, that invites everyone in the area to learn from students and teachers about how their learning is improved through technology.

Breitreutz has grown accessible educational materials access in the district from just few students to launching it building-wide at the middle school.

He worked with special education, general education, administration and instructional technology support to research and select tools that meet the needs of the district's early youth and provide new access to print materials through audio and visual supports.

Breitreutz has been an employee of the district for more than 12 years and became the director of technology in 2012.

He earned his Certified Education Technology Leader certification, which demonstrates mastery and skill in defining and creating 21st-century learning environments, through the Consortium of School Networking in August 2017.

Breitreutz's wife, Rachel, teaches health/physical education at Sartell High School. Their sons, Liam and Lincoln, attend Pine Meadow Elementary and their daughter, Lillian, attends Sartell Middle School.

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