

# Reaching Everybody! Newsleaders

Friday, Nov. 15, 2019  
Volume 31, Issue 22  
Est. 1989

## Town Crier

### Winter market this Saturday

Sartell Farmers Winter Market will be held from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday Nov. 16 inside Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S. Time to get ready for Thanksgiving. Come find great treats, caramel corn, salsa, honey, barbecue sauce and many canned goods. In addition, you can begin your gift shopping with the many great hand-crafted gift ideas created by our vendors.

### RLC to host craft sale Nov. 16

A 2019 Holiday Craft Sale will be held from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 16 at Resurrection Lutheran Church, 610 CR 2, St. Joseph. More than 20 booths, bake sale, door prizes, treats and light lunch will be available. Some vendors are cash only. For more information, call 320-363-4232 or lwallin@gmail.com.

### Youngest woman trader at the NYSE to Speak at SJU

Body Copy: The Eugene J. McCarthy Center for Public Policy and Civic Engagement invites all to the Mark Kennedy Frontiers of Freedom Lecture at 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 18, in the Stephen B. Humphrey Theater at St. John's University. This year's keynote will be given by Lauren Simmons, vice president of Investment Risk at CTRL USA, a private investment company. Her speech, entitled "The Power of Being the Other in the Room," is free and open to the public. In 2017, Simmons made history at 23 years old, becoming the youngest female and the second-ever African American woman to work as a trader at the New York Stock Exchange in 225 years.

### Historical Society hosts holiday market

A holiday market, sponsored by the Sartell Historical Society, will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 23, in the Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S. The event will feature crafts, gifts, re-gifting items and many vendors. Complimentary coffee, cider and treats will also be available.

**INSERTS:**  
**Cornerstone Buffet**  
**Country Manor**



photo by Mike Knaak

### Kennedy students salute veterans

Kennedy Community School students pass out thank-you cards to veterans during the school's Veterans Day program. See Page 8 for more photos.

## Legislators visit Kennedy school

by Mike Knaak  
editor@thenewsleaders.com

Two local legislators visited Kennedy Community School Nov. 4 to learn about the school's unique programs and hear from school leaders what state government can do to help education.

Rep. Lisa Demuth (R-Cold Spring) and Sen. Jeff Howe (R-Rockville) toured the school with Principal Anna Willhite and Assistant Principal Richmond Tweh.

On a walk through school, which serves about 800 pre-school through eighth-grade students, the visitors saw how leaders organized the school and programs to serve a student body with a wide age range.

During the hour-long tour,



photo by Mike Knaak

Sen. Jeff Howe and Rep. Lisa Demuth listen to Kennedy Community School sixth-graders sing the school song during a visit Nov. 4. They were touring the school with Principal Anna Willhite (second from right) and Assistant Principal Richmond Tweh.

the group visited classrooms, the cafeteria, watched students enjoying recess in the gym on a cold day and toured the library.

"During the interim, I had made it a goal to visit all the school districts in 13A to have a better understanding on how

they work, their strengths and needs," said Demuth, who served on the Rocori school board for 11 years.

"I wanted to know the faces of Kennedy – the staff, students, what did the school look like," Demuth said. "I'm real(ly) visual. When I hear about the school I want to picture that in my mind."

When the group visited a sixth-grade science classroom, it didn't take much coaxing for the students to sing the school song.

"I was most impressed with the sense of community between staff and students and student to student," Demuth said. "Even the Colt Way song. The middle school students were proud to do it. There was a true sense of community and

**Visit • page 2**

## 10th annual Winterwalk festivities set for Dec. 6

by Cori Hilsgen  
news@thenewsleaders.com

Downtown St. Joseph will sparkle with holiday brightness for residents young and old for the 10th annual Winterwalk holiday festivities on Friday, Dec. 6.

About 500 outdoor luminaries will help light the way on more than five blocks for passers-by

to join in these festivities and be a part of the 6 p.m. lighting of a 50-foot tree, by a special guest.

Area Boy Scouts will be selling wreaths and are working with event planners to help set up and take down the newly purchased commercial-grade luminaries.

Indoor activities in the warmth of the Heritage Hall Parish Center include a chance for visitors to

purchase a light meal beginning at 4 p.m. and an arts and crafts sale from 4-8 p.m.

Musical entertainment will be provided from 4-8 p.m. Scheduled entertainers include the St. John's Prep Jazz Band, Walters Wheelhouse and St. Joseph's own Killer Choir.

Craft-making activities for children will take place from

5-7:30 p.m. and participants will be able to take home their crafts.

Santa will visit from 5:30-7:30 p.m. to hear children's Christmas wishes, take photos and hand out treat bags.

St. Joseph Y2K Lions member Ray Sjogren, who is the chairman of the Winterwalk committee, was part of the St. Joseph Action

**Winterwalk • page 3**





## Visit

### from front page

culture in that room.”

Demuth, who serves on the House Education Finance Committee, is especially interested in funding early childhood education. From her school visits she’s found some common themes.

“What I’m hearing are common needs for preschool funding and transportation,” she said.

In addition schools need help from the state and federal governments funding special education.

“If we are going to put extra mandates on the schools, there has to be funding to help schools cover those costs,” Demuth said.

She’s been appointed to the Minnesota P20 Education Partnership, which forms policy for preschool through secondary education, so the Kennedy visit was particularly important because it serves such a wide age range.

Demuth said it was “very impressive” to see a school that was working – preschool to eighth grade. “There’s a sense of community and partnerships with foster grandparents, Big Brothers Big Sisters and working with colleges.”

## Blotter

If you have a tip concerning a crime, call the St. Joseph Police Department at 320-363-8250 or Tri-County Crime Stoppers at 320-255-1301 or access its tip site at [tricountycrimestoppers.org](http://tricountycrimestoppers.org). Crime Stoppers offers rewards up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for a crime.

### Oct. 8

8:43 a.m. Collision. CR 133 and CR 75. A vehicle was stopped at a red light facing south on CR 133 at CR 75. The driver of a second vehicle did not see it in time and rear-ended the stopped vehicle.

### Oct. 11

3:46 p.m. Collision. Ridgewood Road and CR 75. A driver pulling a trailer approached the intersection with his right turn signal on to turn onto CR 75. The vehicle was partially in the right-turn lane. A second vehicle drove into the right turn lane and the vehicles collided. The second driver said he did not see the turn signal and realized too late that the driver pulling a trailer was making a wide right turn.

7:19 p.m. Warrant arrest. 20th Avenue SE. An officer ran a license-plate check while in

the Kwik Trip parking lot that showed the vehicle’s registered owners had a warrant for failing to appear on a disorderly conduct charge. The officer checked records to find the woman’s photo. When she returned from the store to her vehicle, she was arrested and taken to Stearns County Jail.

### Oct. 12

9:05 p.m. Car vs. deer. CR 75. A car struck a deer west of the city. There were no injuries, but the vehicle needed to be towed.

### Oct. 13

8:23 p.m. Fire call. Cedar Street E. An officer checked out a report of an oven sparking at 133 Cedar St. E. When the officer arrived, tenants were in the hallway. The officer entered the apartment and found the oven was not actively sparking. The officer unplugged the oven. The fire department arrived and decided not to ventilate the apartment.

### Oct. 15

8:31 a.m. Fraud. Ellie Court. A woman reported her son bought a pair of shoes on Facebook paying with Pay Pal and an American Express card. The shoes did not arrive. She contacted the credit card company and was reimbursed. The seller’s name and phone number did not check out.

### Oct. 21

6:21 p.m. Fraud. Northland Drive. A man reported he gave a caller his Social Security number, credit card and bank information. The officer told the man to freeze his credit cards, watch his bank account and notify the Social Security Administration about the incident.

### BLACK FRIDAY GIFT CERTIFICATE SALE

Take advantage of the spirit of Black Friday, and buy a \$100 Fisher’s Club gift card between Midnight and 9PM on Friday, November 22nd, to receive an additional \$35 gift card FOR FREE!

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(formerly Index 53)

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## Free Community THANKSGIVING MEAL

**Sunday, Nov. 24**  
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**Heritage Hall at the Church of St. Joseph**  
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# Winterwalk

## from front page

Group that founded Winterwalk 10 years ago to promote St. Joseph as a great livable community, a destination place and to build community. A guiding mission he said continues under the Y2K Lions stewardship. Sjogren joined the Y2K Lions after they agreed to take over the sponsorship from the St. Joseph Action Group.

"I had a vision to up the size and scope of Winterwalk and along with (the) old St. Jo(seph) Action Group and the new Y2K Lions sponsor has come to fruition," Sjogren said.

He said crowd estimates last year were 2,000 people. They had 350 social media contacts last year and more than 10,000 this year.

"Last year every business, organization and civic group said 'yes' to our solicitations with more than 40 sponsors contributing cash or in-kind contributions," Sjogren said. "Adding music was a huge hit and very popular."



contributed photos

**Event organizers (left to right) Margy Hughes and Ray Sjogren visit with Mrs. Claus (Lisa Wallin) at last year's Winterwalk event.**

He added all downtown businesses reported an increase in business with several having their first, second and third best business days of the year.

Sjogren has lived in St. Joseph for five years, returning to Central Minnesota where he grew up after living in Seattle for 30 years.

Local businesses are joining in the fun of the festivities with decorating, offering food, beverage specials and a punch-card drawing for prizes.

The tree will again be on the

southwest corner of Minnesota Street and College Avenue on the Church of St. Joseph Catholic Church parish grounds.

For safety, planners hope to have Minnesota Street closed and several vendors are planning to set up displays.

The event is planned and sponsored by the St. Joseph Y2K Lions in partnership with the Church of St. Joseph and area businesses. The tree is being donated from an ongoing partnership with the St. John's Abbey



**Members of the St. Joseph Fire Department help put a string of lights on last year's tree, which was lit at the Winterwalk event.**

and St. John's Arboretum.

Many volunteers and businesses working together annually have helped make this event pos-

sible. If interested in volunteering or donating for the event, contact St. Joseph Y2K member Becky Stanart at 320-420-3373.

## Refugee/immigrant news: Homework Helpers need more help

*Tani waa kuu muhiim adi-ga. Fadlan aqri.*

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

**Announcements brought to you by Cultural Bridges of St. Joseph, a committee of Central Minnesota Community Empowerment Organization. We are dedicated to ease your transition into our community.**

by Dave Leitzman

Not long ago I overheard one of our Homework Helper tutors working with a kindergartner during one of our after-school help sessions.

"Should we begin with the alphabet? Can you remember the letters we worked on?"

"A...B...C...mmm...D...uh..."

"What comes after D?"

"Umm...A?"

"Are you sure? A...B...C...D..."

and...?"

"Umm...B?"

"Let's look at the alphabet cards again to see if we can find what comes after D."

Conversations like this take place from 4:30-6 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons in a classroom at the College of St. Benedict. Homework Helpers was developed by St. Joseph's Cultural Bridges and is supported by the College of St. Benedict and the CSB/SJU Education Department.

College students join volunteers from the larger community to support the work of classroom teachers by helping children enrolled in kindergarten through 12th grade understand and complete their homework assignments. While most of the children we work with are enrolled at Kennedy Community School, others join us from area middle and high schools.

Serving as a tutor provides unique opportunities to help a child acquire important knowledge, skills and values that will support and perhaps enhance school success in the years ahead. Those who serve as tutors also enable children to learn more about the people who together form our larger community.

Marlys Pennertz, a member of Cultural Bridges, found that tutoring for Homework Helpers "is a wonderful opportunity to get to work with students and to make a positive difference in their lives. It's a lot of fun and the kids are wonderful. I also like that you can work one, two, or three afternoons a week depending upon your schedule."

Community members seeking to make a difference in the lives of our children as a Homework Helper may learn more about our efforts



contributed photo

**College of St. Benedict student Megan Youngstrom helps a student during a Homework Helpers session.**

by contacting David Leitzman via email at [dleitzman@csbsju.edu](mailto:dleitzman@csbsju.edu).

If you have any questions about

refugee/immigrant news, please contact Juliana Howard at 715-791-

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Dated: Oct. 30, 2019

Filed: Oct. 30, 2019

/s/ Michael Carlson

Publish: Nov. 15 and 29, 2019

# Farm life prepared Bechtold for the Army

*The American Legion is celebrating its 100th birthday in 2019. Profiles of St. Joseph-area veterans will be published in each Newsleader during 2019. The Newsleader is joining with Post 328 to recognize veterans and Legion members who served during World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan and other theaters of conflict and Cold War tensions.*

by Tom Klecker

**Leonard “Lenny” Bechtold,  
76  
U.S. Army – Vietnam Era**

Lenny Bechtold was born in St. Cloud, the fifth child of 12. He grew up on a 240-acre farm just outside of Luxemburg.

Memories of farm life include: working hard, milking cows, feeding chickens, putting up wood for winter, picking rocks and driving tractor at age 8. To reach the tractor’s pedals his dad built extension blocks. The family raised sheep for a period of time.

Outdoor “plumbing” was a challenge on bitter cold and snowy winter days. It was a big day for the family when rural electric came to the farm. Prior to that day, illumination essentially consisted of kerosene lamps.

Bechtold’s family never went on vacations. Sundays after church were reserved for baseball, fishing and visiting family

and neighbors.

With 14 members in the family, Bechtold was taught the lessons of being self-sufficient and working hard. He recalls his father’s advice: “work hard . . . but work smart.”

Bechtold’s mother baked 14 loaves of bread in a wood stove every other day. The family never had disposable income so they could go to a restaurant.

Raised in a strict Catholic upbringing, Bechtold was an altar boy. The family did not work on holy days of obligation in spite of the fact Aug. 15 (feast of the Assumption) was right in the middle of thrashing season. In the summer Bechtold usually ran bare foot – getting a new pair of shoes for school was special.

Christmas was limiting in so far as gift-giving; one year Bechtold got a rubber ball. “Hand-me-down” clothing was the norm. As he relays his childhood memories, it becomes quite evident everyone had to pitch in and work.

Bechtold particularly appreciated his mother. She cooked, baked, washed clothing, ironed, tended the chickens, gardened and raised 12 children all this without the benefit of modern conveniences. The one convenience his mother most appreciated when it came was running water. She lived to the age of 87.

Bechtold says growing up in those lean times “was like growing up in an Amish community.”

Bechtold attended a rural country school for a year. He



**Bechtold**

walked one-and-a-half miles to school – rain or shine. He then attended grade school in Luxemburg until eighth grade. He attended Cathedral High School for a year and, at age 14, quit his formal education to help support the family by farming. “Although I had quit school, I never stopped learning,” he said. He also worked on neighbor’s farms until he enlisted in the Army at age 19.

Bechtold enlisted on Jan. 2, 1962. He took a bus to Fort Carson, Colorado. He actually enjoyed his eight weeks of basic training because his farm labor contributed to him being

**Life • back page**



**Bechtold during Vietnam-era service.**



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## PET CARE | SEASONS

# Winter Safety

**H**umans aren't the only ones affected by the bone-chilling temperatures and heavy snowfall that often accompanies winter. Our pets are equally impacted and require some special preventive care in the wintertime.

Frostbite, falls and hypothermia should all be real concerns for pet owners, especially for those living in colder parts of the country.

Fortunately, with a little common sense and attention to detail, you will be able to protect your pets from the dangers of winter.

## GIVE THEM SHELTER

It's obviously best to keep pets inside during the winter months. Just because pets have fur doesn't mean they're not cold when the temperatures drop. No pets should be left outside for long periods of time in below-freezing weather.

If you are unable to keep your dog inside during cold weather, provide warm, solid shelter that protects against biting winds. Also provide plenty of fresh, non-frozen water to keep your pet hydrated. Use thick, dry bedding for a comfortable area for your pet to sleep.



© FOTOLIA

## CHECK THE PAWS

Your pet's paws can become cracked or bloody if exposed to frigid winter conditions. Check your dog's paws frequently for signs of injury. Watch how he or she walks and look for any sudden lameness or painful strides.

If you take your dog on a walk in conditions that have recently been snowy or icy, you may be exposing your pet's paws to deicers, anti-freeze or other chemicals that could be toxic at high levels. After your walk, always wash

or wipe down your pet's feet, belly and legs to remove these types of fluids.

## COLLAR AND CHIP

Many pets get lost in the wintertime because snow and ice can make it harder for them

to find their way home. That's because these conditions can mask recognizable scents that a pet uses to navigate around your land or neighborhood.

This underscores the importance of always using a well-fitting collar that contains updat-

ed identification and contact information. Your veterinarian likely offers microchip services that provides a permanent form of identification if you keep the registration up to date. Check with your veterinarian to discuss your options.

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## SMALL BUSINESS APPRECIATION | THE MORE YOU KNOW

# Top Reasons to Shop Local

If you need a reason to shop local, chances are you haven't shopped local lately. The reasons and benefits are myriad, to both the business owners and consumers. Here are just a few of the top reasons shopping local can benefit you and your community.

**Job creation:** It just makes sense that supporting local small businesses brings more jobs in your community. According to the Small Business Administration, small businesses employ 59 million people, or almost half of the private workforce. And smaller local businesses have the largest share of small business employment.

**Community investment:** Shopping at local small businesses results in community investment. Almost half of tax dollars spent at local independent businesses are returned to the community, benefiting public services, schools and libraries, according to Civic Economics, an independent research firm. Studies show only around 14 percent of tax dollars from chain stores are returned to the local economy.

**Community support:** From coffee shops and bistros to bars and bookstores, locally owned small businesses are both a conduit and supporter of the communities they serve. They often help out in ways large, chain companies do not. They are community hubs that often offer their goods and services in support of a community, and employees are often enthusiastic volunteers.

**Chain effect:** Small local businesses are often located adjacent to others, fostering a



© ADOBE STOCK

chain of mutual support. If your community has developed an arts district, you're likely to find locally owned cafes, gift shops, restaurants and bars interspersed between the galleries. That

ripple effect benefits consumers, owners and the local economy.

**Unique offerings:** Last but not least, small, locally owned businesses exist to offer goods and services that can't be

found in chain stores.

Whether it's artisan bread, handmade gifts or craft beer or cocktails, you're likely to experience a wealth of talent, experience, passion and pride on exhibit when you shop

these businesses. You're also likely to meet others who appreciate the same qualities you admire, creating a base of support while fostering — and, in some cases, building — a community.



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## SMALL BUSINESS APPRECIATION | TRENDS

# Small Business Optimism Grows

**M**ultiple surveys report that optimism is rising among small business owners and those who wish to exit their current jobs to start a small business. The reasons range from dissatisfaction with their careers or employment to the thriving economy and a desire to pursue a passion.

Alongside these reasons are growing trends that indicate who, where and why new small businesses are on the rise. Entrepreneur magazine identified nine such trends that are behind the motivation to take the plunge into small business ownership.

## FOLLOWING A PASSION

Modern small business owners are motivated for the right reasons, the magazine reports. But beyond that, the success of small business has less to do with making money than pursuing a passion that fills a needed niche in their communities. That desire and confidence reinforce an entrepreneur's dedication and commitment, a key element for anyone already operating a small business or those contemplating a new venture.

## TRENDING YOUNGER

It has been a general trend that most small business owners start their own enterprises between the ages of 50 to 59, usually after a successful corporate career and years perfecting their expertise. But the magazine cites Guidant Financial, a small business investment firm, as reporting a huge rise in entrepreneurs between the ages of 30-39. Additionally, millennials, those in their late 20s and 30s, are much more likely to turn their



© ADOBE STOCK

passions into a business at an early age.

## LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

Opening a new business in the right location is paramount. Vehicle and foot traffic matter, as well as positioning in range of other small businesses that cater to a specific audience. Sometimes, it also means considering another state, where incentives, popu-

lation and response to a particular business has generated success.

## SEIZING THE MOMENT

The magazine also reports that the right type of businesses are being opened. Sometimes that means following a successful trend, such as a microbrewery, investing in a franchise or taking over a popular existing business and injecting it with fresh ideas. As

baby boomers age, the latter option opens up opportunities for young entrepreneurs to take over. That's particularly attractive for a number of reasons, including a built-in audience, an established brand and immediate cash flow.

## A COMMITMENT TO SERVICE

Small businesses are unique in their commitment and attitude toward providing custom-

ers with excellent customer service and offering goods and services at competitive prices. Smart small business owners use a variety of tools — advertising and marketing in print and online, as well as community involvement — to promote and expand their expertise, value and spirit.

Similarly, new small businesses are adopting market segmentation strategies that help them avoid a one-size-fits-all approach that has played a huge role in the decline of big chains and failing iconic stores such as Sears. Customers are now more likely to make a business a destination if they get this right, and smart owners are using every marketing and data tool available to point out that expertise and funnel business.

## GOING LEAN

Finally, a growing segment of new small businesses are spending less in startup costs and ensuring staffing meets the needs of the business. In other words, smart small business owners go lean at first to build a customer base and cash flow that allows them to expand as that base grows. Taking on less debt and employing only the staff a business really needs means a quicker exit from startup loans and the ability to adjust as a business grows.

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photos by Mike Knaak

### Kennedy students salute veterans

Veterans and students say the Pledge of Allegiance to open Kennedy Community School's Veterans Day program.

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The Kennedy Community School third-grade choir sings patriotic songs during the school's Veterans Day program.

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# Barrett's Music hosts grand opening in St. Joseph

by Dennis Dalman  
news@thenewsleaders.com

A music shop known as Barrett's Music had its grand opening Nov. 9 in the building that housed for seven years a previous music shop, Riff City Guitar, at 708 Elm Street E. in St. Joseph.

Barrett's Music is owned by Sartell residents Micah and Jeanine Barrett. Long-time music enthusiasts, music teachers and musical performers, the Barretts are part of the greater St. Cloud area music network, and both of them know Joe Leach, owner of Riff City Guitar. When Leach told the Barretts he intended to pursue another career direction, they eventually came to the conclusion they could set up shop in the very place at 708 Elm Street. Leach was happy another music shop would be opening on that site. And Leach helped the Barretts get their new business up and running.

The Barretts will carry guitars, drums, keyboards – the works. But they will also sell sheet music, and their emphasis will be focused on a family-friendly place that caters not just to professional players but to virtual newcomers who, feeling a bit hesitant, can pop into the shop without feeling intimidated by the presence of

“pros” who may be there too. The Barretts have an agreement in place with an existing music school for a lessons program that will allow total musical-instrument beginners to learn to play, lesson by lesson, with burgeoning confidence. With that goal in mind, there are four lesson rooms at the shop.

Barrett's Music will also offer a service department.

The shop's general manager is Al Stumpf, who also managed Riff City Guitar.

“Our objective is to serve not only local pros and teachers, but to give significant attention to beginners and their families and create a comfortable and affordable experience for them,” Stumpf said “We are strictly locally focused. No e-commerce.”

A financial advisor for a firm in St. Cloud, Micah Barrett's musical roots run very deep. His late grandfather, Roger Barrett, was a bedrock musical legend in the St. Cloud area – as performer, teacher and chair of the music department at St. Cloud State University. Micah's father, Gary (son of Roger) has been a local piano technician for more than 30 years.

Micah earned a degree in jazz performance (bass and oboe primarily), as well as one in piano technology, at SCSU. He is a former member and

officer for the St. Cloud Symphony Orchestra and worked at Al's Music in St. Cloud for six years, with shorter stints at Schmitt Music and Music-Go-Round. He currently plays bass guitar and sings with Justin Ploof and the Throwbacks as well as Mason Dixon Line.

Jeanine Barrett earned a degree in piano performance from Concordia College, Moorhead, and has been teaching piano for 18 years. She currently owns a teaching studio. Jeanine is a former president of the Great River Music Club and created and operates a local online teacher directory – Unite4Music.com. She frequently performs with the St. Cloud Symphony and various local chamber-music groups.

High-school sweethearts, Micah and Jeanine graduated from St. Cloud Tech in 2002 and have been married for 13 years. They have two children – Roger, 7; and Nora, 4, who both attend Sartell schools.

Micah said his mission statement is this:

“We are a family owned full-service music store, literally putting the mom and pop back into the ‘mom and pop.’ We believe music, and more specifically learning to play music, should be as affordable and accessible as possible. We live in an age in which people



contributed photo

**Micah and Jeanine Barrett of Sartell recently opened “Barrett's Music” in St. Joseph, in the building formerly occupied by “Riff City Guitar.” The Barretts have a long-time, extensive passion and talent for music and musical performing.**

are becoming more and more accustomed to getting things in a near-instant and learning to play an instrument proficiently is, well, slow and difficult, making it one of life's remaining great challenges.”

Barrett's Music is open from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Friday; and from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. It is closed on Sunday.

To learn more about Barrett's Music, visit its website at [www.barrettsmusic.com](http://www.barrettsmusic.com).

# Ground broken for new humane society facility

by Dennis Dalman  
news@thenewsleaders.com

Not to be outdone by tall people and their shovels, a black-and-white pooch named Roger dug in the dirt at the Nov. 7 groundbreaking for the Tri-County Humane Society.

The crowd that gathered at the event applauded, cheered and chuckled as Roger, spurning the use of a golden shovel, used his front paws to dig, dig, dig in the dirt as if a bone were buried there. Afterward, it was time for the tall people with their long shovels to overturn spades full of dirt.

Roger, incidentally, is an American Staffordshire terrier mix and is eligible for adoption at the humane society's animal shelter.

Other dignitaries at the groundbreaking – besides Roger – include Tri-County Humane Society Director Vicki Davis, who gave a welcome speech; humane-society board chair Cheryl Ley; its director of philanthropy, Tauna Quimby; Ryan Cross of BCI Construction of St. Cloud (the facility's builder); Murray Mack and Dean Stienessen of St. Cloud-based HMA Architects (the new building's designers); and

John Herges of Falcon National Bank (St. Cloud) from which the humane society is borrowing some of the money for the project's start-up.

Of the total project cost of \$3.5 million, the TCHS is hoping to raise \$1 million more through fundraisers and contributions from businesses, service organizations and individuals. Pledges to be given over a five-year period are welcome.

The long-anticipated groundbreaking will eventually result in a brand-new \$3.5-million facility expected to open next summer. It will be twice the size of the current building just to the east of the new site at 735 Eighth St. NE. in St. Cloud just west of Hwy. 10.

The current facility, constructed several decades ago, has long been overcrowded for animals and staff as the humane society services became more and more successful for animal lovers throughout Central Minnesota.

The TCHS shelters and adopts out or fosters out more than 3,000 animals annually, mostly cats and dogs. The adoption rate – currently at



contributed photo

**Roger the “star” canine groundbreaker spurned the use of a golden shovel at the groundbreaking ceremony Nov. 7 at the site of the new Tri-County Humane Society. Currently a resident of the TCHS shelter, Roger, a Staffordshire terrier, is hoping for a “forever” home through adoption.**

96 percent – is considered extraordinary for a humane society.

People can learn more about the new building, including a fly-over video of the architect's design, at [www.happinesshappenshere.org](http://www.happinesshappenshere.org).

Anyone who would like to donate to the building fund can visit the TCHS website at [www.tricountyhumanesociety.org](http://www.tricountyhumanesociety.org) and hit the “Donate” button. Or people can send check donations to TCHS, 735 Eighth St. NE., St. Cloud, MN 56304.



contributed photo

**Vicki Davis welcomes visitors to the Nov. 7 groundbreaking for the new Tri-County Humane Society. Davis has long been the executive director of the TCHS. At her right is Murray Mack of HMA Architects, a firm that has designed the new facility.**



# Opinion

## Our View

### Voters lose with only Trump on the ballot

Republicans who vote in Minnesota's new presidential primary next year will have only one choice on the ballot. Even though he's not the only announced candidate, only Donald Trump's name will appear.

Last month, the state Republican Party notified the Secretary of State that the "list" of candidates for the March 3, 2020, primary will be a short one – just Trump.

That's a bad decision adding more evidence to the claim that Trump aspires to be an autocrat and can't tolerate criticism or challengers.

Trump continually brags he's going to flip Minnesota and win the state that he lost by less than 2 percent to Hillary Clinton in 2016. Behind the scenes he's apparently not so sure.

A Republican presidential candidate has won the state only once since 1956. A September Minnesota Poll showed him trailing all the leading Democratic candidates.

If he's so confident a majority of Minnesotans will vote for him next year, he shouldn't worry about members of his own party abandoning him.

Primary elections are essentially party elections for the purpose of selecting its candidates. So the parties can monitor who votes and validate the choices, the March 3 election will operate under rules Minnesotans are not used to following.

Unlike many states, voter registration in Minnesota doesn't include declaring a party. But for the new presidential primary, voters will be asked to request the ballot of the party of their choice. If a voter refuses to select a party, they will not be able to vote in the presidential nomination primary.

A voter's choice of party ballot will be recorded and is private data. However, a list of who voted in a presidential nomination primary and the political party each voter selected will be provided to the chair of each major political party. How a voter voted on the ballot will be secret. The presidential primary results must bind the election of delegates in each party.

Precinct caucuses on Feb. 25 and local and state nominating conventions will still take place to conduct other party business. In an Aug. 11 primary election, voters will select nonpresidential candidates to appear on the Nov. 3 general election ballot.

Trump's campaign has successfully killed the Republican Party primaries in Arizona, Kansas, Nevada and South Carolina. Incumbents often want to deprive challengers of a chance to build support because historically challengers threatened their re-election.

Three Republican candidates will not be on Minnesota's primary ballot. While long shots, they are prominent political names running active campaigns: former Massachusetts Gov. William Weld, former South Carolina Gov. Mark Sanford and former U.S. Rep. Joe Walsh of Illinois.

Despite boasting he is the most popular Republican since Abraham Lincoln, perhaps some of Trump's handlers have advised him that primary challenges don't end well for incumbent presidents.

A strong showing in 1968's New Hampshire primary by Minnesota Sen. Eugene McCarthy forced President Johnson out of the race. Ronald Reagan challenged President Ford in 1976 and Ford lost to Jimmy Carter (Ford also faced headwinds from Watergate). Four years later, Sen. Edward Kennedy weakened Carter's re-election bid and he lost to Reagan. In 1992, Pat Buchanan challenged President George H.W. Bush. Later that year, Bush lost the presidency to Bill Clinton.

In 2016, Trump finished third in Minnesota's Republican presidential caucus, trailing Sens. Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz.

State party leaders are worried a contested primary would show Trump isn't as popular as he claims. Instead of casting a vote – North Korean style – for Trump, Republicans should just stay home on March 3. Minnesota voters are the biggest losers in the Republican party decision.

## Golden Gopher football returns to glory days of old

The last time it happened was 1960. No internet, no streaming, no ESPN. No instant replays on the black-and-white TV. No Vikings.

The sports news landed on the porch on Sunday mornings in the Minneapolis Tribune. The Sports "Peach" section featured page after page of photo sequences showing the previous day's big plays. In case you had trouble discerning the crucial details in the fuzzy photos printed on a letterpress, artists added arrows and circles pointing to the football and key players.

In 1960, college football was the big fall sport. The NFL was not the billion-dollar enterprise it is today.

And 1960 was the last time the Minnesota Gophers football team started the season 7-0...until this year. The Gophers earned their first berth in the Rose Bowl by winning the 1960 Big Ten title. After a loss to Washington, the Gophers returned to the Rose Bowl the next year and beat UCLA.

Here we are in 2019 and the Gophers are now 9-0 after beating Maryland and fourth-ranked Penn State to improve their 7-0 record.

In 1960, the Big Ten actually had 10 teams, not 14. Now the Gophers are leading the Big Ten West. They have a two-game lead with three to go, and their first Rose Bowl bid since 1961 is well within reach. First up, the Gophers travel to Iowa City to play the Hawkeyes, who have beaten Minnesota the last four years. The next game is at Northwestern. The Wildcats haven't won a conference game this season. The season finishes at home against Wisconsin.

The ring of honor in TCF Bank Stadium lists the dates for past glory, but it's embarrassing. The list of Big Ten championships

**Mike Knaak**  
*Editor*



ends in 1967. The Gophers claim seven national championships: 1904, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1940, 1941 and 1960.

Golden Gopher football does have a long, grand tradition, just not in the last 60 years. Founded in 1882, the program is one of the oldest in college football. Minnesota has been a member of the Big Ten Conference since its inception in 1896 as the Western Conference. In 1890, the Gophers played host to Wisconsin in a 63-0 victory. With the exception of 1906, the Gophers and Badgers have played each other every year since then, the most-played rivalry in major college football.

The Gophers played the games of the glory years in Memorial Stadium. The team left their crumbling, historic home for the Metrodome in 1981. Games in the off-campus bubble lacked the traditional feel of a college football game, but at least it didn't rain or snow inside.

In 2009, the Gophers moved back to campus with the opening of TCF Bank Stadium. First-year sellout crowds dwindled after teams underperformed.

When the Brew Crew started 2010 with a 1-6 start, the university fired coach Tim Brewster. Jerry Kill followed and he was building a successful program. An illness forced him from the sidelines and Tracy Claeys followed. He was canned after he fumbled accusations of sexual assault against a group of players.

Now there's P.J. Fleck, who popped up

on the university's radar three years ago when he took Western Michigan to the Cotton Bowl and the team ended their season with a 13-1 record.

Fleck is a high-energy crafter of culture with his hokey "Row the Boat" mantra. He thinks of himself as an educator and football as his platform to make the world a better place by making his players better men. But like every big-time college coach, his real job is to put Ws on the scoreboard and fans in the seats. Winning does that. The Penn State crowd of 52,000 was the first sellout in four years.

The 31-26 win over Penn State was the first time the Gophers beat a top-five team in 20 years....when they beat the Nittany Lions 24-20 on a last-second field goal in 1999.

This year's game was no less thrilling than the 1999 matchup. Penn State's quarterback threw for what would have been a game-winning touchdown but Minnesota's Jordan Howden intercepted the pass in the end zone to effectively end the game with a minute to go. At the final whistle, fans poured onto the field.

The week before playing Penn State, Fleck signed a seven-year contract extension with a \$10 million buyout that will likely keep him off the market and away from Florida State and Southern California.

The Gophers are now ranked No. 7 in the nation in both the Associated Press and Coaches' Poll, the team's highest ranking since 1962.

No matter what happens in the next three weeks, the Gophers are playing their best football since Eisenhower was president. And fittingly, Fleck has the best winning percentage of a Gopher coach since Bernie Bierman, and he last coached in 1950.

## Hats off to Franklin/Electrolux

**Dennis Dalman**  
*Reporter*



The recent closing of the Electrolux Co. in St. Cloud was as sad as the closure of Fingerhut and the Sartell paper mill after an explosion there killed a worker and doomed the mill.

Those three companies employed so many people from the greater St. Cloud area and beyond who earned good wages to support themselves and their families. Growing up in south St. Cloud, I knew so many neighbors who worked at those places.

Electrolux was 73 years old.

I'm happy those good people who worked there – more than 700 of them – are receiving free retraining, if they choose, to help them find other kinds of work.

As I read the news of the final day of Electrolux, a flood of good memories surfaced. In my young and heedless heyday, that factory was known as Franklin Manufacturing. When I was fresh out of high school, 1966, Franklin's was my first "real" job after summers and winters of mowing and shoveling to earn sporadic spending money.

When I landed that job, its starting wage was – if I recall correctly – \$2.40 an hour, thanks to the powers of unionization. Sounds like chickenfeed now, but that would be the equivalent of \$20 or \$25 an hour nowadays. And back then, the going wage for unskilled jobs was something like 85 cents an hour.

\$2.40! I thought I'd died and gone to heaven, my pockets always rustling, jangling, with bills and coins, plenty

of money to buy books, record albums from Musicland, a wonderful stereo from the Singer Co. To this day, when I hear songs from Simon and Garfunkel's "Parsley, Sage, Rosemary and Thyme" album and Dylan's "Blonde on Blonde" album, I often think of the Franklin days because I bought those albums that summer. Friends and I would sit for hours listening to them on my brand-new super-doooper stereo, drinking canned Cold Spring beer I'd snitch from dad's stash.

At Franklin, I worked 12-hour shifts. My job was to work with another employee to insulate freezer interior liner boxes with strips of yellow insulation we'd attach around the top with masking tape. The boxes looked like thin metal caskets. Then the boxes would move on down the line, to other workers at the "Foamer," where each box would be placed inside a larger freezer box and foamy liquid insulation would be pumped in the space between the two boxes.

It was monotonous work, long hours on hot afternoons and muggy nights, but we employees managed to make it almost fun – gabbing about our lives; our ambitions, hopes and dreams; playing practical jokes and

spewing wisecracks as we did a kind of ritualized "dance" around that liner box, taping, taping, taping. I vividly remember Don, a coworker, who was so grateful for his job because it covered his house payment, two car payments and his family's living expenses. All of that on \$2-something an hour. Many people are not so fortunate these days, having to work two and even three jobs.

To this day, when I eat ham-and-mayonnaise sandwiches I think of Franklin because that is what I brought from home for lunch just about every day.

I also flash back when I smell spray paint from aerosol cans because that is how Franklin smelled – from the spray-painting of the appliances. Back then, all of the fridges/freezers were still the good old standard white, but a new line of colors had just been introduced – Harvest Gold and Avocado Green. Wow! Colorful freezers! What will they think of next? For years, I'd see those colored freezers/ fridges in people's garages – dented, faded, rusting at the edges but still working, usually holding caches of party beer. At the sight of those old relics, I'd flash back to the good ol' Franklin days, when life was so brimming with excitement and promise.

Ah, youth! Ah, the carefree days! Long gone, but the memories glow like embers.

Let me lift my glass to the laid-off Electrolux workers. May you all find good, new, well-paying jobs and lead healthy, happy lives.



People



contributed photo  
**Tim Nelson, St. Joseph Jaycees president, presents a check to St. Joseph Catholic School students for their recent Junior Achievement BizTown trip.**

**Stephanie Tresco** of St. Joseph earned a bachelor’s degree in nursing from Western Governors University. The online university conducted commencement ceremonies to celebrate the recent graduation of more than 10,000 students from across the country.

PUBLIC NOTICE

CERTIFICATE  
OF ASSUMED NAME  
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Pursuant to Chapter 333, Minnesota Statutes, the undersigned, who is or will be conducting or transacting a commercial business in the State of Minnesota under an assumed name, hereby certifies:

1. The assumed name under which the business is or will be conducted is: Flash-Out-Trash-Out.
2. The stated address of the principal place of business is or will be: 1825 15th Ave. SE #12, St. Cloud, MN 56304.
3. The name and street address of all persons conducting business

under the above assumed name including any corporations that may be conducting this business: Darrell Elijah Bradley, 1825 15th Ave. S.E #12, St. Cloud, MN 56304.

4. I certify I am authorized to sign this certificate and I further certify I understand by signing this certificate, I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Minnesota Statutes Section 609.48 as if I had signed this certificate under oath.

Dated: Oct. 19, 2019

Filed: Oct. 19, 2019

/s/ Darrell Elijah Bradley

Publish: Nov. 15 and 29, 2019

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](mailto:news@thenewsleaders.com). Most events are listed at no cost. Those events are typically free or of minimal charge for people to attend. Some events, which have paid advertising in the Newsleaders, are also listed in the calendar and may charge more.

Friday, Nov. 15

**St. Cloud Singles Club Dance**, 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., American Legion, 17 Second Ave. S., Waite Park. 320-339-4533. [stcloudsingles.net](http://stcloudsingles.net).

Sunday, Nov. 17

**Best Omelette in Town**, 8 a.m.-noon, American Legion, 17 Second Ave. N, Waite Park. Includes hash browns, toast,

coffee, juice and water.

Monday, Nov. 18

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

**St. Cloud Area Parkinson’s Disease Support Group**, 1-2:30 p.m., Independent Lifestyles, 215 Benton Drive N., Sauk Rapids.

**St. Joseph City Council**, 6 p.m., Government Center, 75 Callaway St. E.

**St. Joseph Rod and Gun Club**, 7 p.m., American Legion, 101 W Minnesota St., St. Joseph.

Tuesday, Nov. 19

**St. Joseph Economic Development Authority**, 7 a.m., Government Center, 75 Callaway St. E.

**Memory Writers** group develops topics and turns in sto-

ries, 10 a.m., Stearns History Museum, 235 33rd Ave. S, St Cloud.

**Dementia Friends information session**, 1-2 p.m., Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S., Sartell. Learn what dementia is, what it’s like to live with the disease and communicate with people who have dementia.

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

**St. Cloud Area Genealogists**, 7 p.m., Stearns History Museum, 235 33rd Ave. S., St. Cloud. [stearns-museum.org](http://stearns-museum.org).

Wednesday, Nov. 20

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

**St. Cloud school district**

**board meeting**, 6:30 p.m., St. Cloud City Hall council chambers, 400 Second St. S.

Thursday, Nov. 21

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

**Great River Regional Coin Club**, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Miller Auto Marine Sports Plaza, 2930 Second St. S., St. Cloud. 320-241-9229.

Saturday, Nov. 23

**Toy Bingo**, sponsored by Avon Women of Today, 9:30 a.m., St. Benedict’s Church, Avon.

Sunday, Nov. 24

**Joe Town Table**, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., American Legion, 101 W. Minnesota St., St. Joseph. [centralmncw@gmail.com](mailto:centralmncw@gmail.com).

Monday, Nov. 25

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

**St. Joseph City Council work session**, 6 p.m., Government Center, 75 Callaway St. E.

**St. Joseph Township Board**, 8 p.m., 2nd and last Monday, Towhship Hall, 935 College Ave. S., St. Joseph.

Tuesday, Nov. 26

**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.

**Collegeville Township Board**, 7 p.m., Township Hall 27724 CR 50.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GILBERT’S SALE YARD MACHINERY CONSIGNMENT SALE, DECEMBER 9, 9:00 A.M.. Advertising Deadline November 22. No Small Items, Tires after November 27. CONSIGN TODAY, 641-398-2218, Hwy 218, Floyd, IA, [www.gilbertsaleyard.com](http://www.gilbertsaleyard.com) (MCN)

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# Life

## from page 4

in excellent physical condition. Because of his mechanical aptitude and skills learned on the farm, Bechtold was assigned duties as a mechanic to an armor tank division. For 13 months, while still at Fort Carson, he adapted to Army life.

In March 1963, Bechtold got orders to go to Germany. He recalls the trip over on the troop ship (USS Upshur) was "pretty rough; everyone was seasick." He slept on the highest bunk in a compartment below the deck. Bechtold's compartment stacked bunks five high. "They packed us in tight." The north Atlantic can get pretty rough even for a large troop ship capable of transporting thousands of GIs.

Finally the ship pulled into Bremerhaven, Germany. From there, Bechtold took a train (Frankfurt Special) to his duty station, Ray Barracks, Friedberg.

It was just 16 miles outside Frankfurt. He was stationed there from March 1963 to December 1964.

The base was designed to accommodate armor, artillery and infantry units. Bechtold's job was to keep the tanks and other armored vehicles in good operational shape, particularly the M88. The M88 was an armor recovery vehicle that was capable of lifting a tank. Bechtold's unit, Headquarters Company 1st Battalion, 32nd Armored Division, was the same unit Elvis Presley was assigned to in 1958-1960.

While stationed in Germany, Bechtold was able to travel to Paris, Copenhagen and Amsterdam.

On June 26, 1963, President John Kennedy visited the area. He gave the troops a pep talk from a small podium. To greet the president, a semi-circle of 72 fully armed tanks (barrels pointed at the podium) was arranged. Many soldiers in the area carried weapons with live ammo. Security was so lax Bechtold

took a photograph of his commander-in-chief/president from 6 feet away. Kennedy had come to Germany to give his: "Ich bin ein Berliner" ("I am a Berliner") Speech - June 26, 1963.

Five months later John Kennedy would be assassinated. The country in general and the military in particular were uncertain as to whether the assassination was a prelude to war. Military units were on full alert. Bechtold's unit was on full alert standby for three weeks.

After a year, Bechtold returned back to the good old USA. But not before the return voyage on the USS Darby reintroduced him and the other troops to rough seas and seasickness. He fondly recalls seeing the Statue of Liberty as the ship pulled into New York harbor.

Discharged from active duty at Fort Hamilton, New York, on Dec. 16, 1964, Bechtold took a bus back home. He made it home for Christmas. Bechtold believes his Army experience

allowed him to "grow up."

Now 22 years old and a civilian, Bechtold "bounced around several short-term jobs." In 1966, he hired on with the now defunct Donlin Co. as a glazer. Donlin at the time had the local franchise in St. Cloud for the Overhead Door Co. In 1969, Donlin sold its dealership to Overhead Door of Minneapolis and Bechtold worked in the seven-county metro area for a period of time.

In 1970, Bechtold left Overhead Door and formed the Bechtold Excavating Co. with his brother Roger.

Later in 1972, he and his brother bought the Overhead Door Franchise in St. Cloud. Initially he was the only employee. Roger's wife answered phone calls for both businesses. Business took off - more work than both could handle. The Overhead Door Co. grew exponentially. When Bechtold sold out his interest in the business to his brother (1987), they had 20 employees.

Following the sale of the business, Bechtold became involved in building and owning several commercial buildings, volunteering for Habitat for Humanity and Salvation Army as a site supervisor. Bechtold's wife Marcie says, "Whenever Lenny gets bored, he finds himself a job."

Now with Marcie, Bechtold is enjoying retirement. They have been married 52 years. He and Marcie have five children and eight grandchildren.

Both he and Marcie are enjoying relatively good health as they devote their leisure time between hobbies, travel, volunteerism and grandchildren.

Bechtold has been a member of the American Legion for 34 years. To say that he is a passionate fisherman would be an understatement.

It is here in the life story of Bechtold that one finds a good example of how hard work, risk-taking and tenacity pays off.




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