

# Reaching Everybody! Newsleaders

Friday, Nov. 29, 2019  
Volume 31, Issue 23  
Est. 1989

## Town Crier

### Winterwalk is Dec. 6 in downtown St. Joseph

Winterwalk activities will be Friday, Dec. 6, at Church of St. Joseph, 12 W. Minnesota St. Come for supper, shop at the craft/vendor sales and bake sale all from 4-8 p.m. Stay for the 40-foot tree lighting at 6 p.m. outside on the church grounds. Visit and take a photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus from 5-7:30 p.m. The Heritage Hall will also have refreshments, craft-making for the children, as well as a variety of music. Shop downtown for business specials, refreshments and a chance to win prizes. Winterwalk is sponsored by the St. Joseph Y2K Lions, Church of St. Joseph and local sponsors.

### Winter market

#### Saturday, Dec. 7

Sartell Farmers Market is open from 4-7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, inside Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St S. Come enjoy the lights and stop at the market for great items. We are also open from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21. Find great food and gifts for the upcoming holiday season.

### 'Christmas Country' concert to benefit 3-month-old girl

"Wrapped Up in Lights," a free-will country Christmas concert for all ages featuring Ashalee, Radio Nation and the Farmer's Daughters, will be at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, in Love of Christ Lutheran Church, 1971 Pinecone Road S., St. Cloud. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Lilly Olson family with their medical bills and Christmas. Lilly is the 3-month-old daughter of Lindsey Olson, a member of the Farmer's Daughters band, who recently underwent her third open-heart surgery.

### Winter Wonderland set Saturday, Dec. 14

Santa and Mrs. Claus have taken time off from their busy schedule to join you and your family for a winter celebration from 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, at the Lake George Municipal Complex. Create arts and crafts, decorate a cookie, see the reindeer exhibit, enjoy a hayride around the lake and much more. Don't forget your camera to capture special moments with Santa! The big trucks will be rolling in again this year for Touch-a-Truck, where children can see, touch and safely explore their favorite big trucks and heavy machinery. Free admission, thanks to our friends at Capital One! Food shelf donations will be accepted during the event.

## Group aims to make Joetown a tourist town

by Mike Knaak  
editor@thenewsleaders.com

Attracting visitors to St. Joseph – and making sure they want to return for another visit – is the goal of the St. Joseph Convention and Visitors Bureau.

CVB members welcomed local business and community leaders to Bad Habit Brewery on Nov. 18 to introduce the CVB's mission to drive tourism.

Ann Riesner of the La Playette, Mary Bruno of Bruno Press and Aaron Rieland of Bad Habit explained the mission to make St. Joseph a destination for arts, culture, food and family friendly events to two dozen local leaders.

Rieland said Mayor Rick Schultz and the Economic Development Authority urged the CVB to take action using about \$20,000 collected every year

Group • page 2



photo by Mike Knaak

Mary Bruno and Aaron Rieland explain the St. Joseph Convention and Visitors Bureau's mission to a group gathered at Bad Habit Brewery on Nov. 18.

## Students' craft projects fund social action

by Cori Hilsgen  
news@the newsleaders.com

St. Joseph Catholic School sixth-grade students in Susan Huls' classroom have been busy crafting and making items for the Friday, Dec. 6, Winterwalk Christmas Arts and Craft Sale, to fund their Catholic Social Teaching action projects this year.

The Arts and Craft sale is from 4-8 p.m. and students plan to host their booth during all shifts.

Huls said the students will be selling yarn bracelets, pottery ornaments made by the fifth- and sixth-graders with the help of The PotSpot in Avon and melted crayon canvas wall hangings.

They will also be selling several cloisonne rosaries for Kathy Rennie, founder of the We Share Program, to support the Catholic missions in China.

All funds earned, except those earned from selling the rosaries, will go toward helping offset the costs of the students' Catholic Social Teaching action projects.

Several students commented about the projects and why they are hosting the booth at the craft sale.

"We are trying to make them for a good cause," said Aquiliana Wolf.

Wolf's mother, Lisa Wolf, spearheaded the craft sale idea and organized two craft projects the students created.

"Yes, to raise money to help others," said Josie Eastman. "In general, we are trying to help people who don't have basic necessities, like food."

"Some of the pictures send good messages," said Grace Nicoll, about the crayon canvas wall hangings. "Like 'Home,' or 'Dare to be different.' I

Crafts • page 2



contributed photo

Sixth-grade students Maddie Ramirez (left) and Josie Eastman work on a melted crayon canvas wall hanging for the Friday, Dec. 6, Winterwalk Christmas Arts and Craft Sale.

## Police offers women self-defense course

St. Joseph Police Department is offering free self-defense training for St. Joseph women starting Sunday, Dec. 8

The RAD (Rape Aggression Defense) classes will be taught by officer Celeste Walz and Dan Magaard.

The three-part course will take place from 6-9 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 8, Wednesday, Dec. 11, and Wednesday, Dec. 18.

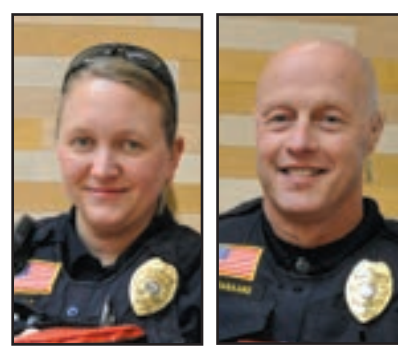
The class is limited to 10 participants and participants are required to attend all three nights. Participation is first-come, first-serve and the classes, at the Government Center multi-purpose room, are free.

To register, email your name and phone number to [sjpd@city-ofstjoseph.com](mailto:sjpd@city-ofstjoseph.com) or call 320-229-9426.

More information is available

here: <http://www.cityofstjoseph.com/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=168>.

RAD is a holistic approach to self defense education, supporting the necessity of continuous learning in order to provide realistic options as the participants go through life. Walz and Magaard are certified instructors. The course includes lecture, discussion and physical resistive strategies.



Walz

Magaard



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**Happy Holidays!**

**Hours:** 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday; 8 a.m.-noon Saturday

**Arts and Crafts Sale**

Friday, Dec. 6  
4-8 p.m.

Food Bake Sale Refreshments Arts Crafts

**Santa will arrive at 6:30 p.m. for visits!**

Heritage Hall at the Church of St. Joseph  
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## Crafts

from front page

think I'll put the word 'Peace' on this one."

If shoppers who visit the students' craft booth want to "commission" a crayon-art wall hanging with a certain message, Lisa Wolf said they could chat with her that evening to negotiate prices for the special orders.

The sixth-graders plan to complete three action projects this year, with the possibility of a fourth. Projects they plan to do include packing meals, along with fifth-graders, at Kids Fighting Hunger; helping with food prep, visiting with participants and cleaning up at least four times for the Joe-Town Table free community meal served at the American Legion in St. Joseph; and collecting school supplies in spring and delivering them to the St. Joseph Community

Food Shelf for next school year.

Even though the projects are action projects, the students would like to earn some money to help cover some of the costs.

Huls said all projects are inspired by the words in James 2:16, 24: "What good is it, brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead."

This was the first Bible verse memorized by the sixth-graders this year. Molly Weyrens, of the Central Minnesota Catholic Worker, came to their classroom in September to teach students more about Catholic Social Teaching, Catholic-Christian works and the works of Dorothy Day.

Weyrens spoke to the students about how important it was to begin to move from the inside of the church to the outside of the church in or-

der to experience the church. She also taught the students the steps to becoming an action-oriented Catholic youngster: Pay attention. Be astonished (at the problem you see). Tell about it. Do something.

Students also learned about the Catholic Social Teaching Principles of solidarity, dignity of the human person, options for the poor, and community and participation.

Huls said students are doing these things because they are old enough to start doing good in outreach to the community and to others around the world.

These teachings also connect to St. Joseph Catholic School's mission of kindness throughout the year with the guiding questions: "How can I help spread goodness? How can I do kind things for others? What does it mean to be kind? What does it look like to be kind?"

## Group

from front page

from the city lodging tax.

At the Nov. 18 meeting, Bruno explained some of the actions taken to promote the slogan "Small Town Warmth, Big City Cool" and to plan for the future.

The CVB's Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/JoetownMNCvb/>, features seasonal videos showing local businesses and people.

The CVB Instagram, <https://www.instagram.com/joetownmn/>, invites people to "Come visit the best small town in Minnesota: the Wobegon Trail, stop in any of the awesome restaurants, enjoy amazing craft beer and cider."

Following those accounts, and sharing stories and photos about people and businesses, will help spread the word about St. Joseph, Bruno said.

Ads promoting St. Joseph are running in a St. Cloud area visitors magazine that is distributed around the state including the Mall of America and the Minneapolis-St. Paul airport. The group plans to have a website online in early 2020.

Rieland asked the group to list what's unique about St. Joseph such as restaurants, the College of St. Benedict and monastery, Millstream Arts Festival and the Wobegon Trail. Suggestions from the crowd included surveying visitors about why they come to town.

Bruno explained sometimes businesses want to see immediate payback for their efforts.

"We are playing the long game," Bruno said. "What is the overall feeling of the town that will make people come back?"

Bruno pointed out the Nov. 30 Shop Small Crawl, a promotion in its sixth year, brings people to St. Joseph. "We want them leaving feeling they will want to come back."

At the April 16 Economic Development Authority meeting, Bruno spoke on behalf of the CVB and explained the group's mission statement: "St. Joseph is a safe, friendly, family-oriented small town with outdoor recreation, a thriving art scene, good food and drink with a progressive stance on supporting small, independent businesses."

In wrapping up the Nov. 18 meeting, Riesner asked the business leaders "how can we bring these great businesses together? How do we channel that energy?"

### REIMBURSED STIPEND VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota is looking for volunteers, 55+ to serve in our LSS Companion Program. Our volunteers receive a stipend, mileage reimbursement and other benefits.

Contact Janel Heinen at 320.241.5173 or email [Janel.Heinen@lssmn.org](mailto:Janel.Heinen@lssmn.org)

[www.lssmn.org](http://www.lssmn.org) | [Janel.heinen@lssmn.org](mailto:Janel.heinen@lssmn.org)



### CRAFT-VENDOR BAKE SALE

**Saturday, Dec. 7**  
10 a.m.-4 p.m.

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# Navy educated Bruemmer

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

Lloyd Augustine Bruemmer, 72  
U.S. Navy – Vietnam Era

Lloyd Bruemmer was born at St Cloud Hospital. He was the fifth child of 12. He was raised on a 200-acre farm just outside of Farming. At the time Farming was an unincorporated community of 15-20 persons, yet it had a public two-room school house.

Bruemmer was brought up in a large two-story farm house. The house was originally a log home built around 1850, before Minnesota became a state in 1858. The house became a residence for 16 people, including grandparents.

The grandparents conversed and prayed in German, but Bruemmer's mother taught the children English.

Bruemmer recalls as he got older, he was expected to get up at 5 a.m. for chores which included feeding the cows and cleaning out the barn's manure. After breakfast he got ready for school. He recalls being teased or shunned like other farm kids because of his "farm smell."

Bruemmer was raised with a strong Catholic upbringing. "No other faith was practiced at that time around Farming."

You milked the cows before Church on Sunday. He was an altar boy. If it was necessary to work on Sunday or a Holy Day of obligation, a farmer needed the permission of the parish priest.

Indoor plumbing came to the house when Bruemmer was 6. The house was heated with fuel oil at a cost of 11 cents a gallon.

The family butchered chickens, hogs and cattle. They were self-sufficient. Among the other responsibilities Bruemmer's mother canned meat and produce from the gar-

den. Looking at all the canned food in the cellar was a "comfortable and secure feeling. We may have been poor, but we never knew it."



Bruemmer

Bruemmer fondly remembers the family life on the farm "as being so calm and peaceful, there was so much respect for parents and grandparents."

Formal schooling could be problematic for Bruemmer. The two-room country school had four grades in each classroom. He recalls one teacher in particular. That teacher wore Army khakis, yelled all the time and carried a 4-foot long club. Bruemmer assumed he

may well have been a World War II veteran with problems.

After 8 years at country school, Bruemmer began attending high school in Albany. When he was a freshman, with a pocket full of shells, he brought his semi-automatic – 22 cal. rifle to school for gun safety class. He recalls how the teacher set up sand bags for target practice on the auditorium stage. At the very same time the girls practiced volleyball or basketball down on the court. Today you can't bring a fingernail file to school.

Bruemmer said he "hated" high school so much so that he quit after two years to work on the farm. Two years later he returned and graduated in 1967. He was 20 years old. The chairperson of the local draft board, Mary Adams, would

Navy • page 7



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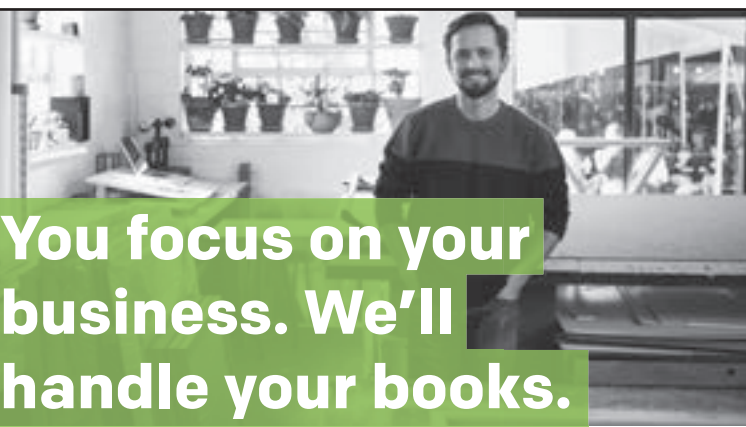
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## Talk with the Mayor - Saturday December 7 -



I will be available for some post Winter-Walk conversation  
9:00am— Local Blend

## CARLSON CROSSING TOWNHOMES

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## HISTORIC SALEM CHURCH Christmas Program Saturday, Dec. 14

Everyone Welcome!

Horse drawn wagon rides from 3 to 4:15 p.m.  
Old-fashioned Christmas Program—4:30 p.m.

We welcome your gifts of non-perishable food items and toys to be delivered to the Paynesville Community Center.

A free-will offering will be taken for the Salem Church and Cemetery restoration and upkeep. Refreshments served.

Historic Salem Community Church, 5 miles north of Paynesville on 220th Street.  
Call 320-249-0373 or 320-493-1657 for more information.

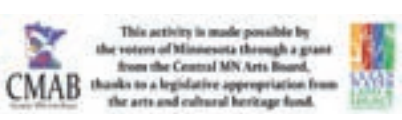
# all is Well

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## Refugee/immigrant news: Photo exhibit brings back memories

*Tani waa kuu muhiim adiga. 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 Martina Talic

A couple of weeks ago, I heard about a photography exposition by James A. Bowey at Benedicta Arts Center. The name of it, "When Home Won't Let You Stay," drew my attention right away and I knew I had to see it. The sadness and despair in the eyes of the refugees photographed took me back to 1991-1995, the time I spent in the refugee camp in Croatia.

Due to the civil war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, many families were displaced to neighboring countries as well as all over the world. My family was just one of them. We left home packed for the weekend and our visit to the Croatian coast extended to five years! As an 11-year-old, I did not understand the horrid consequences of the war. I do remember a sense of uncertainty and deep worry reflected in the adults' eyes. For us younger generations, we viewed the world with the infinite hope that things will get better and the uncertainty meant the ex-



photo by Juliana Howard

**Martina Talic, a refugee from Croatia, was inspired by the show, "When Home Won't Let You Stay," to tell her story. She is a teacher at St. John's Prep and resident of St. Joseph.**

citement about the future that holds only the best for us.

At the refugee camp, I made friendships that still last to this day. Crisis brings people together; it forms strong communities. Just think back to 9/11, and how it brought the country together, at least for a short time. For us, it was five years of sharing everything we had. My friends and I shared food, clothes, books, the little money we had, and time, above all, the time. We spent day and night together.

My family was not only my mom, dad and my siblings. When the food was ready, everybody was invited to the table. Adults looked out for each one of us, and when one was in trouble, all were in trouble. I look back with nostalgia and

I miss a sense of selflessness that everybody carried around. But the war also makes me think about the abrupt transition from my childhood to adolescence.

I think my childhood stopped the day we left our home. I remember my dad bringing my Barbie to the refugee camp two months into the war, but I could not play with it any longer. I simply was not interested in it any more. Nevertheless, I still wonder if I would have had the luxury of being a child just a bit longer if it wasn't for the war.

■ ■

If you have any questions, please contact Juliana Howard at 715-791-8976 or Jamal Elmi at 320-310-2351.



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# The Musician

**M**usicians make beautiful art for all of us to sing along to and enjoy. Finding them the perfect gift can help ensure that they keep doing more of the same.

## ACCESSORIES

Nothing can ruin band practice quicker than broken drum sticks or lost guitar picks. Make sure your aspiring musicians have plenty of both by filling their stocking with their favorite kinds of each.

Drumsticks come in a slew of sizes, weights and brands, so do your research before buying. For picks, many companies sell punchers that allow guitarists to turn old credit cards and IDs into functional guitar picks.

## PROFESSIONAL LESSONS

As long as the musician in your life doesn't misunderstand your gesture, professional music lessons would make for a great gift.

Local music shops offer a casual environment for lessons, with private rooms, top-quality equipment and vastly talented instructors.

Stores often offer packages that allow students to pick their own schedules, too, making lessons convenient and low stress. A sharpened skill set is a gift that could last a lifetime and open doors for future opportunities.

## CONCERT TICKETS

Musicians were obviously inspired to play by other great artists, orchestras or

bands. Find out who convinced them to pick up their first guitar or horn, and check their websites for upcoming shows.

Concert tickets would make for a great gift under the Christmas tree and can foster lifelong memories. Music festivals are gaining popularity and provide music fans the opportunity to check out multiple performers all in one central location.

Be on the lookout for any upcoming festivals in your area. Tickets will be a little pricier, but they will provide a weekend full of entertainment.

## MEMORABILIA

Musicians love to be reminded of the places they have played or the concerts they have attended. A little work on your part can help them collect and maintain such memories forever.

Many bands and performers offer memorabilia like collectible album covers, self-produced artwork and T-shirts, not to mention auction-type items that have been signed by the artists themselves.

If you're ordering signed memorabilia, though, make sure you are buying from qualified vendors who can produce the proper documentation to prove the items' credibility.



© FOTOLIA / AP



GREAT  
RIVER  
CHORALE

## ALL MY HEART THIS NIGHT REJOICES

*A much-loved holiday tradition*

Great River Chorale & The Cantabile Girls' Choirs  
Brass Quintet, Organ, Narrations & Carols

Friday, December 6, 2019 | 7:30 p.m.  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church | Saint Cloud, MN

Saturday, December 7, 2019 | 4 p.m.\*  
Church of Saint Augustine | Saint Cloud, MN



Adults \$16 | Seniors (65 and older) \$13  
Children & Students (w/ID) Free  
Tickets at [GreatRiverChorale.org](http://GreatRiverChorale.org) and at the door

This organization is funded, in part, by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Central MN Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

\*ASL interpretation provided



# Opinion

## Our View Reform needed for voters' voices to be heard

Help paying for health care. Repairing crumbling roads and bridges. Gun safety laws. Action on climate change. A realistic immigration policy.

Citizens want action on all these issues and most people agree on the solutions. Yet nothing happens.

Presidential candidate Tom Steyer thinks he has the answer and the answer is not who gets elected but the need for basic structural reform. His reform agenda doesn't make for a catchy slogan and Steyer won't be the Democrats' nominee to face Donald Trump. But his ideas strike directly at why the actions most American want don't happen.

Steyer's government reform agenda includes:

### Repeal Citizens United

Corporations aren't people. The Supreme Court decision in Citizens United must be overturned and public financing of campaigns should become the law of the land.

### Restructure the Federal Election Commission

The FEC is an independent agency that oversees our elections — but it has been plagued by internal dysfunction. Reform includes changes to its budget, commissioner composition, independence from other branches of government and penalty enforcement.

### Congressional term limits

There's a widespread perception that the longer an elected official serves in Congress, the less connected they are to their constituents — and the more beholden they become to corporate interests and lobbyists. Limit service to 12 years in the House or Senate.

### Election reform legislation

The For the People Act, the Voting Rights Advancement Act and the Native American Voting Rights Act, already approved by the House, need Senate approval and the president should sign them into law.

### Independent redistricting commissions

When partisan elected officials draw district lines, the electoral maps they draw rig the system in their favor and attempt to suppress and dilute the votes in communities of color. Independent, nonpartisan redistricting commissions should draw these boundaries, and eliminate racial gerrymandering.

To see why these issues are important, let's look locally at our local member of Congress, Tom Emmer. This examination is not meant to pick on him or single him out. Emmer is a pretty typical incumbent representative. Like more than 80 percent of incumbents, Democrats and Republicans, Emmer is in a safe district where he'll get re-elected. Most incumbents capture about 65 percent of the vote. (In his last three elections, Emmer won with 56, 66 and 61 percent.)

Incumbency boosts fundraising as well and it's helped Emmer, as it does all incumbents, of both parties.

The financial sector is far and away the largest source of campaign contributions to federal candidates and parties, with insurance companies, securities and investment firms, real estate interests and commercial banks providing the bulk of that money. In this election cycle, it accounts for \$220,043,185 in campaign spending.

Not surprising, and pretty typical, Emmer, a member of the House Financial Services Committee, received \$324,250 in contributions from financial services donors.

A close look at Emmer's fundraising shows while 59 percent comes from PACS, only 4.5 percent (or \$47,984) comes from individual contributions of \$200 or less.

How can an individual voter's voice be heard, when big business, with millions of dollars to spend, channels money to incumbents in safe districts?

It's not only Congress. With the presidential election a year away, the money is piling up. Through the last reporting cycle, Trump has raised \$204 million. Eighteen of his Democratic opponents have raised a total of \$242 million.

While Steyer is a longshot to be president, he offers significant reforms to take big money out of elections and increase voter participation that will remove barriers to actions most voters say they want.

## Old friends link up for Santa Paws

The text message popped up on my screen.

"He Mike, do you have any plans from 1:30-4:30 on Nov. 23?"

It was from my friend and former colleague at the St. Cloud Times, Kate Kompas.

No plans, I replied, although my spouse had raised the prospect of traveling to Evanston, Illinois, to watch the Gophers-Wildcats football game that weekend.

"Want to be a photographer for a TCHS event?" she replied.

Kate now works for the Tri-County Humane Society and I knew their big fundraising event, Santa Paws, was coming up.

As a newspaper photographer since the 1970s, I've photographed all kinds of things, but I've never taken animal portraits. About as close as I've come is shooting dairy judging at the Stearns County Fair.

Portrait photography is an entirely different genre from news photography. I've been asked to shoot weddings, but with one exception, I've declined. Dealing with high-strung brides and grooms or drunken parents is way more stressful than photographing a police standoff or a championship football game.

But I agreed to help. When I was an editor and Kate was a reporter at the Times, she often bailed me out by offering to cover an unexpected assignment. I certainly owed her a favor.

**Mike  
Knaak**  
*Editor*



Then I found out not only would I be shooting animals and their owners but also Santa, played by another longtime Times friend and colleague, sports reporter Tom Elliott.

Tom and I reported together for more than 35 years. We roamed the sidelines at high school football games and soaked up summer sun covering amateur baseball.

Tom's a great Santa, not only because he fills out the suit, but his gentle and gregarious nature brings the Santa role to life.

My Santa Paws photo session turned out to be more of a Times reunion when I learned the photographer working before me was Melissa King, another friend and co-worker from my Times days.

The four of us enjoyed the reunion but we also had a serious mission.

More than 200 pet owners scheduled a photo session over three days last weekend — that's one pet family about every five minutes. For the Humane Society, the event raises more than \$8,000. Volunteers help with herding the pets, posing the humans and animals and transferring the photos to flash drives. Other volunteers donate materials and equip-

ment to cut down costs.

Dogs big and small and a few cats arrived with their families during my three hours. Some folks donned Christmas costumes while others just wanted a simple family portrait.

My favorite family, two dogs included, wore matching holiday scarves. A very colorful, yet subtle touch.

One couple showed up with a pair of very large dogs. The owners said they wisely took the dogs for a run before the photo session. Fully exercised, the dogs were ready to pose.

The day ended with two women dressed as Whoville characters, along with two tiny costumed dogs. A man, wearing a full green Grinch costume, joined the group, although I'm thinking based on his demeanor, the others talked him into the Grinch persona.

Kate warned me that more than cats and dogs would be in the lineup. In the past, people have arrived with horses and goats.

Earlier on Saturday, Santa Tom posed with a guinea pig, "some sort of lizard thing" and the "biggest rabbit you've ever seen."

The three hours flew by, thanks to lots of happy people, sometimes cooperative pets and helpful volunteers.

Tom reflected on his day as Santa: "It's a fun job but it doesn't pay very well, a lot like journalism."

## Is it - finally - the Vikings' year?

It's that time of the year again, when the state of Minnesota places our hopes in the Minnesota Vikings, and we try to decide "could it actually be our year this time?" It's the question that has always bemused sports fans in our state. After almost every big run of the past has ended in disappointment, we're almost wary to embrace the team for a championship run. What I say to that though, is that if we don't get behind them at moments like this, it will make us look foolhardy when that eventual Super Bowl comes.

I've been watching and supporting Vikings football for as long as I can remember, and I can recall a lot of the highs and lows. The 2009 season when we landed Brett Favre as quarterback is a big one in my mind. We went 12-4 that season, having many big games until finally arriving at the NFC Championship Game against the New Orleans Saints. In a crushing defeat, later marred by the Bountygate scandal of Saints targeting Vikings players, the Vikings lost 31-28.

Another big loss was the Wild Card loss to the Seattle Seahawks in January 2016. After a hard-fought game with few scores, the points stood at 10-9, the Vikings trailing by one point with seconds left in the fourth quarter, trusting our kicker Blair Walsh to put us over the finish line. Tragically, he missed, and Minnesota's playoff hopes were dashed.

**Connor  
Kockler**  
*Guest Writer*



Of course, the moment that sticks out the most in recent memory is the "Minneapolis Miracle" of 2018 fame. After dominating the early game, the Vikings were trailing the New Orleans Saints 23-24 in the late stages. Gunning for a long reception and a chance for a game-winning field goal, Vikings quarterback Case Keenum threw a massive pass to Stefon Diggs. Instead of having to run out of bounds, however, Diggs dodged the Saints safety and managed to run it back to the end zone, winning the game.

This year has the potential to be another memorable season. We're already almost exceeding last year, when we went 8-7-1. The Vikings are 8-3 this year following our recent win against Denver. There are five more games to keep up the wins and our team has been having breakout performances throughout. Running back Dalvin Cook, quarterback Kirk Cousins and our defense have been exceptionally outstanding.

At this time, many might invoke the "Vikings curse" or the curse that affects all Minnesota sports generally. As soon as a team starts to do well and fans across the state start

to believe they can win, we're all let down spectacularly. Minnesota teams exist to constantly disappoint us, the stories go. I don't buy it.

Though the Vikings have never won a Super Bowl, we've been to the Super Bowl four times and the NFC Championship game even more times. The Vikings are never usually a "bad" team; where we have trouble is in the playoffs. Based on how our team plays and their strengths, winning a Super Bowl is something the Vikings should accomplish in the near future.

With that in mind, we should get behind our Vikings. This team has a great history and culture in our state. Millions of fans every year take their weekends to watch them and cheer them on. It's a collective identity regardless of any differences Minnesotans can get behind. We're all one when we're doing the "Skol" chant and reveling in a win against our archrival the Green Bay Packers. Despite any apprehension about curses or being let down, let's get out and support our Vikings as they keep pushing on this season. And who knows, maybe this could be "our year."

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



# Navy

## from page 3

frequently call the school to check whether or not Bruemmer was still in school.

On Aug. 20, 1967, Bruemmer enlisted in the Navy for four years. He doesn't recall as to why he specifically joined the Navy. "Everyone else seemingly was going into the Army." There was no discussion about the matter with his parents.

After completing 10 weeks of basic training at Great Lakes Naval Training Facility outside Chicago, Bruemmer was ordered directly to Little Creek, Virginia. He was assigned to the Assault Craft Unit-2.

Given Bruemmer's test scores in basic training as also the acute needs of the Navy, he was designated the rate of fireman. Shortly after he was performing the duties of an engineman. An engineman is responsible for operating, servicing

and repairing the internal combustion engines of large ships and smaller craft.

Inside a large ship such as a Landing Ship Dock, smaller crafts are stored for assault landing of a hostile beach. Some of these Landing Craft are designed for amphibious landings and they carry one tank each. A landing ship dock can put ashore up to five armored tanks.

Bruemmer was deployed twice to the Mediterranean Sea for amphibious landing practice on foreign soil. He traveled on the USS Casa Grande and the USS Pocona. The Pocona was the flag ship of the amphibious unit portion of the 6th Fleet. That's where the admiral operated from.

Bruemmer reports the two six-month trips to the Mediterranean provided him the opportunity to become more proficient in his duties. He also visited a number of foreign countries: Italy, Greece, France, Malta, Spain and Gibraltar.

For a while Bruemmer consid-

ered re-enlisting in the Navy for another four years. Given his rank (E-5) and a \$10,000 re-enlisting bonus some discernment was required.

During this time (last two years of his enlistment) Bruemmer was assigned to staff duty at the Little Creek Amphibious Base. The assignment involved maintaining the engines of the admiral's barge and the chief of staff's "gig" (a small boat). He decided to leave the Navy and seek his fortunes in civilian life. Bruemmer applied for and was selected for a rather unique and innovative program, Project Transition, a collaborative effort between the Navy and civilian contractors.

Bruemmer was working for a heating and air conditioning contractor. He was still in the Navy and paid by the Navy but he worked for a civilian contractor. He completed this program "tops" in his class.

Bruemmer was honorably discharged from the Navy on Aug. 20,

1971. He drove home in a newly purchased 1969 Ford Fairlane. He came home for a week or so then drove to Florida. A Navy buddy told Bruemmer there was a big demand in Florida for a person with his knowledge and skills in heating and air conditioning. What his "buddy" failed to share was the prevailing wage was \$2.50 an hour.

After a month, Bruemmer met his future wife. They dated for a few months and then got married. She was a teacher. Shortly, the newlyweds moved back to Minnesota. Upon returning to Minnesota, he worked for Three-Way Construction for two years. Later he worked for Gherkin Landscaping for a year.

In 1977, Bruemmer found his vocation in the heating and air conditioning business. He worked for Granite City Heating for 20 years. After that he entered into a business partnership, which was called Park Heating and Air Conditioning. As part of that business, he and his partners had a mainte-

nance contract with the coal-fired Sherco plant in Becker. After 18 years, he retired.

Bruemmer's first marriage of 18 years ended in divorce. From this union were born a son (in law enforcement) and a daughter (Doctor of Audiology). He has nine grandchildren.

In 1999, Bruemmer married Juanita. They live in a beautifully remodeled home near Pleasant Acres - most all of the work done by Bruemmer.

He has many interests, plays cards and volunteers. He is an exceptionally talented woodworker.

Bruemmer has been an active and much appreciated member of the American Legion Post 328 for eight years. He is also a Fourth-Degree member of the Knights of Columbus.

Bruemmer is appreciative of his Navy experience in that it provided him a good education and opportunity to see the world. It also pointed him in the direction of a rewarding career.

## 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.

### Saturday, Nov. 30

**Shop Small Crawl**, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., six locations in downtown St. Joseph. A shuttle bus will be circling all six venues throughout the day from the intersection of Minnesota Street and College Avenue.

### Sunday, Dec. 1

**Knights of Columbus Breakfast**, 8:30 a.m.-noon. Church of St. Joseph Heritage Hall. Serving sausages, eggs, hash browns, pancakes, fruit and rolls.

### Monday, Dec. 2

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

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

### Tuesday, Dec. 3

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

### Wednesday, Dec. 4

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

**St. Cloud school board work session**, meeting, 6:30 p.m., District Administration Office, 1201 Second St. S., Waite Park.

### Thursday, Dec. 5

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

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

### Friday, Dec. 6

**Festival of the Nativities**, 4-7 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 2163 Mayhew Lake Road NE., Sauk Rapids. The free festival features local musicians performing Christmas music and a children's area where Christmas crafts

can be created.

**WinterWalk**, 4-8 p.m., downtown St. Joseph. Supper, craft and bake sale at Church of St. Joseph Heritage Hall, 5-7:30 p.m. meet Santa and Mrs. Claus, 6 p.m. tree lighting at the corner of Minnesota Street and College Avenue.

### Saturday, Dec. 7

**Talk with the mayor**, 9 a.m., the Local Blend, 19 Minnesota St. W. Meet with Mayor Rick Schultz.

**Festival of the Nativities**, 1-5 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 2163 Mayhew Lake Road NE., Sauk Rapids. The free festival features local musicians performing Christmas music and a children's area where Christmas crafts can be created.

### Sunday, Dec. 8

**Liturgy in French**, 3 p.m. Sacred Heart Chapel, St. Benedict's Monastery.

### Monday, Dec. 9

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

**Fare for All**, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Resurrection Lutheran Church, 610 CR 2 N.

**St. Joseph Planning Commission**, 6 p.m., Government Center, 75 Calla-

way St. E.

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

### Tuesday, Dec. 10

**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, Dec. 11

**Breakfast Club**, 9-10 a.m., Stearns History Museum, 235 33rd Ave. S. Free for members, nominal fee for nonmembers. 320-253-8424.

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

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

### Thursday, Dec. 12

**St. Joseph Senior Citizens**, noon., St. Joseph Community Fire Hall, 323

Fourth Ave. NE.

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

**Kids Can Blood Drive**, noon to 6 p.m., Resurrection Lutheran Church, 610 CR 2, St. Joseph. Contact Tamara at 320-282-8266.

### Saturday, Dec. 14

**St. Joseph Winter Market**, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Resurrection Lutheran Church fellowship hall, 610 CR 2.

**KringleFest**, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Stearns History Museum, 235 33rd Ave. S., St. Cloud. Free for museum members and children 4 and younger or nominal fee for nonmembers. 320-253-8424,

**Historic Salem Church Christmas Program**, 3-4:15 p.m. horse-drawn wagon rides, 4:30 p.m. Christmas Program, Historic Salem Community Church, 5 miles north of Paynesville on 220th Street.

### Sunday, Dec. 15

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

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Come celebrate downtown St. Joseph!

The 10th annual **St. Joseph Winterwalk** Friday, Dec. 6 4-8 p.m.

4-8 p.m.- Supper, bake sale and craft & vendor sales with live music in Heritage Hall

6 p.m.- 40-foot tree lighting at the corner of Minnesota St. & College Ave.

5-7:30 p.m.- Meet Santa & Mrs. Claus, kids craft making, refreshments/treat bags at the Heritage Hall, 12 W. Minnesota St.

Event is planned and sponsored by:  
**St. Joseph Y2K Lions Church of St. Joseph Community Businesses for Winterwalk**

Follow 5 blocks of luminaries to local businesses.

Photo-op with Santa & Mrs. Claus

### St. John's Boys' Choir to perform Dec. 21

"A Ceremony of Carols" will be Saturday, Dec. 21, at 2 p.m. at **St. John's Abbey Church**, Collegeville, and 8 p.m. at **St. Mary's Cathedral**, downtown St. Cloud. Hear harpist Dr. Lynne Aspnes perform Benjamin Britten's Christmas masterpiece with the St. John's Boys' Choir. The boys sing new and familiar carols, combining with the talents of the SJBC Orchestra and special Alumni Chorus. To order tickets and learn more, visit [sjbchoir.org](http://sjbchoir.org) or call 320-363-2558.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME STATE OF MINNESOTA

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

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME STATE OF MINNESOTA

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: Quality Wood Games.
2. The stated address of the principal place of business is or will be: 8685 Burton Place NW, Rice, Minn. 56367.
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: Michael C. Carlson, 8685 Burton Place, Rice, Minn, 56367.

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. 30, 2019

Filed: Oct. 30, 2019

/s/ Michael Carlson

Publish: Nov. 15 and 29, 2019



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