Reaching Everybody! **Postal** sleaders

Friday, Jan. 10, 2020 Volume 32, Issue 1 Est. 1989

Baseball, softball program planned for St. Joseph

The city of St. Joseph will host a meet and greet on starting a community ball program for the coming summer. The meeting will be 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 22, at the Government Center, 75 Callaway St. E. Former Minnesota Twins player Al Newman will be at the meeting. Planners want to start a community T-ball, baseball and softball program. Call John at 320-290-0235 for more information.

Sexual assault advocate volunteers needed

Volunteers at Central Minnesota Sexual Assault Center provide services for sexual assault victims at medical facilities, lawenforcement centers and during court and legal proceedings. Volunteers also answer phones, provide crisis intervention, information, referral and guidance to victims. Volunteers must be 18 or older, complete the state-mandated 40-hour training, sign up for a minimum of two crisis-line shifts a month and attend monthly advocate meetings as part of continuing education. Contact Bree, 320-251-4357.

Be a coffee buddy

Coffee buddies provide oneto-one social time with WACOSA clients. They will introduce you to clients that share your common interests and hobbies. Typical activities include putting a puzzle together, participating in arts and crafts, chatting about a favorite sports team or discussing weekends. Volunteer opportunities are available Monday through Friday at all their sites. Contact Lyn, at 320-257-5188 or lwelle@wacosa.org.

Drivers needed

The Assumption Community Faith in Action program covers most of Stearns County as well as the St. Cloud Metro area. Volunteers are essential to the program and provide such services as driving to appointments, light housekeeping and/ or cooking, and friendly visiting. They are currently in need of drivers. Contact Assumption Faith in Action at 320-348-2316.

INSERTS:

Country Manor Senior Housing

PineCone Vision Center



Team collaboration at Vex EDR

Kennedy Community School students perform maintenance on a robot Jan. 4 at the Vex EDR Tournament, which took place at Sartell Middle School. They are (left to right) Emily Hammond, 14; Rylan Dierkes, 13; and Sophie Birkholz, 14. Said Dierkes: "Our robot has been experiencing technical difficulty."

New solar panels power Millstream building

by Mike Knaak

editor@thenewsleaders.com

From street level, the newest addition to downtown St. Joseph isn't visible. But a climb to the top of Millstream Shops & Lofts reveals the roof filled with a new installation of solar panels.

The solar equipment was installed in the last month and should be in operation in the next few weeks once Xcel Energy tests and inspects the installation, said Ryan Prosser of All Energy Solar.

The panels will provide electricity for the building's com-Solar • page 2



Jon Petters stands on the roof of Millstream Shops & Lofts where new solar energy equipment

Council approves street, utility study

by Mike Knaak

How to develop roads and utilities in southeast St. Joseph will be the subject of a study approved by the St. Joseph City Council at its Jan. 6 meeting.

The council approved spending about \$27,000 to study street and utility needs in the area where an apartment building is planned.

The area in question is between the eastern extension of Dale Street and a future extension of 20th Avenue SE, south of

the U.S. Army Reserve Center.

Council members want information so they can decide what type of street to build, for example four-lane divided or four-lane undivided. The study also will examine utility needs as well as the location of a sanitary sewer lift station.

Mayor Rick Schultz and council member Bob Loso wanted to make sure the study considered land use and future development to balance current cost now with what might be needed in the future.

Council • page 2



photo by Mike Knaal

The St. Joseph City Council voted to remove signs like this one near Millstream Park prohibiting studded snowmobile treads.

St. Stephen **Optical** (formerly Index 53)

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GOT A COMMENT?

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: Yo's Clinic.
- 2. The stated address of the principal place of business is or will be: 311 Third Ave. N., Sartell, Minn. 56377.
- 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: Jeremy Jason Olson, 311 Third Ave. N., Sartell, Minn. 56377; and Angela Jean Olson, 311 Third Ave. N., Sartell, Minn. 56377.
- 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: Dec. 3, 2019

Filed: Dec. 3, 2019

/s/ Jeremy Olson

Publish: Dec. 27, 2019



Top spellers move on to next challenge

St. Joseph Catholic School fourth-, fifth- and sixth-graders participated in a Spelling Bee at the school on Dec. 20. Winning participants include (left to right) first place James Hanauska, grade 5; second place Cecelia Weldon, grade 6; third place Brady Skahen, grade 6; and fourth place Aquiliana Wolf, grade 6. Winners will represent St. Joseph Catholic School and competed at the next level Jan. 9, at the Catholic Community Schools Spelling Bee at the Cathedral High School Holy Angels Performing Arts Center.

Solar

from front page

mon areas, parking lot and some office space, according to building co-owner Jon Petters.

"We needed to do it for the environment," Petters said. "My partner, Gustavo Pena, and I are strong believers in solar energy."

Planning for the project began about a year ago and included contracts with Xcel and filing for federal tax credits. Petters said he believes it's the first commercial solar installation in the city.

In December, All Energy Solar installed the gear. One array is 760 square feet and the other is 878 square feet. Once con-

nected to the grid, any excess energy produced, for example on sunny summer days, will result in a credit from Xcel, Prosser said.

"Ten years ago, the argument against solar was that it was too expensive. That's not so today," Petters said.

Prosser said All Energy Solar has been in business about 11 years and in 2019 installed more than 1,100 units.

This spring, Petters plans to install solar on the 24 North Lofts building next door. That equipment will power exterior lighting and a bakery planned for the rear of the building.

Millstream Shops & Lofts was built 11 years ago. The 24 North building went up in late 2018.

Council

from front page

The study is expected to take about two months.

In other action, the council voted to remove signs saying snowmobiles with studded treads are prohibited on trails in the city. The move brings the city in line with changes in state and county laws that had banned studs on paved trails.

The laws were in place to protect the trails from damage.

The measure passed 4-1 with Loso voting no because, he said, he didn't want to see a "trail destroyed before its time."

There are two trails in the city. The Wobegon Trail passes through the city and there's a trail that crosses the west side of the city along CR 2.

Sartell-St. Stephen • St. Joseph

Reaching Everybody!

<u>Newsstands</u>

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to ST. JOSEPH NEWSLEADER, 1622 11th Ave SE, St. Cloud, MN 56304.

Blotter -

Dec. 23

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

Dec. 17

10:13 p.m. Arrest. Baker Street E. An officer saw a person who he believed was the subject of a warrant. After confirming the warrant, the person was taken to jail.

Dec. 18

2:57 p.m. Crash. 320th Street and November Drive. A truck spun out, went into the ditch and struck a utility pole. There was moderate damage to the front driver's side of the truck. Icy roads contributed to this crash.

Central Minnesota Arts

Board awarded \$119,388 in

support of 19 regional arts

projects. Criteria used in evaluating applications in-

clude: artistic quality and

merit, demonstrated need,

outcomes and evaluation,

and ability to complete the

these three St. Joseph-area

ership Camp, \$7,000, a five-day residential summer

program for middle and

high school female-identi-

fying musicians in band

and orchestra at the Col-

lege of St. Benedict in July

\$7,000, ETHEL + Robert Mirabal: The River out-

reach/residency activities

that introduce participants

to a different cultural genre

and Native American tra-

College of St. Benedict,

2020.

Grants were awarded to

Athena Music and Lead-

9:12 a.m. Fraud. Callaway Street E. A woman reported when she was in Nashville, she lost a credit card. It was used at several stores in Nashville to charge a total of \$740.37 during five hours on Dec. 21. She canceled the card and the credit card company is refunding her the amount.

Dec. 27

4:08 a.m. Property damage. 12th Avenue SE. A vehicle hit a garbage can and damaged a mailbox. A set of tire tracks headed west on Baker Street E. and then turned south on 12th Avenue SE. The tracks went into the snowbank at the end a driveway and into a snowbank near the mailbox. The tracks then indicated the vehicle backed up and continued south on 12th Avenue. The damage was approximately \$75. There is believed to be no cameras in the area. Incident documented.

11:16 a.m. Counterfeit. First Avenue NE. A girl approached an officer and said she found a \$100 bill at Campus Villas. She thought it was real but didn't know what to do with it. The officer advised her that it was counterfeit. It was entered into evidence.

Dec. 28

8:07 a.m. Collision. Second Avenue NW. The driver of a Kwik Trip fuel delivery truck backed into another vehicle while getting into position to deliver fuel. The driver of the second vehicle thought the fuel truck was leaving and drove behind it, entering the truck driver's blind spot. There was no noticeable damage to either vehicle.

8:28 p.m. Crash. CR 75 and First Avenue NW. A vehicle crashed into a sign and needed to be towed from the scene.

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 reimbursment and other benefits.

> Contact Janel Heinen at 320.241.5173 or email Janel.Heinen@lssmn.org

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Midnight Dispatcher Position Available!

The Department of Life Safety at Saint John's University is looking for a new Midnight Dispatcher to join the team.

The primary work shift is Monday-Friday, Midnight- 8 a.m.

For further information and to apply online, please visit our employment opportunities webpage at: http://employment.csbsju.edu or email employment@csbsju.edu with questions.

Saint John's University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer



- People -

ditions and a public performance Feb. 15 at the College of St. Benedict.

Great River Chorale, \$7,000, We Sing Because featuring an adult community choir, a college/university choir and a professional guest organist. Free concerts at Bethlehem Lutheran Church May 1 in St. Cloud and Sacred Heart Chapel, Monastery of St. Benedict May 3.

Jacob Gilk of St. Joseph was named to the dean's list for achieving a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher during fall semester at Alexandria Technical & Community College.

It's time again for River of Life's Annual WILD GAME FEED!



6:30 p.m. Satuday, Jan. 25 at River of Life in Cold Spring

For everyone ages 12 and older!

There will be food, fun, prizes and guest speaker John. E Skipworth. Don't miss this popular, annual, FREE event. We will be raffling a new Mathews bow as well as many other free great giveaways, including a Mathews Mission Bow.

We hope you will be able to join us at this fun annual event! See our website for all the information: riveroflifeag.org

River of Life Church: 22881 178th Ave, Cold Spring Feel free to contact us if you have any further questions at 320.597.7777

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Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020

5 - 6:30 p.m., presentation at 5:30 p.m. Kennedy Community School

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PET CARE GUIDE | HEALTH CONDITIONS

Diabetic Pets

ccording to the American Veterinary Medical Association, diabetes is most common in older pets but still occurs in younger and pregnant animals. Much like when the disease is found in people, early detection makes it more manageable. Learn the warning signs and how to care for your pet suffering from diabetes.

A common form of the disease found in dogs is deemed Type I. It is typically caused when the pancreas is unable to produce efficient levels of insulin. Pups who suffer from this disorder will require special therapy treatments to survive. Cats will more commonly experience Type II, which is the lack of normal response to insulin.

Diabetic pets can live long and healthy lives with proper treatment. However, if left untreated, there may be life-threatening consequences.

SYMPTOMS

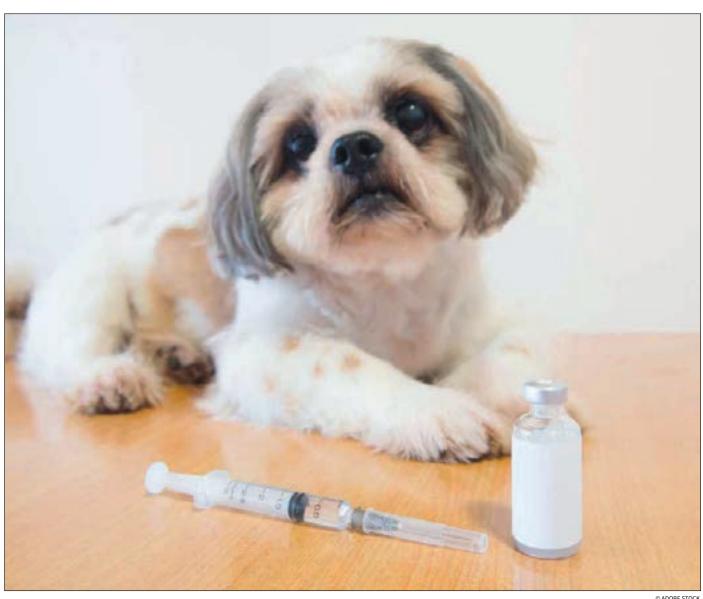
It is sometimes easy to notice the symptoms and bring it to the attention of your veterinarian. Here are a few things to look for if you see your pet isn't acting like themselves, per the AVMA.

- · Excessive water drinking and increased urination.
- Decreased appetite and cloudy
- Chronic or recurring infections such as skin and urinary issues.

RISK FACTORS

While our beloved pets can be affected by diabetes at any age, the AVMA reports dogs are usually diagnosed around the age of seven, whereas diabetic cats are usually older than

It is also reported female dogs are at double the risk of male dogs, and certain canine breeds are predisposed to the condition. A study performed by the National Institutes of Health revealed pugs, toy poodles, miniature schnauzers and miniature poodles are at a high risk of developing diabetes.



MEDICAL TREATMENTS

Once it is discovered that your pet is diabetic, your vet will discuss their treatment plan.

Typically, a dog or cat will need lifelong insulin injections, frequent examinations and blood and urine tests. A veterinarian will show you

how to give the insulin shot. Be honest with your vet if you don't feel the condition is getting better as dosages may require an adjustment.



ESTATE AND PRE-PLANNING GUIDE | MONEY MANAGEMENT

Organize your Finances

Your debts don't disappear at the time of death. In many cases, your family may be held responsible for any outstanding obligations. When planning your estate, spend time organizing your finances to ensure an executor knows what you owe and how to make the payments.

A life insurance policy means more than leaving something behind for your loved ones, it should also cover funeral expenses and fund your financial responsibilities. Determine the amount you owe and adjust your plan with an insurance agent.

Your family members will be dealing with grief at the time of your death, what you do to ease the stress before the fact, can make it easier for them to adjust.

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

You should print out clear documentation of life insurance policies and retirement plans, including pensions and annuities. Keep them in a safe place and disclose the location with loved ones. At the time of death, they will require these forms to ensure your contribution is dispersed to the right person, rather than going unclaimed and ending up with the state.

It's a good idea to gives copies to your estate planner, attorney or even in a safe-deposit box. These documents should be easily accessible when they are needed.

GATHERING DEBTS

Another set of documents you will need to disclose with your estate executor is a list of your financial responsibilities. These include mortgages, vehi-



© ADOBE STOCK

cle commitments and credit card debts. Keep your account information in a secure and organized portfolio to make payments easier.

Don't forget to update balances regularly to keep numbers accurate.

A great expert to have when gathering your debts is a financial advisor. Together, you can set up beneficiaries for retirement plans, allow family to access accounts and even create savings strategies for your surviving family and finances.

LEAVE CLEAR INSTRUCTIONS

Modern technology makes bill paying easy with services like autopay. Make sure your loved ones know how and what comes out of your bank account. It's easy to forget small charges like subscriptions and utilities.

They should know how to opt out of these fees as every dollar can be crucial when meeting final financial obligations.



Our View

Road money unites Republicans, Democrats

What does it take to get six Democrats and three Republicans to work on the same goal?

The answer: When Minnesota needs federal money to rebuild roads, bridges and highway interchanges.

Most of Minnesota's congressional delegation wrote to Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao asking why the state didn't get any funding through the Department of Transportation's Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development grant program this year.

Sixth District Rep. Tom Emmer joined with his Republican colleagues, First District Rep. Jim Hagedorn and Eighth District Rep. Pete Stauber as well as Democrats Angie Craig, who represents the Second District, Third District Rep. Dean Phillips, Fifth District Rep. Ilhan Omar and Seventh District Rep. Collin Peterson. Minnesota's two Democratic senators, Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith, signed on too.

The Minnesota crew's letter asked: "To provide clarity to the many competitive applicants from our state, we ask DOT provide insight into the grant-selection process. Since the inception of the Transportation Investment Generating Economy Recovery program in 2010, discretion ary federal transportation funding from TIGER and now BUILD, has played an integral role in improving the safety of Minnesota's transportation infrastructure, including funding for rebuilding bridges, roads and highway interchanges. Throughout the years, the state of Min nesota, its counties, and cities have submitted competitive grant applications to address critical transportation needs in the state and have been awarded these funds.

"While DOT awarded \$900 million in BUILD grants this fiscal year, Minnesota did not receive any funding while other states received up to three grants. As a result, Minnesota communities were deprived of a key opportunity to improve the safety and efficiency of transportation networks across our state as well as the economic benefits of direct investments in reliable infrastructure."

The letter concluded with a typical Minnesota nice passive/aggressive paragraph: "We respectfully request you share with us the determination behind the merits and compared benefits of projects against Minnesota applications. As you consider award funding for next year's BUILD grant program, we urge you to provide clarity to applicants about their projects to improve Minnesota's transportation infrastructure."

Emmer was more blunt in a statement accompanying the letter. "Minnesota received zero federal funding for one of the largest transportation and infrastructure grant programs. This is absolutely unacceptable."

Despite the partisan passions on Capitol Hill, our representatives still do work together. Elected officials from different parties usually reach consensus on infrastructure projects. Roads, bridges, railways and airports benefit everyone. There are no Republican roads or Democratic bridges.

The argument is usually over how and who pays for the projects.

Perhaps Emmer can round up his Minnesota colleagues to speak with one voice on other pressing issues that need action. Maybe this group could agree on climate-change legislation. How about affordable health care or immigration?

When legislators come out of their corners and peel off their labels, action results.

Let's hear from all our representatives about how they've worked together to create solutions.

Opinion

SCSU dropped the ball on gender equity

When St. Cloud State University announced last month it was dropping football, fans, students, athletes and alums debated the wisdom of that move as a strategy to save money and work toward gender equity in sports.

Many universities tie their branding to high-profile, successful teams, but the debate over football misses a more important point: the university has failed miserably to offer equal opportunities, treatment and benefits to its female athletes.

Last summer, a federal judge ruled the university must take immediate steps to bring gender equity to its athletic programs as required by Title IX, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in programs that receive federal funds. The university will eliminate football as well as men's and women's golf in moves intended to ease financial pressures and comply with federal rules balancing men's and women's athletics. The university said it would also add men's soccer, which is much cheaper than football.

Traditionally, school spirit and emotion played big parts in college football's 150-year history. A successful sports program brings the entire university national attention. We don't need to look far for examples. How many people outside of Minnesota would know about St. John's University without its 60-year history of national championship play? Until St. Cloud State entered Division I hockey and achieved top rankings year after year, excellence in Minnesota hockey equaled Gophers, not Huskies. Minnesota's football bowl victory over Auburn, watched by a national television audience, delivered marketing worth millions of dollars.

As important as sports are to a university's brand, its values are more important.

Mike Knaak Editor



I'm a graduate of St. Cloud State, I was an adjunct faculty member for many years and I've reported about the university since my days on the campus newspaper. Because of my history with the university, I was truly embarrassed when I read the federal court ruling.

Trial testimony uncovered many failures going back years. The evidence not only showed the university failed to provide equity, but administrators tried to game the system by directing coaches to cut or increase rosters to meet equity goals.

Why did anybody think these actions were good ideas?

- Basketball Coach Lori fish testified her ideal roster was 13 players, but she was told to list 18. She testified she typically plays eight athletes and with a roster of 18, not everyone will get playing time.
- Baseball Coach Pat Dolan said he dropped early season nonconference games to delay the date of the first competition (when roster numbers are set) to give him more time to pare down his roster to the 37-player limit.
- Meanwhile, Softball Coach Paula U'Ren was told to do the opposite by Holly Schreiner, St. Cloud State's assistant athletic director for compliance and student services. When the team ended up with fewer athletes than the minimum, Schreiner directed U'Ren to try out more players and cut them later.
 - Schreiner told the coach of St. Cloud

State's national champion wrestling team, Steve Costanza, that he could add players after she filed her compliance reports and those new players would not count against the roster cap.

- During home games, the women's basketball team uses public restrooms near the gym because the ones in the locker room are on another floor and too far away. Players and coaches line up with spectators to use the facilities.
- At Selke Field, U'Ren was told to use a fire hose to water the grass. Prior to bringing in recruits, U'Ren weeds the infield.
- Although male and female athletes are served by the same training staff, the trainers have offices in the men's locker
- St. Cloud State did not conduct formal interviews with students, coaches or administrators from 1984 to the present and the university did not research high school, community or amateur participation in sports. Heather Weems, who has been athletics director since 2012, did not have any knowledge about any unmet interest and abilities of female students.

These examples and additional findings in the ruling document is why Judge John Tunheim ordered the university to take immediate action.

While St. Cloud State's enrollment dropped from 12,050 in 2011 to 8,506 in 2017, Tunheim wrote that financial challenges are not reasons for exceptions to Title IX.

St. Cloud State's leaders, past and present have repeatedly dropped the ball on issues of gender equity in sports. Allowing years of unequal treatment of female athletes and then gaming the system to show compliance is a far bigger fumble than ending football.

Is climate change coming? It's here!

Sometimes, when I hear the words "climate change," I laugh. I laugh not because climate change is funny; it's the unfunniest topic of all.

I laugh because some people choose to ignore what's happening right in front of their noses. That is part of the humor in a true story brother-in-law Kurt told me years

One scorching summer afternoon, Kurt was sitting sipping a beer at Rumor's Bar south of Rice. The others at the bar were tossing off remarks about the blistering weather.

"I bet we're gonna get a drought," said

"Oh yeah, you can say that again," said another. "Hasn't been this hot and dry in a long time. Remember the drought of '86, or was it '87? Terrible."

That conversation went on and on, Kurt recalled. Sure enough, drought's a-comin'!

Meantime, Kurt was staring at the large window. It was being virtually sandblasted by furious dust-filled gusts of dry wind. Bits of dry sticks and dead brush like tumbleweeds were being whipped against the windows, like a scene from a desert cowboy movie.

"Yep, we're headin' for a drought" someone repeated.

Finally, an exasperated Kurt blurted out loudly to the dire forecasters.

"Drought?" Kurt asked. "You say we're headin' for a drought?"

Sudsy nods all around. Kurt extended his right arm, pointing to the windows.

Dennis Dalman

Reporter

"Look!" he said.



Nursing their beers, they raised their heads, turning wide-eyed to the window.

"Drought coming, you say?!" Kurt shouted. "Duh! We're IN it!"

During that same week, there were burning bans, heat advisories and reports of drooping cattle, wilting crops. Those people were not paying attention, oblivious to the drought already surrounding them.

In that sense, they remind me of the deniers of climate-change/global warming. We're in it, but some don't see it. Unlike those bar patrons who at least predicted drought, the climate deniers, blind to the future, refuse to see disaster coming. Global warming, they scowl, is an old hippy notion; it's a socialist/communist plot against American capitalism; it's a hoax concocted by that liberal-radical Al Gore who made a movie about it just to scare people and make money; and, "By the way," they often crow, "If the planet is warming up, how come it was 40 below the other day?"

Among the naysayers are those blinded by their wealth, including carbon-fuel tycoons, who think oh well, if doom's on the way, we'll build our fortresses on mountain sides or live in air-conditioned Manhattan towers far above the soggy strife. The Big Apple will become a neo-Venice where the tower residents can be rowed in spiffy gondolas from place to place. Floating restaurants? And if worse comes to worse, they can always buy tickets to another planet. Ah, such a comforting fantasy.

Meantime, back here down on earth, back on Planet Reality, climate warming is an ugly fact glaring us in the face. Glaciers are melting rapidly; animal species are slipping into extinction (human species not far behind), record storms and rampant fires are becoming more destructive, the Amazon forest is burning constantly, droughts and/or floods are causing losses in food production and resultant starvation. It's already happening; we're in it. Alas, there are none so blind as they who will not see.

The future is terrifying because as we know (or should know), climate change can cause and/or make worse overcrowding, land disputes, famines, unemployment, waves of displaced people, dictatorships, hatreds, deepening prejudices and wars.

We need an American leader who understands what is happening and who can inspire and motivate all of us, everywhere, to help restore this planet's health – that is, if the damage is even reversible. That leader is obviously not the Denier-in-Chief who now occupies the White House.

There is that awful, nagging question: Is it too late? Precious time is ticking away, options running out. Join the fight against global warming. A vital part of that fight is never ever to vote for any political ostrich who is a climate-change denier.

Instead of Democrats, stick with Trump

Bob Grise, St. Joseph

Chaos replaced competence in the Oval Office writes Editor of the St. Joseph Newsleader, Mike Knaak. Democrats' policies are so bad they can't win the debate, so they call those that disagree with them names like Russian stooge, racist, homophobe, climate denier and now causers of chaos.

No chaos when nice guys like George Bush and RINOS like Paul Ryan John Boehner were letting the Democrats walk all over them. What's more chaotic than the open borders Democrat leaders desire? We have immigration laws.

Was it higher taxes and excessive regulation, that killed our economic growth, a sign of competence during the Obama

years? Was it setting the Middle East on fire by pulling our troops out of Iraq? Those messes have largely been fixed by Trump policies. Was sending \$150 billion to Iran a competent move? Obama is remembered for green-energy boondoggles, skyrocketing electric rates, a stagnant economy and doctor shortages - an Obamacare side effect. Obama could have renegotiated NAFTA, but he didn't, Trump did. Spying on American citizens will be Obama's legacy.

Knaak's claim that corporations didn't share their tax cut and that manufacturing jobs are down is false. Corporate employees received bonuses and stockholders saw dividend and stock prices rise. The corporate tax cut was a competitive move - other countries had cut their corporate taxes. Manufacturing employment is way up over three years ago.

- Letters to editor -

Sign companies are doing well as the Democrats buy a lot of signs that call for banning this, that and the other thing. What happened to freedom and tolerance?

As for climate, I was looking forward to the end of snow but it didn't happen. Climate Scientist Dr. Lindzen says "Believing CO2 controls the climate is pretty close to believing in magic." A competent President doesn't base policy on a failed hypothesis.

And now we have impeachment without high crimes and misdemeanors. Another incompetent time-wasting move by the Democrats, but that's all they have. Editor Knaak can have all the angry Amys, dementia Joes and commy Bernies he wants, I'm sticking with Trump.

Thanks for sharing veterans' profiles

Rosie Court, St. Joseph

Thank you to Tom Klecker, American Legion Post 328 member, who for the past year interviewed veterans and profiled those honorable men and woman in our area who served our country. Your narratives of those veterans shared their personal history, their military service, sometimes painful to describe and other times transforming their lives. It gives us a better understanding of their military experiences and the adverse conditions they endured while serving our country.

Those veterans may be ordinary men and women, but they are all heroes and champions of courage who demonstrated patriotism, honor, commitment, devotion and valiant efforts under extreme conditions whether

at home or abroad. They have shown their unending willingness to serve and sacrifice their lives for the freedoms we too often take for granted.

I know I speak for many when I say words cannot express our thanks to our veterans who answered the call of duty whether enlisted or drafted for selflessly and bravely serving our great country. We are forever grateful for the freedoms we share and the opportunities we have.

The American Legion is now entering our second century of service to our veterans, those still serving and their families. As American Legion members we will continue to be a leading voice for veterans rights and extend that same support to future generations as we have in the past.

A special thanks to the Newsleader for publishing the veterans profiles for your readers.

Community Calendar

Is your event listed? Send your information to: Newsleader Calendar, 1622 11th Ave. SE., St. Cloud, MN 56304., e-mail it to news@thenewsleaders.com. Most events are listed at no cost. Those events are typically free or of minimal charge for people to attend. Some events, which have paid advertising in the Newsleaders, are also listed in the calendar and may charge more.

Monday, Jan. 13

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

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

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

Tuesday, Jan. 14 Holistic Moms Network, 7-8:30 p.m., Good Earth Co-op, 2010 Veterans Drive, St. Cloud. 320-252-

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, Jan 15 Advocates for Independence,

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

Thursday, Jan. 16

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

MOPS, Mothers of Preschoolers monthly social, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Celebration Lutheran Church, 1500

Pinecone Road N., Sartell.

Friday, Jan. 17

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.

Saturday, Jan. 18

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

Sunday, Jan. 19

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

Monday, Jan. 20

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

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

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

CR 2 N.

Tuesday, Jan. 21

Memory Writers group develops topics and turns in stories. 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 City Council, 6 p.m., Government Center, 75 Callaway St. E.

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-mu-

"I Am Not Your Negro," 7 p.m., film screening, Pellegrene Auditorium, St. John's University. Free.

Thursday, Jan. 23

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

Sunday, Jan. 26

Joe Town Table, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., American Legion, 101 W. Minnesota St., St. Joseph. Every fourth Sunday of the month. centralmncw@gmail.com.

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News for refugees/immigrants: Faith in democracy

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.

There was a good turnout of 50-60, with several cultures present for the ISAIAH meeting on Dec. 7 at Tech High School.

The subtitle of the conference, "Dream, Build, Act, Together" came through with all that happened from

11 a.m.-3 p.n

After a vision statement was shared, various area leaders spoke on ways to build that vision. An Adverse Childhood Education position has been filled with area hospitals, an advocate making us aware of the dire consequences from negative childhood experiences.

Some also shared what's confronting them and their families. e.g. the profiling, harassment, arrests, rent being raised three times this year on mobile units in Waite Park, a call to police from a Somali gentleman asking for help in resolving an issue went unanswered until another person of

color/noncolor placed the call.

There was small group sharing on the following:

What are the core things you value? Where do those values come from?

What would be possible for you and your family if this vision presented earlier was a reality? What is at stake for you?

What do you love about living in Central Minnesota?

It was inspiring when people were invited to share dreams for 2021, including all people drive, more mental health counselors, no detention beds and citizenship.

As the schedule moved on, ISAIAH leadership spoke how effective they were last election cycle with caucusing. Next- steps timelines were passed out including upcoming caucus training to get ready for the next cycle of elections.

Lastly, we met in church or culture congregations, and were asked to see how to move forward within our own churches or creeds.

Caucus training schedule:

Sunday, Jan. 19: 10:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m., First United Methodist

photo by Christina Nelson

The ISAIAH event was Dec. 7 at Tech High School in St. Cloud.

Church, 1107 Pinecone Road S., Sartell; Thursday, Jan. 23: 6-8 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 340 Fifth Ave. S.,

St. Cloud; Saturday, Feb. 1: 10 a.m.-noon, Atonement Lutheran Church, 1144 29th Ave. N., St Cloud;

Tuesday, Feb. 4: 6-8 p.m., First United Methodist Church;

Sunday, Feb. 9: 11:15 a.m-1:15 p.m., First Presbyterian Church.

The 2020 precinct caucuses will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 25 at locations set by the parties.

Caucus launch event: Saturday, Feb. 22 from 10-11 a.m., location to be announced later. To register: https:// secure.everyaction.com/p/8yrIT-GEiBkWlcjJ5oHarig2

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





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