



Newsleaders

Reaching Everybody!

Friday, Feb. 21, 2020
Volume 32, Issue 4
Est. 1989

Town Crier

SYHA Raffle: \$41,000 in prizes

Sartell Youth Hockey is now conducting its annual Scheels raffle with a grand prize of \$1,499.99; 100 prizes in total; 1:20 odds. Winners can choose the awarded firearm, with proper credentials, or a gift card for the awarded value. The gift card is redeemable for any merchandise in the St. Cloud store. Tickets may be purchased at both Blue Line Bar & Grill locations, the Firing Line Indoor Range & Gun Shop, during varsity hockey games at Bernick's Arena or from SYHA members. For more information, visit sartellhockeyaffle.com.

K of C breakfast set March 1 for Pregnancy Resource Center

Knights of Columbus Council #7057 St. Joseph has scheduled a monthly breakfast from 8:30 a.m. to noon Sunday, March 1, at Heritage Hall, Church of St. Joseph, 12 W. Minnesota St., St. Joseph. Proceeds will help purchase two new ultrasound machines for the Pregnancy Resource Center. Come and help us support this very worthy cause while enjoying a homemade breakfast of Pep's pork sausage, St. Joseph Meat Market sausage, pancakes, hash browns, fruit, fresh scrambled eggs, caramel and cinnamon rolls, and beverages. Sunday Mass will be at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Sartell Chamber to host community showcase

The Sartell Community Showcase, a free family-friendly event sponsored by the Sartell Area Chamber of Commerce and area businesses, will be from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, March 7, at the Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S. Play games and explore local businesses in our community. This year the theme is game shows.

City's future includes app, housing

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

A city services app, a spruced-up downtown and an expanded city storage facility are among the changes on the horizon for the new year, according to St. Joseph Mayor Rick Schultz.

Prospects look good for state bonding money to boost two local projects as well as federal support for affordable housing, Schultz said during a speech to the Chamber of Commerce on Feb. 12.

The planned app will allow residents to communicate and engage with the city for a variety of services including pub-

lic works and safety.

"We are way behind when it comes to engagement via phone," Schultz said. The app will include city forms and permit applications.

Schultz also wants to use technology to add surveillance cameras and improve the software used for city operations.

Schultz expects to see a plan by March 1 for improving the downtown streetscape. Tree roots are buckling the sidewalks and



Schultz

the plan will probably include new trees and planters. Schultz also wants to upgrade the signs and lighting at entrances to the city.

Sand Properties received approval for a federal affordable housing grant. To support the new building, the city plans improvements on 20th Avenue S.

Schultz said his No. 1 goal is to secure state funding for the Community Center, a prospect that appears more likely now that Gov. Tim Walz has included money in his bonding plan. Walz requested \$4 million for the Community Center expansion and \$300,000 for East Park. Area lawmakers backed legislation to

fund the projects.

If the Legislature approves the funding, the bonds would cover \$4 million of the estimated \$16 million price tag for the community center. The remaining money would come from a capital fundraising campaign and revenue from the city's half-cent sales tax.

Development of East Park would receive half of its estimated \$600,000 cost.

If the money is approved, Schultz said it will be time to update the building plan and set a timeline for the capital campaign.

The Community Center would

City app • page 2



photos by Carolyn Bertsch

Fish, food and fun

(Left photo) Michelle Kakarndee, 16, of Thailand, (left) tries ice-fishing for the first time Feb. 15 with Lexi Kiley, 16, of Sartell, at the St. Joseph Rod and Gun Club Fishing Tournament on Kraemer Lake. (Right) Cody Anderson, 9, of St. Joseph, bites into a hamburger purchased from a concession stand on the ice.



Voting options for presidential primary

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

Voters don't have to wait until March 3 to vote in this year's March 3 Presidential Nomination Primary. Stearns County and area cities have set up options for direct voting.

In St. Joseph, early voting will take place at the Government Center, 75 Callaway St. E. on the following dates:

8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Feb. 25-28;

10 a.m.-3 p.m. Feb. 29; and

8 a.m.-5 p.m. March 2.

Stearns County has two locations for in-person absentee voting:

Stearns County Administration Center
Auditor Office, Room 148
705 Courthouse Square
St. Cloud
8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Stearns County Service Center
License Center West
3301 CR 138
Waite Park
8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Voters may apply for an absentee ballot online at mn.votes.org and a ballot will be mailed.

To have an absentee ballot mailed to you or return a Presidential Primary Absentee Ap-

plication by mail, fax or email to:

Stearns County Service Center
Attn: Elections
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Waite Park MN 56387
Phone: 320-656-3920
Fax: 320-203-6960

Email: elections@co.stearns.mn.us

To find your election day polling place, go to <https://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/>

The presidential primary is new this year. In the past, the political parties selected presidential candidates at precinct caucuses. Voters will find some new procedures when

they vote.

When the voter checks in at the polling place, an election official will ask for a party preference. Voters must select either the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party or the Republican Party. The two other major parties, the Grassroots-Legalize Cannabis Party and the Legal Marijuana Now Party, are not participating in the primary.

The political parties provided the list of candidates. Of the 15 candidates listed on the DFL ballot, seven have dropped out since the list was submitted. Only Donald Trump's name appears on the Republican bal-

Voting • page 3

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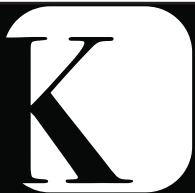
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James Kramer III, an independent LPL financial advisor at Kramer Financial in St. Cloud, was recently recognized for his inclusion in the LPL Patriot's Club. This elite award is presented to less than 9% of the firm's more than 16,000 financial advisors nationwide.

"I'm proud to congratulate James on behalf of LPL," said Andy Kalbaugh, LPL managing director and divisional president, National Sales and Consulting. "We applaud his dedication to making meaningful impacts in the lives of his clients every day. We're honored to support advisors like him and wish him continued success."

Kramer is based in St. Cloud and provides a full range of financial services, including retirement and financial planning, individual money management, individual stock and bonds, annuities and more.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION STATE OF MINNESOTA

Pursuant to Chapter 322C, Minnesota Statutes, the undersigned, who is or will be conducting or transacting a commercial business in the State of Minnesota is amending the articles of incorporation as follows:

The list name of the company currently on file with the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State is as follows: Schneekloth Properties LLC.

The company name is changed to Savvy Maverick LLC.

This amendment to Articles of Organization shall hereby amend Article 1, and the name of the Company shall be changed to Savvy Maverick LLC. Any reference to Schneekloth Properties LLC shall be removed.

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. 20, 2019

Filed: Jan. 22, 2020

/s/ Janelle Schneekloth

Publish: Feb. 7 & 21, 2020

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City app

from front page

be created by renovating and expanding the old Kennedy School. Planners see the project as a space for residents of all ages to connect. Additionally, the Jacob Wetterling Recreational Center would be part of the center as a space for young people to gather and as a resource for health and wellness.

Recreational facilities could include basketball, pickleball and volleyball courts, an elevated walking track, a climbing wall and locker rooms.

Last month, the city hired John Anderson as a part-time activities and recreation director.

Schultz began his comments by noting he's been mayor for 10 years. He ticked off all the changes in St. Joseph during his tenure including new city officials, businesses opening and closing, the

new city hall and Army Reserve Center.

Looking ahead, he asked "are we still moving the needle" and asserted the need to be "persistent and consistent."

Although St. Joseph is one of the state's safest cities, Schultz wants to expand the police department, pointing to the recent search and arrests for drugs and handguns.

"We need to be diligent and add more staff," he said.

During the question session, Schultz was asked about Metro Bus service. The city started negotiating five months ago and Schultz said the original cost proposed to the city was "outrageous." Schultz said the city can't afford the price.

Schultz's two-year term is up this fall and he hasn't indicated if he'll run for re-election. Current City Council member Anne Buckvold said she intends to run for mayor. The filing period doesn't open until July 28.

City to apply for police funding

by Mike Knaak

editor@thenewsleaders.com

The St. Joseph Police Department is looking to the federal government to help pay for an additional officer.

The City Council approved on Feb. 18 Chief Dwight Pfannenstien's proposal to apply for a Cops Hiring Program grant from a \$400 million fund.

CHP grants provide funding to hire or re-hire entry-level law enforcement officers in order to preserve jobs, increase community policing capacities and support crime prevention efforts.

St. Joseph has applied for the grant three times but those applications were turned down.

Pfannenstien said the program "is very competitive. But you don't get it if you don't apply."

If approved, the grant would reimburse the city for 75 percent of

a new officer's wages and benefits the first year, 50 percent the second year and 25 percent the third year. During the fourth year, the city takes over all the cost.

The chief and Mayor Rick Schultz have said they wanted to add officers to the department.

If the CHP grant is approved, the officer would be added in 2021.

Pfannenstien highlighted the need for additional officers later in the meeting in his report to the council. The chief said January calls were up 15 percent from a year before.

He also advised the council about two incidents that resulted in multiple arrests and the seizure of drugs, guns, vehicles and cash.

Pfannenstien said the two incidents consumed considerable time not only for the officers on duty during the arrests but also the entire department with follow-up and court preparations.

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Newsleader staff members have the responsibility to report news fairly and accurately and are accountable to the public. Readers who feel we've fallen short of these standards are urged to call the Newsleader office at 320-363-7741. If matters cannot be resolved locally, readers are encouraged to take complaints to the Minnesota News Council, an independent agency designed to improve relationships between the public and the media and resolve conflicts. The council office may be reached at 612-341-9357.

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

Jan. 31

8:25 a.m. Rollover. CR 75. The driver hit a patch of ice, skidded, slid sideways into the ditch and rolled over. The driver was not injured.

Feb. 6

12:11 p.m. Collision. Fifth Avenue NW. A man was parked in his vehicle when a woman driving a vehicle in front of him backed into his vehicle. The driver said she didn't see the vehicle behind her. Both vehicles were damaged but there were no injuries.

Feb. 7

9:48 a.m. Hands-free violation. College Avenue S. An officer observed a driver traveling north on College Avenue holding her phone and looking at the screen. The driver admitted she was on the phone and she was issued a citation.

6:33 p.m. Crash. CR 75 and First Avenue NW. An officer witnessed a crash. One driver was in the turn lane to go north on First Avenue NW. The second driver was traveling west on CR 75. The first driver failed to yield and pulled out, causing the other driver to slam on the brakes, swerve to the right and hit a stop sign. The vehicles did not collide. The officer was behind the westbound vehicle and captured the incident on the squad video camera. The driver making the turn was cited for failure to yield.

Feb. 9

7:41 a.m. Collision. College Avenue S. There was a collision on the College of St. Benedict campus. The first driver pulled out of a parking lot and was struck by a second vehicle traveling north on the road. There were no injuries.

12:45 p.m. Theft. Third Avenue NE. A man reported registration stickers stolen off the car his wife drives. The red 2021 stickers were purchased on Feb. 8 and placed on the car that day. The stickers cost \$61.25. The sticker numbers were recorded as stolen property. The owner planned to get replacements.

Voting

from front page

lot.

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.

Precinct caucuses will still take place on Feb. 25, one week before the primary. While not selecting presidential candidates, caucus participants will vote on party policies and endorse candidates for state offices and U.S. Senate.

The Minnesota Secretary of State has an online precinct caucus finder at <https://caucusfinder.sos.state.mn.us/>

The primary election to narrow the field for other local and state offices is Aug. 11 and the general election is Nov. 3.

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#LiveBetter

People



Ben St. Hilaire

On Feb. 5, Resource Training & Solutions hosted the Central Minnesota Regional Spelling Bee. Forty-four students from 25 different school districts competed to advance to the Multi-Regional State Spelling Bee. The Central Minnesota Regional Spelling Bee was split into two contests. The first-place and second-place winners of each contest advanced to the Multi-Regional State Spelling Bee on Feb. 18 in Fergus Falls. **Ben St. Hilaire**, a seventh-grade-

er from St. John's Preparatory School, spelled "contemptuous" to take first place in the morning session.

The Truckload Carriers Association and CarriersEdge identified **Brenny Specialized Inc.**, St. Joseph, as one of the Five Best Fleets to Watch. To be considered for the Best Fleets program, companies operating 10 or more trucks had to receive a nomination from one of their company drivers or owner operators. The fleets were then evaluated in a variety of categories, including total compensation, health benefits, performance management, professional development and career path/advancement opportunities.

Two St. Joseph students were named to the first semester dean's honors list at Concordia College, Moorhead. The students are **Carolynn Becker** and **Johanna Haeg**. To qualify, students must carry a minimum of 12 semester credits and have a

grade-point average of at least a 3.7 on a 4.0 scale.

Cortney Ryan of St. Joseph graduated with a master's degree in teaching Dec. 14 from the College of St. Scholastica.

More than 600 fans turned out at Bernick's Arena in Sartell on Jan. 25 as the **Blattner Energy Hockey Team** hosted a free fundraising hockey game with the **Minnesota Warriors** veterans team that resulted in corporate, private and at-the-door donations topping \$29,000 to benefit the veteran's nonprofit club. The funds raised will be used to help to expand the organization to the southern part of Minnesota to involve veterans in that area; help support the newly created Minnesota Warrior Women's Ice Hockey Team; and fund ice rental, travel and lodging costs plus league fees for teams who otherwise pay out of their pockets for those expenses.



Leap into Savings Sale!

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Saturday, Feb. 29 • 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Sunday, March 1 • 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

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Stick to a Budget

When it comes to building and managing your budget, there are some basic steps to make sure you're setting yourself up for success.

Whether you decide to tackle budgeting on your own or with a trusted professional, the keys to healthy life finances come down to two fundamentals: Earning and spending.

Sound simple? With factors like pop-up expenses, changes in employment and the rising costs of daily living, it can sometimes feel anything but.

It's easy to count on tax refunds and bonus checks for big discretionary purchases, but solid planning and discipline would help put more of that money away for a rainy day. Read on for ways to improve your budgeting habits today so you can enjoy your tomorrow.

MAKE STRATEGIC CUTS

A budget is only as good as its execution. Add up your monthly cash flow and expenses. You need to make sure you're spending less than you're earning. If you're not, you need to make some adjustments in your lifestyle, and fast.

Eating out, coffee runs or entertainment costs are referred to as discretionary,

and these are the best places to start when trying to get your budget back under control. Then, look to your household bills and see if you can save on utilities, or adjust plans for things like cell phones and the Internet.

Saving up for a big purchase? Set reasonable spending and saving goals. You'll be surprised at the impact a few cuts here and there can have on your overall financial well-being. If you're tempted to overspend, think how nice

it will be to pay for that vacation, new vehicle, new home, or whatever your purchase is.

STAY CONSISTENT

It's OK to review and revise your budget, as long as you're sticking to the goals you set in

the beginning. Continue tracking your expenses on an ongoing basis to make sure you're keeping spending under control. Talk to your local bank about apps or other financial management tools they have that can keep you on track.



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Opinion

Our View

Presidential primary comes with some election surprises

Minnesota's March 3 Presidential Nomination Primary will be a new experience for the state's voters with rules and procedures unlike other elections.

The presidential primary essentially replaces a portion of the political parties' precinct caucuses, where among other decisions, participants selected presidential candidates. Caucuses will still take place on Feb. 25, one week before the primary, so the parties can conduct other business including taking stands on issues and endorsing legislative and U.S. Senate candidates. Local and state nominating conventions will still take place to conduct party business.

To be prepared for a smoother primary election day, voters should understand what's new and different from other elections.

Although the primary will be run by state and local election officials, its essential function is to choose a party's presidential candidate.

Unlike many states, Minnesotans don't declare a party when registering to vote. To vote in the new presidential primary, voters have to declare a party. After arriving at the polling place and checking in, voters will be asked to select a political party because there's a separate ballot for each party. Only the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party and the Republican Party have submitted candidates. Two other major parties, the Grassroots-Legalize Cannabis Party and the Legal Marijuana Now Party will not be participating. 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.

Before voters are handed a ballot, they also must sign an oath saying they are eligible to vote and affirming their identity. That's the standard oath, but for the primary, there's an additional sentence. Voters will be required to swear they support the policies and positions of the party they've selected. Violation of the oath could result in a fine up to \$10,000, up to five years in jail or both.

The political parties provided the secretary of state with a list of candidates. Seven of the 15 candidates on the DFL ballot have dropped out since the party turned in its list on Dec. 17. Minnesota is one of 12 states where Donald Trump blocked challengers' names from the Republican ballot, so Soviet-style, Republicans will have only one choice.

If you are not registered, you can register at the polling place.

The presidential primary results must bind the election of delegates in each party.

Minnesota will conduct the usual primary election to narrow the field for offices such as state legislator. That primary will be Aug. 11. The general election is Nov. 3.

When you head to the polls on March 3, or before for direct or absentee voting, be prepared for these changes and be ready to cast your vote.

No stars in dreary government buildings

The third-graders lay flat on the floor, looking up at the dome, 160 feet above.

What did they see, the tour guide asked?

"Stars" the children said as they examined the inner dome of the Michigan State Capitol in Lansing. The star-filled dome represents the vastness of the universe, encouraging us all to "reach for our stars," the guide suggested.

Historically, architects designed government buildings to be inspirational and aspirational – to capture a country's legacy and ideals.

Michigan's leaders decided in the 1990s to restore the state's 140-year-old Capitol to its original glory, much like the project Minnesota completed in St. Paul three years ago. Stearns County's leaders took a similar path when they decided to restore, rather than remodel or tear down, the gold-domed courthouse built in 1921. Michigan's project reversed years of unfortunate alterations and aging.

My spouse and I toured Michigan's Capitol while visiting one of our daughters, who is working on a doctorate at Michigan State. We joined an already scheduled tour of third-graders from Ann Arbor. With them, we learned about the history and art that creates an inspiring setting for the state's political leaders.

While on the tour, I recalled that Donald Trump is considering an executive order that would overhaul

Mike Knaak
Editor



the guidelines for federal buildings to discourage modern design and ensure that classical architectural style, inspired by Greek and Roman construction, be the preferred style for future federal buildings.

I disagree with just about every Trump policy, but this time he's got it right. Trump's one true talent is branding.

Visitors to Washington, D.C., are familiar with the White House, Capitol and perhaps the Supreme Court and Library of Congress. These are grand, beautiful buildings. In the federal triangle bounded by Pennsylvania and Constitution avenues, visitors find more classic buildings housing Treasury, Justice, Commerce and other federal departments and agencies. From the mid 1880s to the early 20th century, the U.S. government managed to design and erect these buildings despite the Civil War, World War I and the Great Depression.

Walking a few blocks south, beyond the Smithsonian museums and across the mall, a visitor finds a totally different world.

Instead of pillars, art and statues, massive concrete boxes house government agencies. Erected in the 1960s

and 1970s to house newer or expanding federal agencies, the boring boxes are home to the departments of Energy, Education, and Health and Human Services. Perhaps if these buildings were not so oppressive and dreary, those agencies would produce more innovative policies.

When the story about Trump's draft executive order appeared, "Making Federal Buildings Beautiful Again" (yes that's really the title), critics pushed back, complaining it would stifle innovation and architectural experimentation. Perhaps, but Trump's plan may also derail more ugly square boxes.

The principles that guide the design of federal buildings, written by future senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan in 1962 when he was serving in President John F. Kennedy's administration, mandate architecture that gives visual testimony to "the dignity, enterprise, vigor and stability of the American government." Moynihan emphasized that "an official style must be avoided. Design must flow from the architectural profession to the government and not vice versa."

I'd prefer that future designs focus on the first part of that policy – dignity, enterprise, vigor and stability.

When future generations of third-graders tour our government buildings they will still be inspired to reach for the stars.

Primary endangers voter privacy, participation

With the New Hampshire primary and the Iowa caucuses finally counted, the 2020 presidential primary season is in full swing. The Democratic front-runners look to be Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders and former South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg. Following closely behind is our state's own Sen. Amy Klobuchar. Elizabeth Warren and Joe Biden trail farther behind.

Donald Trump, with no major Republican opposition, is all but assured to be the GOP nominee. Minnesota is set to make its choice in these races on March 3, when we hold our presidential primary.

This is different than the previous years where we have had caucuses. However, the way the primary will be run this year is dangerous for voter privacy.

First off, many people may wonder, what is the difference between a primary and a caucus? The easy explanation is in a caucus, those wishing to express their preference for a candidate must go to the event, sit in a room and then have their vote counted after some debate.

A primary is essentially like a regular election. Voters go into a polling place, cast their ballot and then go home. After the 2016 Minnesota caucuses experienced high turnout, resulting in confusion and delays, Minnesota decided to switch over to a primary for 2020.

While this sounds like a more efficient improvement, there is a crucial

Connor Kockler
Guest Writer



issue with how the primary will be conducted. Unlike a regular election, where once you sign the electoral register the election judge hands you a ballot, instead you will have to ask for the ballot of the political party you want to vote for.

Exchanging this information in public is highly concerning for the privacy of a voter.

Even more concerning, once the primary is over and all of the ballots for each party are distributed, a list of the names of each person requesting the ballot of that particular political party will be sent to that respective party chair. This information then would have no limitation for what it could be used for and who it could be shared with.

This is an alarming prospect. Not everyone wants others to know which party they support. This is especially bad for people who desire to maintain an image of impartiality, like judges, educators and journalists. For someone who doesn't want this information out in public, they might just even refuse to participate in the primary all together.

Voters should not have to choose between participating in our democra-

cy and choosing to protect the privacy of their voting affiliation.

The whole point of having a secret ballot in elections is that people can make the choice they want without fear of repercussions from their family, friends and co-workers.

This primary process takes away that protection, essentially setting the stage for Minnesota to become a party registration state if the collected information leaks out. This would be a terrible outcome. Being able to look up the party affiliation of people would only make our politics more polarized in an already divided time.

I appreciate the efforts being made at the time of writing by Minnesota Secretary of State Steve Simon and some state legislators to change the primary structure to allow for voters to request their information be kept private. The state legislature and Gov. Walz should move to pass these reforms quickly so they are ready in time for March 3.

Democracy and voting are supposed to be about allowing Minnesotans the ability to make choices about who is on their ballot without fear of their choices being exposed.

In the spirit of maintaining the spirit of free and fair elections, the Minnesota primary process should be immediately changed to stop the collection and sharing of voter data.

If left unchanged, it could deal a critical blow to Minnesota voters' participation in our elections.

News for immigrants/refugees: New location for ESL classes

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.

...

The new location for ESL classes is the St. Joseph Community Center, at 124 First Ave. SE.

This site should be more convenient for students and will increase involvement with the community. To access the site, enter Door 2 on the south side of the building next to the parking lot. Try to be on time, as the door must remain

locked. However, someone will be at the door to let you in if you are late.

This is a big change, something that we have been working toward for a few years. What hasn't changed is the existing team of experienced, dedicated ESL tutors. Regina Reese, ESL teacher from the St. Cloud school district, is excited to be partnering with this group of students and tutors in the new classroom.

Morning classes are 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.

Evening classes are 6-8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

This partnership has been made possible with the help of Cultural Bridges, the St. Cloud school district, the city of St. Joseph and St. Joseph City Administrator Kris Ambuehl.

Three years ago, Cultural

Bridges approached St. Cloud Adult Basic Education with a request to offer classes for refugees and immigrants in St. Joseph. The vision was to get a permanent site at the Community Center where all students could come together and learn. We are extremely pleased to see that happen.

Special thanks to the staff at St. Benedict's Spirituality Center and St. Joseph Catholic School for their generosity in donating space for ESL classes - prior to this move.

Watch this column for upcoming news on an open house, where you can see for yourself what can happen when good people work together to increase learning and understanding of each other. Three years ago, we had a dream. Now the dream has come to fruition. Let's celebrate this



contributed photo
ESL class members (seated from left) Fatuma Ahmed, Daud Said, Liin Guure and Fatoum Morgan with tutors Jim Tohal (back left) and Greg Pelletier.

new opportunity for our refugee/immigrant population here in St. Joseph.

Contact information for prospective students:
Monica K. Somppi
Administrative Assistant
Central Minnesota Adult Basic Education
320-370-8220

...

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

Community Calendar

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

Friday, Feb. 21
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.

Sunday, Feb. 23
Open gym, 9 a.m.-noon, St. Joseph Community Center, 124 First Ave. SE. \$2.

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

tralmincw@gmail.com.

Monday, Feb. 24
St. Joseph Food Shelf, open 1-3 p.m., 124 First Ave. SE, St. Joseph.

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

Tuesday, 25
Open gym, 6-9 p.m., St. Joseph Community Center, 124 First Ave. SE. \$2.

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, Feb. 26
Pickleball, 6-9 p.m., St. Joseph Community Center, 124 First Ave. SE. \$2.

Thursday Feb. 27
St. Joseph Food Shelf, open 1-3 p.m., 124 First Ave. SE, St. Joseph.

Blood Drive, 1-7 p.m., Avon Community Church, 204 Avon Ave. N. Visit www.redcrossblood.org or call 320-248-3375 to schedule an appointment.

Open gym, 6-9 p.m., St. Joseph Community Center, 124 First Ave. SE. \$2.

Friday, Feb. 28
Fish fry, 4-7 p.m., St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 14241 Fruit Farm Road.

Sunday, March 1
Open gym, 9 a.m.- noon. p.m., St. Joseph Community Center, 124 First Ave. SE. \$2.

Monday, March 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 Cal-laway St. E.

Tuesday, March 3
Memory Writers group develops topics and turns in stories. 10 a.m., Stearns History Museum, 235 33rd Ave. S, St Cloud.

Open gym, 6-9 p.m., St. Joseph Community Center, 124 First Ave. SE. \$2.

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

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

Pickleball, 6-9 p.m., St. Joseph Community Center, 124 First Ave. SE. \$2.

Thursday, March 5
St. Joseph Food Shelf, open 1-3 p.m., 124 First Ave. SE, St. Joseph.

Open gym, 6-9 p.m., St. Joseph Community Center, 124 First Ave. SE. \$2.

Great River Regional Coin Club, 6:30 p.m., Miller Auto Marine Sports Plaza, 2930 Second St. S., St. Cloud.

Friday, March 6
World Day of Prayer, 1 p.m., Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 4310 CR 137, St Cloud. Prayer service written by the women of Zimbabwe, "Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk."

Fish fry, 4-7 p.m., St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 14241 Fruit Farm Road.

Baked Fish Dinner, 5-7 p.m., Church of St. Paul, 1125 11th Ave. N., St. Cloud.

Sunday, March 8
Open gym, 9 a.m.- noon. p.m., St. Joseph Community Center, 124 First Ave. SE. \$2.

<p>ANNOUNCEMENTS GUN SHOW – FORT DODGE, IOWA. February 22 & 23, 2020. Sponsored by The Rifle & Pistol Club, Webster County Fair Grounds. Info contact Al Little @ 515-570-0827. (MCN)</p> <p>AUTOMOBILES CASH FOR CARS: We Buy Any Condition Vehicle, 2002 and Newer. Competitive Offer! Nationwide FREE Pick Up! Call Now For a Free Quote! 888-366-5659(MCN)</p> <p>DONATE YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR BOAT TO HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND. Free 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care Of. CALL 1-855-977-7030 (MCN)</p> <p>CABLE/INTERNET DISH TV \$59.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. 1-844-316-8876. (MCN)</p> <p>BEST SATELLITE TV with 2 Year Price Guarantee! \$59.99/mo with 190 channels and 3 months free premium movie channels! Free next day installation! Call 855-824-1258. 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Call 855-211-8684 (MCN)</p> <p>Struggling With Your Private Student Loan Payment? New relief programs can reduce your payments. Learn your options. Good credit not necessary. Call the Helpline 855-238-4594 (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm Eastern) . (MCN)</p> <p>FOR SALE FOR SALE: 2016 John Deere Combine- Model S670, excellent condition, 600 separator hours, well equipped. Located in Southern Minnesota. 507-236-6538 (MCN)</p> <p>Trailer Sale: New 82 X16' +4</p>	<p>14,000lb. with fold-over spring assist ramps skidloader trailer \$4,499.00; 100 X26 Electric tilt (deck extensions, tool box, 10,000lb. winch & box, 12k hyd jack, spare tire & mount, Super Duty Drive-over fenders (2) batteries); 6'X12 Cargo V-nose ramp door \$3,299.00; 7'X16 V-nose ramp door \$5,199.00; 3 Horse Slant (Aluminum) was \$15,599.00 NOW \$12,399.00; 15 models of DUMP trailers; www.FortDodgeTrailerWorld.com. 515-972-4554. (MCN)</p> <p>HEALTH & MEDICAL Stay in your home longer with an American Standard Walk-In Bathtub. 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College of St. Benedict president Hinton to step down

College of St. Benedict President Mary Dana Hinton will step down at the end of the academic year to become president of Hollins University in Roanoke, Vir-



Hinton

ginia, on Aug. 1.

Hinton started as St. Ben's 15th president in July 2014.

In a statement, the college cited Hinton's commitment to making St. Ben's a more welcoming community for all people. Her work to increase and institutionalize diversity and inclusion efforts on campus was central to the

college receiving two grants from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to support transformational inclusion.

During Hinton's tenure, a \$43-million facilities update added Schoenecker Commons, new athletic fields, renovations to the Main Building and updates to Clemens Library.

Hinton led the development of the college's first strategic plan in partnership with St. John's University.

With Hinton as president, the college completed a \$100 million fundraising campaign, securing \$105.4 million as of January 2020, the largest campaign in college history.

Through a variety of celebrations this spring, the college will recognize Hinton and the ways she has enhanced the St. Ben's community.

The college's Board of Trustees has retained Academic Search Inc. to assist in the selection of the next CSB president.

Abduction Awareness 2020

Ways to Prevent Abductions

- 1) Make sure custody documents are in order.
- 2) Have ID-like photos taken of your kids every 6 months and have them fingerprinted. Many local police departments sponsor fingerprinting programs.
- 3) Keep your kids' medical and dental records up to date.
- 4) Make online safety a priority. The Internet is a great tool, but it's also a place for predators to stalk kids. Be aware of your kids' Internet activities and chat room "friends," and remind them never to give out personal information. Avoid posting identifying information or photos of your kids online.
- 5) Set boundaries about the places your kids go. Supervise them in places like malls, movie theaters, parks, public bathrooms, or while fundraising door to door.
- 6) Never leave kids alone in a car or stroller, even for a minute.
- 7) Choose caregivers — babysitters, childcare providers, and nannies — carefully and check their references. If you've arranged for someone to pick up your kids from school or daycare, discuss the arrangements beforehand with your kids and with the school or childcare center.
- 8) Avoid dressing your kids in clothing with their names on it — children tend to trust adults who know their names.

Talking to kids about strangers

- 1) Never accept candy or gifts from a stranger.
- 2) Never go anywhere with a stranger, even if it sounds like fun. Predators can lure kids with questions like "Can you help me find my lost puppy?" or "Do you want to see some cute kittens in my car?" Remind your kids that adults they don't know should never ask them to help or to do things for them.
- 3) Run away and scream if someone follows them or tries to force them into a car.
- 4) Say no to anyone who tries to make them do something you've said is wrong or touch them in a way that makes them feel uncomfortable.
- 5) Always tell you or another trusted adult if a stranger asks personal questions, exposes himself or herself, or otherwise makes them feel uneasy. Reassure kids that it's OK to tell you even if the person made them promise not to or threatened them in some way.
- 6) Always ask permission from a parent to leave the house, yard, or play area or to go into someone's home.

Tips provided by: <https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/abductions.html>

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