



Reaching Everybody! Newsleaders

Friday, Aug. 9, 2019
Volume 24, Issue 15
Est. 1995

Town Crier

Sartell Farmers' Market

Mondays at Bernick's arena

Sartell Farmers' Market is open from 3-6 p.m. Mondays at Bernick's arena, 1109 First St. S., Sartell. If you haven't checked us out yet, come and find great produce including tomatoes and sweet corn. Many different baked goods, canned goods, salsa, caramel corn, honey and much more. If you have not met our newest vendor selling coffee, come and check out all we have to offer.

Friday flicks to start tonight at Whitney

Friday Night Flicks, sponsored by City of St. Cloud Park and Recreation, will show the following movies at dusk in Whitney Memorial Park Field C-3: "Spiderman: Into the Spider-Verse," teen night, on Aug. 9; "The Goonies," throwback night, Aug. 16; and "Incredibles 2," family night, Aug. 23. Rain site will be Whitney Rec Center. All three free events will have concessions available for purchase.

Travel basketball opens registration

Registration for the 2019-20 Sartell Area Youth Basketball Association Travel Basketball grades 3-8 is now open. Register online at saybabball.org. Register prior to Sunday, Aug. 11, to receive early bird discount. Please see the website for more information on the SAYBA program.

Applications open for citizens police academy

Police departments of Sartell, St. Joseph, St. Cloud, Sauk Rapids and Waite Park are accepting applications for the 2019 Class of the Metro Citizens Police Academy. The academy is an eight-week course offered to citizens and members of local civic and government organizations. Classes are from 6-10 p.m. Thursdays beginning Sept. 5. Sartell residents can apply online at www.sartellmn.com/resources/e-forms/ and scroll to the bottom of list for the application form.

INSERTS:
City of St. Stephen
newsletter
Trobec's Bus Service
Woodcrest
of Country Manor

River, lake drawdown underway

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

The long-anticipated drawdown has finally begun.

The Mississippi River north of Sartell and Little Rock Lake near Rice are now 3 feet lower than they were July 31.

At midnight Aug. 1, the Sartell hydroelectric dam was opened gradually to let massive amounts of water flow down river, lowering the water levels in the lake and the river, which are connected via the Harris Channel. The lowering process took about 30 hours.

The drawdown is expected to increase the water quality of Little Rock Lake and parts of the river. It was supposed to happen one year ago but had to be delayed because of regulations and other factors.

The water level will remain

Drawdown • page 2



photo by Dennis Dalman

After the Mississippi River and Little Rock Lake were lowered by 3 feet, this mud flat was exposed by Benton Beach Park.

Read about the volunteers planting 50,000 aquatic plants on Page 5.



photos by Carolyn Bertsch

Residents celebrate National Night Out

(At left) Gavin Mark Schaefer, 9, explores a St. Stephen Fire and Rescue vehicle Aug. 6 at the St. Stephen National Night Out event. The vehicle was one of several available brought by attending local police and fire department personnel for children and adults to check out. (At right) Neighbors gather to share laughs Aug. 6 at the Lavender Avenue National Night Out. A total of 27 Sartell neighborhoods participated in National Night Out this year.



Rothsteins honored for clean-water efforts

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

The Jake and Stefanie Rothstein family learned together that small everyday actions can add up to big results.

The couple and their two children – Caden, 12; and Evie, 9 – were recently honored as one of five winners in the Clean Water Bingo effort. It is a program created by the Central Minnesota Water Education Al-

liance, of which many cities are members, including Sartell. The focus of the alliance is to provide educational outreach to promote water-quality stewardship, largely through making simple but effective behavioral changes.

In April 2018, the Rothsteins were at an Earth Day Expo when they happened to see bingo cards – something to do with clean water activities. They took one of the bingo

cards and – back home – they reviewed what the card said. On each of its squares an activity was printed, such as clean up after pets, sweep grass clippings off of the street and collect rain water to water plants and flowers.

The object of the "game" is to put an X through each square after that particular task has been completed. Eventually, the task squares could add up to a line of bingo

and the chance, ultimately, to win prizes.

Then the Rothsteins decided to put the bingo card on the front of their refrigerator. They quickly agreed it would be a family effort, with all members either taking turns with tasks or doing some of them together as a family unit.

In the weeks and months that followed, all four of the Rothsteins completed tasks,

Honored • page 3

BUY ONE GET ONE FREE LUNCH MEAL

JOIN US FRIDAY & SATURDAY
FOR LUNCH FROM 11AM-4PM



LAKESIDE DINING & COCKTAILS
WWW.FISHERSCLUB.COM
320.358.7372
425 STRATFORD ST. W. AVON, MN
TUESDAY - THURSDAY 4-9PM
FRIDAY - SATURDAY 11AM-10PM
SUNDAY 9AM-9PM

Not valid with other offers, promotions, discounts, or certificates.
Bring in this coupon to redeem
Valid Friday-Saturday Only, 11AM-4PM. Valid 7/26-8/31

St. Stephen Optical

(formerly Index 53)

Larry Rudolph, Optician

306 Main St. E.
St. Stephen, MN 56375

320-252-9380 Office
320-252-6924 Home

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



ACCURATE HEARING SERVICES

"Life is better with Accurate Hearing."

- Free Hearing Screenings • Hearing Aid Sales & Service
- Clean & Check All Hearing Aid Brands

320-258-4494 or 1-888-407-4327
161 19th St. S. • Ste. 111 • Sartell
www.accuratehearing.com

On-Call Shipping Assistant

Liturgical Press, located on the Saint John's campus, has openings for (casual/on-call employment) in the shipping department. Job duties include picking and packaging product for shipping. Basic computer skills, ability to lift up to 30 pounds and the ability to stand for extended periods of time are required. Hours of operation are 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. This is an on-call position based on warehouse workload. Training will be provided.

Applications accepted on-line only at:
<http://employmentosb.csbsju.edu>

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

AUTO BODY REPAIR

Auto Body 2000

(behind Coborn's in the Industrial Park)
St. Joseph • 320-363-1116

TRUCKING

Brenny Transportation, Inc.
Global Transportation Service
St. Joseph • 320-363-6999
www.brennytransportation.com

PIANO LESSONS

Judy's Piano Studio

Enrolling students for fall
Available times 2:30-7 p.m.
Sauk Rapids • 320-240-8938

PLANTS

Woodland Hostas

15387 Fruit Farm Road
St. Joseph • 320-291-7381
www.woodlandhostas.com

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

Drawdown

from front page

3 feet lower until Sept. 14, at which time the dam will begin to hold back water, restoring it and the lake to former levels.

About 700 acres of lake bed and river bottom will be exposed to air and sunlight during the drawdown. The drawdown project involved the plantings of 45,000 aquatic plants, known as "emergents," by volunteers on the exposed areas of the lake bottom. Most of the volunteers are members of the Little Rock Lake Association, as well as Boy Scouts. The emergents, once fully established, will be able to absorb as food the excess nutrients in the lake, thus helping keep the water cleaner and clearer. The plants will also provide habitat for fish and birds.

The following are advisories as suggested by the Department of Natural Resources and drawdown project coordinator Eric Altena of the DNR Little Falls Fisheries Division:

A no-wake zone is in effect for the river up to the Rice bridge, the Harris Channel area and Little Rock Lake. That is necessary so that boat-made waves do not wash onto the exposed areas, which must dry out with exposure to air and sunlight.

The water in the lake and river is navigable for boats, but boaters should be on a careful

look-out for objects sticking up that may have been covered by water before the drawdown.

Public accesses are still open, and the DNR is doing upkeep maintenance on them.

It is illegal to drive vehicles on exposed areas of the river or lake.

Residents are allowed to remove litter and junk from the exposed areas of lake and river, but they should leave natural items such as branches or wood in place because they are good for fish habitat.

Residents should avoid digging in the exposed sediment.

The unpleasant odor of rotting vegetation is expected to wane in time as the drawdown continues.

Background

For many years, blue-green algae growth caused by run-off nutrients (phosphorous, nitrogen) made the water of Little Rock Lake murky and unhealthy for people, fish and animals. The lake is 2.27 square miles in size with an average depth of 8 feet.

In the past, various remedies were attempted with the goal of reducing undesirable nutrients that cause algal blooms. Such attempts included alternate farming methods in the watershed area, irrigation, manure management and septic-system upgrades. Those remedies helped somewhat. In time the lake problems became so bad the lake was not clean enough for swimming,

foul smelling and so filled with algae that it could actually kill a dog that would wander into the water.

The drawdown, the DNR explained, is actually a kind of artificial man-made drought. For thousands of years, the Mississippi River underwent natural drought cycles that would kill off undesirable vegetation and create stability in sediments. But river dams changed all that, interfering with the natural cycles or water-and-droughts. The Sartell dam was constructed in 1907. That caused the Little Rock Lake area, which was just a stream-fed watershed basin, to fill with water, raising its level and creating a lake there.

Other issues

The DNR has received many questions from residents about whether they can make shoreline improvements during the drawdown, such as placing rip-rap (rocks) along shorelines. For most improvement projects, an alteration permit would be required. People are advised to call the Sauk Rapids Area DNR Office with permit questions at 320-223-7840. Many other permit questions can be answered at the following website: www.dnr.state.mn.us/permits/water/needpermit

Other general questions can be handled by calling 320-616-3450, ext. 225 or emailing eric.altena@state.mn.us.

Obituary

**Ronald C. Roering, 81
Sartell**

Dec. 19, 1937-Aug. 1, 2019

Ronald C. Roering, 81, of Sartell, died peacefully on Aug. 1. He had Parkinson's disease for many years.

His funeral was held Aug. 3 at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Sartell. The Rev. Timothy Baltes officiated. Burial was Aug. 5 at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery, Little Falls.

Roering was born at home on Dec. 19, 1937 the third of 12 children, in New Munich, Minnesota to Arnold and Viola (Braun) Roering. He graduated from Melrose High School and



Roering

proudly served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1957-1960. After the military, he worked in Long Beach, California before returning home. He married Janice Notch on Aug. 29, 1964 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Melrose. They moved to Sartell in 1970. He was employed by Fairway Foods for many years, J & B Wholesale and Coborn's Inc. He was a member of St. Francis Xavier Parish and a past member of the Sauk Rapids American Legion Post #254.

Roering enjoyed playing cards, fishing, golfing and watching sports. He will be lovingly remembered for his witty one-liners.

Survivors include his beloved wife of almost 55 years, Janice; children, Brent (Shelly VanReese) of Carson City, Nevada, Amy Roering (Bill Cobian) of Plymouth, Marlene (Tony) Straszewski of Wayzata, Michael (Lindsey Dick-

inson) of Minneapolis, Ann (Phil) Schultz of Chicago, Illinois; 10 grandchildren, Antonio (Aby) VanReese-Jasso, Aliksandr VanReese-Jasso, Michael and Nicholas Straszewski, Olivia and Isabella VanReese-Roering, Oliver and Viola Schultz, Ruby and Leo Roering; great-grandson, Antonio Jasso; siblings, Lyla (Henry) Berling, Kenneth (Janice) Roering, Kathy (Ken) Gerding, Marie (Roger) Winning, Janice (Tom) Schmitt, Arnie (Annette), David, Paul (Marjorie), Sue (Robert) Bodell; sister-in-law, Nancy Roering; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; siblings, Arlene (Bill Sr.) Warman and Tom Roering; niece, Lori Winning; and nephew, Keith Berling.

A heartfelt thank you to St. Croix Hospice, Comfort Keepers and the VA Medical Center for their compassionate care.

Sartell-St. Stephen • St. Joseph

Reaching Everybody!
Newsleaders

Newsstands

Coborn's - Riverside
Country Manor
Country Store & Pharmacy
Hardee's
Holiday on 7th
Holiday - Riverside
House of Pizza

Kwik Trip
Little Dukes - Pinecone
The Newsleaders office
Sartell City Hall
School District Offices
SuperAmerica
Walgreens

www.thenewsleaders.com

Published each Friday by Von Meyer Publishing Inc.

Publisher/Owner
Janelle Von Pinnon

Editor
Mike Knaak

Admin Assistant
Marlene McMullen

Designer
Nina Henne

Assignment Editor
Carolyn Bertsch

Delivery
John Herring

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.

1608 11th Ave SE, St. Cloud, MN 56304

mailing address: 1622 11th Ave SE, St. Cloud, MN 56304

Phone: (320) 363-7741 • E-mail: news@thenewsleaders.com

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

Honored

from front page

and as they did they all became more and more aware of the need to conserve and to protect water quality here, there and everywhere. The children became diligent about picking up the droppings from their pets and in not running faucet water constantly while brushing their teeth. The parents, too, did many tasks, such as bringing household waste to designated drop-off sites, getting rid of un-needed medications and making sure stormwater sewers in streets were not clogged.

Other bingo-card tasks included the following:

Run only full loads of laundry or dishes.

Drink tap water instead of bottled water.

Wash your car on grass instead of on a driveway or parking lot.

Minimize use of fertilizer on lawns and gardens.

Keep fat, grease and cooking oils out of drains, toilets and plumbing.

Before playing Clean Water Bingo, the Rothsteins agreed to the following pledge:

“I pledge to help keep our water drinkable, fishable and swimmable by making clean-water choices at my home, in my yard, with my car and with my pets.”

Since they started the bingo game, the Rothsteins won bingo 12 times, enough to put them in the winners’ circle and, finally, one of the five winners.

As a bingo winner, the Rothsteins won four movie tickets to the Parkwood 18 movie theater in Waite Park.

“We haven’t seen a movie yet because we decided to wait for a bad-weather day,” Stefanie said. “The weather is too



contributed photo
The Jake and Stefanie Rothstein family of St. Stephen love their outdoor adventures and do a lot of hiking in scenic places. From left to right are Jake, Caden, Evie and Stefanie.

beautiful yet to sit in a movie theater.”

Her sentiment is not surprising because the Rothsteins are avid outdoors people who love to have adventures while hiking, camping and swimming. Their love of nature had already raised their awareness of how everyone should pitch in to protect water and air and other natural resources.

Years ago, Stefanie helped found a local organization dubbed HIKEhoppers, which connects people to nature through hiking events, learn-

ing sessions and wellness services with the ongoing goal of supporting healthier and happier communities.

Jake is an electrician who works for Stearns County. Son Caden is a student at Sartell Middle School, and Evie attends Oak Ridge Elementary School, also in Sartell.

The Rothstein family now has a new bingo card on the fridge for 2019. Anyone can join the bingo game. To play, just go to H2YouMN.com and then download a bingo card.

Garage SALE

Aug. 22-24

902 11th St. S
Sartell, MN 56377

8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Thursday and Friday

8 a.m.-1 p.m.
Saturday

• Partyline
• Thirty one
• Used sewing machine

• Women's clothing
• Household items

Immediate Openings

Apply at:
MEBResources.com
TODAY!

We have many openings
on all shifts!

Apply online today
or
call 320-291-8213!

MEB Resources
Managing for Effective Business

www.mebresources.com

News Call the Newsleader
Tips? at 363-7741

ARLINGTON PLACE

assisted living community

ARLINGTONPLACE
ASSISTEDLIVING
in St. Joseph

Part -Time Cook

3 days each week
6 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Includes every other
weekend and holiday

If interested
call Karen
(320) 363-1313

HELP WANTED

Meat cutters,
experience helpful.

Jerry's Meat Processing

17067 213th Ave.
Richmond, MN 56368

320-469-2081
jerrydg7@gmail.com

S

Catholic
Charities

Looking for help for the 2019-2020 School Year

• Help children in the classroom
• 8 hours a week
• Tax free stipend & millage reimbursement
• No experience needed
• Flexible scheduling

Many Openings in your area including:

• Sauk Rapids/Rice ABE – daycare center
• Sartell Schools
• St. Cloud Schools
• Cold Spring Schools
• St. Joseph too!

Contact: Sara @ 320-229-4589 or
sheurung@ccstcloud.org
Call or schedule a meeting to learn more!

ARLINGTON PLACE

assisted living community

ARLINGTON PLACE
ASSISTED LIVING
in St. Joseph

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

HOME HEALTH AIDE

A.M. & P.M. positions available
3 days/week
including every other weekend/holiday

Duties include: daily personal
care, grooming, dressing,
light meal prep, medication
administration and light to
moderate housekeeping.

If interested please stop by
for an application or call
Karen Hennessy at (320) 363-1313.
21 16th Ave. SE
St. Joseph, MN 56374

Now Hiring Office Assistant

PT/FT, Monday-Friday

General Office Duties

• Answering phones
• Emailing advertisers
• Working with computers
• Other various tasks around
the office

Suggested Qualifications

• Team Oriented
• Excellent computer, organization and interpersonal skills
• Able to work with minimal supervision and finish tasks
daily

Education

• High school diploma / GED
• Any Newspaper experience or office assistant experience
is preferred

Interested parties should email resume to
advertising@thenewsleaders.com

Sartell-St. Stephen • St. Joseph
Reaching Everybody!
Newsleaders

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS

TRAUT COMPANIES

We Know Water from the Bottom to the Tap

320-251-5090
800-728-5091

141 28th Avenue South
Waite Park, MN

trautcompanies.com

We drill wells
year round!

Building a
new home?

Traut Companies can
help you find water
before you purchase
your new lot.

We're committed to
providing the best
possible water supply!

Well Drilling
Certified
Testing Lab
Water
Treatment
Sprinkler
Systems
Pump Service
and Repair
Commercial
and Residential

Affordable Senior Housing

One bedroom **Riverside** Apartments

Fifty-five & older **\$570**

Controlled entrance w/video surveillance
Section 8 welcome • Pets allowed
Includes: heat, electric, a/c, wi-fi, etc.

Call Joyce at 320-252-0880

Access online application at www.stcloudhra.com
101 Riverside Drive SE • St. Cloud



Sartell Soccer

Fall Recreation Soccer
Starts Sept 3.

Fall Rec. League is open to
all youth ages 5-13.

Go to
sartellsoccer.org
for more information.



Realife Cooperative
at **Mueller Gardens**

55+ Senior Housing Community
Find your new home here!

Independent Living • Ownership w/Tax Benefits
Secure Community • Maintenance Free
Enjoy Friendship and Social Activities

320-258-3094
6670 Northwood Lane, St. Cloud
realifecoopmuellergardens.org

OPEN HOUSE
1-4 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 23



BEE LINE
Bee Line Service Center, Inc.

Auto, Truck, RV & Trailer Repair

320-363-1433

8805 Ridgewood Court, St. Joseph
beelineservice.com


**Wanted:
School Bus Drivers**

Sartell-St. Stephen ISD 748 is currently hiring a school bus driver. The Bus Driver is responsible to transport students to and from school safely and efficiently, which may include daily routes, field trips, extra-curricular trips and school-sponsored events.

Pay starting at \$22.83/hr.

REQUIREMENTS: Class B Minnesota Driver's License with school-bus and/or passenger endorsement and a clean driving record.
Able to pass pre-employment drug screen.

Please apply at the Sartell-St. Stephen ISD 748 School District website:
www.sartell.k12.mn.us



Blotter

If you have a tip concerning a crime, call the Sartell Police Department at 320-251-8186 or Tri-County Crime Stoppers at 320-255-1301, or access its tip site at tricontycrimestoppers.org. Crime Stoppers offers rewards up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for a crime.

July 24

3 p.m. Traffic stop. CR 1. An officer stopped a vehicle driving on a flat tire. The driver told the officer he did not have a license and could not provide proof of insurance. The driver had not transferred the vehicle title either. The officer allowed the vehicle to be parked in a nearby business parking lot and cited the driver for the infractions.

July 25

8:30 p.m. Driving complaint. 19th Avenue N. A citizen reported a reckless driver. A State Patrol trooper also witnessed the driving conduct and stopped the vehicle and assisted Sartell police. The driver was cited for reckless driving.

July 26

7:40 p.m. Intoxicated person. Second Street S. Officers were called about an intoxicated person who had fallen from a chair and hit his head. Officers arrived and worked with Mayo Ambulance in placing the individual into an ambulance for further evaluation and care.

July 27

2:20 a.m. Traffic stop. CR 1. An officer heard squealing tires and witnessed a vehicle going through a roundabout with an individual half way out of the sun roof. The officer stopped the vehicle and cited multiple people for underage drinking and arrested one individual for possession of a controlled substance. The arrested individual was taken to Stearns County Jail.

July 28

7:20 p.m. Assault. 2½ Street N. Officers were dispatched to an assault

at a residence. One of the parties was arrested for assault. The individual was transported to St. Cloud Hospital and treated for injuries prior to being transported to Stearns County Jail.

July 29

11:05 p.m. Assist. Twin Rivers Court. An officer was dispatched to a call about a customer who believed a business employee was photographing their credit card. The officer talked with the employee and the customer. The customer was advised to contact their credit card company should any charges be made against the card.

July 30

4:15 a.m. Suspicious vehicle. Hwy. 15. An officer checked on a vehicle parked on the highway. The officer contacted the owner of the vehicle and the owner stated the vehicle needed a battery and a tire and he would remove it the same day.

July 31

11:10 p.m. DWI. Second Street S. A citizen called regarding a vehicle swerving in the road. Officers stopped the vehicle and the driver showed signs of impairment and failed field sobriety testing. The driver was arrested for DWI and transported to Stearns County Jail.

Aug. 1

5:30 p.m. DWI and threats. Sunset Avenue. Officers responding to a tip about an intoxicated driver witnessed a driver pull into a residence. The driver was impaired and was arrested for DWI and having an open container in the vehicle. The driver made threats to a neighbor as the officers were arresting them. The driver was transported to Stearns County Jail.

Aug. 2

12:55 a.m. Stolen vehicle. CR 120. An officer conducted a license-plate check and learned the vehicle was stolen. The vehicle was occupied so the officer detained the

driver. The driver admitted to the stolen vehicle, being in possession of methamphetamine and hypodermic needles. The driver was arrested for these infractions and St. Cloud police took possession of the vehicle so they can notify the owner.

Aug. 3

10:30 p.m. Traffic Stop. Hwy. 15. An officer stopped a vehicle for failing to signal. There was an open container in the back seat. As the officer interviewed passengers, some admitted to being in possession of methamphetamine and cocaine. Paraphernalia and a hypodermic needle were also found. Two individuals were arrested, one was issued a citation for the open container and the driver was given a verbal warning for the failing to signal.

Aug. 4

5:20 a.m. Assistance. CR 120. An officer was dispatched to a call regarding persons no longer wanted at a business. One of the individuals gave the officer a false name. The officer transported the individual to Stearns County Jail to be identified and was found to have warrants for his arrest.

Aug. 5

11:40 a.m. No pay. Riverside Avenue S. A vehicle drove off without paying for fuel. A witness helped officers locate the vehicle. The driver was found to have a canceled license inimical to public safety. The driver was arrested for driving after cancellation and for the theft.

Aug. 6

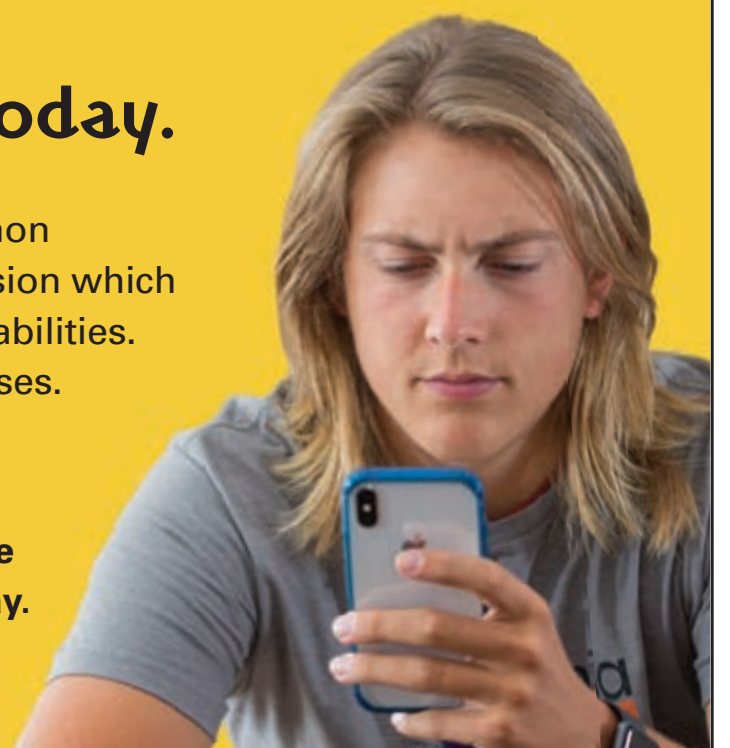
7:25 a.m. Elevator alarm. Connecticut Avenue S. An officer was dispatched to an individual stuck in an elevator. The officer arrived with fire department and could not locate anyone stuck in an elevator. The elevators were found to be working properly.

KNOW THE SiGNS

Squinting? Schedule today.

Squinting is a common symptom of poor vision which will effect cognitive abilities. They may need glasses.

» Make your child's
back-to-school eye
appointment today.



insight
eye care.

St. Cloud
320-253-0365

Becker
763-244-1700

Paynesville
320-204-6400

insighteyecare.us

Stay connected.



photo by Dennis Dalman
Brothers Ben and Alex Henry plant aquatic plants into the exposed sediment just off the shoreline of Little Rock Lake at Benton Beach Park. Both are Boy Scouts from Little Falls.



photo by Dennis Dalman
Anthony Wollak of Sartell drags a sledge full of blue-flag aquatic plants to the planting site at the edge of Benton Beach Park.



photo by Dennis Dalman
Lowering the Mississippi River by 3 feet exposed the river bank where volunteers put in aquatic plants.

Volunteers plant 50,000 shoreline aquatics

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

Saturday, Aug. 3 was a hot and muggy morning at Benton Beach Park at the north side of Little Rock Lake but despite the humid heat, tight teamwork triumphed.

Dozens of volunteers hand-planted aquatic plants into the mucky mudflats at the edge of the lake, an area that has been exposed by the river-lake drawdown. The water level of the Mississippi River and Little Rock Lake, connected to the river via a channel, was

lowered 3 feet slowly via the Sartell dam during a 30-hour period Aug. 1-2.

On Aug. 2, the Department of Natural Resources delivered five truckloads of plants to Benton Beach Park – a total of 50,000 aquatic plants grown by Minnesota Natural Landscaping.

The plants will have a chance to take root during the rest of the drawdown, which will last until Sept. 14. Once firmly established, they will absorb as nutrients much of the nitrogen and phosphorous in the lake,

thus removing those algae-producing chemicals and resulting in a cleaner, healthier lake.

The plants include such exotic-sounding names as card grass, lake sedge, pickerel weed, blue flag, bottlebrush sedge and common spike rush.

The volunteer planters at Benton Beach Aug. 3 included several troops of Boy Scouts, including Troop 211 of Sartell; members of the Little Rock Lake Association (LRLA), the Benton County Soil and Water Conservation Service and others who just wanted to lend a

helping hand.

Mary Kivi, vice president of the LRLA, said about 20,000 of the 50,000 plants will be planted by the DNR at places around the lake; the others will be planted by lake residents on areas exposed near their property shorelines.

Kivi, who lives on the west

side of the lake, said there are about 150 members of the LRLA, and they will pay only 10 percent of the cost of the plants they put at their shorelines. Kivi was in charge of the food preparation at the beach during the Aug. 3 planting “party.”

Kellie Gallagher, the president of the LRLA, said the

Volunteers • back page



Ms. Melinda's

DANCE STUDIO

Dreams Begin With a Dance ...

Offering classes to all abilities from ages 2 to adult

Recreational and competitive levels

Ballet • Jazz • Tap • Pointe

Acro Dance • Lyrical • Hip Hop

Ms. Melinda's focuses on students having fun while learning how to dance and making memories that last a lifetime.



OPEN HOUSES

Aug. 21, 22, 27 & 29

3:30-7:30 p.m.

454 Great Oak Drive • Waite Park, MN 56387 • (320) 257-TOES (8637)

Visit us on our website at www.msmelindas.com

Create a LEGACY IN STONE

Creating everlasting stories in stone for people who matter by people who care.



Pre-planning is a smart idea!

Have peace-of-mind by planning ahead to save your loved ones emotional and financial burden.

MGC

MURPHY GRANITE CARVING

(800) 818-5836 murphygranite.com

Fixer needs fast cash!



Fixer needs fast cash!
Call Janelle Schneckloth today!
320-200-4427

Opinion

Our View

First Amendment knowledge grows

Here's some good news.

The First Amendment Center of the Freedom Forum Institute announced the results of its annual State of the First Amendment survey, which discovered the public has generally become more knowledgeable about rights under the First Amendment during the past year.

You can read the entire report here: <https://www.freedomforuminstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/SOFAreport2019.pdf>

Seventy-one percent of respondents were able to correctly name at least one First Amendment right, nearly a 20 percent increase compared with the 2018 survey. The survey has been published since 1997 and reveals Americans' changing attitudes toward the essential five freedoms of the First Amendment — religion, speech, press, assembly and petition.

Most Americans are aware of religion, speech and press. But are less familiar with assembly and petition — two freedoms that guarantee their individual rights as citizens.

Perhaps Donald Trump's fake news campaign focused more attention on one of the First Amendment's freedoms...a free press.

Despite broader public awareness, many misconceptions surrounding the First Amendment remain. Sixteen percent of those surveyed said the right to bear arms was guaranteed by the First Amendment, up from 9 percent in 2018. (The Second Amendment addresses the right to bear arms.). Too-thirds (65 percent) agreed social media companies violate First Amendment rights when they ban users based on objectionable content they post.

The First Amendment guarantees your right to speak, not your right to a platform. Twitter, Facebook and Instagram are businesses. The First Amendment does not require them to accept your posts. They don't need a reason to block you, although it's probably good business to adopt terms of service that appear to be fair.

To be clear, the First Amendment prohibits government censorship of speech but the government isn't Twitter. Social media platforms are not obligated to be "fair." Without evidence, Donald Trump has accused them of blocking conservative posts and favoring liberal posts. From a business standpoint, it's in the companies' best interest to serve up credible content to the full spectrum of readers, but they are not legally bound to do so.

Another concern is more people agreed the First Amendment went too far, rising to 29 percent from 23 percent in 2018. We need more work to explain how the freedoms of the First Amendment apply to daily life and how they define what it means to be an American.

More good news: most respondents (77 percent) agreed misinformation on the internet and the spread of actual fake news (not Trump's description of fake news as any story he doesn't like) is a serious threat to democracy, and most agreed it is important for our democracy that the news media act as a watchdog on government (72 percent).

This improved trust in journalism encourages champions of the press across the country.

Additionally, many support the First Amendment rights of student journalists as well as the larger media industry. Two-thirds (64 percent) of respondents agreed public school students do not need approval from school authorities to report on controversial issues in their school newspapers.

Also enlightening were reactions to questions surrounding religious freedom. Support for the First Amendment rights of religious minorities has increased by 25 percent in the past two years. Now 82 percent of those surveyed agree the freedom to worship extends to all religious groups, even those considered extreme or fringe.

The 2019 survey results showed continued efforts to educate the public about First Amendment freedoms are critical and that increased awareness can result in increased public support.

Hands-free laws should apply to sports fans too

Mike Knaak
Editor



opening day, winning 6-5 over the San Francisco Giants, another team newly relocated from New York City.

Along with players, broadcaster Vin Scully moved west with the Dodgers. Scully began calling Dodgers games in 1950 and remained in the booth until 2016 when he retired at the age of 88.

Fans brought radios not just to identify players but to learn what they were doing. Scully was talking to an audience who was not familiar with watching baseball. Los Angeles teams in the Pacific Coast League seldom drew more than a few hundred thousand spectators in their best years. Now more than two million fans a season filled the park. Through Scully, fans learned the finer points, the subtleties, the language of the game.

Fast-forward 61 years and fans still rely on personal electronic devices — smartphones — to enhance the game experience.

Today, those devices are not nearly as necessary as the transistor radios of the 1950s. Today's ballparks are built for baseball and proudly promote how close even the cheap seats are to the action. Meanwhile, high-technology scoreboards flash a digital encyclopedia of facts but without Scully's personal style and depth of player knowledge.

I routinely attend Minnesota sports including Twins, Gophers and Loons and see "fans" more focused on their screens than on the field.

This summer offers uniquely rich and wonderful sports experiences. The Twins, after years of disappointing seasons, have spent most of the summer in first place. Minnesota's new Major League Soccer team, the Loons, play in St. Paul's new Allianz Field. Sold-out crowds are enjoying the team's first winning season since entering the league.

Watching sports is great entertainment and a chance to escape from daily pressures and stresses.

But when I look around, especially at Twins games, I see people punching their smartphones and staring into their palms instead of watching the game.

Teams actually encourage the electronic distraction by promoting app-based games such as Twingo, offering free wi-fi and asking fans to hashtag and post photos to Instagram and Twitter.

Last week, I watched a Yankees/Twins game with a couple of friends. The American League's two best teams met in one of baseball's best stadiums on a clear summer night. But that wasn't enough for some fans who couldn't keep their hands off the screen and their eyes on the field.

Along with guns and liquor, maybe stadiums should ban electronics. It's not 1958 anymore and we don't need any electronic help to understand and enjoy the game.

Unplug and relax.

Letters to the editor

Vote yes for strong schools, community

Chanda Larson, Sartell

Teaching in a neighboring district, I've experienced the stark realities of failed levies: class sizes of 36-40 students, increased special education caseloads, college and AP courses cut, families experiencing difficulties transporting their children to school due to busing cuts and students not able to participate in athletics and activities they love because of increased fees.

As a parent I don't want this to happen to my kids. However, we are experiencing the effects of a failed levy. Teachers have been let go due to budget cuts, resulting in much larger class sizes than Sartell has ever experienced. Our daughter cannot take AP

Chemistry because it was cut. Activity fees have increased \$45-\$70 — I recently paid an activity fee which increased by \$50. Our high schooler plays three sports; her fees increased \$165 this school year. These are the real effects of a failed levy.

The proposed levy increases are cheaper than the increased activity fees we're paying now! The taxes on a \$200,000 property will go up \$148.60 yearly. This averages to \$3/week; equal to four cups of coffee from a coffee chain or two shakes from a health shop monthly.

Sartell's teachers go above and beyond to support our children, however they won't be able to do that with increased class sizes. For example, in

a class of 36 students, each child can only receive one minute of the teacher's time in a 50-minute class, with a 10-minute lesson. We need to do better than that for our kids. One minute is not enough! We cannot go down this path!

Our oldest child's transition to post-secondary was seamless due to the strong, quality education she received in Sartell. The knowledge she gained from her experiences in Sartell gave her an edge in her college courses. Our current students deserve every opportunity to have the same choices and chances to succeed as our previous students had. Vote yes so our students have access to those same quality experiences.

School referendum is a Ponzi scheme

Charlie Bunde, Sartell

I have been a resident of Sartell since 1991 and during this time I have always been in full support and take great pride in the education that is provided to our children.

I, like the majority of residents of Sartell-St. Stephen, in 2016 voted on the levy to build a new high school. In 2018 when the Sartell-St. Stephen school district came back to ask the residents for a second school levy of \$17 million, for 10 years, to fund daily operations of new high school and other district improvements, I found

myself angry and disappointed. \$17 million is clearly not just an oversight or a clerical error but a clear attempt by the Sartell-St. Stephen school district to swindle money from the taxpayers of this district.

To put gas on the fire, the Sartell-St. Stephen school district is trying to put the blame on the taxpayers for not approving the second levy and now the district will have to lay off teachers and increase class sizes because of this. I would like to see those district officials responsible for this Ponzi scheme held accountable; I would like to see transparency

for this fraudulent behavior that has been perpetrated on the taxpayers of this district by the Sartell-St. Stephen school district.

The ideas expressed in the letters to the editor and of the guest columnists do not necessarily reflect the views of the *Newsleaders*.

Letters to the editor may be sent to news@thenewsleaders.com or mail to 1622 11th Ave. SE., St. Cloud, MN 56304. Deadline is noon Monday. Include your full name for publication (and address and phone number for verification only.) Letters must be 350 words or less. We reserve the right to edit for space.

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, Aug. 9
Benton County Museum, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 218 First St. N., Sauk Rapids. 320-253-9614. mnbentonhistory.org.

Saturday, Aug. 10
Central Minnesota Chapter of the Federation of the Blind of Minnesota, 12:30 p.m., American Legion, 17 Second Ave. N., Waite Park.
Prophecy Conference with Tom Meyer, 6 and 7:15 p.m., Grace Baptist Fellowship, 1197 Pinecone Road. 320-252-5548.

Sunday, Aug. 11
Prophecy Conference with Tom Meyer, 9:15 and 10:30 a.m., Grace Baptist Fellowship, 1197 Pinecone Road. 320-252-5548.

Monday, Aug. 12
Benton County Museum, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 218 First St.

N., Sauk Rapids. 320-253-9614. mnbentonhistory.org.
Sartell Farmers Market, 3-6: p.m., Bernick’s Arena parking lot, 1109 First St. S., Sartell, marketmonday.org.
Sartell City Council, 6 p.m., Sartell City Hall, 125 Pinecone Road N. 320-253-2171.
Sartell-St. Stephen school board work session, 6:30 p.m., District Service Center, 212 Third Ave. N.

Tuesday, Aug. 13
Sartell Chamber of Commerce, 11:30 a.m., Tour new Sartell High School. Park in the lot off 35th Street. 320-258.6061. info@sartellchamber.com.

St. Stephen Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m. 2 Sixth Ave. SE. St. Stephen. 320-251-0964.

Holistic Moms Network, 7-8:30 p.m., Good Earth Cop, 2010 Veterans Drive, St. Cloud. 320-252-2489.

Le Sauk Township Board, 7 p.m., Township Hall, 220 Fourth Ave. S., Sartell.

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.
Brockway Township Board, 7:30 p.m., Township Hall, 43710 85th Ave. N.

Wednesday, Aug. 14
Breakfast Club, 9-10 a.m., Stearns History Museum, 235 33rd Ave. S., St. Cloud. Hobos of the Great Depression. Free for members, \$7 non-members. 320-253-8424

Thursday, Aug. 15
Coffee and Conversation, a senior discussion group, 9 a.m., Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S. Speaker is Jeff Schwiebert, Sartell-St. Stephen school district superintendent.
American Legion-Sartell, open to all veterans young and old, 6 p.m., Sartell Community Center., 850 19th St. S. john.denney@charter.net.

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, Aug. 16
Benton County Museum, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 218 First St. N., Sauk Rapids. 320-253-9614. mnbentonhistory.org.

St. Cloud Singles Club Dance, 8 p.m.-midnight, American Legion, 17 Second Ave. S., Waite Park. 320-339-

4533. stcloudsingles.net.

Saturday, Aug. 17
Summer Bible Camp, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Grace Baptist Fellowship, 1197 Pinecone Road. Children age 3 to sixth grade. (Under 4 need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian.)
Community Meal, 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1107 Pinecone Road S., Sartell. Free.

Monday, Aug. 19
Benton County Museum, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 218 First St. N., Sauk Rapids. 320-253-9614. mnbentonhistory.org.

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

Sartell Farmers Market, 3-6: p.m., Bernick’s Arena parking lot, 1109 First St. S., Sartell, marketmonday.org.
Sartell-St. Stephen school board, 5 p.m., District Service Center, 212 Third Ave. N.

Tuesday, Aug. 20
Mobile office hours, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Sartell City Hall. A caseworker from Rep. Tom Emmer’s office will be available to handles issues with federal government services.

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

St. Cloud Area Genealogists, 7 p.m., Stearns History Museum, 235 33rd Ave. S., St. Cloud. stearns-museum.org.

Wednesday, Aug. 21
SALT (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together), 9 a.m., Sartell Police Department, 310 Second St. S., Sartell.

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

Thursday, Aug. 22
Coffee and Conversation, a senior discussion group, 9 a.m., Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S.

BankVista’s Movies in the Park, 8:15 p.m., outside the Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S. “How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World.” Free. Bring chairs, blankets and snacks.

Friday, Aug. 23
Benton County Museum, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 218 First St. N., Sauk Rapids. 320-253-9614. mnbentonhistory.org.

AUTOMOBILES

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)

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)

CABLE/INTERNET

DISH Network \$59.99 For 190 Channels! Add High Speed Internet for ONLY \$14.95/month. Best Technology. Best Value. Smart HD DVR Included. FREE Installation. Some restrictions apply. Call 1-855-434-0020 (MCN)

Earthlink High Speed Internet. As Low As \$14.95/month (for the first 3 months.) Reliable High Speed Fiber Optic Technology. Stream Videos, Music and More! Call Earthlink Today 1-855-679-7096. (MCN)

DISH TV – Over 190 Channels Now ONLY \$59.99/mo! 2yr price guarantee, FREE Installation! Save HUNDREDS over Cable and DIRECTV. Add Internet as low as \$14.95/mo! 1-800-732-9635 (MCN)

Get DIRECTV! ONLY \$35/month! 155 Channels & 1000s of Shows/Movies On Demand (w/SELECT All Included Package.) PLUS Stream on Up to FIVE Screens Simultaneously at No Addt'l Cost. Call 1-844-245-2232 or satellitedealnow.com/MFCP. (MCN)

Spectrum Triple Play! TV, Internet & Voice for \$99.97/mo. Fastest Internet. 100 MB per second speed. Free Primetime on Demand. Unlimited Voice. NO CONTRACTS. Call 1-855-577-7502 (MCN)

EMPLOYMENT/HELP WANTED

TRUCK DRIVERS. CDL-A Company Drivers and Owner Operators. Great pay and benefits. Driver friendly. All miles paid. Many bonuses. Home when needed.Nice equipment. Paid weekly. WWW.MCFGTL.COM Call now 507-437-9905 (MCN)

FINANCIAL

Attention all homeowners in jeopardy of foreclosure? We can help stop your home from foreclosure. The Foreclosure Defense helpline can help save your home. The Call is absolutely free. 1-800-217-0828 (MCN)

Over \$10K in debt? Be debt free in 24-48 months. Pay a fraction of what you owe. A+ BBB rated. Call National Debt Relief 855-995-1557 (MCN)

HEALTH & MEDICAL

SAVE ON YOUR NEXT PRESCRIPTION! World Health Link. Price Match Guarantee! Prescriptions Required. CIPA Certified. Over 1500 medications available. CALL Today For A Free Price Quote. 1-866-710-6889 Call Now! (MCN)

Start Saving BIG On Medications! Up To 90% Savings from 90DAY-MEDS! Over 3500 Medications Available! Prescriptions Req'd. Pharmacy Checker Approved. CALL Today for Your FREE Quote. 844-903-1317. (MCN)

ATTENTION: OXYGEN USERS! The NEW Inogen One G5. 1-6 flow settings. Designed for 24 hour oxygen use. Compact and Lightweight. Get a Free Info kit today: 844-852-7448 (MCN)

Still paying too much for your MEDICATION? Save on medications such as Lipitor, Advair, Diskus, Eliquis, etc! Receive free shipping on 1st

order – RX required. Call 1-877-304-0870 (MCN)

Lung Cancer? Asbestos exposure in industrial, construction, manufacturing jobs, or military may be the cause. Family in the home were also exposed. Call 1-866-795-3684 or email cancer@breakinginjurynews.com. \$30 billion is set aside for asbestos victims with cancer. Valuable settlement moneys may not require filing a lawsuit. (MCN)

Your Medication, Made Easy! Pill-Pack is a full-service pharmacy that sorts your medication by the dose and delivers to your door — For free. Learn more: 844-858-8322 (MCN)

FDA-Registered Hearing Aids. 100% Risk-Free! 45-Day Home Trial. Comfort Fit. Crisp Clear Sound. If you decide to keep it, PAY ONLY \$299 per aid. FREE Shipping. Call Hearing Help Express 1- 855-548-9854. (MCN)

INCOME OPPORTUNITIES

Become a Published Author. We want to Read Your Book! Dorrance Publishing-Trusted by Authors Since 1920 Book manuscript submissions currently being reviewed. Comprehensive Services: Consultation, Production, Promotion and Distribution Call for Your Free Author’s Guide 1-855-520-9045 or visit <http://dorranceinfo.com/Midwest> (MCN)

BECOME A PUBLISHED AUTHOR! We edit, print and distribute your work internationally. We do the work... You reap the Rewards! Call for a FREE Author’s Submission Kit: 855-623-8796 (MCN)

MISCELLANEOUS

A PLACE FOR MOM has helped over a million families find senior living. Our trusted, local advisors help find solutions to your unique

needs at no cost to you. Call 1-888-894-7038 (MCN)

DONATE YOUR CAR TO CHARITY. Receive maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details. 855-752-6680 (MCN)

PROTECT YOUR HOME AND FAMILY with Vivint Smart Home. Call 844-500-8711 today to receive a FREE \$50 GIFTCARD with your purchase. Use promo code: FREE50 (MCN)

Book Your Flight Today on United, Delta, American, Air France, Air Canada. We have the best rates. Call today to learn more 1-855-725-6305 (MCN)

Denied Social Security Disability? Appeal! If you’re 50+, filed for SSD and denied, our attorneys can help get you approved! No money out of pockets! Call 1-866-276-3845 (MCN)

AUTO INSURANCE STARTING AT \$49/ MONTH! Call for your fee rate comparison to see how much you can save! Call: 855-648-7642. (MCN)

Use RoundUp weedkiller? Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma, Multiple Myeloma, and Leukemia may result from RoundUp exposure. A recent \$2 billion judgment was awarded in a RoundUp injury case. Call 1-619-493-4791 or email RoundUp@breakinginjurynews.com and let us begin work on your RoundUp case today. (MCN)

Two great new offers from AT&T Wireless! Ask how to get the Next Generation Samsung Galaxy S10e FREE. FREE iPhone with AT&T? Buy one, Give One. While supplies last! CALL 1-8665524495 or www.free-phonesnow.com/midwest. (MCN)

BATHROOM RENOVATIONS.

EASY, ONE DAY updates! We specialize in safe bathing. Grab bars, no slip flooring & seated showers. Call for a free in-home consultation: 855-836-2250 (MCN)

PREGNANT? CONSIDERING ADOPTION? Call us first. Living expenses, housing, medical, and continued support afterwards. Choose adoptive family of your choice. Call 24/7. 855-360-6620 (MCN)

INVENTORS – FREE INFORMATION PACKAGE. Have your product idea developed affordably by the Research & Development pros and presented to manufacturers. Call 1-844-809-1837 for a Free Idea Starter Guide. Submit your idea for a free consultation. (MCN)

PERSONALS

Meet singles right now! No paid operators, just real people like you. Browse greetings, exchange messages and connect live. Try it free. Call now: 855-651-0114. (MCN)

WANT TO BUY

Cash paid for antique Harley Davidson, Indian or other American motorcycles or parts from 1900 thru 1970. Any condition. Will pick up anywhere. Phone 309-645-4623 (MCN)

WANT TO PURCHASE MINERALS and other OIL/GAS INTERESTS. Please send details to: P.O. Box 13557, Denver CO 80201(MCN)

Buying and selling gold & silver, collector coins, diamonds, gold jewelry, silver dollars, rare currency, any gold or silver items. Kuehl’s Coins, Fairmont, Minnesota, 507-235-3886, 507-399-9982 (MCN)

People



contributed photo

Sartell 14AAA baseball team members (from left) are Tyler Phelps-Hemmesch, Billy Vogt, Drew Geiger, Jake Gruebele, Andrew Ritter, Parker Knutson, Dylan Simones, Tory Lund, Gavan Schulte, Sam Frieler and Matthew Bolton.

The Sartell 14AAA baseball team won the Gopher State Division and League Championship. The team finished the regular season with a record of 13-3 in the West Division. They completed the league play-off series July 25 at Bethel University with an 8-2 win over Blaine. The team will advance to an inter-league championship game at 3:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 12 at Target Field against Lakeville South.

Seventeen area students have been named to the spring semester dean's list

at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. To qualify for the dean's list, a student attain a minimum 3.66 grade-point average.

Sartell students are: **Hosam Alkhatib, Logan Anding, Preston Angen-Determan, Cynthia Cao, Amna Dogar, Cami Doman, Kali Killmer, Allison Koopman, Kirsten Koskinen, Jillian Lawson, Eric Minnerath, Marisa Murphy, Isaac Schneider, Abby Silman, Rory Spanier and Christopher Talatala;** and Kayla Nelson of St. Stephen.

Three Sartell students

were recently named to the spring semester president's list at Bemidji State University. They are the following: **Taylor Harren, EvaLynn Jundt and Kaylee Ten Voorde.** To be eligible students must earn a perfect 4.0 grade-point average.

Four Sartell students were recently named to the spring semester dean's list at Bemidji State University.

They are the following: **Angela Higgins, Gabrielle Linn, Thomas Raden and Brittany Swenson.** To be eligible, students must earn a 3.5 minimum grade-point average.

Fourteen Sartell students were recently named to the academic high honor and honor lists for spring semester at Minnesota State University. High honor list students achieve a 4.0 straight A average. Honor list students achieve a 3.5 to 3.99 grade-

point average.

Those receiving high honors were **Kira Haglin, Megan Pederson, Nicole Scheifers and McKenzie Specht.** Those earning honors were **Cora Cielinski, Madeline Davis, Sydney Dille, Madison Dobis, Mathew Huver, Bailey Mumm, Taylor Schmidt, Melissa Thompson, Katelyn Tragiai and Cole Zunker.**

Stearns Electric's Operation Round-Up Program contributed \$24,964 to area organizations during its July meeting. Through the Operation Round-Up program, Stearns Electric Association gives its member-consumers the opportunity to give back to the community by rounding up their electric bill to the nearest dollar.

Organizations receiving contributions include the following: **American Legion Post 221 of St. Stephen** and the **Tom Bearson Foundation.**

Volunteers

from page 5

dent of LRLA, who lives on the north part of the lake, said she will put in 850 plants at her shoreline. She had high praise for the people and organizations that made the lake-river drawdown such a success after the delay that happened last August. The cooperation has been topnotch among Eagle Creek Energy (owner of the hydroelectric dam at Sartell), Benton County, the Benton County Soil and Water Conservation Service, the Department of Natural Resources and its Little Falls Fisheries Office Manager Eric Altena, who is a resident of Little Rock Lake and who hosted many information programs during the past few years concerning the drawdown. Gallagher also had high praise for Boy Scouts, their parents and all of the other volunteers at the plantings.

The drawdown project was made possible by a \$200,000 grant from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources. Much of that will be used to reimburse Eagle Creek Energy for lost revenue from the hydroelectric dam during the six weeks of drawdown.

In addition, the LRLA raised nearly \$50,000 for miscellaneous expenses that include 25 percent of the cost of the plants, food for the beach planting volunteers, portable toilets and many garbage bins placed near the lakes and river for disposal of exposed debris.

PineCone Vision Center
Comprehensive Eye Care

What do *you* want to see today?

SCHOOL IS IN SIGHT!

BACK TO SCHOOL SPECIAL
FREE Lenses with purchase
of Children's Frames

Schedule Today!
PineConeVisionCenter.com

Dr. Colatrella Dr. Hinkemeyer Dr. Simmons Dr. Fosso

2180 Troop Drive, Sartell, MN • (320) 258-3915 • [f/pineconevisioncenter](https://www.facebook.com/pineconevisioncenter)

Batting for Brent
STRIKE OUT ALS

Join the Walk to Defeat ALS : 2 mile walk
Saturday, September 7th, 2019 @ Lake George Park
in St Cloud, MN
8:30am check in / 10am walk start
Platinum sponsor: C.H. Robinson and Batting for Brent
Register @ www.WalktoDefeatALS.org

In memory of:
Brent L. Weber
1969-2018

More than just a few-mile trek, the Walk to Defeat ALS® is an opportunity to bring hope to people living with ALS, to raise money for a cure, and to come together for something you care about. The Walk to Defeat ALS® is The ALS Association's biggest annual event, which raises funds that allow our local chapters to sustain care services and support research for much of the next year.

C.H. ROBINSON

Walk to Defeat ALS
The ALS Association