

Reaching Everybody! Newsleaders

Friday, April 17, 2020
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Est. 1989

Town Crier

Fare for All drive-thru service

Fare for All will have special drive-thru service from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Monday, April 20, at Resurrection Lutheran Church, 610 CR 2, St. Joseph. Fare For All offers groceries, produce and meat for up to 40 percent off retail prices.

Attention parents of 2020 graduates

Parents of 2020 grads and home-schooled students are encouraged to submit their graduate's name, parents' names, school they're graduating from and future plans to be included in the May 29 edition of the St. Joseph Newsleader. Deadline is Friday, May 15.

Blood donors needed

The American Red Cross needs eligible and healthy blood donors during the coronavirus pandemic. If you're healthy and well, schedule an appointment at www.redcrossblood.org.

Newsleaders seeks GoFundMe donations

During these turbulent times, advertising support has dwindled. The Newsleaders wants to continue providing up-to-the-minute local coverage both on our website and in print. Please help support the Newsleaders by viewing/contributing to our GoFundMe page on Facebook. Thank you to our recent contributors! Any amount is greatly appreciated.

Delivery driver wanted

The Newsleaders is looking to immediately hire a driver for every other Thursday from 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Must have clean driving record and a Minnesota license. Contact Janelle at janellev@thenewsleaders.com or call 320-363-7741 Option 1.

Police constantly adapt to virus threat

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

Changes, adaptations, flexibility – those are the constant watchwords at the St. Joseph Police Department as its members cope 24-7 with the threat of the Covid-19 pandemic.

And it's not just the police department; it's the fire department, the ambulance crews, city hall, schools, businesses. The very fabric of daily life here, there and everywhere has been torn.

St. Joseph Police Chief Dwight Pfannenstien described the situation this way:

"It's like just when you think you have a problem figured out, they shuffle the deck on

you. We take things day by day because everything is changing all the time."

This time of year, as spring is about to burst forth, St. Joseph streets – especially main street – is bustling with activity – people shopping, enjoying lunch and refreshments on the sidewalk by The Local Blend, college students and others gathered in groups or stopping for a beer or two.

Not these days – and nights. Pfannenstien said the de-



Pfannenstien

partment's officers have all remarked how eerie it is to see main street now. As soon as it gets dark, there is virtually no people, no activities going on, not even any neon lights. It looks like a ghost town hiding in the dark.

"You'll see an occasional walker or jogger, but that's about it," Pfannenstien said.

And it may be eerie, but it's a good thing too, he added, because it means people – most people – are staying put and/or practicing social distancing.

"Some businesses are hurting bad, though," he noted.

"It's been very good so far," he said. "We have no exposures as of yet, not that we know of anyway. We have nine officers,

and now they don't change cars. The stay in their own assigned cars for every shift."

All officers have personal-safety equipment, including professional masks, that they carry in their squad cars. When answering emergency calls, the department initiated several changes/adaptations. If they (and sometimes medical personnel) arrive at the scene of a medical call, such as a residence, they have just one person go to the door to find out what's wrong. If the person inside is able, he or she might be asked to step outside and communicate with police and others from a safe distance. The fire department, Pfannen-

Police • page 2

Music lives – online – during shutdown

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

The live music hasn't changed but the venue has. The long-running Open Mic night at the Local Blend moved online during the coronavirus stay-at-home order that's aimed at stopping large gatherings.

Instead of stepping up to the St. Joseph coffee house stage, performers share their music via Zoom and Facebook Live streaming video.

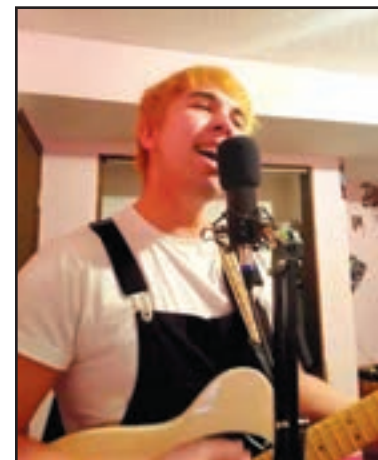
"This virus isn't going to stop us from getting together on Tuesday night," Open Mic organizer and frequent performer Adam Hammer said.

Hammer, who played his guitar and sang from his home studio, told the audience during the April 7 stream "It's weird not to be able to see you all and hearing the thump, thump, thump, and grind, grind, grind



photos by Mike Knaak

(At left) Open Mic organizer and frequent performer Adam Hammer sings from his Sartell home. (At right) Bailey Freedom Jones performs.



of the sounds of The Local Blend."

The Open Mic stage, at the Local Blend in downtown St. Joseph, features performers of all skill levels.

With so many routine, daily events canceled or postponed, Hammer said it was important to figure out how to present

live music to viewers during the lockdown.

"Music cures, music heals, music helps," he said.

With performers not on the friendly confines of The Local Blend stage, producing the 90-minute show is a bigger technical challenge. On stage, the audio can be mixed to give

the audience a finely tuned show. But online, the audio quality is only as good as the performer's setup, which can range from an iPhone to a professional quality studio.

"As host I can only mute or unmute the sound," Hammer said.

Music • page 2

Wiese family spreads cheer with heart messages

by Cori Hilsgen
news@thenewsleaders.com

St. Joseph resident Amber Weise and her three children Dominic, 16, Amara, 13, and Morgan, 9, recently decorated a trail near their home on Iris Lane NE to try to spread some cheer during the Covid-19 school/business closures.

Wiese, a social worker, and single parent, said when Gov. Tim Walz issued the executive order for school closures, she needed to work remotely from home to care for her

children.

"I am blessed to have the opportunity to be at home although it has created a different type of stress, as I typically commute for work," she said.

With some extra time, Wiese found an idea on Facebook called "A World of Hearts" a movement that started in Bismarck, North Dakota. The idea behind the movement is to create a collage made with hearts or cut-out hearts and hang them in your window to promote love and well-being.

People from many places are sharing their pictures and creativity on Facebook with a hashtag #aworldofhearts.

Wiese decided she wanted to do this with her children but also wanted to incorporate a positive and unique St. Joseph-oriented message. She thought of Jacob Wetterling and the "11 traits."

The 11 traits which Jacob Wetterling valued and the Jacob Wetterling Resource Center has encouraged people to try to live by in-

Hearts • page 3



contributed photo

Sisters Amara (left) and Morgan Wiese set up heart messages.

Police

from front page

stein said, is following similar cautionary procedures at some emergency calls.

Like so many people in Central Minnesota, Pfannenstien and other public servants are holding their breaths, wondering if and when a serious virus outbreak will happen, all the time hoping that one does not.

Three weeks ago, for example, a young woman from Mexico, in her 30s, died in the area. St. Joseph police were at the scene, worried she might

have had the virus and – sad as her death was – relieved when they discovered later she had not been infected.

About a month ago, college students were told they will have to leave campus. Recently, Pfannenstien met with college officials and learned there are only 40 students still living on the two college campuses – 20 at the College of St. Benedict, 20 at St. John's University. They are foreign students, work-study students or essential workers. On each campus, the students live, separated, in one campus residence hall. In addition, there are perhaps about 100 college

students living at rental places in or near St. Joseph, Pfannenstien noted.

He also met with the St. Joseph mayor, city administrator and the deans of students to discuss Gov. Tim Walz's order to keep groups to 10 people or fewer. There is some concern that, when spring arrives in full glory, students or others, bitten by spring fever, might start holding celebratory gatherings here or there. Pfannenstien and other officials are hoping that does not happen.

"They would be putting people at risk, including those who work in emergency services," he said. "They're also putting themselves at risk as they could bring risk to others. That would be socially irresponsible."

The police chief said he is

gratified so many people are pulling together, concerned for others, eager to help in any way they can.

Many people, for instance, have donated face masks, and all area cities that receive such donations take them to emergency management headquarters in St. Cloud where they can be distributed locally based on need.

The former St. Joseph police chief, Pete Jansky, called Pfannenstien to tell him that he is more than willing to help out in police work in any capacity when a need arises.

Pfannenstien and his significant other, Amy Bonfig, both have had to work mainly from home. Bonfig is the owner of Little Saints Academy in St. Joseph, a school with 131 students. She has a daughter,

Amy, 15, who is a student at Rocori and who is at home with her mother and Pfannenstien, participating in distance-learning.

On the mayor's advice, Pfannenstien has been limiting the amount of emergency calls he goes to and instead coordinates and directs policies and actions from his home office.

"There's a lot of good things going on," Pfannenstien said. "People are revamping, adapting and adjusting."

He said he would like to spread the word, important advice, to one and all in the area: "Continue to wash hands frequently, avoid touching the face, keep at least a 6-foot distance from others and avoid congregating in groups of more than 10 people."

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF TREATMENT OF CURLYLEAF PONDWEED (2020)

Attention Big Watab Lake property owners:

Big Watab Lake Association has contracted to treat Curlyleaf Pondweed, an aquatic invasive species in Big Watab Lake.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has granted to Big Watab Lake Association a waiver of the requirement that the association obtain the signatures of approval of owners of lakeshore property. Instead, the Big Watab Lake Association will notify property owners of the treatment through alternate forms. This public notice is one form the Big Watab Lake Association is using to notify property owners.

The proposed date for treatment: Between May 1 and May 31, 2020.

The target species for the treatment: Curlyleaf pondweed.

The method of control or product being used: EPA and MDA Registered Aquatic Herbicide.

How landowners may request that control not occur adjacent to their property: If you desire the treatment of curlyleaf pondweed not occur adjacent to your property, please notify Big Watab Lake Association at the following address and email address: Big Watab Lake Association, P.O. Box 494, St. Joseph, Minnesota 56374. bigwatablakeassociation@aol.com.

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if you would like your business included. Check out the online Business Directory
at thenewsleaders.com which hyperlinks to each business' website.

Music

from front page

For example, St. Cloud area singer-songwriter Duncan Vinje performed outside while Baily Freedom Jones streamed from a pro mic that appeared connected to a smartphone.

And when the song ends, there's no applause.

"As a performer, it's a little bit unsettling," Hammer said. "It's unnerving not having an audience that you can interact with." Appreciative fans have posted clapping emojis in the stream comments.

Technical challenges aside, Hammer said the show will go on each week as long as

the stay-at-home order lasts.

"Musicians are looking for ways to engage," he said.

To view the stream on Facebook, go to www.facebook.com/localblendopenmic.

And to simulate the full Open Mic experience, Hammer suggests fans stop by the Local Blend first and pick up a cup or two of coffee to sip while enjoying the music.

Obituary

Christine G. Hemmesch,
age 95
Cold Spring
Aug. 27, 1924-March 29,
2020

A private family graveside service was held at the St. Boniface Parish Cemetery in Cold Spring for Christine G. Hemmesch, 95, who died Sunday, March 29, 2020 at the St. Cloud Hospital. A Celebration Memorial Mass will be held at a later date.

Hemmesch was born on Aug. 27, 1924 in St. Martin Township, Minnesota to Nicholas and Theresia (Bauer) Olmscheid. She married Peter Hemmesch on May 18, 1943 in St. Martin Catholic Church. Auf Wiedersehen, Christine. Faith, family and food describe her



Hemmesch

passions so very well. Watching Mass, praying the rosary, spending time with family, hosting hundreds of Saturday suppers and playing countless hands of cards will be part of her lasting legacy of 95 wonderful years. Holiday gatherings, birthday celebrations, and every day in between will not be quite the same. Her love for her family was unconditional, and that is a wonderful thing we will all cherish. Hemmesch would always say when we were leaving her house, "please come again." Please save a seat for us at the dinner table when our earthly journey is complete. We know you will be waiting there with a smile.

Survivors include her children: Jerome, Eileen, Jim (Barb), Lenore Adey, Marion Sell, Joe (Schelly Heinen), Linda (Roman) George; grandchildren: Shannon Ficker, Michael (Michelle) Hemmesch, Shawn (Eva) Burke, Jennifer (Mark) Ring, Brian Burke, Eric (Jes-

sica) Sell, Kari (Nick) Waller, Peter (Kalina Larsen) George, Maddy George; great-grandchildren: Kylie Ficker, Kim Ficker, Keaton Ficker, William Hemmesch, Alex Hemmesch, Elena Hemmesch, Bennett Ring, Camden Ring, Dustin Burke, Dominic Burke, Mason Burke, Colton Burke, Hailey Sell, Josie Sell, Karlie Sell, Aubrey Sell, Daniel Waller, Emma Waller; and siblings: Joe (Verena) Olmscheid of Belgrade, Elmer (Marilyn) Olmscheid of Cold Spring, Rose Terres of Cold Spring and Norine Olmscheid of St. Martin.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Peter; grandchildren: Kate Sell, Aaron Sell, Kristen Sell, Gabrielle George; and siblings: Leander (Marie) Olmscheid, Lidwina (Ambrose) Rothstein, Lucille (Clarence) Jonas, Francis; and brother-in-law, Ray Terres.

Arrangements were with Wenner Funeral Home, Cold Spring.

Sartell-St. Stephen • St. Joseph

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Newsleaders

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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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Hearts

from front page

clude the following: Be fair, Be honest, Be thankful, Be joyful, Be generous, Be understanding, Be positive, Be a good sport, Be a good friend, Be gentle with others and Be kind.

Wiese and her family decided to make heart signs and write Jacob Wetterling's 11 traits on them and set them up near the sidewalk that goes by the wetlands in their neighborhood.

Since they live on a section

in their neighborhood that has a sidewalk, they have a lot of foot traffic with people walking their dogs, jogging and riding bikes with their children past their house.

"Jacob Wetterling's 11 traits (are) the perfect way to promote love and well-being through the innovative (group) A World of Hearts, while also encouraging amazing traits to adopt for ourselves during this unique time," Wiese said. "Jacob's Hope lives and so should ours."

She said people are currently facing many stresses including the cost of groceries, lack of child-care, balancing distance learning

and working from home, living in close quarters and limiting social interactions with others.

During this time, Wiese has thought about school-age children and their overall well-being. By putting the heart messages by the trail, she hopes to practice and encourage self-care. When people pass the heart signs, she hopes the messages will create joy for those that pass by the hearts.

As Wiese practices self-care, she has been checking with her family and friends, to see if they have also been practicing self-care.

"I myself have had to take extra measures for self-care these past

couple of weeks," Wiese said. "My self-care comes out through my love for my profession. As a social worker, I love people and my community. I love to raise awareness. My self-care includes making sure others do not feel alone and to create unity."

She said for anyone who is a caregiver to a child and may or may not be experiencing overwhelming circumstances, they can visit the Jacob Wetterling Resource Center website at <https://www.zeroabuseproject.org/victim-assistance/jwrc/>. Another resource for children and their mental health during this time is childmindinstitute.com.



contributed photo
Amber Wiese and her three children decorated a trail near their home with heart signs.

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 lead-

ing to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for a crime.

Feb. 28
7:27 a.m. Theft. 19th Avenue NE. A theft of 50-60 pallets stacked behind Central Canvas were taken sometime

between Feb. 22-23. Value is approximately \$250.

10:41 a.m. Counterfeit. Elm Street E. Central Minnesota Credit Union reported a woman turned in a counterfeit \$100 bill she found in the Sartell Walmart parking

lot. She did not attempt to pass the bill but wanted to turn it in. It was placed in evidence.

March 8
6:46 a.m. 304 College Ave. N. An employee at Holiday found a counterfeit \$10 bill

in the cash drawer. The manager said they do not know who passed it and wanted to turn it over to police. The officer called Secret Service but they only wanted the bill if there is a report with a named suspect. The bill was entered into evidence.

People



contributed photo
(From left) Lana Kozak and Cynthia (CeCe) Terlouw, both of Terebinth Refuge, and Whitney Ditlevson, Stearns Electric Association.

Terebinth Refuge, a St. Cloud based nonprofit organization, was named 2020 Stearns Electric Association's Minnesota Touchstone Energy Community Award nominee in January.

Terebinth Refuge went on to receive the 2020 Minnesota Touchstone Energy Community Award in March. Terebinth Refuge received \$1,000 to put toward its efforts.

Terebinth Refuge opened in April 2018 as the first of its kind in Central Minnesota, offering a safe home that brings hope, healing services and freedom to sexually exploited and trafficked women throughout Minnesota who are 18 years and older.

Nicholas Clark, an eighth-grader from Kennedy Community School, qualified for National Geographic's State GeoBee. This year's State GeoBee has been canceled. Nick was one of the top 100 qualifiers in Minnesota. His parents are Michelle and Scott Clark.

Ethan Novacinski of St. Joseph was named to the fall semester dean's list at St. John's University. He is the son of Cheryl and Grant Novacinski.



contributed photo
Nicholas Clark

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PAID OPINION - The views expressed in this opinion do not necessarily reflect the views of The Newsleaders.

The Great Confusion: History to ponder the next time you see a Planned Parenthood billboard

In 1952, the world's future looked bleak. Europe was in rubble. Japan had been vanquished with two nuclear bombs, and worldwide, millions of men, women and children were dead. The Cold War was on and American and Soviet school children were drilled to respond to nuclear bomb sirens by moving quickly to shelters or under their desks. These drills often terrified the young baby boomers.

Adding to the fear, politicians and media talked darkly of impending nuclear armageddon and the resulting global climate change. The experts described how a sun blocking radioactive debris cloud would wipe out most all living things. If that was not enough anxiety, the polio epidemic was raging.

Polio killed over three thousand young Americans in 1952 alone, and left thousands paralyzed. Americans were jittery. One would think that the number one international and diplomatic priority would at least be to prevent the end of the world by nuclear war. Yet, for the most powerful and wealthiest family on the planet, the Rockefellers, it was not.

In June of that year, John D. Rockefeller III gathered, in his family's newly restored Colonial Williamsburg, like minded super wealthy, environmentalists, demographers, agriculture experts, academes, and Planned Parenthood executives to come up with a plan to stop what they saw and feared most – a boom in babies born.

This gathering did not address the real threat of a nuclear bomb used by Joseph Stalin and Mao Zedong. Together, these communist dictators shot, starved or worked to death 120 million of their OWN people. The group's only focus was the worldwide birthrate, which they phrased "a population bomb". The record is silent on whether the attendees gave Mao and Stalin a standing ovation in decreasing world population. The Rockefellers, who co-founded the United Nations in 1945, also began using the UN to convert the world to accept population control. Before long, world population control, a war on babies via contraceptives/abortifacients and abortion, was secretly at the top of the UN's agenda.

However, this super rich clique deceptively marketed themselves as champions of maternal health, child nutrition, and universal immunizations. The Williamsburg blue print included getting U.S. college students to support population control, as well as the best and brightest students of the Third World. At the same time, they began to market a two or less child family.

Millionaire Walt Disney had Donald Duck exhorting young Americans that a baby boom is bad for everyone. Even today, we have a young congresswoman making the Goofy prediction that the world will end in twelve years because of too many people, allegedly causing climate change.

During the 1952 Williamsburg meeting, attendees, alarmed by the sudden jump in the survival rate of African children, implicated the insecticide DDT for effectively controlling malarial mosquitoes.

DDT was actually increasing the life span of millions, which opposed Charles Darwin's belief that diseases should be permitted to kill the weak. Consequently, DDT was purported to be environmentally unsafe to humans and birds.

The UN, despite scant human health risk data, then imposed a worldwide DDT ban in 1972, one year before the U.S. Supreme Court imposed abortion on the United States. Thus, birth control, the environmental movement, and abortion became the population controllers' menage a trois.

In addition to posing as environmental protectors, man-made famines in the 1950's gave a pretext for Western governments, International Planned Parenthood, and the UN to tether mandatory population control with emergency food shipments. Famine-stricken nations were coerced to accept the pill, the IUD, and abortion suction devices. Most infamous was forced sterilization of tens of thousands of poor men and women in India. Given hasty training and poor antiseptic practices, an untold number of men and women were injured or died.

Adding to this brutality against India, Planned Parenthood and the Rockefeller/Ford Foundations funded the Population Council to begin research on determining the gender of the fetus. The Population Council, located at Princeton University, concluded that by killing female babies, they would prevent even more babies born.

Embryologist Sheldon Segal first advocated amniocentesis, and then ultrasound, to select girls to abort. Ultrasound, with Planned Parenthood's connivance, quickly spread sex selection abortion across Asia, especially into Communist China, under Mao Zedong. Devastating have been the results:

- India and China lead Asia in having killed an estimated 190 million baby girls across the continent.

- India has close to 30 million men who do not have women to marry, while China has almost twice as many men who are unable to marry.

- Women, losing human dignity, are more and more seen as sexual commodities, fueling kidnapping and sex trafficking throughout the world and in Minnesota.

- A high concentration of single males statistically increases violence and warfare. Chinese nationalism and irredentism will lead to war.

Rockefeller and his minions first employed their agenda on West Germany and Japan: both nations were desperate, disarmed, stripped of any Christian moral influence, and occupied. For vanquished Japan, the Rockefellers, with Clarence Gamble of Proctor & Gamble, recruit-

ed Japanese eugenicist Yoshio Koya to put a Japanese face on their plan to stop Japanese from having babies.

Gamble, with the help of Koya, was amazingly successful. Japan's post war baby boom soon fizzled and the birth rate is now below replacement level. How did he do it? Birth control and its companion, abortion, were the main methods. The second was Japan's permissive attitude toward pornography and prostitution in lieu of husband-wife conjugal relations. The damage from Gamble is tragic. Current Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is now imploring young Japanese to marry each other – not robots – and have children in order to reverse the trend toward national extinction.

The Germans did not fare much better. In former West Germany, Planned Parenthood International, with USAID, promoted loose sexual mores, pornography, and pushed the Germans to also legalize abortion. The German birthrate soon dropped below replacement level. Two years ago, the German government relied on a UN-Soros manufactured refugee crisis to resettle 1 million migrants, mostly Muslim, to fill jobs that could have been filled by young Germans if they had the chance to be born.

Mission accomplished in Japan and Germany; for the Williamsburg vandals, the United States was next.

The most formidable obstacle to the Williamsburg clique's worldwide plan was the United States and what made it exceptional: first, a strong Christian culture and second, the Bill of Rights, which gave us our personal protections from tyranny. Christianity had to be wiped away and the constitutional protections weakened before the Williamsburg plan to cull the American herd could be employed.

The Rockefeller group decided that by using the courts, they could most effectively reshape U.S. society into their dark vision. Particularly successful was this cabal's ability to get Supreme Court judicial nominees of their liking. Earl Warren, who during WWII helped in the internment of over 100,000 Japanese-Americans, was their greatest surrogate.

When elevated to Chief Justice, Earl Warren's anti-Christian leadership turned American culture on its head: first legalizing birth control/abortifacients with the Griswold v. Connecticut decision, next by banishing Christianity from the public square with the Engle v. Vitale decision in 1962, and then by opening the U.S. to porn with the Memoirs v. Massachusetts decision in 1966.

After these flash attacks, our nation was softened for the big birth control pill marketing lie.

The pill was trumpeted in 1961 as a new, safe contraceptive for women. However, they obscured the fact that it sometimes works as an abortifacient, can cause deadly blood clots, breast and

cervical cancers, and increases depression in women by 70 percent.

The pill also interferes with pheromones, those imperceptible chemicals that we release and receive from others that can attract or repel us. Without the powerful signals from pheromones, women can mistakenly cohabit or marry the wrong mates.

Adding to this problem is pornography addiction, capturing the passion of 3 out of 5 men. Pornography allows men to fantasize and have self pleasure at the expense of their relationship with women. Pornography turns men from masculine intimates into self-absorbed adolescent boys or sexual predators.

The pill and porn result in the following:

- Up to 10 women out of a million on the pill will die of a clot.

- In the 1950s, the American divorce rate was roughly 12 percent; now it is 40 percent.

- Center for Disease Control finding: the sexual assault rate for women is now 1 in 5.

- Pew Research correlates the single mother epidemic with women and children living in poverty.

- Surviving STDs and the hookup culture, more and more Western women are finding out that they can not find a desirable mate...

For the past 40 years, population controllers have been warring on babies behind the scenes.

They have adroitly used their tax free foundations, the U.S. State Department, Department of Defense, USAID, the UN, and even treacherous Catholic Relief Services. Today they are still hiding their hand because older Americans know at least some history and grew up in an America that was still culturally Christian. They will wait until these Americans die off before openly restarting coercive eugenics on all Americans. The population controllers, who began to influence the formation of our teachers back in 1950s, now control curriculum content, replacing knowledge with politically correct tripe.

The 1962 school prayer decision had the intended effect of spray painting everywhere over Christian morality and its foundation of logic and natural law. The result is an unbridled explosion of pornography, sexual promiscuity, marital infidelity, sodomy, divorce and gender confusion. On top of this festering pile, is American higher education, indoctrinating our youth, and poisoning the whole society with identity politics. There are three historical philosophical giants that higher education particularly hates because of their stunning truth:

1. Confucius, well before Aristotle, described wisdom as right behavior, which is virtue. Confucius taught that words must be used precisely and not corrupted in their meanings: simply like man is male, and woman is female. Additionally, he emphasized that society is founded upon a man

and a woman in marriage. Justice Anthony Kennedy, in writing the majority opinion on "gay" marriage, invoked Confucius and then twisted his wisdom. Today, identity politics dismisses Confucius as stodgy, sexist and of yellow privilege. "Privilege" is a code word for the blessing of having both a mom and a dad instilling virtue, which begets success.

2. Aristotle, the father of logic and modern science, defined virtue and emphasized that we must strive for it. His logic contradicts the elitist population agenda, which reduces sex to hedonism and babies to non humans, thus disposable. Identity politics labels Aristotle as some dead old white man.

3. Jesus Christ, in John's Gospel, is the Word that became flesh. Like Aristotle and Confucius, Jesus Christ affirmed truth and rejected relativism. Further, He proclaimed He is Truth, objective Truth. Identity politics fanatics rage against Christ as a male, as a Jew, as a celibate cleric, and that He IS Logos

Fifty years ago, George Orwell in his classic book, 1984, warned about controllers having cameras to monitor us, even in our bedrooms. I guess to keep us from having babies.

Forty years ago, George Lucas ingeniously created his hugely popular Star Wars movie series. Lucas craftily depicted a diabolical and powerful Palpatine hiding behind seemingly democratic governance while manipulating inane and venal politicians, just like Washington today.

And now, we are getting a third clarion call from high tech entrepreneur, Elon Musk. Musk presciently asserts that instead of benignly serving each of us, artificial intelligence (AI) is being developed to replace us. If the immigrant is the beta replacement, AI is their long-term goal for their new-world order. For the population controllers, only they and their descendants should live.

So when super wealthy Prince Philip of England and CNN founder, Ted Turner, talk darkly about pandemic microbes and the depopulating the world of its eight billion people to a few hundred million, their utopia will be one with more silica and less carbon. For people are made of carbon, whereas their coveted artificial intelligence, built upon the semiconductor chip, requires silica – their utopian city is to be built on sand...

Please share this article. It is about evil's recent history, and it is a warning for us not to be duped into cooperating with organizations that are evil. Introduce them to the wisdom of Aristotle and Confucius. And let them know that only by embracing Jesus Christ will they be free of such confusion and find what their souls seek: peace...

Erik C. Rivers,
Major, U.S. Army (RET.)

PERSONAL FINANCE GUIDE | TECHNOLOGY

Four Great Money Apps

There is an app for everything these days, and money is no exception. This is a good thing, because many people have trouble budgeting and tracking their finances.

Have no fear; finance apps are here. Your first thought is probably something along the lines of, "But there are so many!"

Do a search in your phone's app store and you will undoubtedly get dozens of results. If you're overwhelmed and don't know where to start, consider this list.

Using any one of the following apps is a great step toward becoming financially healthy.

MINT

From the people who created TurboTax and Quicken comes Mint — the personal finance app that helps you create a budget using your financial data. You can sync your bank accounts and set it up to inform you of unusual charges.

The app also gives tips on how to reduce spending and delivers easy-to-read charts and graphs so you can see exactly how your spending breaks down every month. If you are in need of a budget but have no idea where to begin, this is your app.

ACORNS

Acorns is the 2.0 version of saving your loose change — only it collects your change in an investment portfolio.

There is a fee of \$1 per month for all accounts with a balance under \$5,000 and .25 percent of the balance per year

on all accounts over \$5,000, but the app is a great way to start investing if you're a beginner.

SLICE

Slice is not a budgeting or savings app. Its mission is slightly different, but no less helpful when trying to manage

your finances.

This app helps you track and manage all of your online purchases by pulling tracking numbers and other information from your email. It also keeps a record so you can track your online spending over time.

STUDENT LOAN HERO

If you have student loans and don't have Student Loan Hero, your life is about to get a lot easier. This app is like Mint for your student loans. Think big picture overview, day-to-day management tools and even refinancing options.

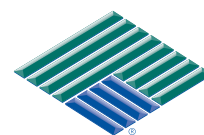


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During shutdown, City Council conducts remote meeting

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

Instead of gathering in their usual meeting place in the Government Center, St. Joseph City Council members conducted the April 6 meeting via teleconference.

To comply with social distance and stay-at-home orders, as well as the Minnesota statute on public meetings, the council recorded its 12-minute meeting. A draft of the minutes is available on the

city's website.

Mayor Rick Schultz told council members the city's \$4 million request for the Community Center expansion is still on track at the Legislature. The request is included in House and Senate bonding bills. Schultz said legislators are working on two bonding bills...one for infrastructure and one for capital improvement projects, such as the Community Center.

Schultz also said state officials have moved up their bud-

get forecast from November to August or September to get an earlier picture of how the Covid-19 pandemic has affected the state's earlier projection of a \$2 billion budget surplus.

The mayor said he participated in a meeting with area nonprofits and the group is tracking possible gaps in social services.

City Engineer Randy Sabart reported road construction projects planned for the summer will continue because they are considered essential

services. Workers will practice social distancing.

Sabart said the top coat of paving – the wearing layer – needs to be applied to streets where work was done last summer. Fourth Avenue N. and Fourth Avenue SE. still need to be milled and then the top layer applied. Work should begin in early to mid May and take two to three weeks, he said.

The council then closed the meeting to discuss labor negotiations. The closed meet-

ing was also recorded but not made public.

The electronic meetings will continue as long as the social distancing and stay-at-home orders are in place. State law allows meetings to be conducted by telephone or other electronic means when an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent because of a health pandemic. During the meeting, council members and other speakers clearly identified themselves and all decisions resulted from roll call votes.

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CSB, SJU plan to hire one president

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

The College of St. Benedict and St. John's University will soon be led by one president under a plan set up by the governing bodies of both institutions, further uniting the two campuses that share an academic program.

Planning for a single leader will take place while both campuses are led by interim presidents.

CSB President Mary Hinton is leaving June 30 and a search is underway for an interim president to replace her. St. John's extended its contract with Interim President Eugene McAllister, who replaced the university's first lay president, Michael Hemesath, in 2019.

"Once the legal and governance details have been finalized and after consulting with



McAllister

Hinton

the Higher Learning Commission and other regulatory authorities as needed, we expect to announce a national search for a new president over both institutions later this year," the leaders of both boards of trustees wrote in a memo to board members. "A single leader would provide a more integrated structure that effectively implements new and exciting opportunities for our students while retaining our unique identities as separate schools for women and men."

One president, the boards believe, will result in "more effective and nimble decision-making and execution."

The memo goes on to say "both boards believe that 'greater alignment between our two schools will put us in an even stronger position to compete in the competitive higher education marketplace. At the same time, we want to retain each school's individual identity as we believe separate experiences for women and men under an outstanding joint academic program is a unique offering that provides us a competitive advantage.'"

The College of St. Benedict was founded in 1913 and serves about 1,750 students on its St. Joseph campus. St. John's University dates to 1857 and is home to more than 1,600 students on the campus three miles west in Collegeville.

Country Manor husband, wife connect with technology

by Cori Hilsgen
news@thenewsleaders.com

Residents and tenants at Country Manor and/Woodcrest of Country Manor in Sartell and St. Joseph have been busy decorating windows at both locations with hearts for the Facebook A World of Hearts movement.

This movement, which began in Bismarck, North Dakota, was started to promote love and well-being by encouraging people to display hearts in windows and post messages and photos on Facebook.

Even though they do not live in the same residence, Wendall and Verna Watts, husband and wife, recently participated in this activity.

Wendall, a tenant at Woodcrest in St. Joseph, and Verna, a resident at the Country Manor Health Care and Rehab Center in Sartell, have been communicating by FaceTime calls coordinated by Country Manor staff.

During a recent FaceTime call, Verna kissed the iPad



contributed photo

During a recent FaceTime call, Verna Watts kissed the iPad because she misses her husband Wendall Watts so much. The husband and wife live on different Country Manor campuses.

because she misses Wendall so much. Staff also printed a photo of Wendall for Verna to hang in her room.

Emily Frericks, the director of Marketing and Public Relations of Country Manor and/Woodcrest of Country Manor, said extra hours have been

allotted so staff can help tenants and residents communicate with loved ones. She said iPads and other devices are sanitized after each use.

"While life may look a little different for us these days, there is certainly no shortage of love," Frericks said.

New policies at Woodcrest create changes

by Cori Hilsen

news@thenewsleaders.com

Emily Frericks, the director of Marketing and Public Relations of Country Manor/Woodcrest of Country Manor, said they have had to make difficult decisions to help keep people in their buildings safe during the Covid-19 pandemic.

While the stay-at-home order by Gov. Tim Walz is in place, management at Country Manor is strongly recommending families to stay home to protect themselves. They have not been allowing visitors on its campuses since mid-March. Gatherings like window birthday parties outside of tenant room windows or near screened patios or porches are also not allowed.

These new policies have created changes for tenants at Woodcrest of Country Manor/Assisted Living/Home Health Care (includes all tenants of Woodcrest suites and Woodcrest Apartments) in St. Joseph.

Because things are changing often, Country Manor management is working around-the-clock to keep everyone safe and policies are subject to change at any time. Updates can be found on its website and corporate Facebook page. Safeguarding the quality of life for people in the Country Manor facilities remains a vital part of the work staff.

Country Manor has a strict No Admittance policy. Entrances are being monitored and drop-offs and pick-ups must be done at the main entrance/door. People are asked to call in advance to schedule these so a staff member can get items to tenants safely.

Home Health Care is allowed but does not include nonmedical care, custodial care or private-duty care, which refers to assistance and services provided by persons who are not nurses, doctors or other licensed medical personnel. For terminally ill patients, Home Health Care may include hospice care. Companionship is not considered an essential service during pandemic situations.

Essential healthcare workers are allowed into buildings and include facility staff, therapists, home health, hospice providers, dialysis staff, physicians, necessary lab/x-ray staff, clergy, specialized transportation drivers, local public health, the ombudsman, state agency survey staff, and Minnesota Department of Human Services staff.

Because of the high volume of telephone calls, families are asked to designate a primary family member to place calls and give information to other members of the family.

Frericks said tenants of Woodcrest remain in good spirits and continue to express their



contributed photo

Woodcrest programmer Kristen Gall (right) helps tenant Margaret Annas make a Skype call. Annas was able to visit with her granddaughter and great-granddaughter via FaceTime with help from staff.



contributed photo

Woodcrest tenant Lavern Hruska sews a cloth mask for staff. When Hruska and other tenants overheard staff discussing the need for cloth masks, they decided to put their talents to use by helping sew masks for staff and other tenants.

appreciation for the many extra efforts being made to keep them safe and healthy.

"Woodcrest staff are doing everything they can to keep life as normal as possible for all tenants," she said. "There is no area that has been untouched by the changes made (during) the last month at Woodcrest."

Even though many modifications to daily operations and routines have been made, life within the walls of Country Manor continues to be active.

Spiritual Care, wellness/exercise and social activities are being introduced in new ways. Either on a one-on-one basis or in small groups in low traffic and spacious areas where tenants can remain 6 feet apart. Tenants are screened before attending activities.

Policies • page 8

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Policies

from page 7

Country Manor facilities are equipped with devices that offer FaceTime and Skype calls and staff is trying to offer as many video calls with families as possible to keep people connected with their loved ones. Extra hours have been allotted to help tenants with this program. As able, staff works to capture happenings throughout campuses to share with families on the corporate Facebook page.

The culinary department and staff are trying to help residents maintain good nutrition through meal plans offered and adjust-

ments to dining procedures and arrangements to keep diners safe. Loves ones are allowed to drop off pre-made meals.

Tenants are encouraged to enjoy outdoor areas which include walking trails, but social distancing rules still apply. Staff takes tenants out to get fresh air and some staff have written encouraging messages and entertaining jokes on walking paths for tenants to read.

Country Manor staff have new requirements when they go to work. All staff are required to enter buildings through the main entrance and everyone is screened before each shift. Anyone who is experiencing symptoms such as cough, shortness of breath, fever or sore throat, or

who has been directly exposed to someone that has tested positive for Covid-19 is required to notify their supervisor.

Even though Country Manor does not anticipate a shortage of supplies, staff is asked to conserve and only use what they need. Housekeeping and laundry teams have drastically increased sanitization efforts.

Frericks said while the world practices social distancing to protect against the spread of Covid-19, which they greatly appreciate, Country Manor staff are standing on the front lines ready for battle.

Country Manor has a workforce of nearly 700 employees that continue to show up to do everything they can to keep life

as safe, enjoyable and normal as possible for all who call its facilities home.

Frericks said for about a month, staff has adhered to daily health screenings, and inconvenient yet necessary additional precautions/sanitizing that have been added to their already rigorous schedules. They have had to adjust every part of their day to ensure residents and tenants are not only receiving the health care needed, but the physical, social and emotional support required to sustain Country Manor's commitment to a superior quality of life.

"At times like this, it is all hands on deck," she said. "Everyone is working side-by-side, with the same motivating factor - to

keep all those we care for, and all those who care for them safe."

While they are unable to celebrate life the way they normally do, their team of employees continues to create innovative ways to keep tenants feeling safe, cared for and entertained.

"These are uncertain times for many, but one thing we want to assure you of is our team will continue to show up and do whatever it takes to care for our tenants the way we always have," Frericks said. "We hope in the midst of the dark cloud hovering over our world, you may find peace knowing there is no shortage of light and love within the walls of Woodcrest of Country Manor."

She expressed thanks to tenants for trusting them, as they continue to do everything they can to uphold their promise to keep them safe; to families for their patience, cooperation and understanding; to the area for offering support in a variety of ways; and most importantly to their team for its unwavering devotion to the work they do and the people they serve.

"We are humbled, inspired and proud," Frericks said. "We look forward to celebrating life with our greater community and loved ones again soon. In the meantime, please know we are still dancing, singing and laughing our days away."

Country Manor is currently accepting supply donations at its main entrance. Items they need include masks (N95, surgical and handmade cloth masks are needed), thermometers and thermometer covers, hand sanitizer (must be 60 percent alcohol), surgical gloves, personal protective equipment, toilet paper, Lysol wipes (or medical-grade sanitizing wipes), iPads, individually wrapped, store-bought snacks for staff, gift cards to local restaurants for food for staff and financial donations to help alleviate added costs of equipment, cleaning supplies and staffing.

GREEN EARTH | DOING YOUR PART

Clean Up the Neighborhood

If you notice your community has a lot of litter, a neighborhood cleanup can have a significant impact on your local environment while building relationships with your neighbors.

The Environmental Protection Agency says mismanaged trash travels throughout the world's rivers and oceans, and can also harm terrestrial wildlife and habitats.

Before organizing a community cleanup, you should find an area that people frequent for recreation or one that animals rely on. A few good places to investigate are public parks, neighborhood lakes and campgrounds. Perform a walk-through to find the locations that require the most intervention, then begin planning an event.

MAKE IT PUBLIC

Modern technology allows us to reach a mass audience with little effort. Take advantage of your social media following or community pages to express your concern about pollution in your area. You can also talk to municipal to discuss raising awareness to your neighbors and encouraging everyone to participate. For instance, they may display a flyer for your peers to view or send a letter in the mail



announcing the details.

STOCK UP ON SUPPLIES

Cleaning up trash requires adequate supplies to ensure volunteers are safe. Consider asking for donations for items like gloves, respirators and different colored trash bags to

separate recyclables. When procuring supplies, reach out to local officials. They may have a surplus of safety equipment they can donate.

DISPOSE OF TRASH PROPERLY

Depending on the size of the

cleanup, you may be left with a lot of garbage to dispose of afterward. Remember to separate trash from reusable materials as you move toward a cleaner neighborhood. It's good practice to notify your local waste management facility to explain your intentions

and arrange a pick-up time and date.

In many cases, the facility has programs designed to sponsor these events for no charge. However, if your local branch requires payment for pickup, you can factor the expense in as you fundraise.



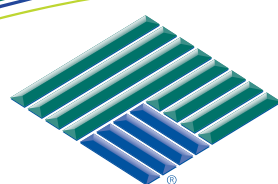
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m MINNESOTA

Virus affects shelter animals too

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

The ongoing virus crisis affects just about every human being on the planet, but it is also affecting animals and the people who care so much about them.

Locally, at the Tri-County Humane Society, the good news is that – despite any gloom and doom – a “fair number” of people are still adopting animals, according to Tauna Quimby, manager of fund development for TCHS.

The not-so-good news, she added, is the stresses and strains on society at large have a ricochet effect on the workers and the animals at the TCHS headquarters in east St. Cloud.

Quimby noted the current concerns:

- No surgeries can be performed in the TCHS surgical building.
- Normally, there are 200 volunteers per month who help part time at the shelter. But after the coronavirus set off calls for social distancing, the TCHS management told volunteers not to work at the shelter if they feel unsafe or uncomfortable doing so. As a result, only a handful of volunteers now help out.

Because of the lack of help at the shelter, animals are sent to fostering individuals and families, and thus there is a deep need for more people willing to do some foster care, Quimby noted. About 200 people are currently foster “parents” in Central Minnesota and beyond for TCHS, Quimby said.

Two major spring fundraisers for TCHS are in jeopardy – the Wine, Kibbles and Bits event at the College of St. Benedict and a Spaghetti Dinner event, both taking place in March and April. But this year, they have been delayed and might even have to be canceled. That is not good news since the Wine, Kibbles and Bits each year raises about \$80,000 for the TCHS’s work.

On the bright side, the new TCHS building is still under construction. The \$3.5-million facility, 14,000 square feet, will open in late fall this year, and fundraising to pay its total cost continues.

Also a bright note is the TCHS remains open from noon to 5 p.m. all week, with social distancing restrictions.

The best way to help TCHS for all of its current needs is to donate money or items. Items needed on an ongoing basis are Clorox wipes, hand sanitizers, liquid soap, paper towels and – as always – lots of bags of kitty litter (preferably the cheaper, non-clumping types). There is a big bin outside the front of the TCHS building into which such items can be placed so those who donate don’t have to violate social distancing.

Those who want to donate money or other services can also do so online. To find out more and more ways of how to help out, Google Tri-County Humane Society, St. Cloud MN.

Refugee/immigrant news: Don't forget the census

Tani waa kuu muhiim adi-ga. Fadlan aqri. Ogeysiis! Importante para Usted, por favor léalo. Please read!

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

...

by Ron Pagnucco

The Central Minnesota Community Empowerment Organization/Cultural Bridges (CMCEO/CB) is a member of the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits (MCN) and a participant in MCN's 2020 Census: Nonprofits CountCampaign. We want to share this important information from the MCN Campaign with our readers. We also provide a link for a guide in Somali for completing the Census form (there is also a guide in Spanish at the same link). If anyone needs help in filling out the census, as a nonprofit CMCEO/CB is allowed to provide that help – just send an email to Ron Pagnucco at rpagnucco@csbsju.edu and we will arrange for assistance in

Somali or Spanish. All the information on the census form is kept confidential by the U.S. government – no one includes their name on the Census form and there are only a few questions about number of household members, their ages, etc. so there will be an accurate count of the number of people living in the area. CMCEO/CB volunteers also pledge to keep the information confidential.

It is very important to remember the census is a vehicle for equity and inclusion and ensuring fair political representation and distribution of resources in our communities. We are all stronger when communities are using their voice to help shape the systems that impact them every day.

To ensure a fair and accurate 2020 census, and to protect the health and safety of U.S. Census Bureau employees and the public, the U.S. Census Bureau announced that Self-Response (such as completing the 2020 Census form online or completing a paper questionnaire and mailing it back to the Census Bureau) is now extended to Aug. 14.

Frequently asked questions

Where can you complete the census?

You can complete the census

online at my2020census.gov, on the phone (844-330-2020) or respond by mail.

Most households received a census invitation in March that includes a 12-digit code unique to each address. Use this code to start completing your census. If a household has misplaced the 12-digit code they can still complete the census by selecting “I don’t have a 12-digit census code” on the online platform.

The census is available in 13 languages online and on the phone (find the different language phone lines on the census bureau website).

How long does it take to complete the census?

The census has 4 questions for the entire household and six question per person. On average the census takes less than 10 minutes to complete.

Do I need a Census ID to complete the census?

No, you do not need a census ID to complete the census. There is an “I don’t have a Census ID” option via the online form, you will have to provide your address instead.

What happens if you don’t answer all of the questions on the census?

While you can submit a census form having not completed

one or two of the prompts, we encourage everyone to fill out as many questions as they can as it may result in a follow up phone call or visit from a census enumerator.

Can a nonprofit worker help a person fill out their census?

Yes, you can help someone fill out their census as long as you disclose that you do not work for the U.S. Census Bureau, therefore the information they share with you is not protected under Title 13.

2020 Census in Somali – guide to completing form

<https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/de-cennial/2020/resources/language-materials/guides/Somali-Guide.pdf?#>

...

We are still trying to have a children’s soccer season with CMYSA and St. Joseph Park and Recreation. We are now planning for the season to start July 6. We will not do any registration for it until we know that it is going forward. Keep checking here for updates.

...

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEARNS

DISTRICT COURT
SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
PROBATE DIVISION

Court File No. 73-PR-20-2440

**NOTICE OF AND ORDER
FOR HEARING
ON PETITION
FOR FORMAL
ADJUDICATION
OF INTESTACY,
DERMINATION OF HEIRS,
FORMAL APPOINTMENT
OF PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVE AND
NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

In Re: Estate of
Valeria Marie Roeder,
Decedent

Court File No.: 73-PR-20-2440

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on May 8, 2020, at 8:45 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at 725 Courthouse Square, St. Cloud, Minnesota, 56303, on a petition for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of Decedent’s heirs, and for the appointment of James J. Roeder whose address is 1394 Fairmount Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105, as personl resrepresentative of the Decedent’s estate in an unsupervised administration.

Any objections to the petition must be raised at the hearing or filed with the Court prior to the hearing. If the petition is proper and no objections are filed or raised,

the personal representative will be appointetd with the full power to administer the Decedent’s estate, including the power to collect all assets; to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses; to sell real estate and personal property; and to do all necessary acts for the Decedent’s estate.

Notice is further given that, subject to Minnesota Statutes § 524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the Decedent’s estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four (4) months after the date of this notice or the claims will be barred.

(COURT SEAL)

BY THE COURT

/s/ William J. Cashman
Judge of District Court

/s/ George Lock
Court Administrator

Dated: March 18, 2020

Filed: March 18, 2020

Attorney for Petitioner
Joseph A. Wentzell
Wentzell Law Office, PLLC
MN# 170616
2812 Anthony Lane S., Suite 200
St. Anthony, MN 55418
Telephone: (612) 436-3292
FAX: (612) 788-9879
Email:
jwentzell@fosterbrever.com

Publish: April 3 & 17, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEARNS

IN DISTRICT COURT
SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Court File No.: 73-PR-20-2764

**NOTICE OF AND ORDER
FOR HEARING
ON PETITION
FOR DETERMINATION
OF DESCENT**

In Re: Estate of
Sylvester J. Roeder,
Decedent

James J. Roeder (“Petitioner”) has filed a Petition for Determination of Descent.

It is Ordered that on May 15, 2020, at 8:45 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at 725 Courthouse Square, St. Cloud, Minnesota, 56303, on the petition.

The petition represents that the Decedent died intestate more than three (3) years ago leaving property in Minnesota. The petition requests the Court determine the descent of such property and assign the property to the persons entitled.

Any objections to the petition must be raised at the hearing or filed with the Court prior to the hearing. If the petitions is prop-

er and no objections are filed or raised, the petition will be granted.

Notice shall be given by publishing this Notice and Order as provided by law and by:

Mailing a copy of this Notice and Order to each interested person by United States mail at least 14 days before the time set for the hearing.

Publishing this Notice and Order in accordance with Minnesota Statutes section § 524.1-401(3).

BY THE COURT

/s/ Frank Kundrat
Judge of District Court

/s/ George Lock
Court Administrator

Dated: April 6, 2020

Filed: April 6, 2020

Attorney for Petitioner
Joseph A. Wentzell
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St. Anthony, MN 55418
Telephone: (612) 436-3292
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Email:
jwentzell@fosterbrever.com

Publish: April 17 & May 1, 2020

Opinion

Our View

Bring the ballot box to the people

With everyone's attention focused on stay-at-home orders and staying healthy, it's hard to focus on events that are months away.

But now is the time to ensure this fall's election runs smoothly and that voters will not have to choose between their health and their right to vote. Minnesota's primary election is Aug. 11 followed by the general election on Nov. 3.

We don't know what the public health situation will be in late summer or fall, but officials should act now to organize elections so it's easy for everyone to vote. If we've learned anything from the coronavirus pandemic, it's that a failure to look several steps ahead can be deadly.

At the state and national level, legislation that would expand early or absentee voting and allow mail-in ballots has been proposed.

In St. Paul, Secretary of State Steve Simon urges temporary, one-time changes to elections including mailing each registered voter a ballot. A witness signature would be required for voting. Among the other changes, Simon wants to change the location of polling places, many of which are in vulnerable locations such as senior care facilities.

Sen. Amy Klobuchar introduced legislation to promote mail-in and early voting nationwide. Her bill would ensure voters have 20 days of early voting in all states, require that all mail-in ballots submitted during 21 days leading to an election be counted and ensure all voters have the option to request absentee ballots.

Voting by mail is not a new idea. Oregonians have voted by mail for more than 20 years. Colorado, Hawaii, Utah and Washington conduct all elections by mail. At least 21 other states have laws that allow certain smaller elections, such as school board contests, to be conducted by mail.

Republicans generally oppose ideas to make voting easier and have for years tried to suppress the vote with ideas such as requiring a photo ID and limiting the number of polling places so people are discouraged by long lines. Conveniently, these measures are targeted at people of color, younger people and poorer people.

As Yale history professor David W. Blight wrote in the New York Times, "Political minorities – today's Republican Party, antebellum slaveholders, Gilded Age oligarchs or rural states empowered disproportionately by the Electoral College – have always feared and suppressed the expansion of both the right and the access to the right to vote. There is no Republican majority in America, except on Election Days."

Republicans claim these measures are needed to address voter fraud. The facts don't back up the claim. Studies done by multiple nonpartisan groups have failed year after to year find any widespread voter fraud.

An expansive study in 2017 from the Brennan Center for Justice found the rate of voter fraud in the United States was somewhere between 0.00004 percent and 0.0009 percent.

It's true that voting-by-mail poses some risks that don't exist with in-person voting. But the most recent example of absentee ballot fraud involved Republican operatives in North Carolina who rigged an election for the House of Representatives in 2018.

Studies of vote by mail in Colorado and Washington show there's little advantage to one party but vote by mail does increase turnout.

Donald Trump fears any attempt to make voting easier and safer but it's not because he's worried about fraud, it's because he's worried about losing.

In a moment of candor, he admitted as much. Speaking about proposals such as mail-in voting he said "They had things, levels of voting that if you'd ever agreed to it, you'd never have a Republican elected in this country again."

Trump said this with a straight face while acknowledging he mails in his Florida ballot.

Adopting mail-in ballots, expanding the time for voting and allowing absentee voting without providing a reason will result in a safer, fairer election.

Pandemic exposes society's weaknesses

Have you watched the National Geographic series "Drain the Oceans"? Using sophisticated mapping and computer animation, the series shows what we would see if we drained the water out of the Earth's large bodies of water.

Emptying the oceans of water reveals what lies on the bottom when the water is gone...solving mysteries and explaining natural wonders as well as exposing shipwrecks.

The ongoing coronavirus pandemic is essentially draining away the covering shrouding society's mysteries and challenges.

With the "water" gone, we're now faced with the reality that there are huge tears in the social safety net and that the apparent roaring economy – with low unemployment and a growing stock market – is an illusion.

Let's look at just a couple of the "shipwrecks" recently revealed by stay-home orders.

Schools' plans for distance learning and employers instructing their employees to work at home rested on the assumption that everyone has high-speed internet available. Some people, either because they can't afford internet service or it's not available at their home, are left behind.

Minnesota's Department of Employment and Economic Develop-

Mike Knaak
Editor



ment found in 2019, only 68 percent of rural Minnesotans were served by high-speed internet, defined as upload speeds of 100 Mbps and download speeds of 20 Mbps. And just because the service is available, doesn't mean it's affordable for everyone.

In Central Minnesota, as soon as you step outside the cities, the drop off in available service is dramatic. At least 90 percent of households in St. Joseph and Sartell have access to high-speed internet, but the surrounding townships are not as well served. In the surrounding townships, the availability drops to less than 50 percent.

As rural America was wired for electricity 100 years ago, every household should have affordable high-speed internet available now. Even when students are back in the classroom, every student needs internet to support homework and we can keep more workers off the road – saving time, money, gas and the need to build more roads – if their home office is properly wired.

When 17 million people filed jobless claims in the last three weeks, we've seen how close many people live to economic disaster. While waiting for their \$1,200 check from the U.S. Treasury, workers worry if it will arrive before they have to pay rent, the mortgage or buy the next load of groceries.

Even before businesses shed employees, many American workers lived paycheck-to-paycheck.

A Bankrate survey last year showed nearly one in four Americans have no emergency savings. Only 18 percent have enough to cover three to five months of expenses while 22 percent could pay less than three months in bills.

Many of these recently unemployed workers are not protected by a union, have no employer-provided health care and didn't until the recent rescue legislation qualify for unemployment.

The pandemic revealed what happens when public health is underfunded and its experts ignored. How's that worked out?

More services than public health need an aggressive approach. When leaders think about how to restart the economy, they need to consider long-term solutions to education, technology and labor issues made painfully clear by the health crisis.

Stay careful, but be hopeful in quarantine

As the Covid-19 pandemic continues to rage across our state, country and world, things appear very bleak. Businesses, schools and sports have all but ground to a halt. People are being urged to stay inside and keep up social distancing in order to reduce the number of infections. We see disheartening numbers of new cases and cancellation after cancellation of events we have been looking forward to. While we don't know how long this present reality will last, one thing I have seen come out of this is the strength of everyday people to confront difficult situations; and that there is light at the end of the tunnel, as long as we stay careful.

A few months ago, many of us couldn't imagine the place we would be in now. While coronavirus spread in China and to other parts of the world, it seemed far away from Minnesota and the United States. Then the dominoes started falling. Major sports leagues around the country started to postpone their seasons. Colleges and universities closed their doors and sent students home. Governors declared stay-at-home orders. In a couple weeks, life as we know it was forever changed. Despite these horrific circumstances, we have seen great acts of bravery and a determination to carry on life with ingenuity.

I want to first of all thank our amazing healthcare workers who day in and

Connor Kockler
Guest Writer



day out are risking their lives to protect every one of us by treating this disease head on. Every test done and patient cared for is another life saved. Across the nation, even with the stay-at-home orders and social distancing, hospitals are being strained and the healthcare system is working overtime to make sure people are treated and the spread is slowed. Without their valiant efforts things would be much worse.

While this pandemic is ongoing, we see many working to maintain a semblance of normal. Teachers and students are working with technology to keep classes going from home. Businesses are teleworking, or adopting measures to keep people safe through spacing out workers and keeping environments clean. Religious institutions provide faith services live online. Families, friends and neighbors videoconference and check in on each other to make sure they're doing alright.

Despite the dark times we're in, people aren't giving in to despair. We are keeping up hope and the belief that eventually we will turn this corner. It's encouraging to me to see we have faith

and keep doing what we can to keep up our own and each other's spirits. While we wait out a pandemic we don't know how long will last, we should keep up with this spirit of optimism. Each new story of hope I hear from people I know or on the news gives me more belief in our common humanity and perseverance.

And while we wish for a speedy end to this crisis, we also should remember the terrible price that has been paid already by people who have died and the lives that have been upended during this time. That is why it's so important for us to honor those affected the most by following the advice of experts in staying at home and social distancing. While we all want to get back to normal, I certainly do, every additional case of Covid-19 spread through carelessness keeps up the spread of the virus and makes the rising curve of infections less likely to flatten. This makes ending restrictions more dangerous and thus prolongs how long the quarantine will continue.

I wish everyone well and hope you are all staying healthy and safe. While these times we're living in may be scary and uncertain, I know we will make it out on the other side. We just need to keep fighting on, following safety guidelines and watching out for our families and neighbors. We'll get through this together, I know we will.

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@thenews-leaders.com. Most events are listed at no cost. Those events are typically free or of minimal charge for people to attend. Some events, which have paid advertising in the Newsleaders, are also listed in the calendar and may charge more.

Saturday, April 18
St. Joseph Farmers' Market will be outdoors, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Resurrection Lutheran Church, 610 CR 2.
Community meal drive-by pickup, 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1107 Pinecone Road S., Sartell.

Monday, April 20
St. Joseph Food Shelf, open 1-3 p.m., 124 First Ave. SE, St. Joseph.
St. Joseph City Council, 6 p.m., Government Center, 75 Callaway St. E.
Fare for All, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Resurrection Lutheran Church, 610 CR 2, St. Joseph. Drive-thru service.

Tuesday, April 21
St. Joseph Economic Development Authority, noon, Government Center, 75 Callaway St. E.

Thursday, April 23
St. Joseph Food Shelf, open 1-3 p.m., 124 First Ave. SE, St. Joseph.

Monday, April 27
St. Joseph Food Shelf, open 1-3 p.m., 124 First Ave. SE, St. Joseph.
St. Joseph Township Board, 8 p.m., Township Hall, 935 College Ave. S., St. Joseph. Teleconference.

Tuesday, April 28
Collegeville Township Board, 7 p.m., Township Hall 27724 CR 50.

Thursady, April 30
St. Joseph Food Shelf, open 1-3 p.m., 124 First Ave. SE, St. Joseph.

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF ST. STEPHEN

DOCUMENT 00 11 13

REVISED ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS (04/14/20)

2020 Sixth Avenue SE Improvements

St. Stephen, Minnesota

SEH No. STSTE 147974

SAP No. 073-594-002

2,496

12,200

6,650

155

10.25

19,200

LF

LF

CY

SF

ACRE

LF

Salvage and Install Fence

Filter Berm Type 4 (Topsoil)

Common Topsoil Borrow (LV)

Sign Panels

Seeding

4-Inch Multi Comp Ground In Striping (Broken, Solid, Double)

Notice is hereby given that Online Bids will be received by the City of St. Stephen until 11 a.m. Tuesday, April 28, 2020, via QuestCDN at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud, for the construction of the 2020 Sixth Avenue SE Improvements.

In accordance with the requirements of Minn. Stat. Section 13D.021, Mayor Blenkush has determined that an in-person bid opening meeting is not practical or prudent because of the COVID-19 health pandemic.

Because of the health pandemic and emergency declaration, it has been determined the bid opening at the St. Stephen City Hall and attendance by public at the St. Stephen City Hall location is not feasible. Therefore, the bid opening will be conducted via GoToMeeting:

St Stephen 2020 Sixth Avenue SE Improvements Bid Opening from 10:30-11:30 a.m. (CDT) Tuesday, April 28, 2020

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/639916277>

You can also dial in using your phone (For supported devices, tap a one-touch number below to join instantly).
United States (Toll Free): 1 877 568 4106
- One-touch: tel:+18775684106,,639916277#
United States: +1 (646) 749-3129
- One-touch: tel:+16467493129,,639916277#

Access Code: 639-916-277

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/639916277>

Any person monitoring the meeting remotely may be responsible for any documented costs. Message and data rates may apply.

Major quantities for the Work include the following:

31,000	SY	Geotextile Fabric
14,360	CY	Common Excavation (P)
8,939	CY	Subgrade Excavation
25,388	CY	Select Granular Borrow (LV)
2,940	CY	Aggregate Base (CV) Class 5 (P)
2,237	SY	Bituminous Driveway Restoration
16,540	SY	Full Depth Reclamation
5,404	TON	Type SP Bituminous Mixtures
750	LF	RC Pipe Culvert (12- through 33-Inch)
1,578	LF	6” Perforated PE Pipe Drain

For this project, bids will ONLY be received and accepted via the online electronic bid service QuestCDN.com. To access the electronic bid form, download the project document and click the online bidding button at the top of the advertisement. Prospective bidders must be on the plan holders list through Quest CDN for bids to be accepted. Bids shall be completed according to the Bidding Requirements prepared by Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. (SEH®) dated March 4, 2020.

The Bidding Documents may be seen at the Issuing Office of Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. located at 1200 25th Ave. S., P.O. Box 1717, St. Cloud, MN 56302-1717, 320-229-4300.

The Bidding Documents may be viewed for no cost at <http://www.sehinc.com> by selecting the Project Bid Information link at the bottom of the page and the View Plans option from the menu at the top of the selected project page.

Digital image copies of the Bidding Documents are available at <http://www.sehinc.com> for a fee of \$30. These documents may be downloaded by selecting this project from the PROJECT BID INFORMATION link and by entering eBidDocTM Number 6959254 on the SEARCH PROJECTS page. For assistance and free membership registration, contact QuestCDN at 952-233-1632 or info@questcdn.com.

In addition to digital plans, paper copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained from Docunet Corp. located at 2435 Xenium Lane N., Plymouth, MN 55441 (763-475-9600) for a fee of \$100.

Bid security in the amount of 5 percent of the Bid must accompany each Bid in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

A Contractor responding to these Bidding Documents must submit to the City/Owner a signed statement under oath by an owner or officer verifying compliance with each of the minimum criteria in Minnesota Statutes, section 16C.285, subdivision 3.

This Work shall be subject to minimum wages and labor standards in accordance with the State of Minnesota.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all Bids, to waive irregularities and informalities therein and to award the Contract in the best interests of the Owner.

Cris Drais
City Clerk
St. Stephen, MN

Publish:	Quest CDN:	April 17, 2020
	Sartell-St. Stephen Newsleader:	April 17, 2020

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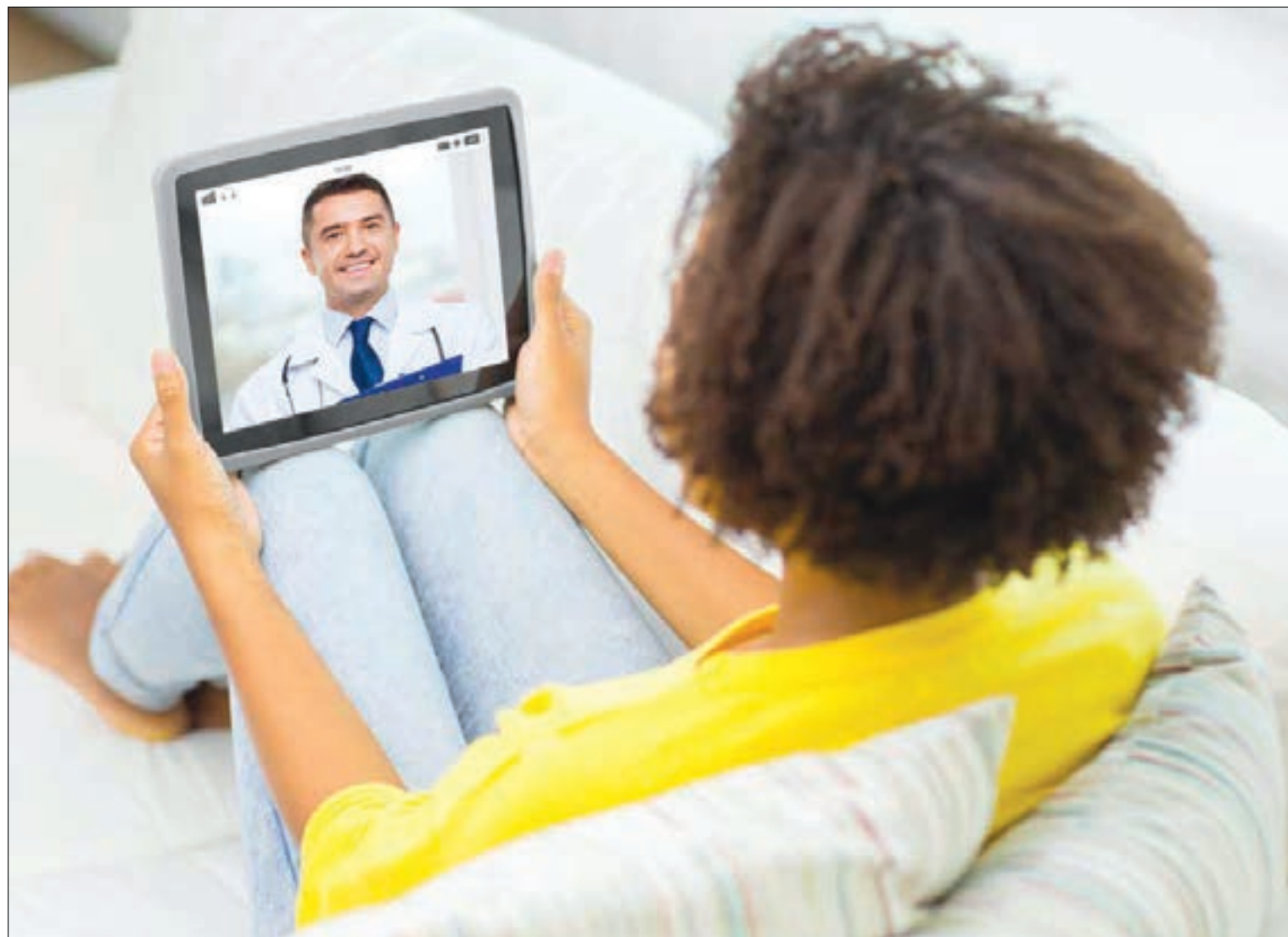
Zoom meetings, Google Hangouts and FaceTime chats have been around for a while, but with most face-to-face meetings out of the question for a while and many people working from home, they're now coming into their own.

VIRTUAL MEETINGS

Look at your pre-pandemic calendar. If you had meetings with a financial planner or real estate agent, that meeting may still be on. Many professionals, particularly in service-related industries, are turning to video chats and other tech services to continue doing business in the time of social distancing.

Realtors, for example, are using tech to offer virtual tours and open houses using a variety of videos, touring via FaceTime, live streaming a house tour and more. Spring is typically a hot time for buying and selling houses, and with interest rates at rock bottom, the industry just can't afford to miss out. Vacant properties can also still be shown, provided agents and potential buyers adhere to proper social distancing protocols.

Other professionals that may be offering virtual meetings during this time include financial advisors, bankers, fit-



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ness trainers and more.

TELEMEDICINE

Medical and mental health appointments may still be on, too. Insurance providers, Medicare and Medicaid have rapidly expanded their available covered telehealth services so that people can continue to get treatment so long as providers are available

during the pandemic. Your provider may ask you to do certain things like verbally acknowledge you accept telehealth treatment and showing that you're in a private place, but otherwise, the visit should go much like it would in an office.

Fluffy may also qualify for a telemedicine visit, the FDA says. The agency recently sus-

pended many requirements of the veterinarian-client-patient relationship.

"The FDA recognizes the vital role veterinarians play in protecting public health. This pandemic has had impacts on many of our everyday lives and professions, and during this time, we need to provide veterinarians with the latitude to expand the use of telemedi-

cine in the care of animals," said FDA Commissioner Stephen M. Hahn. "The FDA is providing flexibility that will help veterinarians maintain the health of animals during the pandemic, while allowing for the social distancing that is so important in limiting the further spread of coronavirus disease across the country and world."



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