

Reaching Everybody! Newsleaders

Friday, April 3, 2020
Volume 32, Issue 7
Est. 1989

Town Crier

Governor to deliver State of State address

Gov. Tim Walz recently announced he will deliver his second State of the State address on Sunday, April 5, beginning at 7 p.m. The address will be delivered live from the Governor's Residence and can be watched on YouTube Live.

"COVID-19 presents an unprecedented hardship to our state, but Minnesotans always rise to a challenge," Walz said. "I look forward to the opportunity to speak directly to Minnesotans during this uncertain time."

Flower Basket project moves forward

This is an update regarding the annual downtown hanging flower baskets in St. Joseph. The letter we usually send out had been delayed due to the virus. There was considerable conversation about having the flower baskets this summer. Yes, the project is moving forward. The team is fully aware some of the previous donors may have to reduce their amounts or even not be able to donate. We would like to take this opportunity to have the information shared with all the readers and their family and friends who have not donated in the past. If you have not donated in the past and feel you are wanting to donate (all amounts will be appreciated) you may contact: Carol M. Theisen at 320-363-8496 or email cmtjat17@gmail.com or Joyce Faber at 320-363-7682. Looking forward to the beauty these baskets have provided in previous years.

Place of Hope seeks donations

The Place of Hope is working hard with those experiencing homelessness during the coronavirus pandemic. Donations are being accepted for food and financial assistance. Place of Hope, 511 Ninth Ave. N., St. Cloud, MN 56303.

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 first few contributors! Any amount is greatly appreciated!

Bruno's 'Quarantine Storytime' goes viral

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

What started out as a mere suggestion quickly turned into a reality, and that reality, dubbed Quarantine Storytime, is now a viral hit with housebound children and parents on Facebook.

Every weekday starting at noon, Mary Bruno, owner of Bruno Press, reads a storybook online from her printing shop in St. Joseph. She not only reads – she “acts” out the voices of the characters – kittens, dogs, sheep, a wolf, a bird and more. Rapt children are enchanted by every Bruno reading, and in many adults, too, Bruno awakens the little child inside them.

She got the idea from her niece, Samantha Bruno, who worked at Bruno Press with her aunt. Despite the virus crisis, Mary Bruno continues to work, although three of her four apprentices are ensconced at home, at least temporarily. One day, niece Bruno said to aunt Bruno, “Hey, why don’t you read a storybook every weekday online to kids who aren’t in school due to the virus?”

Since Bruno never met a good idea she didn’t like, she plunged right in, with her first reading on March 18.

“I was really scared because I’m an old person and don’t know how to do these things,” Bruno said.

Her show, which lasts about 20 to 30 minutes, went viral. And that’s when Bruno’s fears increased. She realized she was being watched – live! – by thousands of children and parents, some as far away as Italy and Argentina, where Bruno knows some friends.

“I’m getting a little better at it each time,” she said.

Bruno • page 2



contributed photo
Mary Bruno prepares to read “Bear in Underwear” during one of her live online “Quarantine Storytime” sessions.

Catholic school teachers using online options

by Cori Hilsgen
news@thenewsleaders.com

Due to the world-wide Covid-19 virus pandemic, Gov. Tim Walz announced on March 15 that schools would close March 18-27 for teachers and staff to develop and implement distance learning plans beginning March 30 and now extended to May 4.

Many area schools have worked hard and excelled at meeting this challenge. When teachers at the St. Joseph Catholic School learned of the school closures, they began planning.

Teachers Elisha Konz (kindergarten), Joanne Schneider (first grade), Robin Kremer (third

grade), Theresa Fleege (fourth grade), Tess Koltes (fifth grade) and Susan Huls (sixth grade) shared some of their experiences with the distance learning.

Teachers and staff met on March 16 to plan for distance learning. Kremer said they were able to make good decisions quickly. Students have one-to-one devices in all grades. Kindergartners through second-graders use iPads and third- through sixth-graders use Chromebooks. Teachers knew they would be able to send the devices home for students to use for online learning.

After preparing, Schneider said they were ready to pull together iPads, load them with

the apps needed, and pull paper, pencil and hands-on activities for the students.

Konz said they are using apps they used in the classroom, as well as some new ones.

They decided they would use Google Classroom and Zoom for third- through sixth-graders. Google Classroom allows teachers to communicate with students, send assignments and students can also hand in assignments. They are also using Zoom to video communicate with their students in real time, together as a group.

On March 16 and 17, teachers prepared lessons and organized supplies to send home while also trying to practice video confer-

encing using Zoom.

Kremer said they took turns being the “teacher,” so they could get a good feel for it.

The teachers began teaching on March 19 and also created a schedule for math because some students take advanced math and move up a grade for math instruction.

While teaching online, teachers are also creating and uploading assignments.

Konz said the kindergarten class meets daily for at least 30 minutes. They visit and work together during this time.

“The kindergartners have been able to successfully engage in math lessons that are presented

School • page 3

Mayor: services are ready to support residents

by Rick Schultz
St. Joseph mayor

My father and mother were born in 1929 and 1931 respectively and lived through the post-depression recovery. They both lived, worked and participated in World War II, in which everyday life across the country was dramatically altered.

Food, gas and clothing were rationed. Communities banded together for blood drives and other needed supplies to help build the armaments. Women were thrust into



Schultz

the work force as electricians, welders and riveters in defense plants. They also experienced the post World War II boom, a period of unprecedented economic growth and prosperity.

Today we are met with a similar crisis of global proportions, the likes of which most of us have never experienced. With the amount of news cov-

erage, countless news briefings and transparency, I still struggle with confusion, anxiety, fear and frustration.

In the first week of lockdowns for this historic pandemic, families are struggling to adjust to a new reality. Kids are home. There are not any hectic calendar of events or practices

Mayor • page 2

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Bruno

from front page

“And we’re having a lot of fun. I even interact with some of the children now and then. One day I said, ‘I see that Bella and Mack are watching.’ And I later learned those kids just flipped

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out. It’s kind of awesome. It’s really cool and a lot of fun. And despite my fears, I do enjoy it because I’m such a goofball, a real wacko.”

She also puts the shows on her Bruno Press archives. Some of her storybooks are “Dragons Love Tacos,” “The Gruffalo,” and “Pete the Cat.”

Bruno is still amazed by the heartwarming reactions of viewers. St. Cloud Floral sent her a thank-you bouquet, a woman in Kansas City sent her congratulations, and people are sharing the link far and wide. Some parents are even sending books to her shop via amazon.com. There’s always

a bag of books outside her shop, waiting to be read. Bruno taught preschool at Little Saints Academy for a few years after it first opened. A teacher there, Amy Bonfig, invited Bruno to “raid” some of that schools books to feature on Quarantine Storytime.

Bruno is a good example of the creative, upbeat, reassuring connections being made in a time of crisis, when all of life seems to have been tipped upside down. People reach out to one another, they lend a hand, they do good deeds, and the collective kindness is a triumph that keeps at bay gloom and doom and fears caused by an

Mayor

from front page

to attend. There is time to eat meals and play together. Parents may be finding a new role as teacher, a job they may have had no training for. They’re also trying to manage their own anxiety, as their kids, generally social creatures, may be cut off from friends.

I see the silver lining in all of this, families spending quality and quantity time with children that would never normally be allowed with their over-scheduled lives. I see a diverse community enjoying their time off, even as there is a need to know.

I struggle myself, with not knowing when this will end, how we will recover, what will recovering look like. I’m sure many of you do also. Some-

times, to some end, optimism, hope and tenacity are the only means for getting through any challenge, however dire it may seem. As a community, we don't turn on each other. We turn toward each other, and we help... at a safe distance of course.

Find your rainbow. Look for the positives. There hasn't been a time like this when the entire planet is focusing to save the weakest, the oldest and the most infirm among us. We are finding new ways to communicate, to work, to socialize, to stay connected during this time.

I really appreciate the residents’ support and patience as we all work through this pandemic. I thank the City Council for their leadership and partnership in ensuring the public is protected now and in the aftermath.

I will continue to focus on providing essential city ser-

vices and ensuring they flow as smoothly as possible for our residents and businesses. I am working with Gov. Walz’s administration, state agencies and our legislators and will take any local action necessary to ensure proper safety and security measures are in place. I, along with the City Council and city staff, are committed to ensuring youth, seniors and small businesses are looked out for during these challenging times.

I am following Gov. Walz’s executive orders and will comply with the next set of mandates.

- Effective Friday, March 27, at 11:59 p.m. until Friday, April 10, a two-week stay at home order will be in place. This limits movement outside homes beyond essential trips for two weeks.
- Parks are open; however,

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Pet-Specific First-Aid Kit

You may already know the importance of keeping a first-aid kit around. Since animals are naturally curious and act on instincts, it can be lifesaving to have an emergency kit specifically for their needs, especially if you are far from home and medical care.

Many of the recommended items to keep at hand for your furry friends are also featured in household first-aid kits for humans. It's easy to purchase a general kit then add a few animal-specific items.

Look at these great tips from the United States Humane Society when creating a first-aid kit for your pet.

SUPPLIES

Your basic first-aid kits will have crucial supplies for both people and pets. Some should include: hydrogen peroxide, absorbent-gauze pads, disposable gloves and antiseptic wipes. Don't forget these pet-specific items as recommended by The Humane Society of The United States.

- Pack an animal first-aid book, with general information on how to tend to minor emergencies.
- Carry along self-cling bandages; they will adhere to itself without interfering with pet fur.
- It's important to have a muzzle or strips of cloth to prevent biting if an animal is in distress. Avoid using them if your pet is vomiting, choking or having difficulty breathing.

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTATION

In addition to carrying the



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necessary supplies, you should also have important documentation about your pet. Keep a list of phone numbers featuring the veterinarian's office, nearest emergency clinic and poison-control hotline.

You should also have documents proving your pet has been properly vaccinated and a current photograph in case they become lost. Remember to keep all documentation in a waterproof container to avoid becoming damaged.

MAINTENANCE

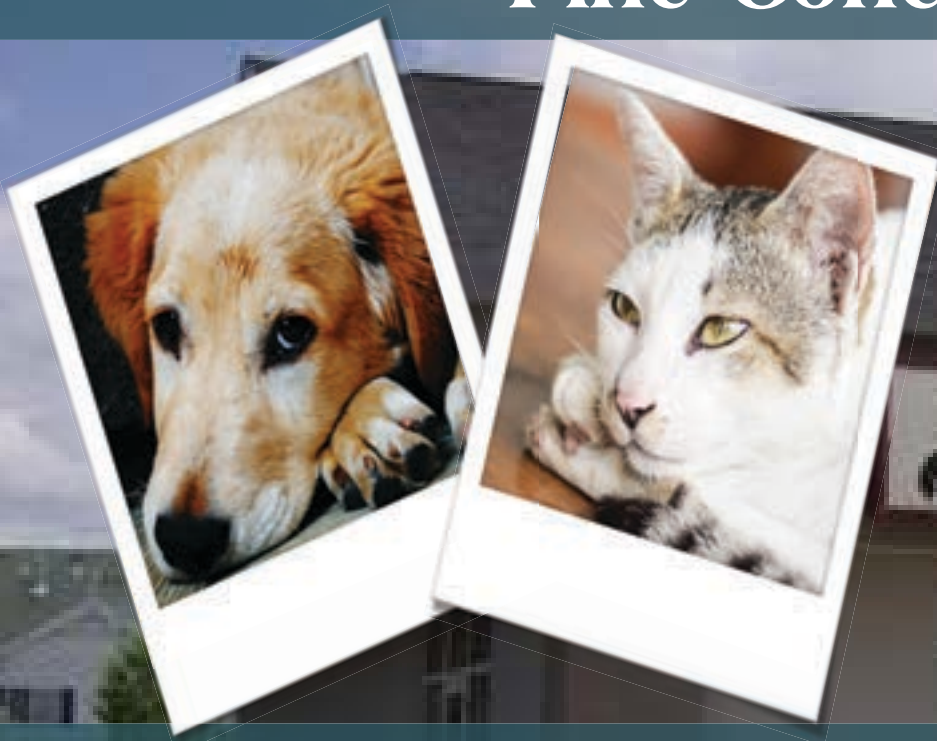
As time goes on, you will likely adjust the first-aid kit you have built. Keep a close eye on expiration dates of items like medicine or cleaning solutions. Another reason your kit will change is due to

your pet aging.

As they get older, you will probably need to add additional medications. Explain your plan of building a kit to your veterinarian to find out if you can purchase extra prescriptions.

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Couples, Money and Honesty

It's easy to slip into the day-to-day without setting clear, defined financial goals with your partner on a regular basis.

According to a recent study published by Business Insider, during the first and third years of marriage, money matters were the most commonly reported source of marital arguments and that couples with high amounts of debt generally have lower levels of satisfaction in their marriages. Whether you're just starting off in your marriage or have been married for decades, it is critical to have routine "money talks" with your partner. Money can be a touchy subject, but one that must be broached with honesty and respect with anyone with whom you intend to spend and build a life.

TELL EVERYTHING, HIDE NOTHING

Honesty is always the best policy — and never more so than with money. You and your partner should be up front about major expenditures, all debt and any investments and savings. Remember that a vast majority of people carry some form of debt. Without honesty about what debt is out there, you will never get out from under the burden. Even if you



do, the victory won't be half as sweet if you can't share it.

RECOGNIZE RED FLAGS Issues such as credit card abuse, frequently missed payments or avoidance of large debts are cause for major concern. Recognize that these

red flags have nothing to do with the type of financial responsibilities your partner might have, and work together on their management. Identify these issues from the beginning and you won't be blindsided when a bank or credit lender identifies them.

WHAT'S YOURS IS MINE This is quite literal in the financial aspect of marriage. Even if you choose not to share a checking account and retain a certain amount of financial freedom from one another, you will need to work together to set and achieve

financial goals, such as retirement and buying a home. Your partner's debt will impact you and vice versa. By being honest with your partner, you can create hypothetical future scenarios and discuss how you want to approach them.



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Opinion

Our View Let's not go back to normal

Social distancing. Shelter in place. Distance learning. Self-quarantine. Ventilators. N95s. When will our vocabulary, not to mention our lives, go back to normal?

The day will come when this crisis will be behind us. But we shouldn't go back to normal. The coronavirus pandemic revealed weaknesses and opportunities in our social and economic life that need attention.

Many of us are working from home, while our offices are shuttered. Maybe we'll find out this is a plus for efficiency, morale and employee retention. Workers may want to work from home once the restrictions are lifted. Employers will need smaller offices, employees won't need to fight traffic and they'll spend less money on gas and parking. If everyone worked from home just one day a week, and that day rotated, the need to build more roads and freeways would end.

Educators have experimented with distance learning for years. Those plans are no longer theories, but everyday reality. We'll soon find out what works and what doesn't and those successes can be part of "normal" education, keeping in mind nothing replaces face-to-face interaction between a student and teacher.

Working or learning at home assumes widespread high-speed internet access and a computer. That's a false assumption. When Sartell-St. Stephen school administrators formulated their distance learning plan, they estimated about 90 percent of students had high-speed internet access at home. A national study ranking metro areas revealed that in the St. Cloud area, about 85 percent of households have high-speed internet. High-speed internet should be available to every household, like water and electricity.

The virus is exposing two fundamental flaws in our "normal" society: children's nutrition is tied to schools and health care is tied to employment.

When school leaders planned how to serve students during the shutdown, a major concern was how to deliver meals to students who depend on schools for breakfast and lunch.

For millions of workers who have lost their jobs and who depended on employment for health insurance, the debate over "Medicare for all" or "Medicare for all who need it" takes on new urgency. Citizens should demand a public option for all Americans so a job loss doesn't turn into a medical or financial disaster. The Trump administration should immediately drop its lawsuit intended to further weaken the Affordable Care Act by removing the pre-existing conditions requirement.

Some of the first victims of the economic slowdown are contract, part-time, freelance, service and gig-economy workers who do not qualify for either employer-provided health insurance or unemployment insurance. As more workers move to a nontraditional employment model, those social programs should protect them too.

We're in the middle of an election year and many states have pushed back primaries. States are already making plans about how to conduct the November election in the middle of pandemic. The larger issue that should be fixed: Why do we still vote on Tuesdays? All states should adopt mail-in ballots and "no-fault" absentee voting in addition to moving elections to a weekend day. More than 70 percent of Minnesotans usually vote, a turnout that's tops in the country. But a 70 percent grade usually gets you a "C," not something to be proud off.

Just after Barack Obama's election, Rahm Emanuel, his chief of staff, made this memorable and cynical statement: "You never want a serious crisis to go to waste."

When this crisis ends, let's just not go back to "normal" but instead let's not waste the chance to make overdue social and economic changes.

Time for Trump to self-quarantine

Mike Knaak
Editor



economic health.

There's a big red state/blue state divide on many of these issues. Many of the states led by Republicans have been among the last to issue restrictions, despite advice from public health officials that Covid-19 will eventually spread everywhere. Unfortunately, they see this as a problem in the big cities that happen to be led by Democrats – New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, Detroit.

Public opinion polls show a deep divide between Republican and Democratic voters with Republicans seeing the issue as much less urgent and concerning than Democrats, although the gap is narrowing as the body count increases and confirmed cases mount everywhere.

While public health and intelligence professionals tried to deliver warnings three months ago, Donald Trump denied the facts, delayed action, deflected blame and demonized his opponents. We're hearing reports that early in the year, advisers said "all the lights were flashing red," words that eerily echoed warnings in the summer before 9/11.

Even as most medical professionals were warning of the spread of the virus, many of Fox News' most prominent voices were dismissing it as a hoax in the latest attempt by Democrats and the media to hurt Trump.

Trump has spent much of his presidency seeking to undermine the

credibility of the media in the eyes of his supporters. At a time when we need a common set of facts and set of information distribution channels we can trust, we don't have them.

Trump's daily briefings are really a weak attempt to replace arena rallies in front of his cheering, red-hatted flock. But his quips intended to demonize and divide don't play as well in a small room of reporters.

The country needs confident, coherent and consistent leadership, not a carnival barker or insult comic. This is not the time for a leader whose signature moment is firing people on reality TV.

For years, Trump has ridiculed and attacked the so-called "deep state." Now he needs those public health, intelligence and economic experts to handle the first crisis of his presidency that wasn't of his own making.

Trump stakes his re-election on low unemployment, a strong stock market and hundreds of young conservatives he appointed to the federal judiciary. He's lost two of his three arguments for re-election, although the economic trends he touts merely continued their performance since mid 2009.

It's time for Trump to follow Johnson's path and step back from the campaign and focus on the pandemic. He should announce that he won't run again. If he's worried about his future, after Nov. 3 and before Jan. 20, he should resign. Acting president Mike Pence could issue a pardon to protect him from any possible federal prosecution.

Trump could then safely self-quarantine in Mar-a-Lago.

Transform isolation into fun family bonding

Dennis Dalman
Reporter



make a casserole, mix up a cake, with all family members – even the small fry – helping in the process.

- Get everybody together, including the pooch, for leisurely, sauntering walks in the neighborhood or in a nearby park. Go for a relaxing bike ride. Go slow enough in order to really see things you've never taken the time to notice before.

- Play age-appropriate yard games, anything from hide-and-go-seek to softball.

- With everyone gathered in the living room, call grandparents and have a good long all-call chat with them, preferably via Skype.

- Adults could use the down-time to begin an at-home hobby they'd always hankered to do but never did, such as drawing or oil- or water-color painting. If you decide you're no Rembrandt, so what? Go ahead, be a klutz; have fun anyway. Learning to bake bread is another hobby, a very satisfying activity, that can also involve the whole family. A home pervaded by the scent of bread baking in the oven makes for a cozy, happy home. There are many basic bread recipes online, as well as other tips for starting just about any hobby that tickles the fancy.

Social isolation does not have to be a miserable dilemma akin to solitary confinement in a jail. In fact, it can be a rewarding, connective experience – a time for families to slow down and strengthen bonds.

A long time ago, we kids loved those happy days when we were shut inside the house during blizzards and rainstorms. We'd get out our board games (favorites being Monopoly and Clue), cards, jigsaw puzzles, coloring books, paint-by-number sets and have at it. Sometimes, our parents would squeeze in around the dining-room table, joining in the fun.

Here are some suggestions for turning restless isolation into a time for rediscovering what really counts most in life – one another.

- As already mentioned, bring out those board games, puzzles, coloring books and other fun hobbies. If you don't have board games or other such items, you could order some online if you feel it's not wise to venture forth to shop.

- Have reading sessions, each person taking turns reading aloud from an adventure storybook classic, like "Treasure Island," "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" or the Harry Potter series. For younger children, choose simpler books.

- Pop lots of popcorn, then hunker down together to watch a great family movie. "The Wizard of Oz" is always lots of fun, and so are Walt Disney movies.

- Have a cook-in. Bake some cookies,

- Do a long-delayed home project, like finishing that basement. Make it fun so kids will want to have input and help out.

- Take out those boxes of old mementoes, souvenirs, photos and what-not and share them with everyone sitting at the kitchen table. That was one of our very favorite things to do on blizzard days, with our parents telling us stories, often hilarious, sometimes tragic, of the people pictured in a Kodak slice of time.

- For the little ones, have a scavenger hunt, like an Easter-egg hunt, in the yard or in the house. Hide treats here and there and let kids find them. We kids so loved those "hunts."

- Surprise faraway family members, relatives or friends by writing a "real" letter to them, with everyone contributing to the writing process, then send the letter in a real envelope with a real postage stamp on it. The recipients just might go wobbly with shock after getting a "real" letter in the mailbox.

- Most of all, through every day and night, stay upbeat do not succumb to a sky-is-falling attitude. That gloom-and-doom mood is highly detrimental to children's sense of security. Yes, there will be hardships, trials, tribulations and – tragically – deaths. But if we kick in our courage and our persistence, there will also be plenty of healthy bonding going on, with families having fun and being strengthened. And not to forget, strengthened families make for strong societies.

Mayor

from page 2

St Joseph has included park playground equipment in the restrictions as these areas are most susceptible to close contact, without safe distancing guidelines.

- Closure of bars, restaurants and other public accommodations under Executive Orders 20-04 and 20-08 remains in effect until May 1 at 5 p.m.
- Distance Learning Period begins on March 30 and will last until May 4.

While it is extremely uncomfortable and highly unorthodox, these measures are meant to secure better availability to needed medical equipment and services for those that need it most.

When the governor makes the decision to reopen small businesses, including the food, beverage and entertainment in-

dustries, the council and I will be ready to help in any way we can. The Economic Development Administration, Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation and the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development will be available to figure out best courses to move forward as we recover.

I appreciate the efforts of our city workers, emergency services staff and business. Our community is resilient and committed. The city is adapting and will continue to adjust, so we can continue to fulfill our commitment to the community. We will all get through this Covid-19 pandemic together. It is this generation's challenge... we must come together.

We have links on City of St. Joseph's website, showing all up to date COVID-19 updates:

www.cityofstjoseph.com/326/COVID-19-Updates

www.cityofstjoseph.com/327/COVID-19-Business-Resources

In addition, we are available to answer your calls. City offices are being staffed, with someone available to answer your calls. If there is some question you are not able to find an answer, please call city offices: 320-363-7201.

And of course, I am always available to talk, exchange email or text to help anyone through this event.

Don't hesitate to reach out to me.

rschultz@cityofstjoseph.com
320-260-0393

If my mother were alive today, she'd say something like, "what's everyone getting so excited about?" What we need to control is the panic...we're going to be fine.

Thank you. God Bless.
Stay Safe.

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 representative 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
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Community Calendar

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

Monday, April 6
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.
Thursday, April 9
St. Joseph Food Shelf, open 1-3 p.m., 124 First Ave. SE, St. Joseph.

Sunday, April 12
Easter Sunday Service, 10 a.m., City of Hope, 413 Franklin Ave. NE, St. Cloud. One-hour drive-in service. Social distancing will be honored, no bathrooms available. Bring your lawn chair, sit by your car and listen to a live service.

Monday, April 13
St. Joseph Food Shelf, open

1-3 p.m., 124 First Ave. SE, St. Joseph.
St. Joseph Planning Commission, 6 p.m., Government Center, 75 Callaway St. E.
St. Joseph Township Board, 8 p.m., Township Hall, 935 College Ave. S., St. Joseph.

Wednesday, April 15
St. Cloud school district board meeting, 6:30 p.m., District Administration Office, 1201 Second St. S., Waite Park.

Thursday, April 16
St. Joseph Food Shelf, open 1-3 p.m., 124 First Ave. SE, St. Joseph.

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Refugee/immigrant news: Time for caring, social connectivity

Tani waa kuu muhiim adiga. Fadlan aqri.

Ogeysiis! Importante para Usted, por favor léalo. Please read Announcements brought to you by Cultural Bridges of St. Joseph, a committee of Central Minnesota Community Empowerment Organization. We are dedicated to ease your transition into our community.

by Imam Asad Zaman
Executive Director of Muslim American Society of Minnesota and Co-Founder of the Muslim Coalition of ISIAAH

During this time of physical distancing, we are called to practice love for our community. We must take accountability for one another's health and

wellbeing.

The most tangible way to do that, if we can, is to stay socially connected and physically protected through distancing. You

and I literally can't be safe unless our neighbors are safe.

This pandemic is a test that will expose how true we are to our faith. We must lean into the full humanity of ourselves. Being abundant with one another, not hoarding or panic buying. We must be caring and loving, not practicing division, like the few who point the finger at our Asian community.

We must use this time to fully practice what the Almighty calls us to daily. We're to draw closer to the Almighty. That will allow us to want for others what we want for ourselves – love, community, health and

prosperity.

...

St. Joseph Soccer program. Cultural Bridges is sponsoring a summer soccer program for all children that live in and around St. Joseph. This will be for children going into second through eighth grade.

The format will be a half-hour practice and a half-hour game, two nights per week. The cost will be \$40 per child. The season will run from June 16 to Aug. 8. Each child will need to bring a soccer ball and shin guards.

Referees are needed. Anybody going into ninth grade or older can be a referee. After a background check, referees will be trained and paid for refereeing. We are planning on playing soccer this summer even though the Coronavirus is keeping us home now.

Email StJoeSoccer5@gmail.com for more information.

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Zaman

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

School from page 3

hardest part is saying goodbye after a video meeting. The first couple of times I had to end a meeting online, the students looked sad. It was hard to say goodbye to them."

Huls said she has realized how much energy her students share.

"At the end of a normal school day I'm pleasantly tired, used good energy, but kept having it replenished by being around the youngsters all day," she said. "This is much more tiring than a regular school day teaching. (There is) so much more preparation ahead of time to make sure everything is 'share-able' on your screen, and not the same feel, (without) all the energetic, spirited bodies in the classroom."

"Of course, we miss all the interaction and the ability to let kids work together and check their understanding by quietly leaning in and asking questions of individuals," Huls said. "The kids are great, though. Understanding, patient with my technology flubs, still eager to be a part of sixth-grade learning and showing general good humor."

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Easter Sunday Live Resurrection Service

10 a.m. Easter Sunday, April 12; one-hour drive-in service

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