

Newsleaders

Reaching Everybody!

Friday, May 15, 2020
Volume 32, Issue 10
Est. 1989

Town Crier

Apollo, Tech diplomas will be mailed to seniors

After receiving guidance from the Minnesota Department of Education, the St. Cloud school district canceled plans for a scaled down graduation ceremony for Apollo and Tech seniors. The new plans call for diplomas to be mailed in June. The district hopes to bring seniors and families together for an event at the River's Edge Convention Center in July.

Let's play Joetown Bingo

Invest in your community now until June 6. Accumulate receipts totaling \$20 from each business to make a Bingo. Each Bingo is an entry and you can enter as many times as you want to win one of three \$200 Visa gift cards. Three winners will be chosen June 8 on Facebook. Email your Bingo with photos of receipts to mary@mcburnopress.com by June 7. To obtain a virtual bingo card, visit Joetown on Facebook.com/Joetownmncvb or Instagram.com/Joetownmn or cityofstjoseph.com.

Farmers' market reopens

The Sartell Farmers' Market is open from 3-6 p.m. Mondays in the parking lot of Bernick's Ice Arena. Find great locally grown and produced food including: meat, eggs, vegetables, caramel corn, salsa, honey, treats, plants and much more.

Make cards of gratitude for health-care workers

Essential workers in Central Minnesota are dedicating extra time and energy to keep our community safe. Show support by creating a simple note of thanks and praise for these workers. Visit www.unitedwayhelps.org and click on the Covid-19 Resources page to complete the thank-you form. Contact Mary Krippner, United Way volunteer engagement manager, at 320-223-7991.

INSERTS:
Bee Line Service
Bello Cucina/Sliced
on College Avenue

Joetown Rocks, parade, festival canceled

by Cori Hilsgen
news@thenewsleaders.com

St. Joseph is known far and wide for its annual July 3 and 4 Joetown Rocks Parish Festival and annual parade sponsored by the St. Joseph Lions.

Usually, during those two days each year, the streets of the city and the church grounds are filled with people who come to celebrate and visit with friends, relatives and neighbors.

Unfortunately, like many other area celebrations, these traditional annual events will not take place this year because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Although chairpersons had begun planning for these events months ago, decisions to post-



photo by Cori Hilsgen

As the 2019 July 3 Joetown Rocks Concert kicks off, a crowd begins to gather around stands in front of the church.

poner/cancel them were recently made.

Joetown Rocks chairpersons Dean Budde and Bruce Bechtold, along with other concert

committee members, decided at a May 5 Zoom meeting to cancel this year's July 3 concert.

The group and other Church of St. Joseph festival stand chairs

had discussed event and large gathering and trend options taking place around Minnesota earlier and had decided a decision needed to be made by May 8.

Concert committee members Jeff Velline and Tommy Velline said they will plan to move current concert plans into 2021.

"This decision, though a tough reality, was easy to make, and all similar events across the state are following suit if they have not already, right through August at the moment," Jeff Velline said.

"As best we can, the parish will try and make up the economic difference," Budde said. "However, there's many more facets to this Joetown Rocks that

Joetown • page 8



photo by Mike Knaak

Farmers' market returns for summer

Jon Ness of South Haven sells one of a variety of vegetable plants offered to customers at the St. Joseph Farmers' Market on May 8. The market takes place on Fridays from 3-6 p.m. at Resurrection Lutheran Church, 610 CR 2, St. Joseph.

City's finances on solid ground, audit finds

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

The city of St. Joseph is in sound financial shape, City Council members learned during a presentation of its 2019 audit at the May 4 meeting.

The tax rate went down last year while tax capacity went

up. Continuing a trend for the last five years, the city's general fund balance increased by \$192,506 in 2019.

The yearly audit was completed by Bergan KDV and presented by Steve Wischmann.

Of the city's \$3.7 million of revenue, \$1.4 million comes from property taxes. City revenue increased \$184,255 from

2018 to 2019. The most significant variance was an increase in miscellaneous revenues of \$137,799. Part of this amount was an increase in investment income resulting from a better market rate, according to the audit.

On the expense side of the general fund, expenditures increased \$208,589, or 6.5 per-

cent, from 2018 to 2019. The most significant increases in expenditures occurred in general government, public works and culture and recreation. General government increased \$74,027 because of an increase in wages and the severance payment for the city administrator who retired in 2019. Public works ex-

Finances • page 2

Obituary

Greg Hartung, 41
St. Joseph
Sept. 3, 1978-May 2, 2020

Greg Hartung, 41 of St. Joseph, died May 2 at his home from a possible heart attack.



Funeral services were held May 7 at St. Anthony Catholic Church in St. Anthony. Burial was in the parish cemetery.

Hartung

Hartung was born Sept. 3, 1978 in Melrose to Gerald and Bernice (Kunstleben) Hartung. He grew up in Holdingford and graduated from the Holdingford High School. He married Ema Urness on May 3, 2003. The couple moved to St. Joseph. Hartung was the manager at Casey's General Store in St. Joseph. He was very active in his children's activities, including

sports, plays and Boy Scouts. He volunteered at Bethlehem Lutheran in St. Cloud, St. Anthony Catholic Church in St. Anthony and the Holdingford public schools. He was a member of the St. Anthony Catholic Church in St. Anthony.

Survivors include the following: his parents, Gerald and Bernice Hartung, Freeport; his wife, Ema Hartung, St. Joseph; his seven children, Anna, Erin, Emily, Seth, Landon, Avery and Ella Hartung, all at home in St. Joseph; his siblings, Randy (Amanda) Hartung, Freeport; Daniel (Sue) Hartung, Avon; Cheryl Hartung, Holdingford; Kim (Jacob) Wiechman, St. Rosa; Lynn (Jake) Brutger, Holdingford; and his mother-in-law, Jean Urness, St. Cloud.

He is preceded in death by his father-in-law, Harlan Urness.

Because of the particular circumstances, donations to the family are requested in lieu of flowers.

Finances

from front page

penditures increased \$45,530, with snow plowing making up the largest component of this increase. With the annexation of the township, there was more plowing to be done. Culture and recreation increased \$65,343 because of an increase in utility costs related to Millstream Park shelter and an increase in wages.

Public safety accounts for 47 percent of general fund expenses with a total of \$1,625,599. Expenses came in more than \$70,000 under budget.

Of the fee-supported budgets, the refuse fund operates at a loss. Mayor Rick Schultz pointed out the three-year refuse contract is up at the end of the year and council might have to increase fees to stop losing money on refuse operations.

Wischmann said the unassigned general fund balance

is capable of supporting 47 percent, or six months, of the city's expenses at 2019 spending. The city's policy calls for four to six months so the city is on target.

The audit report flagged one financial procedure. Because of the city's small administrative staff, the same people handle several accounting duties that should be separated.

Council members asked Wischmann how current market conditions will affect the city's investments. The city doesn't invest in equities, he said, and that the city's "conservative" portfolio in cash certificates limits risks and is set to ride out market peaks and valleys.

In a followup email after the meeting, City Administrator Kris Ambuehl wrote, "The city of St Joseph is in sound fiscal shape due to (Finance Director) Lori Bartlett's exceptional work. Although we do anticipate some economic implications due to Covid-19, the city is in solid shape to weather the storm."

Home building increases in 2019

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

Builders created 46 housing units in St. Joseph during 2019 resulting in 76 jobs, according to data released by Central Minnesota Builders Association.

The building activity included 11 single-family homes and 35 apartments accounting for more than \$3.1 million in taxes and fees. There were three single-family homes constructed in St. Joseph Township last year.

In the St. Cloud area, more than 900 new housing units were added that the homebuilders association says added more than 1,900 jobs to the economy.

There were 508 single-family homes constructed in 2019, up 23 from the year before. New apartment units totaled 394, down 188 units compared with 2018.

Construction continues under the current stay-at-home order as builders are considered "critical businesses."

Blotter

If you have a tip concerning a crime, call the St. Joseph Police Department at 320-363-8250 or Tri-County Crime Stoppers at 320-255-1301 or access its tip site at tricountycrimestoppers.org. Crime Stoppers offers rewards up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for a crime.

May 1
12:55 p.m. Theft. Jasmine

Lane. A person attempted to remove license tabs from a vehicle, damaging the front tab.

1:31 p.m. Ordinance violation. 117 Ash St. E. Renters were advised they had 24 hours to clean up trash on the property. Checking an hour later, the trash was cleaned up.

May 2
11:49 a.m. Crash. Jade Road. A deer jumped in front

of a southbound vehicle on Jade Road causing severe damage to the right front corner of the vehicle. The driver was not injured.

May 6
5:59 p.m. Collision. CR 2 and Minnesota Street W/Leaf Road. Two occupants of the vehicles were injured and taken to St. Cloud Hospital by ambulance.

News Tips?

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Bob Dunning
Stearns County Agricultural Inspector
P.O. Box 246, St. Cloud, MN Phone 320-255-6180

Sartell-St. Stephen • St. Joseph

Reaching Everybody! Newsleaders

Published each Friday by Von Meyer Publishing Inc.

Publisher/Owner Janelle Von Pinnon	Designer Nina Henne	Editor Mike Knaak	Assignment Editor Carolyn Bertsch
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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to ST. JOSEPH NEWSLEADER, 1622 11th Ave SE, St. Cloud, MN 56304.

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Leaders make sure no one falls through the cracks

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

While state and national governments tackle the big issues of controlling the coronavirus pandemic, a small group of St. Joseph community leaders is focusing on details to deliver basic services during the health emergency.

About a dozen leaders gather on Zoom once a week to make sure people with housing, food and education needs are being served during the public health crisis.

The group's informal leaders are Molly Weyrens from Central Minnesota Catholic Worker and Anna Mercedes, a theology professor at the College of St. Benedict. Other participants include people from Kennedy Community School, city government, Cultural Bridges, Resurrection Lutheran Church, the Chamber of Commerce and St. Benedict's Monastery. Participants and organizations vary from week to week.

"We check in as a central spot for stakeholders so we're not working in silos and duplicating services," Weyrens said.

The group started meeting before the virus hit focusing on housing and food. Weyrens said the public health crisis

highlighted those social gaps. This week's meeting focused on housing and food.

The group is raising money to support meals for homeless people who are staying temporarily at area hotels. Almost 100 homeless people, many from rural areas, are staying in hotels and they need about 500 meals a week. Before the virus struck, Weyrens said, they were living in cars or sharing couches with friends and now they have no place to go.

The group is working with Kennedy to provide Coborn's gift cards for the school's Colt Action Packs that help families needing help with food. The packs, with easily prepared foods, serve 50-60 kids.

Also at Kennedy, there are plans underway to celebrate the end of the year, possibly with a drive-through around the loop in front of the school.

Looking ahead to the summer, the meeting participants learned the community garden at the monastery will be open but there will be no access to the barn. "We will have dirt and water," said Mary Quinlivan from Cultural Bridges.

Some concerns also included how to support children who won't be able to play in large groups or participate in

traditional summer recreational activities.

City Administrator Kris Ambuehl said city parks are open but people should use them at their own risk and practice social distancing. The Government Center is open for very limited services and city business should be conducted online. City Council meetings are continuing but with council members, staff and the public practicing social distancing.

These resources are available for people who need food assistance.

- Senior Dining Meals on Wheels is available for those who are homebound and unable to get out. The Meals on Wheels program in St. Joseph is serviced through the Albany dining site. Diners are receiving a quantity of their choice of frozen dinners that can be stored in the freezer and taken out daily to warm up. To register, contact the Albany dining site at 320-845-4070. The program always needs volunteers to help with delivery.

- St. Joseph Food Shelf is open Mondays and Thursdays from 1-3 p.m. and available by phone anytime at 478-213-2700. The food shelf is in the Community Center, 124 First Ave. SE.

St. Joseph Catholic School plans grade restructuring

by Cori Hilsgen
news@thenewsleaders.com

Due to a decline in sixth-grade enrollment, St. Joseph Catholic School, a pre-kindergarten to sixth-grade school, will not be offering a sixth-grade option after the 2019-2020 school year.

Karl Terhaar has been the principal at the school for 13 years.

He said there has been an increase in the number of students who have chosen to leave the school after fifth-grade to attend area sixth-through eighth-grade middle school options and this has created a decline in enrollment.

Discontinuing sixth grade will create a few changes at the school. An additional room will be added to the Montessori preschool program, which had a waiting list last year.

Several teachers will be re-assigned to different grade levels. Sixth-grade teacher Susan Huls will move to fifth grade, Tess Koltes will move from fifth grade to third grade, Robin Kremer will move from third grade to second grade and Betty Pundsack will retire from teach-

ing second grade after more than 40 years at the school.

"It wasn't an easy decision but given the growing interest in our Montessori preschool, the financial liability of maintaining a sixth grade with declining enrollment, and Pundsack's retirement, it made sense to discontinue offering sixth grade and put more efforts toward expanding our preschool," Terhaar said.

The school has the most degreed staff of all the Catholic schools in the St. Cloud Diocese.

The school has been offering sixth grade since the building opened back in 1926. The 1967-68 school year was the last year the school offered kindergarten through eighth grade options and restructured grades to include kindergarten through sixth grade options in 1968-69. Currently, the school has 36 preschool students and 105 students in kindergarten through



Terhaar

sixth grade.

St. Joseph Catholic School is part of the consolidated Catholic Community Schools that provides a centralized administrative system, allowing principals at individual schools to focus on teaching/learning and supporting teachers, students and families and allows pastors to focus on the spiritual needs of their parishes and schools.

Obituary

Harold "Hal" Roske, 90
Collegeville
Aug. 22, 1929-April 26, 2020

Harold (Hal) Joseph Roske, 90, passed away from natural causes at his home in Collegeville, surrounded by his family, on April 26, 2020. Due to the pandemic, a memorial service will be held at a later date.



Roske

Roske was born in Collegeville (Flynn town) on Aug. 22, 1929 to Martha Rose (Hentges) and Joseph Benedict Roske. He attended St. John the Baptist Grade School, St. John's Preparatory School and graduated from St. Cloud Technical High School.

He married Dorothy Theresa Rennie of St. Joseph on June 28, 1951; they would have celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary in two months.

Roske served stateside in the U.S. Army from 1950 to 1952. He was employed at St. John's Abbey and University for 44 years, including many years as head of the electric shop. He loved playing Legion, Army, amateur and semi-pro baseball from 1945 to 1955. He served as Boy Scout Master of Troop 84 from 1956-67, as a youth hockey coach for several years and was a member of American Legion Post 328 in St. Joseph for the last 29 years. Roske was a life-long and very active member of St. John the Baptist parish, having served as altar boy, sacristan, parish council chair, usher, lector, Eucharistic minister and maintenance supervisor.

Roske was an avid fisherman, with "Fishing Fridays" a fixture in recent years at the family cabin on Big Fish Lake. Every grandchild cherishes fishing trips with him

on Big Fish Lake and being regaled with stories from his past adventures. He loved a good game of racquetball well into his 60s, and spent many a Sunday morning on the golf course with lifelong friends John Krebsbach, Hub Klein and Rudy Gapko. Though humble, his talents were many, and his beautiful and unique pieces of woodworking artistry are treasured by his family and many others.

Loving and kind, Roske was known for his gift of bringing family and friends together and making everyone feel special. A wonderful husband, father, grandfather, friend, neighbor, and mentor, he always had a twinkle in his eye and a ready and warm smile for all. The warmth of his love will surround his family forever.

Survivors include the following: his loving wife Dorothy and their six children: Sandy (Don) Kewman, Lincoln, California; Barb (Jim) Wander, Minnetonka; Michael (Peggy Landwehr), Collegeville; Mary (Pat) Holmay, Eagan; Kath (Chris Dallager), Eagan; and Bill (Ila Hoeft), Farmington; grandchildren Mark (Nicole) and Ben (Katlyn) Kewman; Matt (Jill) and Kristin Wander; Michaela (Jameson), Molly, Benedict (Ellory) and J.J. (Anais) Roske; Dan (Dana), Nick (Karen) and Eric Holmay; Jessica (Wilson), Emily and Eli Dallager; and Bryar, Faye and Harrison (Angie) Roske; and nine great grandchildren: Maggie, MacKenzie, Felix, Isaac, Isabel, Eleanor, Grayson, Connor and Oliver. He was preceded in death by his parents and an infant sister, Maria, and grandson, Adam.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are preferred to St. John's Abbey, St. John the Baptist Parish in Collegeville, or the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

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Refugee/immigrant news: From Somalia to St. Joseph

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 Martina Talic

Last week, I had the honor to conduct a phone interview with Mohammed Abdi, 18 years old, and his mom Fatuma Ahmed. The family of 10 moved to St. Joseph from St. Cloud in the fall of 2019. Mohammed is an impressive young man who used to go to Tech High School, where he enjoyed playing soccer with his friends. Currently he is a student at Rocori High School in Cold Spring and he is taking time to adjust to the new environment. It was a nice connection to discover that Mohammed likes the Croatian soccer team, which is a favorite one of mine.

Before the family moved to the United States, they lived in the refugee camp in Eritrea and later in Slovakia. Mohammed was 12 when he came to Minnesota and he learned English perfectly in only six

years. He communicates with his siblings in both Somali and English. His mom Fatuma likes her new home in St. Joseph. She is a stay-at-home mom who quit her job to care for her eight children. Her husband and her older son are the breadwinners. Fatuma spent most of her life in a refugee camp, which makes her appreciate her new life even more. It is very important for her to learn English well so that she can communicate with her neighbors. Fatuma said she is deeply grateful for the good education her children are receiving here and the high-quality health care that we have in Minnesota. She wishes for her kids to have a good and happy life and hopes they will take care of her and her husband when they get older.

It is not common in the Somali community for parents to move to senior assisted living. Fatuma misses her neighbors, friends and family from back home but they manage to keep in touch with them via internet even though some moved to different countries, such as Ethiopia and Australia. She misses some foods from her native country but luckily can get most of the ingredients here. Fatuma considers St. Joseph to be her home because her family here has freedom, safety, good health care and education.

When I asked Mohammed about his future, he said he would like to have a great

career and to raise a family of four kids in a warmer place. He does not care what culture his wife would be and



Ahmed

whether or not his children speak the Somali language. But "the more languages you speak, the smarter you are" he said. His mom would like him to form a family with somebody she knows and to stay close, but she understands ultimately it will be his choice. Religion is an important aspect in the family's life because "it teaches a way of life, how to treat people and build relationships."

In the end, I asked Fatuma and Mohammed if they had a message for the readers. They replied: "Be open to everyone, be open-minded to other cultures and talk to people who are different from you!"

Martina Tali, a resident of St. Joseph, used to be a refugee during the civil war in Bosnia and Herzegovina (1992-1996). She currently teaches at St. John's Preparatory School.

...

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

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FINANCE GUIDE | AT WORK

Maximize Employment Benefits

If you're not already taking advantage of your company's retirement plan, 401(k) match or other benefits, what are you waiting for? These programs are some of the biggest perks of working for a company that cares about the financial well-being of its employees.

Some work programs can be complicated, so be sure to stay current on everything offered by your company. Ask your human resources professional to explain your various options as an employee.

RETIREMENT PLAN

We're all going to want to hang it up at some time in our lives. If your employer has a 401(k) plan and you don't contribute to it, you're absolutely leaving money on the table. Your human resources department should be able to walk you through your options, which likely include contributing more than the minimum to your overall plan.

If your employer doesn't offer a retirement plan, look into options like IRAs or SEP IRAs that can help you sup-



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plement your income in your retirement years. Work with a local financial professional to discuss your options.

MAXIMIZE YOUR BENEFITS

Traditional 401(k) plans are likely just one program offered by your company. Ask about flexible spending

accounts or medical and dental insurance to make sure you're not missing out on any possible perks.

Health insurance can be particularly expensive on the open market, so be sure to enroll in your company's program if it is cost-effective for you and your family.

Maximize your benefits and

take advantage of the ones that can save you money by reducing taxes or out-of-pocket expenses. You'll find that some benefits are optional, while some are required by law. Set a meeting with your HR professional to make sure you're plugged into all the programs that make sense for your financial situation.

WELLNESS PROGRAMS

In addition to health insurance, some employers offer wellness programs for employees, including voluntary exercise and diet activities. These are typically not mandatory, but employees are generally encouraged to work out and make smarter lifestyle choices in exchange for incentives.



Times have changed.

Life looks different for everyone these days.

As we face this evolving time together, let's remain inspired by the hope of tomorrow and navigate challenges one day at a time.

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Joetown

from front page

will be missing. The parishioners and Central Minnesota will not get to listen to Tom and Jeff and

the Killer Vee's music, we will miss the camaraderie and socialization and we will miss the pride this parish takes when the parishioners put their time and talents together to successfully complete a large task like this. I, personally, have met many more

wonderful parishioners in the preparations for Joetown Rocks and the church reconstruction. When all is said and done, most parishioners will sit down, reminisce with exhaustion and say 'what a ride'. Then we start to gear up for the next one."

Budde and Bechtold met with festival stand chairs at a May 6 Zoom meeting to announce the Joetown Rocks concert postponement and discuss plans for an upgraded raffle and other options to help replace the annual festival.

In the past, the festival has included food booths, refreshments, a quilt auction, bingo and other games, a merry-go-round and train ride for children, candy stand, cake walk, country store, handiwork and craft stand and fireworks.

Besides being a wonderful socialization event, the Church of St. Joseph depends greatly on the income from this event to help meet its annual budget.

Bechtold and Budde announced the postponement/cancellation of the festival after the church's May 10 recorded Mass and Bechtold said the church budgets \$100,000 of annual income from the event. The two chairpersons discussed some new ideas to replace this lost income.

Some new options for the postponed/canceled festivities being considered include the following:

- Concert and festival planners hope to increase raffle ticket income. The annual July 4 raffle will still take place, but it will be changed from a book of 20 raffle tickets sold for \$2 each to a book of 10 raffle tickets sold for \$10 each.

Twenty-two anonymous contributors have donated money to

offer a \$5,000 grand prize for the raffle in addition to other similar prizes as in previous years.

A planned drive-thru pickup of raffle books is scheduled for parishioners on Sunday, May 31. Parishioners will be handed raffle books as they drive by a booth in the church's east parking lot.

Organizers plan to telephone and deliver raffle books to parishioners who are unable to pick their books up on May 31.

Parishioners will be able to drop off their sold raffle ticket stubs and money collected at a booth on Sunday, June 28, in the church's east parking lot.

Budde said the goal from the raffle is to try to collect \$50,000 to \$100,000.

"This festival has been part of our community for generations and it is sad that we need to postpone it this year," Bechtold said. "I hope our parishioners and community embrace the raffle with the same enthusiasm as they did the festival. This would have been our 15th Joetown concert and I look forward to its return in 2021."

- The church quilters have been busy for months stitching beautiful quilts for the annual quilt auction until Gov. Tim Walz's shelter-in-place went into effect. Options for an online quilt auction are being researched and considered, possibly offering three to five quilts at a time.

- Jeff and Tom Velline, are planning to put together a few fun videos to share with people who will be missing the concert music.

- Volunteers of the Joetown Festival usually receive and wear printed T-shirts for the event. Selling and/or awarding T-shirts, with a clever slogan and design, to people who sold extra raffle tickets is being discussed.

- A future outdoor/indoor country store may also be held when outdoor fundraisers such as Rocktoberfest and the Millstream Arts Festival can be held.

The annual parade, sponsored by the St. Joseph Lions Club, will not take place this year. Parade organizers Joe and Joanne Bechtold and Ken and Mary Stommes have been working with the parade for more than 10 years.

The July 4 parade usually began at 10 a.m. at the corner of Minnesota Street and Third Avenue SW. and traveled down Minnesota Street for 1.5 miles, ending at 17 Avenue E.

"The parade and celebration go hand-in-hand as far as we are concerned," the Bechtolds said.

Joann Bechtold said according to an article about the history of the parade written by Jim Kuebelbeck, the St. Joseph Lions Club has been handling the July 4 parade since 1964.

Parishioners and residents should check the Church of St. Joseph website bulletin and Joetown Rocks Facebook pages. For additional information, visit the churchstjoseph.org website and Joetown Rocks Facebook page.

Other area events such as the Sartell SummerFest, weekly Summertime by George Concert Series, Granite City Days, Waite Park Family Fun Fest and Avon Spunktacular Days have also canceled.

The New York Times released data on May 1 which suggested St. Cloud is on track to become one of the most significant Covid-19 hotspots in the country.

The data showed positive cases for Covid-19 were growing by 42 percent daily and the number of confirmed cases are currently doubling every two days.

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An update from Mayor Schultz

The St. Joseph community is understandably concerned about the spread of the coronavirus, and as mayor, I want to share the actions we are currently taking, or could take if circumstances change. This is a first-of-its-kind situation for our community, but we must keep calm and take reasonable, disciplined steps as we move forward.

I need to emphasize this is a public health crisis, and the lead agency is Minnesota Department of Health. They are our source for information, advisories and changing conditions. That said, the city has been collaborating with a range of partners including, but not limited to: National Guard, state legislators, neighboring cities, League of Minnesota Cities, Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities, local businesses and nonprofits.

Cities in our area have canceled many summer events. The St. Joseph Parish has canceled Joetown Rocks and the

Fourth of July Parade. This is a recurring theme as other cities across the state are doing the very same thing, canceling or postponing summer community events.

I just want to clarify the city's position as this crisis persists. We are an active stakeholder in ensuring public safety for our community events, but ultimately, it is the sponsoring organization making the decision on canceling or postponing events. As the landscape for this plight changes, events might be permitted if the circumstances permit and safety procedures can be enacted.

The city of St. Joseph will continue to follow the direction of the governor and the CDC regarding mass gatherings. Social distancing and enforcement at large events will remain in place as long as there is a need to minimize the spread of Covid-19. However, this may or may not extend throughout the summer.

Mayor Rick Schultz, May 8

Families learn life-saving techniques via Zoom

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

The so-called new normal involves students being taught via interactive Internet classes, adults doing their work long distance via computers and cardiopulmonary resuscitation trainers teaching families via Zoom.

And all because of a vicious virus that has infected at least a million Americans and killed more than 55,000. In Minnesota, the Covid-19 virus caused the deaths of more than 300 people at last count.

People continue to find ingenious ways of coping, of making do and of living by that adage, "Where there's a will there's a way."

That is the attitude of Rich Feneis, a Sartell resident and founder of Advocates for Health, a nonprofit organization that distributes automated external defibrillators, AED SaveStations, throughout Central Minnesota. A vital component of those stations is an awareness-raising campaign that includes CPR training, which is often crucial for cardiac-arrest victims until the AED devices can shock the

heart back to life.

Two of the CPR trainers are Suzie Wistrom and Brianna Inkster, who own and operate the Specialized Health and Safety Co. in St. Cloud.

After a successful trial program, the training sessions are going well, thanks to the Zoom interactive computer application. Here's how it works. Families sign up for the program, and each family is given a CPR dummy to use for training purposes. Each dummy is carefully swabbed with a disinfectant solution before it is delivered to a family's house. Then time segments are scheduled, and Inkster and/or Wistrom teach the technique via Zoom. Entire families, including younger children, can learn CPR and how to use the automated external defibrillators. The dummy emits audible clicks when the CPR chest compressions are done properly.

So far, families have signed up in St. Joseph and Cold Spring, and soon the training will be extended to families in Sartell, Richmond and Waite Park. All of those cities have multiple AED SaveStations,

thanks to so many involved, such as Feneis, St. Joseph's Joel Vogel, the CentraCare Foundation, trainers, volunteers and fundraisers.

About 350,000 Americans die every year because of cardiac arrest.

"As I get older and I see friends and family pass away," Feneis said, "the one thing I want to do is give people the chance to grow old with their spouses, watch their kids and grandkids develop into fine human beings and feel how great life is. I can't think of a better way to do that than by spreading the word about how AEDs save lives. They can turn a survival rate of 8 percent into a (cardiac arrest) survival rate of 75 percent or more."

The one thing Feneis hears most often when the subject of AEDs comes up is this fear expressed by people: "I could never use that machine on anybody. I'd be afraid that I'd kill the person."

Feneis is quick to put that fear to rest.

"You can't kill anybody with an AED," he tells them. "It's not possible."

What's more, each AED has precise voice prompts that tell the user exactly, step by step, how to do the easy procedure.

Feneis, his organization and many others have worked hard to expand the number of SaveStations throughout Central Minnesota and beyond. There have been meetings with state legislators and even with the Minnesota State High School League to teach CPR to students as part of the required curriculum for grades seven through 12.

The Covid-19 virus put a stop to a lot of things, Feneis noted, but he and others are finding creative, ingenious ways to keep life moving forward.

"Other businesses like restaurants are adjusting their business model to this new normal," he said. "And we too are adjusting our business model, using media like Zoom, to educate people and potentially to save more lives."

Any families interested in participating in the CPR remote-teaching program should contact Feneis at 320-260-4040.

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Dated: May 9, 2020

Filed: May 9, 2020

/s/ Tiarynni Watkins

Publish: May 15 & 29, 2020

City Council approves apartment complex

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

Plans for a 48-unit affordable housing apartment complex can move forward after the St. Joseph City Council approved the plan at its May 4 meeting.

The development is planned for tax-forfeited property at the former Delwin Ballroom location on 20th Avenue SE. The property, known as Liberty Pointe, was first platted in 2003.

As a part of the agreement, the city agreed to reduce the assessment by \$25,000 to sup-

port affordable housing. To qualify for the assessment reduction, the developer must serve low- and moderate-income residents by maintaining gross rents on all units at 60 percent or less of the amount set by the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency for at least the next 20 years.

In addition, the city will reduce the developer's special assessment for up to \$70,000 to cover costs to install a private driveway to the property. The property is south of 20th Avenue SE and east of Dale Street.

The council approved the

plan on a 4-1 vote with Brian Theisen opposing. The developer is Sands Co. and construction could begin this summer.

In a related development issue in the same area, the council set a public hearing for May 18 on a plan to install a water main loop from south of the Army Reserve Center on 20th Avenue to Dale Street.

According to the city, the proposed improvement would support the short-term need to provide water service to the Liberty Pointe Outlot C development, as well as set the stage for future development

to the east and southeast of the city.

The estimated cost is \$358,600.

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Opinion

Our View

Masks are here to stay; get used to it

Get used to it...the coronavirus and the disruption to our daily lives it causes will be with us for months, maybe years...not weeks. The number of people who do not wear masks in public when grocery shopping or performing other essential tasks indicates many people have not accepted this reality.

People who don't wear masks offer a number of reasons - none of them supported by facts or science.

I'm not worried about getting infected and I feel fine. Wearing a mask is not about protecting you. It will help you from infecting people around you. Many people with the virus do not show symptoms but they can still spread the disease. If you get infected today, at a minimum you'll likely experience five infectious days without symptoms, and some people go 28 without symptoms while they can still infect others.

Covid-19 affects mostly people in big cities with crowded living spaces, mass transit and lots of pedestrians. Six weeks ago, Stearns County's case numbers were in the low double digits and stayed that way for weeks. But thanks to a ramp-up in testing, Stearns County's number slowly increased until two weeks ago. Then major outbreaks at poultry processing plants in Cold Spring and Melrose pushed the county numbers to more than 1,500 cases and Stearns County gained national attention for the dramatic case increase. As of Monday, state health workers had confirmed 194 Covid-19 cases among workers at the Pilgrim's Pride poultry processing plant - more than double the 83 cases just four days earlier.

Stearns County's dramatic outbreaks occurred in small towns, not big cities.

Mandated mask-wearing rules are an overreach by big government. Americans prize their individuality and personal freedom. You can think covering your face is overreach and still wear a mask so you don't make someone else sick. Be willing to accept some discomfort for the common good.

The worst is behind us. It's easy to conclude the worst is behind us as some states open up parts of society and Donald Trump promotes economic recovery. The facts don't back that up. In Minnesota, Gov. Walz says he expects deaths to "steadily rise." The state plans to spend \$6.9 million on a warehouse to temporarily store human remains of Covid-19 patients in case there's a surge in deaths.

"I know this is a sensitive topic. It's an uncomfortable topic for a lot of people. But we need to have a capability - we need to have a plan for a large number of deaths," said Joe Kelly, the state's Homeland Security and Emergency Management director.

Just because Minnesota is slowly easing shut-down orders does not mean the worst is over. It does mean we've slowed the spread, partly by practicing good public health habits. Easing up on hand-washing, mask-wearing and social distancing practices will lead to a spike in the number of sick and dead Minnesotans and force a return to the strictest stay-at-home rules.

The coronavirus pandemic is a hoax over-hyped by the media. Don't frame this public health crisis as a red-state/blue state, Republican/Democrat debate. You are not showing your political or social opinions by covering or not covering your face. Covering your face does show you believe in science, prefer to set a good example for others and care about those around you. Wearing a mask in public, maintaining social distancing, not touching your face and washing your hands will not stop the spread, it will only slow it down so health care workers and hospitals aren't overwhelmed.

As stay-at-home orders gradually ease, there will be more deaths. By August, the national death toll will be north of 140,000 victims.

Wearing a mask keeps respiratory secretions within that barrier and helps protect others if you're sick, even if you have minimal or no symptoms. It's also a helpful reminder not to touch your face.

One more fact - in the time it took you to read this editorial, five of your fellow Americans have died because of a Covid-19 infection.

40 years later, wind replaces power plant

The announcement last week that Great River Energy plans to shut down a huge coal-fired electricity-generating plant in the middle North Dakota came about 40 years too late.

The Maple Grove-based co-op announced it will close Coal Creek Station - one of the Upper Midwest's largest power plants - late in 2022. It will be replaced to a great extent with new wind farms, including four in Minnesota. Stearns Electric is one of Great River's 28 member cooperatives.

When Coal Creek, which was conveniently built next to a coal mine, shuts down, Great River expects about two-thirds of its energy to come from wind turbines.

That's a big change from the mid-1970s, when Great River Energy's forerunner, UPA/CPA, convinced state regulators the Coal Creek plant was needed to supply an increasing demand for electricity and the co-op needed a giant high-voltage power line running across 170 miles of Minnesota to supply users.

When the co-op and state regulators unveiled the plan, at first only a small group of environmentalists offered opposition. Initial public hearings were poorly attended, but as more details emerged, the opposition grew.

Opponents charged the plant was unnecessary and that solar and wind offered environmentally friendly options. The Green New Deal was not a thing then and only a small group of scientists warned of climate change caused by fossil fuel.

Farmers soon joined the environmentalists to block the line. The farmers

Mike Knaak
Editor



said their land was chosen for the line because it was viewed as less valuable than running it along I-94 or through wildlife areas. They objected to the line cutting across their cultivated fields and argued the high voltage posed a health risk to them and their animals.

By 1977, protests sprang up around surveying and construction sites as the protestors confronted work crews. The story soon became big news.

I covered the initial protests when I was photo editor at the St. Cloud Times. Only a few other journalists paid attention. A WCCO-TV crew and sometimes a reporter and photographer from both Minneapolis papers...the Tribune and the Star...would show up. Otherwise it was just me and my Times colleagues Mark Pearson, Dave Peters or Maureen McCarthy.

The protests and confrontations made for strong visuals, but I also needed patience. The best moments popped up quickly and usually unexpectedly, so I spent lots of time just standing around, talking with farmers, deputies and construction workers.

The growing protests, and sporadic violence, soon overwhelmed the small county sheriff's departments in Stearns, Pope and Grant counties. In January 1978, Gov. Rudy Perpich mobilized 200 State Patrol troopers - dubbed Rudy's

Rangers by the protestors - to protect the construction sites for the 180-foot-high towers.

By now, instead of a handful of journalists, hundreds of reporters from around the world converged on Stearns County.

One of my more memorable photos happened as protestors, loaded in a manure spreader, threatened a group of troopers by swinging baseball bats. After several passes, the troopers decided they had enough, and at the next pass, Maced the protestors. A few days later, protestors retaliated by spraying troopers with anhydrous ammonia, a fertilizer that can cause chemical burns and even death.

After this attack, which was widely criticized, the farmers resorted to nonviolent protests including covering themselves with manure before being arrested - another moment that created a great photo.

On March 5, more than 8,000 people marched from Lowry to Glenwood in Pope County to protest. My photo from the March for Justice ended up on the cover of Paul Wellstone's book, "Powerline: The First Battle of the Energy War."

I spent a good deal of time during four or five years on the story with an interesting cast of characters - George Crocker, Gloria Woida, Virgil Fuchs, Alice Tripp, Larry Long. At the time, I didn't think I'd outlive the power line.

I'd like to hear what the folks who fought the line - those who are still alive - think now.

It only took 40 years to prove they were right.

Flyovers, sports provide crisis distraction

While it feels like everything has been at a standstill with the quarantine measures in place, life continues to go on. Many brave the risk of infection to go to essential jobs, care for their family and friends or wait anxiously for stay-at-home orders to be lifted so they can get back to work. College and high school seniors will graduate without the usual commencement and fanfare and enter an uncertain path ahead. While we all hope coronavirus will eventually be defeated in the future, I have found efforts to honor our healthcare workers with flyovers and measures to try and keep sports going are bringing hope and distraction during these hard times.

When I was younger, I was a huge fan of airshows and planes, so the sight of the Blue Angels and Thunderbirds aerial display teams flying together over New York was an amazing sight to me on the news. There is just something about soaring at high speeds thousands of feet in the air that captures our imagination and inspires us in activities on the ground. I was especially excited then, to hear there would be a similar flyover by the Minnesota Air National Guard over St. Cloud Hospital. Seeing the planes and hearing the reaction from people I know across the area, it generated a buzz of anticipation and fun that was much needed in our current environment.

Connor Kockler
Guest Writer



I can't think of a better cause that the flights could honor either, than our dedicated healthcare workers. During the past few months, they have worked hard in conditions dangerous to themselves to ensure patients infected with Covid-19 are well cared for. Their sacrifice and dedication is an inspiration to us all and a tremendous service for our country. When this is over, we should remember everything they did and appreciate them for all they do.

The spectre of a return for sports is also starting to appear like a possibility. While we deal with Covid-19, I think sports can also be an important distraction for people who need something to take their mind off the present moment. I know I was highly invested in the virtual NFL Draft a couple weeks ago, doing my own research and discussing it with many of my friends. It was a great way to connect and have something fun to talk about after many weeks of quarantine.

Now, there is a smattering of sports across the world that are starting to reopen their doors. The Korean Baseball Organization now offers live games for ESPN viewers, UFC fights are be-

ing organized and NASCAR is going to resume their season with a race at Darlington this weekend. While I will never get used to seeing empty stands and participants wearing masks and enforcing social distancing measures for the teams, I know it is essential some of what we love about sports must be sacrificed so they can be done safely. With hope though, perhaps more leagues will be able to open back up and we can have another thing to stay occupied with while we stay safe at home or at work.

While these events of hope and fun bring some semblance of normal back to our lives, it is important we continue to stay vigilant and do our best to follow social-distancing rules. Though some businesses are finally able to open back up, the virus is not yet contained, as we've seen with the recent spread in our local area. If we want stay-at-home orders to be over soon, in the absence of a vaccine the best thing we can do is to stop the spread through our individual actions. I hope everyone can continue to stay safe, and that new developments allow us to have some fun and entertainment, while remembering the grave situation and the struggles many are going through at the moment.

Connor Kockler is a student at St. John's University. He enjoys writing, politics and news, among other interests.

Letter to the editor

Take time to introduce yourself to nature

Tony Dingmann, Sartell

A few hours ago I was awakened by a chorus of songbirds outside my bedroom window signaling the start of another day. It was 5:30 a.m., well more than an hour before the sun would begin to rise. I started the coffee, then slipped on my jacket to take our dog outside. I paused on the front step to take in the refreshing 28-degree spring air and listen to the orchestra of geese, ducks, turkeys, Sandhill Cranes and songbirds.

I thought back to the past month and so much has changed in the world, from going about our daily, rushed lives to now having limited human interaction with no kids' activities and where most of us are working from home. I then realized how much has changed outside as well: from ice on lakes to open water, limited birds to now my feeders being full of feathered visitors, and from snow on the lawns to signs of green grass.

As adults, time spent in the outdoors allows us to breathe in fresh air, explore the landscape and view wildlife. This leaves us feeling refreshed and

perhaps, if even for a moment, takes our mind off our daily worries and the uncertainty in our world right now.

For kids, this time outdoors can be a much needed break from the indoors and screen time; and perhaps open their eyes to a world they may not otherwise see.

We are fortunate here in the St. Cloud area to be surrounded by public lands which do not require permits or special equipment to visit. With nothing needed other than a means of transportation and a pair of shoes, the opportunities for local exploration are endless.

Just this past week, myself, my wife and two daughters explored Mississippi River County Park, Sauk River Regional Park and Kraemer Lake-Wildwood County Park, all roughly 10 minutes from our house. Each offers a unique view into the outdoors: from countless tree and plant species, miles of hiking trails, swift flowing rivers, abundant wildlife, picnic areas and plenty of room to social distance from others at the park. Our kids were entertained identifying animal tracks, throwing rocks, bird watching, stomping in the mud, all without one thought of screens, wifi or phones.

We all contribute dollars to

supporting these local, public parks through our tax dollars: their maintenance, trail grooming, equipment and resources. This means we all have part ownership in these parks, and we should take full advantage of all they have to offer. These parks are meant for everyone, for the first-timers to experts, all can enjoy what the Minnesota outdoors has to offer.

In addition to the parks I mentioned above, we are lucky to also have the Beaver Island and Wobegon trails, Quarry Park, Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge, several State Wildlife Management and State Scenic Areas all only a short drive from the St. Cloud area.

The current shelter-in-place allows for time outside to exercise, fish, hunt and hike and we should take full advantage of it. During this time when we have increased time and opportunity to be with family, I invite you to explore one or several of the public areas around us.

Take this time to introduce your kids (or perhaps yourself) to nature. I hope it will lead to an appreciation for the outdoors and open your eyes to all that our great state of Minnesota has to offer. I hope to see you on the trail!

Filings open for races with primary elections

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

The filing period for the August primary election opens Tuesday, May 19, and runs through Tuesday, June 5, for offices with potential primaries, including the St. Cloud school board.

This fall, Sen. Tina Smith's U.S. Senate seat and all U.S. House of Representative seats will be up for election. State senators and representatives will also be on the ballot.

In Stearns County, Second District Commissioner Joe Perske's seat will be on the ballot.

Residents of the St. Cloud school district will elect four board members to four-year terms.

Seats currently held by Al Dahlgren, Shannon Haws, Jeff Pollreis and Monica Segura-Schwartz are up for election.

Candidates for state offices file with the secretary of state; county candidates file with the auditor; and local candidates file at city hall.

Races without potential primaries include St. Joseph mayor and St. Joseph City Council.

Filing for those races takes place from July 28-Aug. 11.

Priority projects move ahead, others postponed

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

Projects at Millstream Park, Memorial Park, trail maintenance and seal coating will move ahead this summer, but other projects have been postponed, the St. Joseph City Council decided.

The parking lot at Millstream Park will be expanded for a total cost of \$27,000 with \$14,000 of that amount covered by a Lions Club donation.

Repairs to the paved area around the baseball field concession stand at Memorial Park will cost \$15,000.

Seal coating and trail maintenance will continue as planned because delaying those projects will add to future costs, the City Council decided at its May 4 meeting.

The council plans to prioritize other 2020 projects, especially ones that would require a special assessment, at a future meeting.

Community Calendar

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

Friday, May 15

St. Joseph Farmers' Market, 3-6

p.m., Resurrection Lutheran Church, 610 CR 2, St. Joseph.

Monday, May 18

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.

Tuesday, May 19

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

Wednesday, May 20

St. Cloud school board, 6:30 p.m., District Administration Office, 1201 Second St. S., Waite Park.

Thursday, May 21

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

Friday, May 22

St. Joseph Farmers' Market, 3-6 p.m., Resurrection Lutheran Church, 610 CR 2, St. Joseph.

Sunday, May 24

Joe Town Table community meal, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., American Legion, 101 Minnesota St. W.

Monday, May 25

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. Meetings held electronically. See stjoseph township.org for details.

Tuesday, May 26

Collegetown Township Board, 7 p.m., Township Hall 27724 CR 50.

Thursday, May 28

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

Friday, May 29

St. Joseph Farmers' Market, 3-6 p.m., Resurrection Lutheran Church, 610 CR 2, St. Joseph.

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CABLE/INTERNET

BEST SATELLITE TV with 2 Year Price Guarantee! \$59.99/mo with 190 channels and 3 months free premium movie channels! Free next day installation! Call 855-824-1258. (MCN)

DIRECTV - Switch and Save! \$39.99/month. Select All-Included Package. 155 Channels. 1000s of Shows/Movies On Demand. FREE Genie HD DVR Upgrade. Premium movie channels, FREE for 3 mos! Call 1-844-245-2232. (MCN)

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

DISH TV \$59.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. 1-844-316-8876. (MCN)

High-Speed Internet. We instantly compare speed, pricing, availability to find the best service for your needs. Starting at \$39.99/month! Quickly compare offers from top providers. Call 1-855-399-9295 (MCN)

FINANCIAL

Over \$10K in Debt? Be debt free in 24 to 48 months. No upfront fees to enroll. A+ BBB rated. Call National Debt Relief 855-995-1557. (MCN)

FOR SALE

Trailer Sale: 150 trailers for sale! Utility, Dump, Equipment, Motorcycle, Aluminum 3 Horse Slant & Enclosed Cargos. 100's of parts, tires & wheels, bearings, seals, brakes, hubs, jacks & lights. For prices: www.FortDodgeTrailerWorld.com 515-972-4554. (MCN)

HEALTH & MEDICAL

Stay in your home longer with an American Standard Walk-In Bathtub. Receive up to \$1,500 off, including a free toilet, and a lifetime warranty on the tub and installation! Call us at 1-855-372-3080 or visit www.walkintubquote.com/midwest (MCN)

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. NOT just a discount plan, REAL coverage for 350 procedures. Call 1-855-973-9175 for details. www.dental50plus.com/midwest 618-0219. (MCN)

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 844-716-2411. (MCN)

INCOME OPPORTUNITIES

NEW AUTHORS WANTED! Page Publishing will help you self-publish your own book. FREE author submission kit! Limited offer! Why wait? Call now: 855-623-8796 (MCN)

Become a published author! Publications sold at all major secular & specialty Christian bookstores. CALL Christian Faith Publishing for your FREE author submission kit. 1-888-

981-5761. (MCN)

MISCELLANEOUS

SAVE BIG on HOME INSURANCE! Compare 20 A-rated insurances companies. Let us do the shopping & save you time & money. Get a quote within minutes. Average savings of \$444/year! Call 855-697-1892. (M-F 8am-8pm Central). (MCN)

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-577-1268. Promo Code 285. (MCN)

PERSONALS

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

WANT TO BUY

Need some cash! Sell us your unwanted gold, jewelry, watches & diamonds. Call GOLD GEEK 1-866-274-7898 or visit www.GetGoldGeek.com/midwest BBB A Plus Rated. Request your 100 Percent FREE, no risk, no strings attached appraisal kit. Call today! (MCN)

LIBERTY BANK MINNESOTA SUPPORTS SARTELL'S HEROES

We are living in uncertain times because of the Covid-19 Pandemic. Yet we can always be certain of the Heroes among us who provide for our safety! Liberty Bank Minnesota has decided to honor these heroes with two significant contributions to support their efforts.

Unfortunately we had to cancel our annual *Libertyville* event in

June in the interest of public safety. But we still wanted to show appreciation to the Sartell Community for the patronage you have shown us. Funds that would have been used to produce the *Libertyville* event are being used to provide two donations to these "Heroes Among Us":



\$6,000 for the Sartell Police Department Youth Programs
Sartell PD Chief, Jim Hughes and Liberty Senior VP, Robin Gohman
(Note: Appropriate social distancing!)



\$6,000 for the Sartell Fire Department Relief Association
Sartell Volunteer Firefighters

At Liberty Bank Minnesota we're proud to be in Sartell and are grateful for all the wonderful customers we have been able to serve. We look forward to more community involvement in the years to come!



Liberty Bank
Minnesota
198 Pinecone Road, Sartell, MN 56377




Each depositor insured to at least \$250,000