

# Reaching Everybody! Newsleaders

Friday, June 26, 2020  
Volume 32, Issue 13  
Est. 1989

## Town Crier

### Firesworks set July 2

Thanks to Coborn's and Sentry Bank for coming through with a fireworks display next Thursday July 2 after dark. Enjoy the show from the safety of your own yard!

### Farmers' Market open Mondays

Sartell Farmers Market is open Mondays from 3-6 p.m. in Bernick's Ice Arena Parking Lot on Pinecone Road. Summer has arrived and so have the vegetables. Items currently available include the following: peas, beans, radishes, lettuce, kohlrabi, beets, zucchini, onions and much more. Be sure to check back each week; new vegetables arriving weekly. In addition to the vegetables you will find eggs, meat, baked goods, caramel corn, salsa, fudge and many other items.

### Flower Basket project could use your help

Thank you! The St. Joseph flower baskets are up and doing well! We are so appreciative of the great response so far for donations! Due to Covid we will be financially short because of loss of fundraisers not happening this summer by several organizations. If you have not made a donation this year or would like to make an additional donation, all amounts are appreciated! Contact: Carol Theisen at 320-363-8496 or mail to Carol Theisen, 12114 260th St., St. Cloud, MN 56301 or call Joyce Faber at 363-7682.

### Stearns trail help needed

The Stearns County Parks department needs help monitoring trail head and intersection signs. Bring comfortable hiking shoes, weather-appropriate clothing, a cloth and Windex. Walk the trail and quickly wipe down the trail intersections. Sign up here <https://secure.rec1.com/MN/stearns-county-mn/catalog> or call Sarah Weed, Parks Operations coordinator, 320-654-4726.

### Donate clothing for homeless people

Homeless Helping Homeless is looking for clothes for people experiencing homelessness. Gently used or new pants, sweatpants and shorts, men's sizes under 40 and women's sizes under 20 are needed. Hand sanitizer is also needed. Visit [www.homelesshelpinghomeless.org](http://www.homelesshelpinghomeless.org) for more information or contact Harry, Homeless Helping Homeless, at 612-868-0465 or [hfliegel@aol.com](mailto:hfliegel@aol.com).

**INSERT:**  
**St. Joseph**  
**Resource Guide**



photo by Mike Knaak

### Baseball is back in St. Joseph

The St. Joseph Joes hosted the Clearwater River Cats in the season opener on June 21, a delay of almost two months because of the coronavirus pandemic. The Joes lost to the River Cats 15-14 in 10 innings. See page 8 for the amateur baseball schedules.

## Making new plans for celebrating July 4

by Cori Hilsgen

[news@thenewsleaders.com](mailto:news@thenewsleaders.com)

St. Joseph residents and visitors won't be doing their traditional rockin' to the beat of the Joetown Rocks performers, viewing the annual parade or attending the Church of St. Joseph festival this year and many residents who usually attend the events are trying to determine how they will spend the Fourth of July holiday.

Concert co-chairman Dean Budde said he will be at the raffle drawing which will take place at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 4 in the Church of St. Joseph Heritage Hall.

Because of the postponement/cancellation of events, the raffle has been reworked to help replace many lost festival revenues. More than 900 books of raffle tickets were distributed with tickets selling for \$10 each for a chance to win the top prize of \$5,000.

Budde said his participation in the festival began in 2004 when he volunteered at the Mexican/

taco stand. The next year he worked in the beer stand on concert night when beer was served in plastic cups and large kegs were tapped.

"A hard lesson was learned that year," he said. "You just can't get the beer out of the kegs fast enough. Thereafter, it was canned beer on ice with cold hands and sore fingers getting them open. The beer stand was my gig up until last year (from) 6 p.m. 'til midnight."

Last year, he also helped check identification cards, assisted with draining overhead tarps of their rain load, helped disassemble and pack away equipment and later helped dry the tarps.

When he was asked to help chair this year's Joetown Rocks Concert, he volunteered with Bruce Bechtold to co-chair the event. Bechtold and his wife, Pat Bechtold, have been active festival volunteers and have been general chairpersons and have chaired several stands.



contributed photo

**Brothers Landon (left) and Calvin Hinnenkamp, sons of Adam and Michelle Hinnenkamp, celebrate July 4, 2019. Their grandparents, Linda and Loren Hinnenkamp, live by the annual parade route and often invite other people to watch the parade from their yard.**

Jeff Vee has been involved with the Joetown Rocks Concert since the event was started in 2006. He and his father, Bobby Vee (a famous songwriter and musician who also appeared in

films, had many Top 20 hits and performed worldwide), and his brother, Tommy Vee, worked with Rich Schwegel and the early concert committee to help coordinate

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## Council approves remote meeting equipment

by Mike Knaak

[editor@thenewsleaders.com](mailto:editor@thenewsleaders.com)

The St. Joseph City Council approved updating its video equipment so council members and the public can have remote access to meetings.

The council first considered the \$7,200 plan at its June 1 meeting but decided to delay a decision to gather more information about alternative systems.

There's a greater need for

remote access by council members and the public to comply with social distancing guidelines. Local governments across the state are looking for ways to meet open meeting laws during the public health crisis.

Beyond the current social distancing challenges, council members favored options for citizens to participate in meetings without attending in person.

By unanimous vote, the council approved the plan.

Council members delayed a decision on setting up "parklets" in downtown St. Joseph. A parklet repurposes parking spaces into a public space with amenities such as seating, plantings, bike parking and public art.

The council was asked to apply for a \$1,000 grant and matching funds.

During the presentation, council members were told 18 downtown businesses were told

about the initiative and 13 replied with 100 percent supporting the idea.

Possible locations include College Avenue near Krewe and Minnesota Street near Local Blend. Parklet signage would note that it is public space. The parklet amenities would be removed in late October.

The council asked for more research and options will be presented at the July 6 meeting.



## People

**Zachery Heyne** of St. Joseph received a bachelor's degree in construction management during May 9 graduation from Minnesota State University, Mankato.

**Amanda Beninga** of St. Joseph earned a bachelor's degree in nursing degree from Western Governors University, Salt Lake City.

**Brady Birch** of St. Joseph was recently named to the spring semester dean's list for maintaining a grade-point average of 3.50 or higher at the University of Jamestown, North Dakota.

**Cooper Gerads**, son of Amy and Tom Gerads of St. Joseph, was named to the spring semester dean's list at the University of Minnesota's College of Liberal Arts. To achieve the dean's list, a grade-point average of at least 3.666 is needed.

**Marisa Gaetz**, daughter of Rose and Rick Gaetz of St. Joseph, has been awarded a Hertz Fellowship. She is a senior at Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge and will graduate with a degree in mathematics and a minor in philosophy. She will attend MIT in the fall to pursue her PhD.



Gaetz

**The St. John's Boys' Choir** received a \$7,000 grant from the Central Minnesota Arts Board for Boys on Broadway 2020 annual musical theatrical performance that engages boys in exploring artistic elements such as choreography, staging and acting under the guidance of theater professionals and presented October 2020 in Collegeville.

**MacKenzie Huesers** of St. Joseph has been named to the spring semester dean's list for achieving a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher at Winona State University.

**Kandra Schmitz, Andrew Weisser and Kathryn Schmitz** of St. Joseph received scholarships from Catholic United Financial.

**Noel Teigen** of St. Joseph was named to the spring semester dean's list for earning a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher at the University of Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

**Seven St. Joseph students** were named to the spring semester dean's list at North Dakota State University, Fargo. A student must earn a 3.50 grade-point average to qualify. They are: **Courtney Deters, Morgan Eisenschenk, Nicholas Gill, Alisha Ophoven, Nicole Preusser, Olivia Skudlarek and Jeremy Warzecka.**

**Haley Schleper** of St. Joseph was named to the spring semester president's list at Central Lakes College, Brainerd. The president's list includes students who have earned a grade-point average of 3.75 to 4.0 while enrolled for at least 12 credits.

**Kennedy Community School** was one of 67 public schools recognized by the Minnesota Department of Education for successful work using Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports, a data-driven program that provides training and support to promote positive student behavior, especially for students facing challenges inside and outside of the classroom.

One important area of focus for the program is on decreasing disparities in discipline, which have historically had negative impacts on educational outcomes for students of color, American Indian students and students with disabilities.

**Madeline Haeg** of St. Joseph was named to the spring semester dean's list at the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks. Dean's list students achieve a grade-point average in the top 15 percent of students.

**Caitlyn Alderink** of St. Joseph was named to the spring semester dean's list at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. Alderink, an elementary education major, earned a grade-point average of at least 3.5.

**Erich Beckmann** of St. Joseph was recently recognized as the Academic Excellence award recipient from Dunwoody College of Technology in Minneapolis.



Beckmann

Beckmann has been a model student during his time in the program and the award recognizes his own work and work as a team member in group projects. One of his major milestones was getting one of the instructors started in filming lectures and demos. Beckmann accepted a position as a product design drafter at Graco.

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 [tricitycrimestoppers.org](http://tricitycrimestoppers.org). Crime Stoppers offers rewards up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for a crime.

### June 8

7:25 p.m. Fraud. Fourth Avenue NE. A man reported he received a call to approve pending transfers of \$600 and \$1,000 and the caller asked for his personal information. The man suspected his credit card information had been compromised during a previous purchase. The man canceled the card and an officer contacted the business. No loss reported.

### June 9

12:08 p.m. Harassment. Baker Street E. A woman reported her landlord had been looking through her garbage and asking other residents in the building why police were at her apartment. The officer advised this is a civil matter and to pursue a restraining order.

### June 10

12:55 p.m. Ordinance violation. College Avenue N. An officer observed an abundance of cans and garbage in the backyard. The owner was advised to clean up the yard or he would be cited.

1:18 p.m. Ordinance violation. Minnesota Street W. An officer observed indoor furniture and bar stools in the front

Blotter • page 8

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Call the **St. Joseph Newsleader** at 320-363-7741 if you would like your business included. Check out the online Business Directory at [thenewsleaders.com](http://thenewsleaders.com) which hyperlinks to each business' website.

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[www.lssmn.org](http://www.lssmn.org)

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**Newsleaders**

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[www.thenewsleaders.com](http://www.thenewsleaders.com)

Published each Friday by Von Meyer Publishing Inc.

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



## PERSONAL FINANCE GUIDE | STARTING OUT

# 10 Money Truths For Grads

According to the National Financial Educators Council and a KeyBank report, 76 percent of college students wish they had more help to prepare for their financial futures.

Another recent study by education tech company EverFi found that the average American college student can only answer one-third of all basic financial questions correctly. This lack of knowledge should be a red flag to students, educators and parents.

College years are a crucial period to establish good financial understanding. Learning about how to build solid credit history and how to practice sound financial habits will carry you through your life.

Here are 10 truths about money you should know before you graduate college.

**1. Living with your parents for a few months (or a year) can be a good thing.** That is, if you take it for the serious financial opportunity it is. This will likely be the last time in your life when you have a roof over your head and food in the fridge — neither of which you pay for.

**2. Automate your savings.** You might have heard the phrase, “pay yourself first.”



Automating your savings is following this philosophy. Plus, if you have your savings automatically transferred when you get paid, you are more likely to keep it there and not spend it on miscellaneous things you won't be able to name later.

**3. Your student loans won't just magically disappear.** Get to know them. Understand them. How many loans do you have? What are your interest rates? If you can, start paying on them before your grace period ends.

**4. Think twice about gradu-**

**ate school.** Graduate school can be incredibly rewarding and hugely beneficial to your career. Just be sure to weigh the financial investment of attending with the benefits of an advanced degree.

**5. Don't ruin your credit.** According to a 2015

Nationwide report, the average college senior graduates with more than \$4,000 in credit card debt. Don't be one of them. If you already carry credit card debt, there is not a more opportune time than right now to get ahead of it.

**6. Roll your spare change.** If you aren't already doing it, this task should go at the top of your list — no need to wait until you graduate. Spare change can add up quickly.

**7. Create a budget — but don't be married to it.** Creating and following a budget is the best way to ensure you don't spend more than you make, and stay on top of how you spend your money. The time after graduating can be tumultuous at best, so understand that your budget might need to change.

**8. Don't pass on your employer's 401(k) plan.** If your employer offers a matching 401(k) plan — take advantage of it. This is free money. And if you've learned nothing else in college, let it be to never pass up truly free money.

**9. Or health insurance.** Paying a premium every month might seem expensive because “you never get sick,” but think of what would happen if you had to deal with the unthinkable — a bad car accident or a devastating diagnosis. Your policy will pay for itself many times over.

**10. Financial independence takes practice.** Almost no one gets it perfect right out of the gate. Go easy on yourself and keep at it.

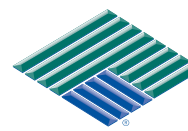


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## Refugee/immigrant news

# After college, woman wants to start business

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 Melisa Dick

Hodan Ahmed was featured in this column a year ago. This column will provide a little more about her family's background and her experiences in the last year.

Hodan lives with her parents and four sisters and a brother. The family values education and has made sacrifices to support each other in their goals and challenges. The strong bond they share has helped them through many difficult experiences.

Before she was born, her parents lived in Somalia. When the war broke out, they were in grave danger and had no time to plan. The men were separated from the women and

children and sent to different camps. At that time her parents had three children, one of whom was 6 days old. Her mother walked six days while carrying one child on her back and two in her arms. Later they were reunited with their father. Hodan was born in one of the camps; the family came to the United States when she was 14 years old.

Fast forward to today. Hodan has completed two years of college and will have a degree in early childhood education in two more years. Her goal is to set up her own early childhood business. With her exuberant personality, innate wisdom and knowledge of five languages, it is easy to envision her enriching the lives of children and parents.

In the meantime, she is presently working hard to become fluent in English, and working at two jobs in addition to the classes she takes at St. Cloud State



Ahmed

University. As a young adult in a Somali family with her knowledge of English, license to drive and ability to earn, she plays a unique role in supporting her family. The love shared within the family unit is evidenced by her commitment to these responsibilities.

During the pandemic, her family is vigilant in regard to measures to avoid transmission of the virus. They are aware of the importance of cleanliness, the wearing of masks and disposal of items they touch.

I believe our city is enriched with a family dedicated to the ideals of education, health, hard work and support of the greater good.

• Senior Dining Meals on Wheels is available for those who are home bound and unable to get out. Diners receive frozen dinners that can be heated up anytime. Contact 320-845-4070. Volunteers are needed for delivery.

• The St. Joseph Food Shelf is open 1-3 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays at the Community Center, 124 First Ave. SE. If you can't go at these times, you can schedule a time to go there. Contact number is 478-213-2700.

• The Catholic Worker Organization is providing shelter and food for persons in the area who are unsheltered. Contact Molly Weyrens at 320-828-4465 or centralmncw@gmail.com. Donations requested, P.O. Box 94, St. Joseph, MN 56374.

• Midnimo Grocery and Halal Meat provides free food for Somali residents experiencing food insecurity. Address: 2 21st Ave. S., St. Cloud. Phone: 320-281-5141.

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

### Baggenstosses celebrate 50th Anniversary



Jerry and Betty (Wenning) Baggenstoss of St Joseph will celebrate 50 years of marriage on Saturday, June 27.

The couple wed on June 27, 1970 in St. Mary's Catholic Church in Holdingford.

Jerry is retiring this year as owner of Baggenstoss Trucking and Excavating after 47 years. Jerry also served on the St. Joseph Fire and Rescue Squad and retired after 25 years. Betty's focus has been on supporting, loving and serving her family. They both enjoy visiting and being around family and friends especially their grandchildren.

The couple has two sons and five grandchildren: Jeff, a nd c hildren Beau and Brooks; Joe and Lori, with their children Emmy, Vayda and Ivy of St Joseph.

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Free community papers like the one you're reading today are thriving. In fact, free community publications have been able to maintain nearly 99% of their readership since the turn of the millenium. We love the neighborhoods we serve and we couldn't do it without your support.

Thank you!

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## PET CARE GUIDE | RESPONSIBLE OWNERSHIP



**Y**ou can never be too diligent in prioritizing your pet's safety. Stay aware of the most common safety concerns for pets year round, and it is less likely you will find your pet in need of emergency care.

**HEAT SAFETY**

Pets are exposed to many of the same safety concerns in the heat as their owners. They are prone to heat exhaustion as well as heat stroke.

It is important to keep your pet cool and hydrated. Make sure your pet

always has access to plenty of fresh, cool water and an area where it can rest in the shade (or in air-conditioning).

Warmer weather also is the time to take precautionary measures against fleas and ticks. Be sure to stay up to date with your pet's flea and tick preventive, as well as heartworm preventative medications.

**COLD-WEATHER SAFETY**

Pets face just as many safety concerns in cold temperatures as they do in hot temperatures. Ice and snow — even freezing pavement — can be very painful to your cat or dog's paws.

It is important to dry your pet's paws after any time outside, and look for any cracks or dry patches. Purchasing boots for your dog is

always an option, but applying petroleum jelly is another great and inexpensive alternative.

Also be mindful of your pet feeling cold. Cats and many short-haired dogs need time to acclimate to colder weather, and don't need to be outside for extended periods of time.

**HOLIDAY SAFETY**

The holidays come with their own safety hazards for pets. Decor such as tinsel and ornaments can be dangerous and should be hung out of reach. If you keep a live Christmas tree, be sure to place a tight skirt around its base to prevent your pet from drinking the tree water.

Also be mindful of strings of lights by tucking cords out of reach and

using outlet surge protectors.

**PREPARING A PET FIRST-AID KIT**

It is important to be ready when your pet needs you. Keep the following items together in a tackle box or cosmetic case:

- Cotton rounds;
- Tweezers;
- Sterile gauze;
- Grease-cutting dish soap;
- Hydrocortisone cream;
- Rubbing alcohol;
- Benadryl;
- Blanket; and
- Copy of vaccinations and medical records (particularly useful if you are away from your home or you are putting together a kit for your vehicle).

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# Opinion

## Our View

### 100 percent should be census goal

People couldn't be blamed too much if they've forgotten about the 2020 Census. First the coronavirus shut down social and business life. Then the police killing of a black man in Minneapolis focused attention that there really are two Americas – one white and one black – for law enforcement, but also health, work, education and housing.

But the census count continues, and Minnesotans are leading the way.

As of this week, 71.1 percent of Minnesotans responded online, by phone or by mail. That's the best response rate of any state. The national average is 61.6 percent. For those of you who like to keep score, Alaska is the state with the lowest rate at 47.2 percent.

But if we're going to get a complete and accurate count of people and where they live, only 100 percent will do.

If you haven't responded yet, go to census.gov to fill out the form. Depending on the size of your household the process takes just a few minutes and the online form is available in 13 languages. You'll need to count the people who lived in your household on April 1.

The pandemic slowed down some census work including followup mailings and in-person visits for households that have not responded. You can speed up the count and protect your health and the health of census workers by not waiting for an in-person visit.

The Stearns County response rate is 71.9 percent, with 59.9 percent of households responding online. Locally the bragging rights go to St. Stephen, with an 81.3 percent response rate. Sartell follows with 79.6 percent. St. Joseph, with a 71.6 percent rate, needs to pick up the pace.

The census count shapes just about every aspect of the community for the next 10 years.

Right now, Minnesota has eight members of the House of Representatives. But if the count shows other states have grown faster than Minnesota, we could lose a representative.

Latest population estimates show slower growth in Minnesota and that could mean the state could lose a seat in the House and one of its 10 Electoral College votes.

The census determines how the country's 435 congressional seats are divvied up. Minnesota barely hung onto its eight seats after the last census in 2010, but its growth hasn't kept pace with states such as Florida and Texas that are poised to gain seats. Minnesota's projected population could fall between 21,000 and 25,000 people short of keeping the seat.

The census count is also used to draw political boundaries for elections at all levels of government.

There's money on the line too. Census results determine how billions of dollars in federal spending flows to our communities for education, transportation, health, housing and employment.

The federal government spends more than \$57 billion a year in Minnesota so there's real money at stake. (In 2018, Minnesotans paid \$725 million more to the federal government than was spent by the feds in the state. Minnesota is one of only eight states with that negative balance of payments.) An undercount means we'll get an even smaller slice of the pie.

Our census participation leads the nation now. But if you haven't been counted, get to it so we're not only first in the nation but we also hit 100 percent.

## Free speech is not free of consequences

The incident could have ended tragically.

St. Cloud police tried to disarm a black man in the early morning hours of June 15 and the gun went off. The bullet hit a cop and the man escaped, only to be caught and arrested a few minutes later.

Officer goes to the hospital for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries. Man with the gun goes to jail to await formal charges. No officer accused of unnecessarily using deadly force. No black man killed by cops.

The story should have ended there. But it didn't.

Thanks to lies on social media claiming two black men had been shot by police, a large and unruly crowd descended on police headquarters. After protestors threw rocks at the building, police used tear gas to break up the crowd.

The next morning, Police Chief Blair Anderson bluntly blamed the rumors for the unrest.

"It's very dangerous," he said. "This is the type of thing that could have escalated. ... This place could have been on fire over a lie."

The pandemic of lies, threats and abuse flooding social media needs to be cured. This is not an argument about the First Amendment or censorship, which says "congress shall make no law." That means the government. It does not mean Twitter or

**Mike Knaak**  
Editor



Facebook can't keep crackpots and people making threats off their platforms.

Free speech means you can stand on your soapbox in the public square and say what you want. But you can't libel, slander, threaten or endanger people without consequence.

Stearns County Attorney Janelle Kendall thinks it's time for consequences for those who posted lies about the St. Cloud gun incident. Her office is considering possible charges against the people who initially spread the false information on social media that sparked two nights of riots in south St. Cloud. The challenge will be proving the lies were directly tied to the protesting and the damage that was done.

Good for Anderson and Kendall for calling out the lies. Their comments and threat of legal action do not endanger free speech. But they do remind us when you speak, you are responsible for the consequences of your words.

Liars and crackpots standing on soapboxes in the town square have

been around for centuries. We've always believed "bad" speech will be drowned out by "good" speech. But with digital media, new high-tech soapboxes spread those words faster and farther so the good speech never catches up.

Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act of 1996 immunizes websites from legal liability for the comments of their users. When Congress enacted Section 230, it wisely recognized that holding websites legally responsible for user-generated content would cripple the rapidly developing online world. The world has changed.

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and other websites that publish comments should face the same consequences for "free" speech as traditional publishers. The Department of Justice wants Congress to change the law so online platforms would face sanctions for a range of illicit conduct if they don't block or delete it.

While we wait for Congress to act, Kendall should investigate and charge the liars who could have sparked violence in St. Cloud. She's successfully led efforts to prosecute and convict sex traffickers, showing she's not afraid to tackle big issues.

The rest of us can take action too. Learn to separate the fact from fiction, opinion from news and question the motives of the poster.

## It was a lynching by 'knee' in broad daylight

It was a vicious public lynching, except the policeman used his knee instead of a noose to squeeze the life out of George Floyd as three cops stood there and watched.

That cruel cold-blooded murder on a Minneapolis street unleashed outrage and demonstrations worldwide and rightfully so. These murders of black boys and men, often by police, have been going on for many decades. And thankfully, people of every color are demanding they stop. Enough is enough!

What is doubly cruel is the lack of justice or accountability. Almost never do such murders lead to convictions (or even arrests) for the perpetrators. Meantime, blacks hold their breaths in anxiety and fear, wondering, "Will it be my son next time? Husband? Brother? Uncle? That kid down the block?"

The four policemen involved in Floyd's murder have been arrested and charged. But will they be convicted? That is always the big question.

Since the Civil War Era, there have been 4,400 lynchings of blacks in America, and those are only the documented ones. There have likely been many more than that carried out, unrecorded, in the dead of night. Lynchings were just one form of psychological terror meant to underline the delusion of white supremacy and to keep uppity "Negroes" in their place as third-class underlings in the American South and, not to forget, in the systemic racist-rigged socio-economic structures of the North. At one time there were more Ku Klux Klan goons in the North than the South.

In Duluth on June 15, 1920, black

**Dennis Dalman**  
Reporter



workers in a traveling circus were accused of raping a young woman, even though a doctor found no physical evidence of rape. A mob of more than 1,000 people stormed the jail in Duluth, grabbed the suspects and tried them in a hastily arranged kangaroo court. Then the furious mob beat them and lynched three of them from a lamppost one block away. Photos were taken and the ghastly images later sold as postcards. Three white men were convicted of rioting, but nobody was prosecuted for the murders.

In the South, under Jim Crow laws, lynchings were not even considered punishable crimes. They were just, oh well, something that happened as retribution for blacks' alleged crimes but most often for getting "uppity" and daring to challenge self-proclaimed white superiority. In many cases, the victims were accused of verbal or physical assaults against white women, even though the overwhelming number of such accusations were determined to be completely unfounded. And of course the accused weren't formally charged or tried in court – just hauled off, sometimes hideously tortured (beaten, castrated, burned) and then, still alive in agony, hung from a tree to die. Sometimes, the lynchings attracted crowds of whites who found such savagery "entertaining."

Those kinds of atrocities were per-

petrated with impunity against blacks for hundreds of years during the long brutal history of slavery, racism and oppression.

In recent times, that lynching mentality has extended to rogue cops itching to over-react with violent force when a black man is "suspected" of anything, even the most minor of infractions, or just because that "suspicious" black man happens to be walking, jogging or driving down a path or a roadway. The lynching mentality is a toxic legacy that gets lodged like a vicious infection in the heads of some people.

But as we condemn the "bad cops," let's be quick to remind ourselves of the overwhelming number of good law-enforcement employees who put their lives on the line every day and night to protect us and to preserve the public peace. So many of them have been killed in the line of duty.

These massive protests, involving people of all ages and every color, are admirable. But sad to say, there is a grave danger that these passionate people, so dedicated to justice for all, will spread Covid-19 infections after their up-close interactions during marches and rallies.

The protests should probably end for now; they have been effective, powerful expressions of the need for immediate reforms. Let's keep expressing our collective outrage in other ways; let's demand prohibitions on the use of potentially lethal police restraint of suspects (such as choking), and let's insist such murders do not go unpunished or forgotten. It's time for action. Legislators, are you listening?

St. Joseph • Sartell-St. Stephen

Reaching Everybody!  
**Newsleaders**

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

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



# July 4

## from front page

the event for the past 14 years

“Typically on the fourth, we lay pretty low as all of our energy has gone into the July 3 concert and activities and it is always a very late night,” Vee said. “This summer I expect it to be pretty quiet for obvious reasons. We will likely spend the time along the North Shore where we go often to avoid the crowds.”

He said it was hard to cancel this year’s show.

“It still does not even seem real, but neither does most of what is going on in our country,” Vee said. “It was, however, the right thing to do. We’ll look forward to working with everyone toward an amazing event in 2021.”

Darla Schwegel said she and her husband, Rich Schwegel, have not yet made any plans about how they will spend the holiday.

Rich was instrumental in organizing the first Joetown Rocks Concert and Darla said both of them dedicated their July 3 and 4

to the concert/festival for the past 14 years. Rich retired as chairman after last year’s event.

Jeny Meyer will be helping with the online quilt auction which is replacing the live auction that usually takes place at the festival.

She said she will be watching the bids all weekend for the online auction which closes on the evening of Sunday, July 5.

In past years, Meyer said she and her family usually walk around and socialize during the concert. On July 4, Meyer and her husband, Mike Meyer, meet volunteers at 7 a.m. to help quilting chairperson Delrose Fischer and other volunteers put quilts on the hay rack for the parade.

Later they join Mike’s family and watch the parade together. After the parade, they eat lunch at the festival and later both of them help at the quilt auction that begins at 1:30.

“This year, it’s going to feel different,” Jeny said. “We probably won’t have as much family around. We will probably make the most of the change of schedule. We might sleep in a little, enjoy coffee on the porch in the morning and enjoy the day with

whatever comes our way.”

Amber Walling said she has been part of the Joetown Rocks celebration for a year as business administrator for the Church of St. Joseph.

She said she was hoping to introduce her family to the festival this year, since all her siblings will be in Minnesota for July 4.

“Instead, we will celebrate together with a family meal and activities for the kids and adults,” Walling said. “When we get together, we have a family talent show. Everyone is required to participate, and the kids especially love it.”

Church of St. Joseph Facility Manager Andy Loso said July 4 has been a big deal and the place to be for him for many years. As a child, he would help with setup, attend the parade, and play games and eat at the festival grounds.

Since 2001 as he has been employed by the church, his July 4, the week before it and a few days after it were all figured out for him.

“I am on the grounds the week prior to the festival to help Mark Leither, our logistical coordinator with setup, generally spending a day getting everything we

rent picked up and brought back here,” Loso said. “Once it is all here, we have a small army of volunteers that come in and spend five days setting up. I work with them setting up, gathering supplies and doing tasks as needed. It is usually 10- to 14-hour days, but the time goes by quickly because I enjoy the camaraderie with the volunteers.”

Loso said on July 3 after he has a Joe Burger or two he is usually on the festival grounds by 8 p.m. visiting with a few people he tends to see only once each year.

“I am off to bed early, as I must be up by 2 a.m. to get our Model T (car) into the parade line-up for the St. Joseph Historical Society,” Loso said. “I am then on the grounds by 3 a.m., along with a small dedicated crew of volunteers, to clean up the concert area and set up different things for the Fourth of July festivities.”

This year, Loso is not sure what he will do. He said his local Model T club puts on a July 4 tour and picnic he has always wanted to attend, but has not been able to, so that is an option. His parents rent a cabin for the July 4 week and he might visit them,

July 4 • page 8

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Pursuant to Chapter 333, Minnesota Statutes, the undersigned, who is or will be conducting or transacting a commercial business in the State of Minnesota under an assumed name, hereby certifies:

1. The assumed name under which the business is or will be conducted is: SLP and Me.

2. The stated address of the principal place of business is or will be: 22500 State Highway 15, St. Augusta, MN 56301.

3. The name and street address of all persons conducting business under the above assumed name including any corporations that may be conducting this business: Megan Nicole Honer, 22500 State Highway 15, St. Augusta, MN 56301.

4. I, the undersigned, certify I am authorized to sign this document. I further certify the information in this document is true and correct. I understand by signing this document, I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Minnesota Statutes section 609.48 as if I had signed this certificate under oath.

Dated: June 9, 2020

Filed: June 9, 2020

/s/ Megan N. Honer

Publish: June 26 and July 10, 2020



## 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, June 26**  
**St. Joseph City Wide Garage Sale,** 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Details at [www.facebook.com/SJcity-widesales](http://www.facebook.com/SJcity-widesales).  
**St. Joseph Farmers’ Market,** 3-6 p.m., Resurrection Lutheran Church, 610 CR 2, St. Joseph.

**Saturday, June 27**  
**St. Joseph City Wide Garage Sale,** 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Details at [www.facebook.com/SJcity-widesales](http://www.facebook.com/SJcity-widesales).  
**St. Joseph Outdoor Craft & Vendor Event,** 9 a.m.-3 p.m., rear of the Community Center along Callaway Street. Food trucks, vendors, crafts.

**Sunday, June 28**  
**Joe Town Table,** 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., American Legion, 101 W. Minnesota St., St. Joseph. every fourth Sunday of the month. [centralmncw@gmail.com](mailto:centralmncw@gmail.com).

**Monday, June 29**  
**St. Joseph Food Shelf,** open 1-3 p.m., 124 First Ave. SE, St. Joseph.

**St. Joseph Township Board,** 7 p.m., Township Hall, 935 College Ave. S., St. Joseph.

**Tuesday, June 30**  
**Kids Can Blood Drive,** noon-6 p.m., Resurrection Lutheran Church, 610 CR Road 2. To donate contact Tamara at 320-282-8266.

**Collegeville Township Board,** 7 p.m., Town Hall, 27724 CR 50, Cold Spring.

**Thursday, July 2**  
**St. Joseph Food Shelf,** open 1-3 p.m., 124 First Ave. SE, St. Joseph.

**Friday, July 3**  
**St. Joseph Farmers’ Market,** 3-6 p.m., Resurrection Lutheran Church, 610 CR 2, St. Joseph.

**Monday, July 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.

**Tuesday, July 7**  
**St. Joseph Lions Membership and Executive Board meeting,** dinner 7 p.m., meeting 7:30 p.m., new Lions building, Millstream Park.

**Thursday, July 9**  
**St. Joseph Food Shelf,** open 1-3 p.m., 124 First Ave. SE, St. Joseph.

**Friday, July 10**  
**St. Joseph Lions brat sale,** 9-4 p.m., St. Joseph Meat Market.

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# July 4

from page 7

or he might stay home and enjoy time with his family.

"What I do know is, it will be odd not spending time with the same people I normally see over the fourth of July," he said.

Peggy and Jim Boettcher, husband and wife, have been members of the Church of St. Joseph parish for 27 years and have worked at the event every year except one. They were directors for a few years and worked in the Joe Burger stand for many years. They also worked in the bingo stand, closet, refreshment stand,

beer stand and other areas.

She said this year they plan to celebrate with family spending time on the water.

St. Joseph Lab School Administrative Assistant Linda Heinen said she and her husband, Joe Heinen, also do not have specific plans for this year. In recent years, they have usually enjoyed watching the fireworks from wherever they could view them and have attended the parade with their grandchildren.

Linda and Joe were active festival volunteers for many years running the train ride, working the Kiddie games and volunteering in other areas. Linda, along with Cheri Burg, has also helped judge the parade for many years.

## Blotter

from page 2

yard. The owner said she would contact the renters.

### June 11

8:55 p.m. Crash. 320th Street and 91st Avenue. A side-by-side ATV crashed in the ditch after the driver hit a culvert/water line. The driver was injured but refused medical attention. The passenger was not injured. The driver estimated he was going 40 mph when he crashed.

### June 12

1:20 p.m. ID theft. Pond-view Lane E. A man received a letter in the mail regarding an unemployment application. The man is working and did not apply. The man called the unemployment office and they told him they had a data breach.

### June 15

12:35 p.m. Threats. Cedar Street E. A woman reported her brother threatened to hurt her. The officer explained the process for eviction or a court order to keep him away.

### June 16

9:33 a.m. Collision. CR 2.

A woman was driving south on CR 2 following a semi. The semi driver signaled to turn right and moved to straddle the center line to take a wide turn. The woman tried to pass, hit the brakes to avoid a collision and slid into a steel sign. The driver wasn't injured but the vehicle was damaged.

12:32 p.m. Theft. Baker Street E. A man sold a Playstation online but the buyer wanted to return it. The seller forgot to change his address and it was sent to his old St. Joseph address. The new tenant and the postal carrier did not remember the package.

## 2020 Amateur Baseball Calendar

**Sartell Muskies • St. Stephen Steves • St. Joseph Joes • Sartell Stone Poneys**



### Sartell Muskies

6/28/20	2:00 p.m.	Clearwater River Cats	Clearwater
7/8/20	7:30 p.m.	Becker Bandits	St. Cloud Orthopedics Field
7/10/20	7:30 p.m.	Monticello Polecats	Monticello
7/11/20	1:30 p.m.	St. Joseph Joes	St. Cloud Orthopedics Field
7/12/20	1:30 p.m.	Clear Lake Lakers	Clear Lake



### St. Stephen Steves

6/26/20	7:30 p.m.	Freeport	Freeport
6/28/20	1:30 p.m.	Avon	St. Stephen
7/5/20	4:00 p.m.	Opole	Opole
7/11/20	1:30 p.m.	St. Wendel	St. Wendel
7/12/20	1:30 p.m.	Opole	St. Stephen
7/18/20	1:30 p.m.	Freeport	St. Stephen
7/25/20	1:30 p.m.	Avon	Avon
7/26/20	1:30 p.m.	St. Wendel	St. Stephen



### St. Joseph Joes

6/26/20	7:30 p.m.	Albertville	Albertville
6/27/20	1:30 p.m.	Big Lake	St. Joseph
6/28/20	1:30 p.m.	Clear Lake	St. Joseph
7/2/20	6:15 p.m.	Foley	St. Joseph
7/11/20	1:30 p.m.	Sartell Muskies	Sartell
7/12/20	1:30 p.m.	Sartell Stone Poneys	St. Joseph
7/15/20	6:00 p.m.	Becker	St. Joseph
7/18/20	1:30 p.m.	Monticello	St. Joseph
7/19/20	1:30 p.m.	Rogers	St. Joseph



### Sartell Stone Poneys

6/26/20	7:30 p.m.	Clear Lake Lakers	St. Cloud Orthopedics Field
6/28/20	1:30 p.m.	Foley Lumberjacks	Foley
7/1/20	7:30 p.m.	Clearwater River Cats	St. Cloud Orthopedics Field
7/10/20	7:30 p.m.	Albertville Villains	St. Cloud Orthopedics Field
7/12/20	1:30 p.m.	St. Joseph Joes	St. Joseph
7/15/20	7:30 p.m.	Monticello Polecats	Monticello
7/18/20	1:30 p.m.	Clear Lake Lakers	Clear Lake
7/19/20	4:00 p.m.	Big Lake Yellow Jackets	St. Cloud Orthopedics Field



**For updated information, please visit: [www.mnbaseball.org](http://www.mnbaseball.org)**

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