

Reaching Everybody! Newsleaders

Friday, July 10, 2020
Volume 25, Issue 14
Est. 1995

Town Crier

Virtual mentors needed

Big Brothers Big Sisters needs volunteers to be virtual mentors to children. Volunteers can attend an information session, be interviewed and meet children through Zoom. This is a one-on-one volunteer opportunity to provide friendship and guidance to a child three to four times a month for a year. Sign up for a Zoom session at www.BigDefenders.org and click on 'Be a Big' or call Brenda at 320-258-4534.

Drive mobile food shelf

Volunteers are needed to drive the mobile food shelf to and from distribution sites in St. Cloud and provide general assistance at the mobile food shelf distributions. Work may also include helping load and unload the mobile food shelf before and after distributions, provide assistance as clients come through and help with food choices. Volunteers must have a current driver's license and the ability to lift and carry 50 pounds. Contact Catholic Charities Emergency Services at 320-229-4560.

Short-term homeless funding needed

Homeless Helping Homeless needs donations to support 25 homeless people with coronavirus who are living in a hotel until a federal grant gets approved. Donations can be sent to Homeless Helping Homeless, P.O. Box 475, St. Cloud 56302 or call 612-868-0465 or 320-309-2952.

Mask drop-off sites

The need for masks will continue for a while. Make and donate cloth masks for at-risk community members. The link below from the CDC-Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicates how masks are used and also shows patterns for making masks. Completed masks can be dropped off at Coborn's, 900 Cooper Ave. S, St. Cloud, behind the service counter during store hours and at Whitney Senior Center west door, 1527 Northway Drive, St. Cloud, in the covered bin marked MASKS. A pattern is available at <https://bit.ly/2ZStuEW>.

Newsleaders seeks GoFundMe donations

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

Board members react to school equity issues

by Mike Knaak

editor@thenewsleaders.com

Sartell-St. Stephen school board members offered somber and serious reactions to the June 24 listening session on education equity during a work session July 8.

"When I left that night, I was embarrassed this was going on in our district," board member Lesa Kramer said. "Our community does not deserve excuses why something hasn't been done. I want to make sure we're

committed to move forward."

During that June 24 session, board members heard from students, parents, community members and teachers who shared experiences of racism, insensitive, hurtful comments about religion, and failed attempts to correct the problems.

The board members discussed a range of solutions and how to move forward.

"I found it heart-wrenching to hear from students and parents," board member Pat

Marushin said. He described the comments as "profoundly disappointing. Every student deserves a safe and supportive environment."

Because the board's meeting was a work session, they could not vote on any actions, but the members did offer short- and long-term ideas. The board's next formal session is on July 20.

Board members focused on the need for continuing professional development for teachers

and staff on how to handle racist or other hurtful comments in the classroom. Board member Amanda Byrd said those comments can't be ignored. "Part of your job is to make sure all kids feel safe," Byrd said. "It's not an optional part of your job anymore."

The board asked Superintendent Jeff Schwiebert to bring back together a multicultural group started four years ago that hasn't met in a year.

Equity • page 4

Baltes retires with send-off celebration

by Dennis Dalman

news@thenewsleaders.com

The end of June and beginning of July was a momentous, memorable week for the Rev. Tim Baltes, pastor of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Sartell.

After nine years of service to that church, he retired, officiating over his last Mass and also celebrating his July 1 birthday.

Parishioners gave Baltes a drive-by send-off celebration, with more than 80 vehicles, including a 1932 Ford and a fire truck. Baltes was picked up at his residence by someone driving the vintage Ford, then he was let out of the car and directed to a decorated chair under a canopy at the church. Then the car parade began with people waving, yelling "Thank you" and "Goodbye" and "God bless you" and "Happy retirement!" Baltes smiled, waved back, exchanged blessings with the parishioners

he'd gotten to know and love so well in nearly a decade. Some of the cars in the drive-by tribute contained three generations of churchgoers.



Baltes

A special surprise guest at Baltes's last Mass was Joey West, a young nephew from Arizona. Baltes's sister, Mary Jo West, is not feeling well and could not make the trip because of social-isolation factors. Baltes was sad Mary Jo could not attend, but he was thrilled to see Joey there. Baltes' brother, Gary, lives in Florida and could not attend either. Baltes is very close to those two siblings.

Baltes said he plans to keep living in Sartell, but he will cease all duties in the church to allow the new pastor to begin

Retires • page 2



photo by Carolyn Bertsch

Buzzing in for a local treat

Julianne Fauske and her son Greyson, 4, both of Sartell, purchase honey, fresh onions and seasoned pretzels June 22 at the Sartell Farmers' Market.

Country Manor begins new visit rules

by Cori Hilsgen

news@thenewsleaders.com

For people who live in assisted living and long-term care facilities, visits from friends and loved ones are very important and help add excitement to their days.

After having been restricted from these visitations because of the Covid-19 pandemic, Country Manor/Woodcrest of Country Manor residents, patients and tenants are happy they are now able to visit outdoors with loved ones after restrictions for long-term care

facilities were lifted June 18 by the Minnesota Department of Health.

Emily Frericks, the director of Marketing and Public Relations of Country Manor/Woodcrest of Country Manor, said the facilities began supporting outdoor family visits on June 22.

Country Manor has created a visitation scheduling system and assigned individuals to take reservations for family visits. This helps ensure they can maintain a controlled environment, with safe social distancing for everyone.

Designated areas have been created on campus that offer sun protection, convenient access to staff, level ground and enough space.

Staff will be screening visitors when they arrive at the designated visitation areas. Residents, tenants and patients will also be screened.

There are different guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for Country Manor's long-term care facilities and its senior housing. The Country Manor Health Care and Rehabilitation Center and Rapid Recovery and

Aquatic Center both fall under the facility's long-term care license.

Staff will be monitoring designated areas and will be available to assist residents, tenants and patients to and from visits, as is necessary. To accommodate everyone, Country Manor is requesting families call at least 24 hours before planning a visit.

Country Manor continues to offer video calls for families that are unable to visit their loved one(s), or who may not feel comfortable doing so yet.

Visitation • back page

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF FILING DATES FOR ELECTION
TO THE SCHOOL BOARD
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 748
SARTELL-ST. STEPHEN SCHOOL DISTRICT
STATE OF MINNESOTA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the period of filing affidavits for candidacy for the office of school board member of Independent School District No. 748 shall begin on Tuesday, July 28, 2020, and shall close at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Aug.11, 2020.

The general election shall be held on Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020. At that election, three members will be elected to the school board for terms of four years each.

Affidavits of Candidacy are available from the school district clerk, 212 Third Ave. N, Sartell, MN 56377. The filing fee for this office is \$2. A candidate for this office must be an eligible voter, must be 21 years of age or more on assuming office, must have been a resident of the school district from which the candidate seeks election for 30 days before the general election, and must have no other affidavit on file for any other office at the same general election.

The affidavits of candidacy must be filed in the office of the school district clerk and the filing fee paid prior to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 11.

BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

/s/ Amanda Byrd
School District Clerk

Publish: July 10 & 24, 2020

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(formerly Index 53)

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Retires

from front page

his own protocols at the church. Baltes said he plans to develop some new hobbies and to do some traveling. In time, he might – if asked – fill in from time to time for other pastors in the celebration of the Mass.

One person who knows Baltes well, who has worked closely with him for seven of his 10 years at St. Francis Xavier is Deb Rudolph, pastoral associate.

“He is the hardest-working man who touched so many people’s lives,” she said. “He had a very gentle manner and leadership style. He always told us to use our own giftedness to do our jobs. He allows people to use their own gifts to do their work, and he is very, very supportive.”

Baltes, she said, was always cherished for his “great sense of humor,” along with his “quiet

Fr. Ron Weyrens

and unassuming ways.” “He was very careful when he’d speak, and his sermons helped connect faith to people’s daily lives because he would often bring up things that were happening in the daily world. He was – he is – a true shepherd.”

Baltes also served on the St. Cloud Diocese Personnel Board and did work in that regard for the bishop.

In the process of saying goodbye, Baltes wrote a parish letter of farewell in the church bulletin.

“As is said, ‘All good things must come to an end,’” Baltes wrote. “And so it is that after nine years as pastor of this parish community I now say

goodbye.”

Baltes praised parishioners for the welcome he received.

“You welcomed me into your midst and made me feel right at home,” he wrote.

Baltes praised the “fine staff” he worked with throughout the years and the joys he felt in helping people with their faith journeys, presiding over marriage ceremonies, celebrating baptisms and conducting funerals.

“Some of those moments were times of deep tragedy,” he noted. “The tragic deaths of young folks from our parish heighten the sense of loss and how fragile life truly is. In those moments, I saw how this community gathered around and supported and loved one another.”

Baltes also praised the St. Francis Xavier Elementary School for its quality education and the growth of youth-min-

Retires • page 4

Corrections

Due to information given to the Sartell Newsleader that later was shown to be incorrect, a couple of corrections are needed for a story in the June 26 edition. The front-page story in the June 26 Newsleader was about a Sartell City Council meeting where the proposed removal of a basketball court from The Wilds neighborhood was discussed. The discussion was controversial because one council member, Mike Chisum, strongly disagreed with the proposal, suggesting there were overtones of racial bias, or

perceptions thereof, stemming from young black men playing basketball on the court. A board member of Unite Cloud, a local organization that promotes racial and cultural understanding, contacted the reporter who wrote the story that postings about the race issue regarding the basketball court had been on the Unite Cloud website as well as the personal Facebook of Unite Cloud’s founder, Natalie Ringsmuth of St. Cloud. On June 30, Ringsmuth contacted the reporter via an email and stated there had been no such postings on either of the websites. She said

the misinformation given to the newspaper occurred because of misunderstandings.

In addition, council member Chisum lives in the Celebration neighborhood, not in The Wilds neighborhood.

The EdVenture Club, featured in a June 26 front-page story, is for students in grades 3-5. If all goes well (depending on schools re-opening), the program, which is similar to Kidstop, will begin in the Sartell-St. Stephen school district Sept. 8, and parents are welcome to register for it now by contacting the school district.

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Newsleader staff members have the responsibility to report news fairly and accurately and are accountable to the public. Readers who feel we've fallen short of these standards are urged to call the Newsleader office at 320-363-7741. If matters cannot be resolved locally, readers are encouraged to take complaints to the Minnesota News Council, an independent agency designed to improve relationships between the public and the media and resolve conflicts. The council office may be reached at 612-341-9357.

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

Blotter

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

June 16
1:15 p.m. Locked vehicle. 100 block of CR 120. A caller asked for assistance retrieving her keys that got locked inside the vehicle. An officer was able to unlock car.

June 17
11:30 a.m. Animal complaint. Heritage Drive and Amber Avenue. A caller reported her dog was attacked by another dog off leash that had run across the street growling. She took her dog to the veterinarian for treatment of a puncture wound. The owner of aggressive dog was found and written an administrative citation.

June 18
12:30 p.m. Gunshot. 200 block of 14th Avenue E. An employee in the area called in what sounded like a single gunshot. Officers worked the area and spoke with neighboring businesses. It was confirmed the sound resulted from a blown transformer. The power company had already been called and the affected business was able to run on generated power.

June 19
12:30 p.m. Business assist. 500 block of First Avenue E. A business requested an officer to stand by while an employee was terminated. The officer collected statements for an investigation into the reason for the termination because it related to a crime.

June 20
5:45 p.m. Found wallet. 200 block of Riverside Avenue S. A good Samaritan turned over a wallet found in the parking lot to a sheriff’s deputy passing by. The deputy contacted Sartell police and an officer was able to make contact with the owner and return the wallet. Owner stated everything was accounted for.

PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF ST. STEPHEN
NOTICE OF FILING

The City of St. Stephen will have the following positions to fill in the 2020 General Election: two (2) Council Member positions and the Mayoral position. Each position is a (4) four-year term.

Dates for filing are Tuesday, July 28-Tuesday, Aug. 11 at 5 p.m. The cost to file is \$2.

Please contact the City Clerk at 320-251-0964 for paperwork and assistance.

/s/ Julie Jacobs
St. Stephen City Clerk

Dated: July 3, 2020
Publish: July 10, 2020

June 21
10:15 p.m. Suspicious person. Country Court. A resident pulled into the neighborhood and reported seeing someone trying to open car doors. The person moved out of sight as soon as headlights flashed in the area. Officers arrived and scanned area using a night vision camera but were unable to locate anyone.

June 22
2 a.m. Traffic cones. Seventh Street N. An officer reset more than 60 traffic cones that were cones either deliberately moved or knocked over causing a hazard.

June 23
12:30 p.m. Argument. Evergreen Drive. A caller reported seeing a woman yelling as she stepped out of a car. Officers responded and spoke with the second individual in the car who said it was a verbal argument only. The woman had already walked away.

June 24
9 a.m. Disagreement. 100 block of Second Street S. A manager reported a belligerent individual. There was disagreement on fees charged. The officer advised parties to speak civilly on the matter.

June 25
6:30 a.m. Dog struck. Officers responded to what was reported as an argument and screaming. A woman was found upset about her dog being hit by a car. The dog had died from injuries.

June 26
7:30 a.m. Found property. 1500 block of Seventh Avenue S. Property reported found by maintenance working in the area. The property was reported stolen days earlier in rash of burglaries. It was placed in evidence and the owner notified.

June 27
8:30 a.m. Suspicious person. CR 1 and 27th Street N. Officers responded to a suspicious person walking in the area. The woman was known to have fled from the State Patrol the day before. They were notified and woman was charged with giving a false name

and then taken into custody for active warrants.

June 28
5:30 p.m. Park complaint. 1400 block of Grizzly Lane. An anonymous person complained about people in the park using bad language. The officer sat in the area; nothing offensive was heard and no action taken.

June 29
1:30 p.m. Traffic stop. 200 block of Seventh Street NE. An officer stopped a driver going 51 mph in 30-mph zone. The driver was cited and released.

June 30
6:30 am. Traffic stop. Seventh Street N. A vehicle stopped for speeding along newly paved road posted at 30 mph. The officer gave driver verbal warning.

July 1
9 p.m. Assault. 100 block of Riverside Avenue N. A man reported a person assaulted him and took off with his name-brand sunglasses. Officers located other party who claimed the opposite scenario. The initial party recanted original claim, admitting it was false. Sunglasses were returned.

July 2
1 a.m. Suspicious vehicle. Northside Park. Officer stopped to investigate a suspicious vehicle in park after hours. The officer smelled marijuana present when questioning two men in vehicle. Further investigation revealed drug paraphernalia and illegal substances. The driver was charged with possession of drugs and drug paraphernalia along with possession in a motor vehicle.

July 3
3 a.m. Nuisance. 1200 block of Theisen Road. A homeowner reported a man repeatedly ringing a doorbell and asking for a woman by first name. Officers scanned the area using a night-vision camera. The area was clear.

July 4
4 a.m. Theft. 1200 block of Seventh Avenue S. An officer investigated a theft from vehicle. A caller saw a younger looking male rummaging in his vehicle and then running away. The area was checked for the offender but no one was found and there was no evidence of forced entry on vehicle. Approximately \$5 in change was reported missing.

July 5
1 a.m. Fireworks. 300 block of Sixth Avenue S. A resident reported being awakened by fireworks. The offending parties were gone when an officer arrived.

July 6
7:30 p.m. Parking violation. 600 block of Roberts Road. Drivers given verbal or written warnings for parking in the turn lane.

Obituary

Jerome ‘Jerry’ H. Langer, 67
St. Cloud
July 13, 1952-June 30, 2020

Jerome "Jerry" H. Langer, 67, died June 30 at St. Benedict's Senior Community in St. Cloud. His funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 11 at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Sartell. The Rev. Ronald Weyrens will officiate and burial will be in the parish cemetery. Visitation will be one hour prior to the services at the church. Arrangements have been entrusted to Williams Dingmann Family Funeral Home, Sauk Rapids.



Langer

Langer was born July 13, 1952 in Pierz to Martha (Koll) and Carl Langer. He grew up on a farm in Pierz and lived in Sartell most of his adult life. Langer married Patricia Miller on Aug. 27, 1977 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Sauk Rapids. He worked for Fingerhut for more than 30 years and was a member of St. Francis Xavier church where he served as an usher. He was a board mem-

ber of Catholic United Financial. Langer enjoyed fishing, hunting, camping, fish fries, watching Jeopardy and Wheel of Fortune, and playing cards with family and friends. He was easy going, loving, faithful and always put family first. Most importantly he was a wonderful father and grandfather who will be missed by all who knew him. Survivors include the following: his daughter and son, Sara (Joe) Storkamp of St. Cloud and Jeff (Jen) Langer of Deer Creek; sister and brother: Cathy Paquin of Somerset, Wisconsin, and Gerard Langer of St. Cloud; grandchildren: Tessa and William Langer; mother-in-law: Dona Miller; sisters-in-law: Kathy (Mike) Wolf, Kelly (Jay) Bares, and Lynda (Daryl) Senger; brothers-in-law: Chuck (Jane) Miller and Mike (Bridget) Miller; step-grandchildren: Damion, Bella and Makayla Zimmerman; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by the following: his parents; wife, Patricia in 2019; brothers: Lawrence and John Langer; sister: Mary Langer; infant sister: Theresa; father-in-law: Charles Miller; and brother-in-law: Jim Paquin.

Obituary, guest book and video tribute available online:



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City gets CARES funding

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

City budgets will be boosted by its share of CARES Act funding to be distributed by the state of Minnesota.

Minnesota counties, cities and towns will receive \$841 million to support local government coronavirus relief efforts. The \$841 million for local governments across the state can be used to support local government services as well as grants to businesses, hospitals and individuals who have been affected by Covid-19, according to a statement from the governor’s office.

Sartell City Administrator Anna Gruber said “We have not determined how it will be used and are awaiting more guidance from the state on what it can be used on.”

The Minnesota Department of Revenue will distribute the funding to local governments. Local governments will receive a direct payment based on the per-capita formula developed by the Legislature during the special session. Cities with more than 200 people will receive \$75.34 per person, which works out to \$1,412,931 for Sartell.

For St. Stephen, \$66,375 is available and Le Sauk Township's amount totals \$45,875, according to the Minnesota Department of Revenue.

The CARES Act requires payments may only be used to cover costs that are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency, were not accounted for in the most recent city budget and were incurred during the period that began on March 1, 2020, and ends on Dec. 30, 2020. Congress passed the legislation in March and it was signed by President Trump.



Retires from page 2

istry programs, which must be continued and strengthened with adult participation and support, he added.

A good trend now happening is the church’s concerns for social justice, including the rela-

Alice Colatrella, daughter of Stacy Hinkemeyer-Colatrella and Nicholas Colatrella, earned the highest possible ACT



Colatrella

composite score of 36. She is the first female at Sartell High School to achieve this distinction. She will be a senior this fall. Fewer than half of 1 percent of students who take the ACT earn a top score.

Margaret Kulus of Sartell was named to the spring semester president’s list for maintaining a perfect 4.0 grade-point average at Montana State University, Bozeman.

Lexy Oftedahl and **Garrett Roelofs** were named to the spring semester dean’s list for maintaining a 3.5 or higher grade-point average at Montana State University, Bozeman.

Jessica Jahr of Sartell was named to the spring semester president’s list for achieving a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher at Minnesota State College Southeast, Winona.

Brooke Walters of Sartell was named to the spring semester dean’s list at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. Walters, a chemistry major, earned a grade-point average of at least 3.5.

Emily Myskewitz of St. Stephen and **Patrick Stalboerger** and **Tyree Thompson** of Sartell were 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.

Christen Neil, **Patrick Stalboerger** and **Tyree Thompson** of Sartell were named to the spring semester president’s roll of honor at the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks. To qualify, a student must have an overall cumulative grade-point average of 3.80 or higher.

Megan Mechelke of Sartell was named to the spring semester dean’s list for earning a grade-point average of 3.50 or higher at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

People

Thomas Connolly of Sartell has been named to the spring semester president’s list at Gonzaga University, Spokane, Washington. Students must earn a 3.85 to 4.0 grade-point average to be listed.

Eight Sartell students graduated this spring from North Dakota State University, Fargo. The students are: **Arianna Christian**, bachelor’s in civil engineering; **Dawson Coleman**, bachelor’s with honors in computer science; **Michael Heim**, master’s in applied statistics; **Brandon Jackson**, bachelor’s in construction engineering; **Samantha Killmer**, bachelor’s with honors in industrial engineering and management; **Lauren Lauermann**, bachelor’s with honors in human development and family science; **Kirk Staiger**, bachelor’s with honors in electrical engineering; and **Olivia Wheeler**, bachelor’s in management.

Five Sartell students graduated during a virtual commencement celebration on May 3 from Concordia College. The students are the following: **Maiah Cameron**, magna cum laude, elementary education; **Patreece Engelmeyer**, nursing with a minor in Spanish; **Amanda Flemming**, magna cum laude, accounting; **Miranda Garman**, humanities; and **Hannah Kosloski**, magna cum laude, communications studies and art.

Justin Houge, **Christina Johnson** and **Michael Rudh** of Sartell were named to the spring semester president’s list at Central Lakes College, Brainerd. The president’s list includes students who earned a grade-point average of 3.75 to 4.0 while enrolled for at least 12 credits.

Taylor Buske, **Anna Ellis**, and **Austin Pietrowski** of Sartell have been named to the spring semester dean's list at Iowa State University, Ames. Students named to the dean's list must have earned a grade-point average of at least 3.50.

Alexandru Florea, **Kristin Martens** and **Laura Schwichtenberg** of Sartell have been named to the spring semester dean's list for achieving at least a 3.7 grade-point average at Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter.

you for the last nine years.”

Raised in Alexandria, Baltes was ordained in 1976 at the Church of St. Mary in his hometown of Alexandria. He has served for nearly 44 years in various parishes. Two of three priests, who were all ordained on the same day 43 years ago as Baltes, also retired on the same day as he did. They are the Rev. Eugene Doyle of the

Four Sartell students graduated from Central Lakes College, Brainerd. The students are **Garrett Counter**, Diploma of Occupational Proficiency, heavy equipment operation and maintenance, honors; **John Grogan**, Diploma of Occupational Proficiency, videography production, high honors; **Christina Johnson**, associate’s, honors; and **Rebecca Loehrer**, associate’s in nursing, honors.

Austin Sura of Sartell has been named to the dean's list for outstanding scholarship during spring semester at the University of Notre Dame's (Indiana) College of Engineering. Students who achieve dean's honors at Notre Dame represent the top 30 percent of students in their college.

Emma Gent of Sartell has received an \$4,000 university scholarship from Minnesota State University, Moorhead. She is a graduate of Sartell High School and her parents are Dawn and Brian Gent. University Scholarship recipients must have an ACT score of 21 or higher and a 3.50 grade-point average.

Eleven Sartell students have been named to the spring semester dean's list at the College of St. Scholastica, Sartell. Dean's list members achieved a 3.75 grade-point average or higher. The students are the following: **Riley Ahrndt**, **Christopher Belling**, **Lauren Buchholz**, **Emma Janu**, **Andrew Lakmann**, **Kelli Loscheider**, **Madeline Meier**, **Rebecca Myrum**, **Tonya Paul**, **Sarah Symanietz** and **Jack Verkuilen**.

Theresa Tschumperlin of St. Stephen has been named chief operations officer at St. Cloud Financial Credit Union.



Tschumperlin

is a graduate of St. Cloud State University with degrees in finance and accounting. Her banking career includes leadership positions of senior SBA credit analyst, vice president/SBA operations manager and senior strategic delivery manager. She was born and raised in Sartell and now resides in St. Stephen.

tri-parish area of St. Stephen, St. Wendel and St. Opole; and the Rev. Ralph Zimmerman of Sacred Heart in Sauk Rapids. The fourth one, the Rev. Robert Rolfes, will not retire quite yet. He has served as the vicar general of the St. Cloud Diocese.

St. Cloud Catholic Diocese Bishop Donald Kettler, now 75, also plans to retire in the near future, as soon as the Vatican in

Equity from front page

At the June 24 listening session, Mayor Ryan Fitzthum spoke about racism being a community problem and said he wants the city to work jointly with the schools. Board members strongly supported a community effort that goes beyond the classroom.

Board Chair Jeremy Snoberger, Board Member Jason Nies and Schwiebert met with a representative of Equity Alliance MN, an organization that works with school districts to audit and create a plan addressing equity issues. The group is led by Sebastian Witherspoon, former equity director in the St. Cloud school district. The board invited Equity Alliance MN to present a plan at the July 20 meeting. An audit by the group would include visits to every classroom, focus groups with students, staff and parents as well as an analysis of the district’s testing and discipline data. The audit takes three or four months and then the district would receive a multi-year plan to address the findings.

About a dozen people attended the work session, many of them people who spoke at the listening session.

Board members agreed that action responding to the listening session discussion is needed but also expressed a desire to be “purposeful and deliberate,” Kremer said.

“I walked away (from the listening session) with hope and that there’s no disagreement that we haven’t done as good a job as we should have or that our kids deserve,” Nies said. “It’s a chance for us to lead. I left sad but at the same time very hopeful.”

Covid-19

The board also discussed preparations for opening schools during the Covid-19 pandemic. While all schools wait for guidelines from the state that are expected the week of July 27, Schwiebert said teams will be meeting starting next week to plan how the schools would operate under three scenarios. The Minnesota Department of Education directed plans for three options: in-person learning for all students with social distancing; a hybrid plan with strict social distancing and capacity limits; and distance learning for all students.

Rome gives him permission.

Bishop Kettler appointed another pastor to replace Baltes for the Sartell church, as well as the Catholic Church of St. Stephen. The new pastor is the Rev. Ron Weyrens, who had been pastor in the tri-parish churches of Rockville, Luxemburg and Marty. Before that, he was a pastor at Sacred Heart Church in Sauk Rapids.

American Finances: By the Numbers

According to a 2018 Financial Capability Study from FINRA Investor Education Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to financial education and empowerment, only 31% of Americans are very satisfied with their money situations.

Here are some additional statistics from the FINRA study to help shed light on the average American family and their earning and spending habits.

- One in 5 Americans experienced an income drop in the last year, and half can comfortably meet their monthly obligations.
- Asked if they could come up with \$2,000 in emergency savings in a month, 43% of Americans were certain they could, while another 22% said they probably could.
- Only 58% of Americans have a retirement account; half worry they may run out of money

while retired.

- Even though Americans can make ends meet, the percentage spending less than their income has stayed nearly unchanged over the decade. Almost half haven't set aside money to cover expenses for three months.
- 37% of Americans surveyed say they have too much debt.

Here are a few more statistics from various sources underscoring the need for stronger personal finance education for American citizens.

- Twenty percent of Americans don't save any of their annual income at all (CNBC), with the average American saving less

than 5% of his or her disposable income (Los Angeles Times).

- More than 40% of Americans have less than \$10,000 saved for when they retire (GoBanking Rates).
- 56% of millennials don't have any money saved in a retirement account (PurePoint Financial).
- Only 24% of millennials demonstrate basic financial literacy, according to a study from the National Endowment for Financial Education.
- A recent report found that half of American households live paycheck to paycheck (MarketWatch).



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Opinion

Our View

Monumental decisions

Removing statues of slave traders or traitorous generals who took up arms against the United States is an easy call. These men can be remembered in museums, not honored in town squares.

Likewise, forts Bragg, Hood, Benning and other military installations named for Confederate generals should be renamed. Government facilities should not honor those who betrayed it.

Taking down statues, while an important symbolic move, is only a first step to seriously confronting racism in society.

We're being distracted by a debate about what other statues should be removed. We usually place on pedestals people to honor and emulate. Now what is the new standard?

Protestors tried to drag down President Andrew Jackson's statue in Washington's Lafayette Park because he signed the Indian Removal Act. Others seek to remove statues of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson because they were slaveholders.

Donald Trump's rally at Mount Rushmore last week focused attention on the other two presidents memorialized there – Abraham Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt. Lincoln ordered the hanging of 38 Native Americans in Mankato but commuted the sentences of 265 others. Roosevelt's racist quote about Native Americans tarnishes his reputation.

Some Minnesotans are reviving a debate about how the city of Albert Lea was named. In 1835, Albert Miller Lea surveyed southern Minnesota and northern Iowa including what is now Albert Lea. Years later, during the Civil War, Lea was an engineering officer in the Confederate Army. Should we seriously consider a new name for that city?

At the Capitol grounds in St. Paul, Christopher Columbus left in June and former Twins owner Cal Griffith's statue is gone from Target Field because of his history of racist remarks.

Remaining Capitol statues include Leif Erikson, declared to have "discovered" America, and famed aviator and Little Falls native son Charles Lindbergh, whose America First views are still troubling to many, including the Jewish community.

There is also the towering bronze likeness of Knute Nelson of Alexandria, a "brave son of Norway," who served Minnesota as a legislator, congressman, governor and eventually U.S. senator. The Nelson Act of 1889 relocated Indigenous Minnesotans to the White Earth Reservation and sold their land to European settlers.

New York Times conservative columnist Brett Stephens last week offered a standard of which statues to do away with and which to keep. The issue, he writes, comes down to four words – a more perfect union.

"Did Jefferson Davis or Robert E. Lee fight for a more perfect union? No. They fought for disunion. Outside of museums, grave sites or private collections, there should be no statues of either man or of their senior confederates," Stephens wrote.

We should be able to decide between who made our union more perfect and those who made it less so.

Most of the Confederate monuments were built in periods of racial conflict, such as when Jim Crow laws were being introduced in the late 19th century and at the start of the 20th century.

The peak in construction of Civil War monuments occurred between the late 1890s up to 1920. The purpose of the monuments was not to celebrate the past but rather to promote a white supremacist future – the right of white men to rule and exclude black people.

Yes, let's topple or remove statues of traitors and racists. But the larger cause is to topple the systemic racism that is widespread in government, education and business.

Sidelining scientists costs lives

We have a science problem.

A vocal minority of Americans, egged on by political leaders at the highest levels, continue to ignore basic science and long-standing public health practices to deal with the pandemic.

Face coverings, social distancing and frequent hand-washing slow the virus's spread. Instead, the non-science types talk about a hoax, a miracle drug (that doesn't work) and are happy to breathe all over each other at bars and rallies.

Contempt for science is not new. Some of these same folks deny climate change and argue there are two sides to the issue despite one side based in scientific evidence and math and the other "side" based on magic. In the classroom, the vocal conservative minority places evolution on the same level as creationism.

Defying science and math drives many public policy decisions – past and present. How long did it take to convince people that smoking caused cancer? That seat belts and airbags reduced traffic deaths? That citizens in counties with universal health care live longer, healthier lives? That laws banning battlefield weapons and requiring background checks actually result in fewer gun deaths?

Now we hear Covid-19 cases are not really increasing...it's just that we're testing more – ignoring that hospitalizations and percent of positive tests are rising instead of dropping.

By that logic, the best way to cut down on undocumented immigrants isn't to build a wall. Instead tell Immi-

Mike Knaak

Editor



gration and Customs Enforcement to quit checking papers.

We are lacking a unified message and serious national strategy to control the pandemic. Instead, Donald Trump punted the problem to governors and mayors. As a result, we have a garbled message and patchwork policies.

While a graph shows Europe's cases dropping dramatically from a peak in April, the U.S. graph shows a slight drop and then a sharp increase. Most of the rest of the world has controlled Covid-19 spread but in the United States, the bodies keep piling up.

Trump blocks the real scientists and public health experts from speaking to the public about facts and instead rolls out Peter Navarro, a conservative economist whose previous experience includes peddling fringe economic analysis on cable TV.

In addition to ignoring science for public policy, we have another science problem. Recently released data from international math and science assessments indicate U.S. students continue to rank around the middle of the pack and behind many other advanced industrial nations on standardized tests. Our 15-year-olds rank 24th in science and 38th in math. Our competitors in

innovation and commerce – Singapore, Japan, South Korea and most of Europe – beat us. In math, we're behind Malta, Lithuania, Hungary and Slovakia.

Economists and educators observe students in the United States tend to be less motivated to perform well on the tests compared with teens in other countries. There's mounting evidence the gap in scores between countries reflects a gap in effort as much as it does a gap in achievement.

Do our students perform poorly on science and math tests because a vocal minority of adults don't care about science? Or is it the other way around? Do our leaders ignore science and math because they failed to master the basics when they were students?

Either way, the world has voted.

National Hockey League Commissioner Gary Bettman will probably move the rest of his season to Toronto and Edmonton because Canada believes science is real. The European Union banned most travelers from the United States because this world's wealthiest country, rich in expertise and resources, bungled bringing the pandemic under control. Countries who made the safe list were judged on a mix of scientific criteria that include infection rates and the credibility of public health data. Meanwhile, we're lumped in with Russia and Brazil, whose responses were hampered by their own leaderships' disdain for scientific advice and empirical evidence of the threat.

The last few months should stick a fork in the absurd notion the United States enjoys a monopoly on brilliance.

This Fourth, let's live up to our values

Connor Kockler

Guest Writer



into a system of government, and General Washington became the first president of a newly independent United States of America.

This is where the story of Independence Day usually ends. However, one war and one group of brave Americans weren't wholly responsible for where America is today. There was much more work to be done. Decades after the Revolution was fought, the Civil War broke out, and finally brought a legal end to the horrific practice of slavery that continued to be a stain on our country. There too, words needed to be backed up with action. President Lincoln declared the Emancipation Proclamation on Jan. 1, 1863, to declare people held in slavery were to be freed. It wasn't until June 19, 1865, the original Juneteenth that many enslaved people in Texas were actually able to gain their freedom.

This process continued with the 19th Amendment to finally allow women to vote. It continued with the Civil Rights Movement where Black Americans fought to end Jim Crow laws and advocate for equal treatment under the law. Throughout the years, there have been brave Americans willing to fight to move us ever closer to truly living up to the words our nation was founded on. And

if 2020 has shown us anything, we aren't done. The story of America is a continuous struggle for independence and justice, for fellow Americans to finally be accorded the rights and respect they deserve.

At this moment we are living through another two tremendous moments in history, where we can decide whether to live up to our founding values or not. The Covid-19 pandemic has killed thousands of Americans from all walks of life and sickened millions. We can choose whether to band together and take appropriate safety measures, like wearing masks in public, in order to keep our fellow Americans safe, or being inconsiderate and potentially infecting vulnerable neighbors. We should also heed the calls for reform and justice from Black Americans and fellow Americans of color demanding an end to racism and biased institutional practices. Doing nothing would confirm our founding ideals don't actually apply to everyone. It is long past time we took concrete steps to confront this.

So while I enjoy the festivities this Fourth of July, I also remember the ideals and beliefs we celebrate each Fourth of July aren't accomplished yet. Our country should be constantly working toward making progress to step by step live up to those famous words from 200 years ago. We owe it to our fellow Americans to make liberty and justice for all a reality.

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

Letters to the editor

City Council needs to reconsider arena plans

Joe Perske, Sartell

The recent decision by the Sartell City Council to use \$1.5 million of city funds for the construction of a second sheet of ice at Pinecone Regional Park needs transparency and reconsideration. The proposed plan also includes the demolition of the existing park shelter and removal of the existing outdoor rink.

Pinecone Regional Park was designed for the whole community to last for many years and came with development costs of more than \$1 million. The expensively built shelter/warming house was constructed to provide recreational enjoyment year-round in the park. The rink provided the opportunity for all city kids to skate, including those who do not have the financial ability to play organized hockey. The June 8 decision eliminates any skating opportunities on the west side of the river and leaves the public with less skating ice than we had almost 30 years ago when I came to Sartell.

The \$1.5-million commitment also comes as a reckless, impulsive same-day reaction to a request lacking any public scrutiny or input. The request took all of the remaining half-cent sales-tax dollars totaling \$450,000 committed through

2038. Could the council and mayor have thought about the existing needs and promises unkept with regard to the whole community? What about the community pool, park amenities or the skate park, to name just a few, the community has been requesting during the past decades? An estimated \$480,000 taken from the dollars for the golf-course lease was also committed for the arena expansion plan. Those dollars had originally been earmarked for the continued development of Pinecone Central Park amenities, including use by the baseball association to improve and maintain the fields.

Finally, we have to evaluate the use of our city resources and who should benefit from those dollars. Having taught in Sartell for more than 25 years, my focus was always on all of the students in the classroom and not just a few. Coming from a family of seven children, I also appreciated seeing that my parents made sure we were all cared for appropriately. They made certain we all each had one nice present at Christmas. It seems this \$1.5-million investment, along with the three quarters of a million dollars spent earlier on the arena parking lot, is a pretty narrow focus to benefit a few. I urge the council to reconsider this spending for the privileged and instead consider the needs and desires of the entire community.

With no defense, we must accept Covid-19

Denis Grossen, Sartell

We are not containing Covid-19 and nobody is nor will in the foreseeable future. It is long overdue for the so-called experts to admit their ignorance and incompetence. Forecast after forecast and model after model have been proven false.

The governor of New York state was screaming day after day for 30,000 ventilators and more hospital beds that he never needed nor used. With a per capita death rate of 1,600 per million he is now claiming he has contained the virus, really!

Same with the primary election in Wisconsin: on April 7, Wisconsin had 2,500 confirmed cases and 92 deaths; Minnesota, neighbor with a similarly sized population, had 1,400 cases and 34 deaths. On June 25, Wisconsin reported 26,277 confirmed cases and 766 deaths, Minnesota, 34,616 cases and 1,406 deaths!

The aim of the virus is to infect at least 60 percent of a population before subsiding and eventually vanishing. CLOSE AND PROLONGED exposure to a carrier is required to be infected and only N-95 masks provide real protection, not cloth masks. It's just plain common sense to anticipate for the per capita death rate to be substantially similar from one sate to another. California, Texas and Florida

have reached death rates of 147, 80 and 156 respectively as of June 25. These states have not experienced a similar level of infection as New York, New Jersey, Connecticut or Massachusetts (all above 1,000 deaths per million) and large increases in cases are therefore not surprising at all.

Natural selection is at play with people the least adaptable to changes and to this virus losing their life and the majority of people infected suffering no or only slight effects. Some of us are born with strong immune systems capable to resist a vast array of pathogens but some of us are unfortunately born with compromised immune systems, susceptible to infectious diseases.

Our high per capita death rate is due to the low quality of our vaccines and contamination of the blood bank. In the United States, vaccines containing animal material (like flu vaccine) and the blood supply are not fully tested for the presence of retro-viruses making us more susceptible to serious complications from this type of infection.

The Covid-19 virus is a form of defense from our planet against our inability to control our population explosion and our abuse of all resources. The human race is not the dominant species despite 2,000 years of religions that have propagated this fallacy, bacteria and viruses are. We have no defense, no cure against Covid-19, we must accept it.

Legion tries for new life

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

The American Legion Post 221 of St. Stephen just might get a new lease on life, according to its commander Michael Legatt.

The Sartell Newsleader published a story in its June 26 issue based on an interview with Legatt, who said the Legion of St. Stephen is in danger of fading away after 61 years. The reason is that nobody seemed willing to serve as post officers.

After the story was published, Legatt called the Newsleader in early July to report there is hope the Legion can be revitalized.

On July 1, Legatt said, the Legion’s board of directors held a meeting to discuss the situation. In the meantime, the current officers, including commander Legatt, have all agreed to stay on for an interim status until other officers agree to step forward and be elected.

The next meeting of the board is set for Tuesday, Aug. 4. Legatt said notices will be sent out to all members – there are about 60 of them – to emphasize how important it is to attend that meeting so as to plan for the future.

“I’d like to see the Legion start from scratch, to get back to basics,” Legatt said. “That’s just my thoughts, maybe not the thoughts of the other members. Well, anyway, it’s all up to the membership.”

Community Calendar

Is your event listed? Send your information to: Newsleader Calendar, 1622 11th Ave. SE., St. Cloud, MN 56304., e-mail it to news@thenewsleaders.com. Most events are listed at no cost. Those events are typically free or of minimal charge for people to attend.

Some events, which have paid advertising in the Newsleaders, are also listed in the calendar and may charge more.

Monday, July 13
Sartell Farmers’ Market, 3-6 p.m., Bernick’s Arena.

Sartell City Council, 6 p.m., City Hall, 125 Pinecone Road N.

Tuesday, July 14
Le Sauk Township board meeting, 7 p.m. Until further notice, future township meetings will be held electronically using the GoToMeeting App.

Saturday, July 18
Community meal, 11:30-12:45 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1107 Pinecone Road S., Sartell.

Monday, July 20
Sartell Farmers’ Market, 3-6 p.m., Bernick’s Arena.

Sartell-St. Stephen school board, 5 p.m., District Service Center, 212 Third Ave. N.

Brockway Township board meeting, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall, 85th Avenue and 438th Street.

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Obituary

William J "Bill" Galarneault, 87 Sartell
Feb. 8, 1933-June 29,2020

William J. "Bill" Galarneault, 87, of Sartell died June 29 of natural causes in Sauk Rapids. His funeral was held July 6 at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Sartell. The Rev. Ronald Weyrens officiated and burial was in Oak Hill Cemetery, Sartell.

Galarneault was born on Feb. 8, 1933 in St. Cloud to Thomas & Wilhelmine (Riitters) Galarneault. He graduated from Cathedral High School in St. Cloud. He married Jeanine "Sue" Smitten on Nov. 23, 1951 at St. Francis Xavier Church in Sartell.

Galarneault worked at Jack's Outlet Store in St. Cloud while attending St. Cloud State University. In 1955, He began working as a papermaker at the St. Regis Paper Co. He stayed in that position until 1969 when he became business administrator of the newly formed Sartell Independent School District. While at St. Regis, he served five years as president of the United Paperworkers union and eight years on the grievance and negotiating committee.

Galarneault was instrumental in the formation of the Sartell School District. From 1966-

1969, he served as chair and later as clerk of the first district school board. He then became the first business officer of the district and served in that position until his retirement in 1997. Bill was again elected to the school board in 1998 and served until January 2009.

Galarneault was a past member of the Sartell Planning Commission, Sartell Park Commission and was a charter member of the Sartell Lions Club. He was active in various state and regional school finance organizations, serving 16 years on the board of directors of the Minnesota Association for Pupil Transportation. He was a member of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church and Eagles Aerie #622.

Survivors are the following: his children, Laurie (Jon) Perry of Sartell, Sandy (Paul) Trossen of St. Cloud, Peggy Galarneault of Maple Grove; a brother, Ray of St. Cloud; grandchildren: Lisa, Zach, Aimee, Lindsey, Luke and Dani; 13 great-grandchildren and special friend, Di-anne Hornung of Sauk Rapids.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Sue in 2003; sister, Renee Thomas; and brothers, James, Thomas and C. Richard.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred.

Visitation

from front page

"I would be remiss if I didn't first and foremost, express our sincere thanks to our residents, tenants, patients and families for their cooperation and understanding during this incredibly difficult time," Frericks said. "We know the last few months have been challenging and we recognize the sacrifices that have been made."

She said while it was difficult, the facility wants to let residents, family, friends and the area know Country Manor's early implementation and adherence to a strict "No Admittance Policy" wasn't done in vain.

"While our area has seen many positive Covid-19 cases, and many facilities have experienced significant outbreaks, we have not had any positive Covid-19 cases in any of our communities," Frericks said. "This incredible feat is a direct result of the extraordinary diligence and dedication of our team, in collaboration with the support of our residents, tenants, patients and their loved ones. This was certainly a team effort and we are so grateful."

She said Country Manor is often described as a "large family" and staff develop special bonds with residents, patients and their families.

"We have missed them all dearly," Frericks said. "We were ecstatic when MDH granted clearance for us to begin allowing outdoor visits. While we strongly agree with MDH's ruling to permit family visits, we also recognize the people we serve are still high-risk."

She said while staff is proceeding with great caution, keeping the safety of all those they serve as their priority, they are also taking time to celebrate.

"We cannot wait to see loved ones reunite with one another," Frericks said. "It will be special for all involved."

During the facility's first official family visit outside the Health Care and Rehabilitation Center on June 20, Frericks said staff cried tears of joy seeing resident Ansie Sperl engaged in a sing-along with his grandchildren, and are looking forward to many more shared moments like this.

When Sperl was asked what it meant to him to have his family visit again, he replied, "Wonderful. I can't say enough good things about them. I love them very, very much - 100 percent."

Woodcrest resident Mary Ann Krebsbach recently visited with her grandson Connor May.

"Seeing my grandson again was wonderful," Krebsbach said. "I used to babysit him at my house when he was younger and got to see him all the



contributed photo

Ansie Sperl visits with Audrey Mueller outside the Country Manor Health Care and Rehabilitation Center in Sartell after new visitation policies began June 22.

time. It felt good and was a nice surprise."

Tom and Dorothy Surma, Woodcrest husband and wife residents, recently visited with their daughter Peggy Fischer.

"It was very nice to be able to see our children again," Tom said. "It's wonderful that they opened it up. I'm glad we didn't get the virus and it's also wonderful nobody at Woodcrest got this virus. I can put up with not getting a haircut, but to not see my family was hard."

Because Country Manor recognizes the people it serves are still high-risk, the facility is following and enforcing Minnesota Department of Health, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention direction with restricted visitations.

Visit policy

The following outdoor visitation policy for visitors of Country Manor Senior Housing also began June 22. (This includes the Sartell location and Woodcrest of St. Joseph).

Outdoor visits must be scheduled in advance by calling 320-253-8450 or 320-253-3343.

(A visitation schedule has been created that will allow for proper social distancing and staffing, per Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Service and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines)

Visiting hours will be during office hours.

Visitors should plan to meet loved ones outside Door #3. A staff member will be available to assist tenants as necessary.

All parties must remain masked at all times, as tolerated.

To avoid the risk of exposure, holding hands, hugging, kissing or other physical contact will not be allowed.

Groups must be four people or less, including children.

If you are experiencing any respiratory, flu or COVID-19 symptoms, you will be asked to reschedule your visit.

The facilities will set up tents to offer protection from the sun, but encourage all to wear sunscreen/sun hats.

Visitor guidelines

Visitors must wear a mask, or other face covering during the entire visit unless medically contraindicated.

Visitors must be screened for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 at the designated screening table near Door #3 before greeting loved ones.

Visitors should use the sanitization stations to sanitize hands upon entering and exiting the visitation area.

Visitors will not be permitted in the building and must remain outside.

Visitors must sign-in and provide contact information when making reservations.

Visitors must refrain from physical contact with tenants.

Visitors under the age of 12 years old must be in the control of an adult who brings them. They must comply with social distancing requirements and will be counted in the "party size." (Limit four)

Pets must be leashed, and under control of the visitor bringing them in.

All persons must maintain six feet social distance.

Visitors must stay in designated visitation locations.

Tenant guidelines

Tenants must be screened before meeting with loved ones.

Any persons with respiratory, flu or Covid-19 symptoms will not be permitted for visits.

Any persons on isolation or room restrictions will not be permitted for visits.

Tenants must wear a mask, or other face covering, as tolerated.

Weather

Visits may only be held on days when there are no weather warnings that would put either the visitor or resident/patient at risk.

For Country Manor Health Care and Rehabilitation Center and Rapid Recovery and Aquatic Center guidelines, go to www.countrymanorcampus.org/covid-update.

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