

Reaching Everybody! Newsleaders

Friday, Feb. 19, 2021
Volume 33, Issue 4
Est. 1989

Town Crier

Sexual assault center seeks advocates

Advocates are needed for Central Minnesota Sexual Assault Center. The required 40-hour training is online. Training topics include the spectrum of sexual violence, trauma, trafficking/exploitation and advocacy skills. Volunteers must live within their service area of Stearns, Benton, Sherburne or Wright counties. Fill out an application on the website. www.cmsac.org/trainings-education/. Send applications to btemple@cmsac.org and akaehler@cmsac.org.

Help your neighbor

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota is seeking volunteers for Neighbor to Neighbor and Senior Corps programs. Both programs assist older adults to live in their homes longer, safer and healthier by providing phone visits and no-contact essential needs deliveries during the pandemic and in-person visits when we can return to them. Senior Companions are 55+ years old and Neighbor to Neighbor Volunteers are 18+ years old and matched with seniors in their community. Contact Janel Heinen, Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, at (320) 241-5173 or janel.heinen@lssmn.org.

Red Cross DAT seeks volunteers

American Red Cross Disaster Action Teams provide emergency response to local disasters, especially fires, ensuring those affected have access to resources for basic necessities. Responsibilities include: Supporting annual goals and plans for DAT services through meetings, project and local response activities; completing assigned projects and local response activities according to the needs of the program; and preparing vehicles, response materials, administrative support and other tasks assigned by the leader. Time commitment is four six-hour on-call shifts per month. Contact Angie Roske at mnrecruit@redcross.org or 612-871-7676.

In-person class is back for older students

by Heidi L. Everett
editor@thenewsleaders.com

District 742 students in grades six through 12 will return to in-person learning full time March 10.

When the announcement was made at the Feb. 3 Board of Education meeting, Superintendent Willie Jett noted the historic moment.

“Our secondary schools have not been in person like this since last March,” he said.

Ofelia Jorgenson of St. Joseph is a seventh-grader at Kennedy Community School. She remembers March 2020.

“The last in-person class I remember was the first time I had heard of COVID,” she said. “They thought we would be back in two weeks, but we were not.”

She’s most looking forward to seeing her friends face-to-face even though she’s gotten to know them better during learning from home.

“We group Facetime each other and hang out,” she said. “We



Ofelia Jorgenson, a seventh-grader at Kennedy, attends class online. In-person learning resumes March 10, a year after schools shut down from the COVID-19 pandemic.

spend more time together – not in person – but more time together.”

Jorgenson also alternated online learning Mondays and Tuesdays at her house and at a friend’s house for a change of scene this past year.

“We decided if we only saw each other, we could do that and be COVID safe,” she said.

When they had different classes, they would just put on headphones or go into a different room to separate, Jorgenson said.

Jorgenson said she misses the hands-on learning, especially in science class.

“When we are in the building, we’ll be able to actually use a mi-

croscope rather than just watching videos and taking notes,” she said.

Finally, she hopes to get back to a more normal schedule rather than three two-hour classes each day.

“Two hours is a long time to be learning one thing,” she said.

Jorgenson said she also believes she’ll be more motivated to complete schoolwork.

“There’s so many distractions at the house,” she admits.

When asked what she thinks her memories of this past year will be, she said. “Hanging out with my friends and masks.”

For Hannah Mattkins, a St. Joseph senior at Apollo, she really just wants a more normal senior year in the last three months of it.

“Honestly, it doesn’t even feel like I’m a senior right now because I just wake up at my home, walk 10 feet to the couch, and it’s all just kind of blended together,” she said. “I just hope we can have a softball

District • page 2

Full moon means full fun at SnowFest 2021

by Heidi L. Everett
editor@thenewsleaders.com

The City of St. Joseph Parks and Recreation Department wants you to gear up for SnowFest fun Feb. 22-28.

SnowFest kicks off Monday,

Feb. 22 with a Medallion Hunt. A new clue will be posted every day at 9 a.m. on the City of St. Joseph website and Joe-Town website. The finder of the medallion will receive gift certificates to a variety of local businesses.

Saturday, Feb. 27 is time for a

moonlight snowshoe walk, bonfire and s’mores at Millstream Park, 725 CR 75 W., starting at 6 p.m.

“We picked the dates because it is the full moon,” Recreation Director John Anderson said. “But we are encouraging people to still

bring flashlights and head lamps.”

Restrooms will be open but not the shelter.

SnowFest winds down with sledding, skating and hot chocolate at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28 at Memorial Park, 33 Second Ave NW.

Counting on sheep to get through COVID

by Heidi L. Everett
editor@thenewsleaders.com

Quiet and gentle. Live in herds. Surprisingly intelligent. Impressive memory. Destructive. Build friendships. Stick up for one another in fights. Listen to their leaders. Show esteem. Feel sad when their friends are sent to slaughter.

These words describe sheep and can be found in the artist’s statement for Sheep Series 2020, a new exhibit at Bad Habit Brewing Co. by local artist Jill Dubbledee Kuhn of St. Joseph.

“There’re good qualities about being a sheep and others that aren’t so hot,” she said. “It seems sheep and humans have several things in common.”

The series includes 12 16-by-16-inch acrylic on canvas paintings of sheep, some wearing masks.

When asked to create an exhibit, Dubbledee Kuhn first thought about painting a variety

of things.

“I was going to do landscapes and whatever tickled my fancy,” she said.

But then she was looking through an old sketch book and found an image she had sketched of a sheep, and she liked it.

She created the series both as a distraction and side effect from the noise of 2020, she said.

“The conversations people were having about wearing masks, not wearing masks, what to believe or not believe about the coronavirus. I found it was easy to get angry about things, but that often didn’t really help the situation,” she explains. “Doing this series during these stressful times became calming and meditative for me.”

The vibrant colors used in the series are a sharp contrast to how some view the pandemic as well as actions taken – or not taken – to live through it.

“These may appear as black-



contributed photo

Stars are Forever are two paintings in Sheep Series 2020 by Jill Dubbledee Kuhn of St. Joseph. The series commemorates the COVID-19 pandemic.

and-white issues, but we don’t know the reasons behind why someone isn’t wearing a mask, for example,” Dubbledee Kuhn said.

She liked the idea of making a connection to what’s going on in our world at this time to sheep.

“Even though humans are rather independent in our think-

ing, we also are the type that needs community,” she said. “We felt that more than ever having to be as isolated as we have been this last year. I’m an introvert, and even I was getting antsy.”

Herd immunity and herd mentality were a couple of the

Sheep • page 3

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State of Minnesota

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Dakota

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Petitioner

Vs

Tyesha Warren

Respondent

To Respondent:

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that a Harassment Restraining Order has been issued on N/A.

☒ A hearing is scheduled for the following date, time, and location:

Date: April 5, 2021

Time: 9:00 ☒ a.m. / ☐ p.m.

Location: Remote Hearing via Zoom Technology.
Contact court administration for the Zoom information.

OR

☐ A hearing has not been scheduled. You may request a hearing on this matter by filing a *Request for Hearing* HAR301 with the Court within twenty (20) days of the date this Notice is published. You may get a copy of the HRO from the court administrator's office at the following address: _____

Failure to appear at a scheduled hearing or to get a copy of the Harassment Restraining Order will not be a defense to prosecution for violation of the Court's order.

2/5/21

Date

Maria Jost / Pam Schadeegg

Court Administrator / Deputy

Notice of Issuance of HRO by Publication

HAR703 State ENG Rev 12/19 www.mncourts.gov/forms Page 1 of 1

District Court

Judicial District: First

Court File Number: 19AVCV21-41

Case Type: Harassment

Notice of Issuance of Harassment Restraining Order by Publication

District

from front page

season and prom and somewhat of a graduation and have that be somewhat kind of normal.”

Like Jorgenson, she remembers when everything changed because of the pandemic.

“We thought it was just going to be a couple weeks and then we’d be back in the school, having classes together and playing sports,” she said. “We just never went back.”

She’s looking forward to more face-to-face time and being in the classroom, especially for American Sign Language.

“My ASL class is the best class I’ve ever had. Ms. Dotzler is an amazing teacher. She’s fun and understanding and just amazing,” Mattkins said.

Softball also tops her list. Last March, they had captain’s practice during spring break.

“We were back for one week, and then it was all over,” she said.

After graduation, Mattkins plans to complete her general education requirements at St. Cloud Technical and Community College before thinking about a four-year plan.

Right now, she’s just thinking about how difficult it might be to “get back in the groove.”

“I wake up at 8, hang with my puppy for a little bit and sit on the floor in the living room for school,”

contributed photo

Apollo High School senior Hannah Mattkins of St. Joseph is excited to head back to school but will miss hanging with her pets during class time.


she said.

Her dogs will miss her. She will miss them too, but she was glad when she heard the news of the return to in-person learning.

“I literally jumped for joy. I was so loud,” she said.

But she does have a confession that many people who’ve had to work from home the past year can probably relate to.

“I’ve gotta be honest. I’m probably just going to be wearing sweat-pants,” she said.

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Janelle Von Pinnon

Editor
Heidi L. Everett

Assignment Editor
Carolyn Bertsch

Assistant Manager
Rajahna Schneekloth

Designer
Nina Henne

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1608 11th Ave SE, St. Cloud, MN 56304

mailing address: 1622 11th Ave SE, St. Cloud, MN 56304

Phone: (320) 363-7741 • E-mail: news@thenewsleaders.com

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Sheep

from front page

phrases that would “marinate” in her head as she painted.

“This has been a trying time, but I’m hoping when people look at the sheep they will find some humor, maybe find a sense of calmness in their style and commemorate this period of time,” she said. “That is one of the roles art has in our society. It does indeed reflect what is going on around us in a time period.”

Dubbledee Kuhn hasn’t painted an animal series since 2004 when she did a tribute to alpacas, an animal one can find roaming freely about the wooded wonderland she shares with husband Tom Kuhn.

“Bo and Finnegan are hilarious,” she said of her alpacas, one of which is pictured below. “Their heads are smaller than llamas, so they look like they are sheep that somebody pulled too hard on their neck and made it long. They have so much personality.”

Her alpacas make her smile, and Dubbledee Kuhn said she hopes her sheep paintings will have the same effect.

“That is my mission with art,” she said. “To make people smile.”

Sheep Series 2020 is on display and available for purchase at Bad Habit Brewing Co. Cards and prints can be found at Bad Habit and Minnesota Street Market. The artist can be reached at jillddk@yahoo.com.



contributed photo

The Sheep Series 2020 exhibit, by St. Joseph artist Jill Dubbledee Kuhn, is now on display at Bad Habit brewery.



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Obituary

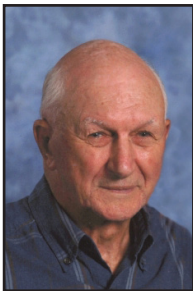
Robert H. Stangler, 95
St. Joseph
April 2, 1925-Feb. 15, 2021

Robert H. Stangler, 95, of St. Joseph, died peacefully, surrounded by family, on Feb. 15 at his home at Serenity Place on 7th in St. Joseph. His funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 19 in St. Michael’s Catholic Church in St. Cloud. The Rev. Gerald Dalseth will officiate. Burial will be in St. Stephen Catholic Cemetery, St. Stephen.

Visitation will be from 4-8 p.m. Thursday at the Daniel Funeral Home in St. Joseph and after 10 a.m. Friday at the church.

Stangler was born on April 2, 1925 to the late Anton and Katherine (Duevel) Stangler in Albany, Minnesota. He graduated from Albany High School and began work at the Kraft plant in Melrose. He married Mary Hudovernik on Sept. 1, 1954 in St. Stephen. Together they farmed in St. Joseph and raised their family of eight children. Along with farming, Stangler worked various construction jobs through St. Cloud Carpenters Union Local #930 and worked 15 years at Northern States Power in Monticello before retiring from carpentry.

Stangler was a charter member of St. Michael’s Parish in St. Cloud; former chairman of the board of directors for the Farmers Union in Albany; former presi-



Stangler

dent of Minnesota Metal Craftsmen Association (MMCA); and in his earlier years residing in St. Joseph, was clerk for Country School District #2004.

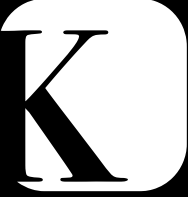
Stangler had a passion for farming, welding and playing the concertina. He would play at nursing homes, barn dances and jam sessions. He had the ability to fix, weld and construct just about anything. He passed down and shared his love of old-time concertina music and his playing ability to his son, Andy, and grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife of 66 years, Mary; children, Robert Jr. (Sherry) of Maple Grove, Barb (Dan) Kuklok of Holdingford, Michael of Glendale, California, Greg (Sandy) of Isanti, JoAnne (Loren) Gohmann of Clearwater, Annette (Donnie) Grebinoski of Holdingford, Bernadette of Foley; daughter-in-law, Lorene (Tom) DeFord of Rice; 18 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; brother, Tony (Evelyn) of Albany; sister-in-law, Josephine Swanson of Michigan; and brother-in-law, Stan Hermann of Wisconsin.

He was preceded in death by his son, Andy in 2000; infant sister, Julitta; brothers, Lawrence and Ervin; and sister, Marcella Hallermann and their spouses.

The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the staff of Serenity Place on 7th and St. Croix Hospice for the wonderful and compassionate care given during Robert’s final days.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to the St. Clares Monastery in Sauk Rapids.



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James Kramer III, an independent LPL Financial advisor at Kramer Financial in St. Cloud, was recently recognized for his inclusion in the LPL Patriot’s Club. This elite award is presented to less than 9% of the firm’s more than 17,000 financial advisors nationwide.

“On behalf of LPL, I congratulate James on reaching this milestone in his professional career,” said Angela Xavier, LPL executive vice president, Independent Advisor Services. “Business owners, American investors and industries at large faced extraordinary challenges throughout 2020. In the advisor-mediated financial advice market, investors showed how much value they place on a trusting relationship with a financial advisor. We applaud James for his commitment to clients and resiliency as a business owner, and we are inspired by his dedication to making a meaningful impact in the lives of his clients. It is an honor to support James and we wish him and his entire team continued success.”

Kramer is affiliated with LPL Financial, the nation’s largest independent broker-dealer and a leader in the retail financial advice market. LPL provides the resources, tools and technology that support advisors in their work to enrich their clients’ financial lives.

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As of this past Nov. 1, Drs. Kelsey Milbert and Curt Cotton are pleased to welcome a new dentist to the practice. Dr. Katie Johnson has been a great addition at the office and is currently scheduling new patients.

Dr. Katie Johnson was born and raised in Cold Spring. She graduated from ROCORI High School and then ventured down to St. Thomas University where she played Division III volleyball and received a bachelor of science degree in biology. She traveled west across the Mississippi River and continued her education at the University of Minnesota Dental School where she received her doctor of dental surgery degree in 2013. Katie enjoys the challenges and endless opportunities for learning that are present in dentistry. She enjoys the diversity of procedures and working with patients of all ages.

Dr. Katie currently lives in Cold Spring with her husband Zach, children Zera and Finnick, as well as their cat Whiskers. Zach is also a ROCORI High School graduate who graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College and now works as a third-grade teacher at Cold Spring Elementary. He also coaches as the offensive coordinator for the ROCORI football team and head coach of the River Lake Stars hockey team. Zera is 5 years old, enjoys preschool and loves to dance, sing and play with her stuffed animals. Finnick is 2-and-a-half and loves playing with his cars and trucks. Whiskers is five months old and loves to nap in the window, eat and nap on the couch.



Outside of loving teeth, Katie also loves playing volleyball in a few local volleyball leagues, reading books with a good glass of wine, getting fresh air, relaxing on the lake and playing endless games of hide-and-seek with her kids. She looks forward to providing quality dentistry with compassion and a few witty jokes.

FINANCE GUIDE | FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



Building Credit from Scratch

Americans with inadequate or a lack of credit can find it difficult to receive loans to buy a home, a new car or acquire emergency credit cards.

According to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 26 million people in the country are deemed “credit invisible.” This category means zero history is recognized by three major reporting companies – Experian, Equifax and TransUnion.

Another classification is known as

“credit unscorable,” which means that while someone has used plastic currency or paid off a loan in the past, they lack enough information to receive a score. The CFPB states about 19 million Americans fall into this category.

So, how do you generate a positive credit rating without any existing experience? The Council on Accreditation offers some beneficial tips to get your score up and become recognizable to lenders.

APPLY FOR A CREDIT-BUILDER LOAN

If you have a bank account, ask an expert at the institution to qualify for a

credit-building loan. Generally, the lender will deposit the borrowed money into your account, requiring you to make payments until it is fully resolved. As you cover the cost of fees on time, the bank will report to credit-rating bureaus, who then have a basis for assigning your score. If you aren't already a financial organization member, check your community credit unions for this type of loan.

ASK A CO-SIGNER

Lenders are more willing to loan money to those with a favorable credit rating. You can quickly impact your lack of recognition by asking a trusted family member or loved one to co-sign with

you. Essentially, this makes the other party personally liable that the debt will be paid off in full. Make sure you can easily afford the loan, as defaulting will damage both of your scores.

LIMIT YOUR CARDS

Once you begin gaining approval for credit cards, it's critical to limit the number of applications you submit and accept. Start with one card and ensure the balances are paid off each month. After about six months, it's good practice to seek another account with higher limits, if required. Keep in mind if you apply for several in a limited period, lenders may view the activity as an act of financial desperation.

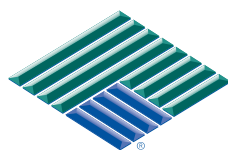
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People

Five St. Joseph residents recently graduated from St. Cloud State University. **Niles Corrieri**, bachelor's in accounting, cum laude; **Lisa Drew**, master's in public administration; **Holly Gwost**, bachelor's in nursing, cum laude; **Lynnsey Hoffmann**, bachelor's in management, summa cum laude; **Matt Jagielski**, bachelor's in marketing.

The following students from St. Joseph have earned academic honors Fall 2020 at their respective schools.

Lauren Vouk and **Morgan Vouk**, dean's list for GPA of 3.7 or higher at Concordia College.

Justice Allen, **Nicholas Andringa**, **Jackson Brophy**, **Kayli Fetterman**, **Ethan Gohmann**, **Sheila Hastings**, **Kari Kissinger**, **Michelle Lahr**, **Kaylie Lawwell**, **Kelley Shaddrick**, **Misty Sonju**, and **Hunter Smith**, president's list for a 4.0 GPA at St. Cloud Technical & Community College.

Amanda Burton, **Bridget Grell**, **Holly Gwost**, **Mitchell Hieserich**, **Lynnsey Hoffmann**, **Abshir Ibrahim**, **Heather Kirchner**, **Karissa Muehring**, **Taylor Nordine**, **Noah O'Hotto**, **Katherine Thomas**, **Kelsey Winter**, **Sydney Wolf**, and **Johnathon Zwack**, dean's list, for GPA of 3.75 or

higher at St. Cloud State University.

Fatha Dadow, **Sommer Davidson**, **Ilhan Doyow**, **Mikayla Kotsmith**, **Andrea Laudendach**, **Emily Locnikar**, **Colby Louwagie**, **Jack Taufen**, and **Dexter Williams**, dean's list for a GPA of 3.5 to 3.99 at St. Cloud Technical & Community College.

Madline Haeg and **Emily Lygre**, dean's list for academic achievement in top 15 percent of college or school and president's roll of honor for GPA of 3.8 or higher at the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks.

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We ask you to be part of #11forJacob.

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- 1) Be fair
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- 4) Be honest
- 5) Be thankful
- 6) Be a good sport
- 7) Be a good friend
- 8) Be joyful
- 9) Be generous
- 10) Be gentle with others
- 11) Be positive

Remember and use these traits in your family or organization. Add the number 11 somewhere at your next game, concert or event to show your commitment to making the world a better place for kids and then share with us on social media at #11forJacob or #JacobsHopeLives.

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The Jacob Wetterling Resource Center was founded to educate and assist families and communities to address and prevent the exploitation of children. They continue to work to end all forms of child maltreatment through education, training and prevention while advocating for and serving children, adult survivors and communities.

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Opinion

Our view Donald Trump was right.

Throughout our nation’s nearly 250-year history, only three U.S. presidents have been impeached by Congress. One of them twice.

In case you missed how it goes down: The House of Representatives starts the impeachment process with an inquiry, writing and passing articles of impeachment, and then voting on those articles. A simple majority is needed to formally impeach a president. The next step is an impeachment trial in the Senate, where two-thirds of its members must find a president guilty of the crimes described in the articles of impeachment for any punishment to take place.

The first potential punishment is removal from office. The second potential punishment is disqualification from holding any future government position.

On Feb. 5, 2020 and Feb. 13, 2021, the 45th POTUS was acquitted on articles of impeachment in the Senate. The first regarded abuse of power and obstruction of Congress for his inner circle’s repeated invitations for foreign adversaries to interfere with U.S. elections (read all 448 pages of the Mueller Report and not just the sound bites to get the full picture). The second regarded his incitement of the deadly insurrection that occurred at our nation’s capital during the certification of the 2020 election results.

To be clear, 45 was acquitted twice on repeat behaviors to destroy one of the hallmarks that make this country free: fair elections.

To be fair, no U.S. president has ever been removed from office through impeachment.

People often think Richard Nixon was for his role in the break-in at Democratic National Committee Headquarters. He resigned.

President Andrew Johnson came the closest to removal from office through the impeachment process – one vote away in the Senate. Johnson became president after the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. The short version of what happened is that political foes in Congress passed the Tenure of Office Act, which stated a president could not replace members of his cabinet without Senate approval. Johnson did and was accused of high crimes and misdemeanors.

Then there’s President Bill Clinton. While initially investigated for allegedly sketchy business deals in Arkansas, what ultimately led to his impeachment was a cigar and an intern. Both Clinton and the intern lied under oath about having sexual relations. For that, he was impeached for perjury and obstruction of justice.

On history.com, they claim if Nixon “hadn’t quit, he would likely have been the first president ever impeached and removed from office given the crimes he committed to cover up his involvement in the Watergate break-ins.”

Perhaps they are wrong.

Perhaps the Senate, as recent history shows, would have found yet another loophole or excuse to not do their job.

Perhaps Donald Trump was on to something when, as a candidate for president, he said, “I could stand in the middle of Fifth Avenue and shoot somebody, and I wouldn’t lose any voters, OK? It’s, like, incredible.”

And it truly is incredible.

Rather than leading the nation in the peaceful transfer of power – another hallmark of our democracy – he pulled the rhetorical trigger on Pennsylvania Avenue, inciting a violent, deadly insurrection of the U.S. Capitol to stop the certification of votes.

For that, he was acquitted.

Our Founding Fathers made it difficult to remove a president from office, and the standard for removal should be high.

Sex? Lies? Burglary? Interfering with elections? Overthrowing the government? Where is that bar, exactly?

Our presidents seem to be above reproach, and we have nobody to blame but ourselves.

Let us read, honor Black American writers

African-American Poet Phillis Wheatley would have been smiling with pride had she been able to see and hear Amanda Gorman reading a poem at the inauguration of President Joe Biden.

Not to be; Wheatley died in 1784.

During this month (Black History Month), let us honor Gorman and Wheatley, as well as the centuries of achievements of so many other African-American writers.

Wheatley was the first-ever Black author of a published book of poetry, titled “Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral.”

Born in West Africa, she was sold at age seven or eight into slavery and transported on a slave ship to America where she was “owned” by a Boston family. She was named Phillis by her “master” after the name of the slave ship that brought her to Massachusetts. Extremely intelligent, by age 16 she had mastered English, and her slave owners encouraged her talents.

When word spread that a young slave girl was writing sophisticated poems, some Boston colonists were baffled, thinking somebody must be writing them for her. To prove her authorship, she appeared in court in 1772, where she was subjected to the scrutiny of Boston dignitaries that included the famed founding patriot John Hancock. The men were soon convinced she was indeed a brilliant poet and signed a document attesting to that fact.

Her book was published in England. It caused a stir there and in America, where the poems were admired by the likes of George Washington (whom she

Dennis Dalman
Reporter



met, at his request), Thomas Paine and Benjamin Franklin. After the book’s success, Wheatley’s owners set her free. She married an impoverished grocer, John Peters, lost two children to early deaths and died in poverty at age 31, all but forgotten until years later.

These are the concluding lines of Wheatley’s “On Being Brought from Africa to America.”

*“Some view our sable race with scornful eye,
‘Their color is a diabolic dye.’
Remember, Christians, Negros black as Cain
May be refin’d and join th’angelic train.”*

Like the precocious Wheatley, Gorman became an accomplished poet early on. She was only 22 when she read “The Hill We Climb” at Biden’s inauguration.

*“The new dawn blooms as we free it.
For there is always light
if we’re only brave enough to see it.
If only we’re brave enough to be it.”*

Black Americans have been writing magnificently throughout history, but their works have mostly been ignored and forgotten – often dismissed as inferior to White classics.

To heal race divisions in this nation, we should educate ourselves and one another about slavery, post-slavery and systemic racism. These are just some of the works by Black Americans I recommend:

“Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass” by Douglass. 1845. An astonishing, eloquent autobiography by a runaway slave who became a powerful abolitionist.

“The Fire Next Time” by James Baldwin. 1963. Two long lacerating, perceptive essays on the struggle for Black rights and identity.

“Letter from a Birmingham Jail” by Martin Luther King, Jr. 1963. A passionate call to resist injustice through civil disobedience if necessary.

“Their Eyes Were Watching God” by Zora Neale Hurston. novel, 1937. A vivid, haunting story of a girl in 1930s Florida facing harsh obstacles on her way to adulthood.

“Black Boy” by Richard Wright. 1945. A disturbing but profound memoir about Wright’s journey from the Jim Crow South to live in Chicago.

“Invisible Man” by Ralph Ellison. novel, 1952. The struggles of a nameless Black narrator coping with often hellish prejudices and cruelties.

“Beloved” by Toni Morrison. novel, 1987. Haunting post-Civil War story of a slave woman who kills her 2-year-old girl to save her from the clutches of slavery.

“The Warmth of Other Suns” by Isabel Wilkerson. 2010. A massively researched history of Blacks’ migration to the North and West from 1915 to 1970. Its stories are appalling, heart-breaking, inspiring, unforgettable.

While I do appreciate the ability to pay only for the shows and movies that I actually want to see, I think what is missing now from the not-so-long-ago days of cable is that discovery of just finding new things randomly, movies and shows that you might not expect but just absent-mindedly turned on one night. Now that everything is categorized and paywalled behind dozens of streaming services, there’s no more of that. You’re not just going to stumble across a good show, you’re going to have to pay for it to get it first.

In the end, we’re probably going to be paying almost as much as we did for cable with the added disruption of remembering dozens of logins. And if that one show we’re watching switches from one streaming service to another, then we’ll have to open up yet another account. So while the freedom to pick and choose what to watch and pay for rather than paying for a massive cable bundle can be great, all of this extra complication and restriction isn’t.

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

Connor Kockler
Guest Writer



lowing week. Watching a bunch of episodes all in a row seemed to go against that spirit. But eventually I took to it like everyone else and was amazed with all of the movies and shows Netflix had. I could just browse and find what I wanted to watch rather than wait for something to air. As Netflix became successful, it ended up creating a whole new problem.

Multiple streaming services just like it began to pop up like Hulu and Amazon Prime, and all of a sudden series and movies were going elsewhere. Now whenever you open up Netflix and look for a particular movie, it is most likely on an entirely different service. Then you’re faced with the choice of whether you’re going to pay for that other streaming service just to get that one thing you were hoping to watch. That doesn’t seem right, and now there are more services entering the mix, the problem is only going to get worse.

Have an opinion? Share it: news@thenewsleaders.com

Thanks for making
spirits bright
with WinterWalk

Ray Sjogren
St. Joseph Y2K Lions
WinterWalk Coordinator

The lights have been rolled up and stored until next year, the trees along JoeTown streets are down and providing gourmet food for area goats, and the inventive tree stands made from pallets have been recycled. Winter-Walk was quite different this year in the era of COVID. While smaller in

scope, WinterWalk’s heart grew three sizes, just like the Grinch’s.
The task of lighting up JoeTown was truly a community event. Reward-ing, beautiful and needed.
People came together across this community to bring color, joy and hope to this great little town. In this time where we have lost so much, we also made tremendous gains. Those beautiful trees lighting our streets and hearts led to literally hundreds of compliments received online and in person.
We are grateful, and there are many to thank:

Dr. Joe (longtime JoeTown dentist) and Barb Styles of Riverbluff Tree Farm for providing us with 55 lovely trees. Y2K Lions is happy to add we have entered a partnership with Riverbluff to provide trees for years to come.
Ryan Wensmann, director of Joe-Town Public Works, and Mayor Rick Schultz for their support.
Also St. Joseph Parish, Fr. Jerome Tupa, Lenny, Mark and Andy were invaluable.
We are especially thankful for Andy Loso and that 1920 Model T truck that chauffeured Santa around town.
Once again, we’d like to thank St. John’s Abbey and Arboretum, with a special tip of the hat to Arboretum Di-

rector John Geissler for another beau-tiful tree. Though we decided to scale back with a smaller tree this year, we have a huge beauty lined up for next year. Wow!
Our gratitude goes out to Sarah Wischnefski and those wonderful people at Brenny Transportation for again safely bringing our tree home. They also made our tree stand several years back, which we still use.
Finally, none of these great ideas would have come to fruition without people willing to come forward and “git-er-done!” Those trees would still be standing in a field and the lights on rolls if not for Josh Schmitz and the Joe Boys Poker Run Inc., a fabulous non-profit group doing kind acts in JoeTown. Jeremy and St. Cloud Refrigeration, Michael Boeckmann and Pow-erHouse, Gene Lange and Sons Exca-vating. You folks were great! They and their crews got the saws, trucks and trailers, put on the work boots and cut, hauled and problem-solved how to create 55 tree stands on a shoestring budget and on short notice.
I know I am forgetting some, as folks showed up at different times, lent a hand hauling, righting tipped trees, decorating and providing snacks and beverages for the crew. All of you – all of us – came together to brighten our lives and spirits at a time that was so important.
On behalf of the Y2K Lions – and if I may take the liberty – on behalf of the greater JoeTown area, THANK YOU!

PUBLIC NOTICE
**CERTIFICATE
OF ASSUMED NAME
STATE OF MINNESOTA**
Pursuant to Chapter 333, Min-nesota 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 conduct-ed is: The MijaCowgirl Artwork and Photography.

2. The stated address of the princi-pal place of business is or will be: 1811 13th St. S., St. Cloud, 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: Talitha Kopp, 1811 13th St. S., St. Cloud, MN 56301

4. By typing my name, I, the un-dersigned, certify that I am sign-ing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the appli-cable chapter of Minnesota Stat-utes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

SNOWFEST 2021

You are invited to the first-ever **SNOWFEST**
Join members
of the St. Joseph Park Board &
Recreation Department

Saturday, Feb. 27: join us at 6 p.m. for a moonlight snowshoe walk in Millstream Park followed by a bonfire with s’mores near the Millstream Park shelter.

Sunday, Feb. 28: the fun will begin at 1 p.m. at Memorial Park. Bring your skates and sleds to experience the sledding hill along with skate races.

SNOWFEST Medallion Hunt
Beginning Monday, Feb. 22, clues will be published daily at 9 a.m. on the City website. The lucky individual(s) that find the medallion will receive prized from local establishments! Contact the Rec Department with any questions at (320) 557-8140.

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Dated: Feb. 12, 2021

Filed: Feb. 12, 2021

/s/ Talitha Kopp

Mailing address: 1811 13th St. S.,
St. Cloud, MN 56301

Email for official notices: themija-cowgirl@gmail.com

Publish: Feb. 19 & March 5, 2021

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REAL ESTATE | SELLING TIPS

Attract More Buyers

If you’re planning to sell your home, you should understand what helps properties sell and how to get more eyes on your listing.

To further comprehend how a buyer’s mind works during a real estate transaction, check out this list of the essential factors of a house, as reported by the National Association of Realtors.

- Most were looking to avoid renovations and problems with plumbing or electricity.
- Most newly purchased homes were about 1,850 square feet, had three bedrooms and two bathrooms and were built after 1990.
- Heating and cooling costs were the most important environmental features in buying decisions.
- For 44% of recent buyers, the first step they took in the buying process was viewing the properties online.

Because home buyers are doing their research online before even visiting a property in person, it’s critical to craft an attractive listing description. A professional real estate agent can highlight its robust features based on what is selling in the local area. Here are some other tips to boost your showing and invite more buyers for a showing.



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CHOOSE A QUALIFIED REAL ESTATE AGENT

The guidance of a professional real estate agent can impact many factors in a real estate transaction. When the goal is to attract more buyers, it’s essential to choose a proven expert who excels in marketing and has significant connections.

Real estate agents who are

prominent in their areas work with their peers and communicate about their client’s needs regarding a home. In some cases, they may already have a buyer in mind who is looking for your property’s features. When there isn’t an already potential purchaser in mind, their skills for drafting an attractive listing and reaching a broad audience

will be an asset during the sale.

TAKE PROFESSIONAL PICTURES

Since many homebuyers do their research online first, painting your property in its best light is imperative. Hire a real estate photographer to document all four corners of your home and yard. Make

sure to highlight bathrooms, bedrooms, entertainment spaces and the landscaping. An appealing listing can entice buyers to schedule a visit. You should also consider offering a virtual tour with your agent. The ability to view the home digitally is an excellent starting point for buyers, especially in the age of social distancing.

Land

Great for horses. Mostly open with some woods. Two 39-acre tracts on 260th Street in Collegeville Twp. \$280,000 each. MLS #5632458

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