

Reaching Everybody! Newsleaders

Friday, Feb. 19, 2021
Volume 26, Issue 4
Est. 1995

Town Crier

Sartell Summer Baseball registration open

The 2021 Summer Sartell Baseball registration is open. Please go to <http://SartellBaseball.com> to register. Find more information by following us on Facebook.

‘I Love to Read’ event set Feb. 22

In honor of “I Love to Read” month, the Sartell-St. Stephen Education Foundation is hosting a Family Connections event from 4-6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 22 at Blue Line Bar & Grill, 1101 Second St. S., Sartell. A free book and coloring sheet will be given away to anyone who stops by. No purchase necessary. A \$25 Blue Line gift card will be placed inside three random books.

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.

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 612-871-7676.871-7676.

Plans for another Senior Parade are underway

by Mike Knaak
news@thenewsleaders.com

What started as an innovation to celebrate a high school tradition during a pandemic may become an annual event.

Sartell High School parents are planning another Senior Parade for the night before the June 5 graduation ceremony, and they are looking for volunteers to help.

One of the organizers, Tina Hemmesch, says during the parade, socially distanced seniors will line up along Pinecone Road while family members drive by. The route probably will start at The Waters Church

and head north to the high school.

The parade will be limited to two vehicles per graduate for a parade of more than 600 vehicles.

Volunteers will be needed to mark out spaces for 319 graduates, make and post signs.

To create a unique sign with each student’s name, Hemmesch says the group needs volunteers with “really good penmanship” to write names.

On the night of the parade, volunteers will be needed, so parents can ride in the parade.

After the success of last year’s event, Hemmesch said, “we want to keep the tradition

going.”

Support from the community as well as the city of Sartell is needed to stage a successful event. Liberty Bank has again provided financial support.

“If it wasn’t for Liberty we wouldn’t have been able to do this,” Hemmesch said.

Mayor Ryan Fitzthum supports the community-led effort.

“The 2020 Senior Parade was a huge positive within our community during the difficulties of the pandemic. Seeing how our community embraced our senior class was amazing,” he said. “The senior parade is just one of the many ways our community evolved through-

out 2020. As we overcome the COVID-19 pandemic, I am hopeful we can continue these events and turn them into new traditions for our community. A senior parade serves as an excellent opportunity for our entire community to recognize these students’ achievements.”

Hemmesch, whose son Nolan is graduating, is working with Amy Birkland-Peterson to organize parents and volunteers.

In addition to photos from a drone, photographer Erika Hansen has offered her services to photograph seniors along the parade route.

Volunteers should contact Hemmesch at 320-493-7550.

Sales-tax revenue for Sartell on the up and up

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

There’s some good news about the half-cent regional sales tax revenue for Sartell.

At the Jan. 25 city council meeting, it was announced despite lowered sales-tax revenue in October of 2019, the city still managed to receive 0.4 percent above the 2019 allocation and

exceeded the 2020 budgeted sales-tax amount by \$43,244, or by 3.6 percent during the last two months of 2019.

For 2021, the city has budgeted a 4.2 percent anticipated half-cent sales-tax revenue based on an increase in distribution and historical performance of the tax.

Almost two decades ago,

Sartell was one of five area cities whose residents voted in favor of the regional half-cent sales tax. Residents voted to renew it after the first 10 years. What happens is that one-half cent of sales taxes paid are dedicated to projects in those five cities – projects that have some kind of regional use or significance. The tax revenue

is divided up among the cities based on various factors.

Most recently, Sartell used that sales-tax revenue to help pay for the Scheel’s Athletic Complex, now under construction.

In 2020, Sartell received \$1,221,600 in sales-tax revenue. In 2019, it received \$1,486,500.

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.



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.

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 pandem-

ic as well as actions taken – or not taken – to live through it.

“These may appear as black-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

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PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF ST. STEPHEN, MINNESOTA

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

ON THE REQUEST OF DAN CZECH FOR VARIANCE

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of St. Stephen will meet in the Council chambers of the St. Stephen City Hall at 7 p.m., or as soon thereafter, on Wednesday, March 3, 2021, to consider the following:

A request by Dan Czech, 323 Third Ave. NE, St. Stephen, MN (PID No. 90.55927.0006), for a variance from Ordinance 41.16, subd. 1 ("General Requirements: Accessory Buildings") that a single accessory building and a single yard shed may be constructed on a Residential Land Use lot in the R-1 zoning district to allow for an additional structure on the property beyond the current dwelling unit, attached garage, accessory building and yard shed. This variance would be conditioned on the 12x10 "fish house" currently on

the property being utilized and occasionally removed for that purpose.

Anyone wishing to comment will be heard at this hearing or you may send your written comments, which need to be received no later than 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 3.

Please send to:

City of St. Stephen
ATTN: City Clerk
2 Sixth Ave. SE
St. Stephen, MN 56375

CITY OF ST. STEPHEN

/s/ Julie Jacobs, City Clerk

Published Feb. 19, 2021

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Sheep

from front page

sheep.

"Even though humans are rather independent in our thinking, 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 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 some beauty or 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 often find roaming freely



contributed photo

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

about the wooded wonderland she shares with husband Tom Kuhn, who retired three years ago after more than 30 years in the Sartell-St. Stephen school district.

"Bo and Finnegan are hilarious," she said of her alpacas. "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.

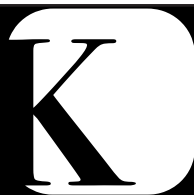
"That is my mission with art," she said. "To make people smile."

Sheep Series 2020 is on display and available for purchase at Bad Habit Brewing Co. Cards and 6x6-inch print reproductions also can be found at Bad Habit as well as Minnesota Street Market. The artist can be reached at jillddk@yahoo.com.



contributed photo

Alpacas Bo and Finnegan were inspirations for Sheep Series 2020 by St. Joseph artist Jill Dubbledee Kuhn because how they make her smile.



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James Kramer III Honored as one of LPL Financial's Top Financial Advisors

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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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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People

Sartell High School junior **Sumbla Anjum** received the ExCEL Award – Excellence in Community, Education and Leadership – a program for Minnesota high school juniors who are active in school activities, leaders in their schools and who demonstrate a strong commitment to community service.



Anjum



Lenarz



Vonderahe

Two Sartell High School seniors, **Heidi Lenarz** and **Carter Vonderahe**, received the Academics, Arts and Athletics Award, known as the Triple “A” Award. The award honors Minnesota high school seniors who have a 3.0 or higher-grade point average and who participate in Minnesota State High School League-sponsored athletic and fine arts activities.

Sartell Middle School sixth-grader **Henry Johnson** won second place at the Regional Spelling Bee on Feb. 2. He represented Sartell Middle School at the Multi-Regional Bee on Feb. 16.

Jake Pettit of Sartell was appointed by Gov. Tim Walz and Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan to the Board of High Pressure Piping Systems. The board adopts and amends the high-pressure-piping code and rules and regulates the licensing and registration of those who work with high-pressure-piping systems. The board

also issues final code interpretations and advises about educational requirements for inspectors. Pettit is a Non-Metro High Pressure Piping Journeyworker Member.

Twenty-four Sartell students recently graduated from St. Cloud State University. They and their majors are as follows: **Courtney Beck**, bachelor’s in management; **Jessee Bramstedt**, bachelor’s in cybersecurity, magna cum laude; **Riley Buck**, bachelor’s in film studies, magna cum laude; **Shazia Buttar**, bachelor’s in communication sciences and disorders, cum laude; **Kyle Cielinski**, bachelor’s in manufacturing engineering technology, summa cum laude; **Lauren Ditmanson**, bachelor’s in nursing, magna cum laude; **Robert Entenmann**, bachelor’s in computer science, magna cum laude; **Danielle Fellows**, bachelor’s in communication arts and literature, magna cum laude;

Bryan Fleegel, master’s in business administration; **Jordan Gangle**, bachelor’s in management; **Anna Hince**, bachelor’s in SPED: academic and behavioral strategist, summa cum laude; **Ashlee Johnson**, doctorate in educational administration and leadership; **Kassondra Kubasch**, bachelor’s in nursing, magna cum laude; **Rachel Kugler**, bachelor’s in nursing; **Meghan Murphy**, master’s in business administration; **Heather Murray**, associate’s, liberal arts and sciences;

Ryan Perry, bachelor’s in liberal studies; **Skylar Rychner**, bachelor’s in information systems; **Melvin Schmid**, bachelor’s in computer science engineering; **Anthony Schmitz**, master’s in business administration; **Spencer Speer**, bachelor’s in business economics; **Ashley Stumvoll**, bachelor’s in biomedical sciences; **Samantha Styrbicky**, bachelor’s in nursing, cum laude; **Alectra Walcome**, bachelor’s in biomedical sciences and statistics.

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*Drs.
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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 Finnicks, 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. Finnicks 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.

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Even if you didn’t qualify for PPP funds in 2020, you might be eligible for funding now.

The Economic Aid Act approved on December 27, 2020, included Paycheck Protection Program enhancements, which established three opportunities for business owners.

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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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School calendar changed to add planning time

by Mike Knaak
news@thenewsleaders.com

Changes have been made to the school calendar to allow additional planning time for teachers in the Sartell-St. Stephen school district.

For all pre-kindergarten through fifth-grade students, there will be no school on Friday, March 26, and Friday, April 16.

There will be distance learning for sixth- through 12th-grade students on six Fridays, Feb. 26, March 12, March 26, April 16, April 30 and May 14.

In announcing the calendar changes, the administrators said: “As we continue to navigate

through the school year with COVID-19, we know the toll on our staff has been significant as they navigate teaching not only the students in class but also those who have chosen distance learning and those who are out for COVID-related absences.”

Specifically for pre-kindergarten through fifth-grade families, the administrators said: “We appreciate this may cause additional stress in your family schedules but know this time is important so our staff can continue to provide our students with an excellent educational experience in this unprecedented school year. Childcare will be provided on these days through Kidstop/Ed-Ventures.”

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We ask you to be part of #11forJacob.

This movement centers around 11 simple traits that Jacob valued:


- 1) Be fair
- 2) Be kind
- 3) Be understanding
- 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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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

Letter to the editor

Support Line 3 pipe-line, it's safer

Bob Grise

St. Joseph, MN

Your Feb. 5 column, “What’s in Minnesota trenches? A move to stop Line 3” by a local student, Abigail Thomas, opined that piping tar sands oil to the United States from Canada is a bad idea and a human-caused climate crisis is upon us. My college-aged daughters were taught the same things.

When I was in school in the 1970s, I was taught we were running out of topsoil and may starve, we are running out of

natural gas, (brrr), the world will run out of oil by 2015, and planet Earth is cooling. Turns out the settled science of the 1970s was anything but settled. It was the same conjecture sold as settled science that Mark Twain warned us about, and it is still going on today.

The oil industry is not dying and not in need of taxpayer subsidization as is so called “green” energy. Tar sands oil is the same type of oil we used to import in large amounts from Venezuela. If we don’t buy Canadian oil, China will. Better we have a stable supply of Canadian oil than to be dependent

on hostile nations. How ironic that if mankind would have accidentally made that tar sands mess, we would be expected to clean it up, since that oil naturally seeps into the local rivers.

There is no “climate crisis,” (it’s politics). The average temperature in St. Cloud from 1900 to 1939 was 43.045. The most recent 40 years the average was 42.97. Thankfully our temps are warmer now than in the Little Ice Age of the 1600s when crop failures were common.

A recent study by independent scientist Dr. Indur Goklany of the Global Warming Policy Foundation found there is no

climate emergency. “Hurricanes more intense or frequent – No. Tornadoes increase and become more intense – No. Floods more frequent and more intense – No. Droughts more frequent and intense – No. Area burned by wildfire increasing – No (peaked in mid-19th century). Cereal yields decreasing – No (they tripled since 1961). Food supplies decreasing – No. Land area/beaches shrinking – No (marginal expansion).”

Pipelines are safer than oil trains and new pipelines are safer than old ones so I’m in favor of a new line 3.

Blotter

Jan. 26

1 a.m. Domestic. 7th Avenue. Officers were dispatched to a residence after a complainant reported their significant other had put hands on them. The complainant also stated the two had been arguing throughout the night. Upon arrival, officers spoke with both parties and mediated the situation. One party left to stay with a relative. No further action was needed.

Jan. 28

4:15 p.m.. ID theft. Blackberry Circle. An individual requested officer assistance after finding out someone had filed for unemployment under their name. The officer assisted the individual in contacting the state to cancel the 1099.

Jan. 30

6:15 p.m. Medical. 7th Avenue. An officer was dispatched to a residence for an individual in their 70s who believed they were having a heart attack. The officer arrived on scene along with Mayo ambulance medics. It was found the individual had A-Fib and high blood pressure. No need for a transport to the hospital.

Jan. 31

10:30 p.m. Traffic stop. Le Sauk Drive. An officer on patrol stopped a driver for failing to use their turn signal and for a cracked windshield. In speaking with the driver, it was found they were driving after revocation and had an expired registration. The officer cited the

driver for driving after revocation and expired registration. Verbal warnings were given for failing to signal and the cracked windshield.

Feb. 1

7:15 p.m. Fire. 4th Avenue. Officers were dispatched to an apartment building for an oven fire. The complainant stated the oven was closed, nothing else was on fire and the alarms were not yet going off. Upon arrival, the fire had been put out. Sartell Fire Department assisted with ventilation. No further action was needed.

Feb. 2

1 p.m. Domestic. A caller stated they were assaulted by a male party the night before. Officers had probable cause to arrest the male party for felony domestic assault strangulation and misdemeanor domestic assault harm. Officers got a statement from the female and took photos of her injuries. The male was believed to be at a location outside of Sartell. Officers from neighboring jurisdictions worked together to arrest the male. He was transported to Stearns County Jail.

Feb. 6

5:40 p.m. Behavioral health. An officer was dispatched to a residence after a complainant called stating her family member with dementia was agitated and was worried things were going to escalate. Officers arrived and assisted in de-escalating the situation.

Feb. 8

7:30 p.m. Assist person. 14th Avenue E. A complainant called requesting an officer escort them to their vehicle. The caller was leaving work and observed two running vehicles in the parking lot that they did not recognize. While an officer was in route, the complainant called back to cancel. It was found the vehicle was waiting for a tow.

Feb. 10

11:15 a.m. Welfare. Pinetree Court. A complainant called concerned about their neighbor who was supposed to contact them earlier that morning and did not. Also, the neighbor’s Meals on Wheels were still sitting on the front porch. It was found the neighbor was away and OK. No further assistance was needed.

Feb. 11

2 p.m. Personal assist. Sartell. Officers were dispatched to a residence to assist a family with a loved one diagnosed with dementia. The individual with dementia left the home a few times and with frigid temperatures, the individual was becoming a danger to himself. Officers and family members discussed options and Mayo medics assisted by transporting the individual to the hospital. No further action was needed by law enforcement.

Feb. 12

8:p.m. Verbal. Officers were dispatched to an apartment complex after a complainant called 911 con-

cerned there may be a domestic in a surrounding unit. The complainant heard loud screaming and pounding for 30+ minutes. Officers arrived on scene and spoke with the renters to ensure their safety and discussed being mindful of noise moving forward.

Feb. 14

10 p.m. Domestic. Lowell Lane. Multiple officers were dispatched to a residence after a complainant stated an intoxicated male head-butted her resulting in a black eye. Children were present in the home. Officers arrived on scene, separated the two parties, and in doing so, the male party became hostile and fought with officers. An officer deployed their taser in attempt to detain the male. The male party was eventually arrested for charges of domestic assault and obstructing the legal process. The male was transported to Stearns County Jail without incident. The female party was given contact information for victim’s resources in the area.

Feb. 15

4:45 p.m. Welfare. Sartell. An officer was dispatched to a residence after an individual who called a crisis hotline indicated she was going to kill herself by overdosing. Upon arrival the officer spoke with the individual and discussed other options. The individual agreed to go to the hospital and seek help. The officer transported the individual to St. Cloud Hospital without incident for medical assistance. No further action was needed.

PUBLIC NOTICE

CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME STATE OF MINNESOTA

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

1. The assumed name under which the business is or will be conducted is: Granite City Dental Lab.

2. The stated address of the principal place of business is or will be: 1109 Seventh St. SE., St. Cloud, MN 56304.

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: Apex Dental Laboratory Group LLC, 1945 E. 31st St., Hastings, MN 55033.

4. By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing 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 applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. 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.

Dated: Jan. 13, 2021

Filed: Jan. 13, 2021

/s/ Travis Zick

Mailing address: 303 N. Barstow St., Eau Claire, WI 54703

Email for official notices: info@apexlabgroup.com

Publish: Feb. 19 & March 5, 2021

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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

Privacy. 80 acres includes woods, open fields and a part of natural environment Mud Lake. Driveway is ½-mile lane from 260th Street. Wakefield Twp. \$576,000
MLS #5662640



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55+ Patio Homes



The Last Two! Mill Stream Village. 2-br, infloor heat and sunny. Walk to downtown! 111 & 115 Colman Court, St. Joseph. Choices! \$304,000 MLS #5704298

"The market is very strong in our area with many buyers. If you are considering selling, I would love to assist you through the entire process." – Jon Petters