

Reaching Everybody! Newsleaders

Friday, Nov. 26, 2021
Volume 26, Issue 24
Est. 1995

Town Crier

Sartell Farmers' Market open Saturday, Dec. 4

Sartell Farmers' Market is open from 4-7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4. Come enjoy the Festival of Lights and shop for great presents and meal ideas for the upcoming holidays. Some of the great items you will find include the following: eggs, beef, chicken, potatoes, squash, onions, garlic, canned goods, honey, caramel corn, cookies, baked goods, many craft items and much more.

St. John's Boys' Choir returns with 'A Ceremony of Carols'

This annual treasure returns with two performances on Saturday, Dec. 18 with concerts at 2 and 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Cathedral, downtown St. Cloud. Join the Choirboys in celebrating the season with Christmas music, audience carols and the SJBC Orchestra. A new addition this year is the "Missa Carolae" by James Whitbourn featuring Kaye Schimnich, organist. To order tickets and learn more, visit [sjbchoir.org](https://www.sjbchoir.org) or call 320-363-2558.

Share the Spirit seeks support

For many households throughout Central Minnesota, the holidays can be an incredibly challenging time of year, and this remains true now more than ever. The goal of Share the Spirit 2021 is to provide a wonderful holiday experience for households in need. Catholic Charities does this by matching individuals and families who are referred to them by area professionals with individuals groups and organizations that wish to provide gifts for a memorable holiday experience. They also accept financial donations. Visit <https://www.ccstcloud.org/share-the-spirit> to learn more to Share the Spirit.

Food shelf needs volunteers

Volunteers are needed to help in the food shelf. Volunteers will assist clients in selecting their food choices using an independent choice food-shelf model. Volunteers will help keep the shopping area neat and orderly and occasionally clean up shopping carts abandoned on the program floor. Volunteers help 12-16 hours per month. Visit www.ccstcloud.org/volunteer to learn more about their program and complete an application.

INSERT:
City of St. Stephen
newsletter

Parents wave, joyous children shout 'The Ladies!'

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

You'd think at first the two women walking through a Sartell neighborhood were a crown-wearing royal couple as neighbors smile, wave and yell hello to them.

They even have a royal-sounding name: "The Ladies."

"It's The Ladies!" some children yell with sudden excitement as they run up to chat with them.

Now and then, some adults working in their yard gardens stand and greet the ladies and offer them fresh garden produce.

No, the two women are not royalty, not officially anyway, and they don't wear crowns. They're best of friends and next-door neighbors Janel Kral and Marilyn Kreiling. For 31 years they have lived next door



photo by Carolyn Bertsch

Marilyn Kreiling (left) and Janel Kral, both of Sartell, take a break from their walk Aug. 31 to swing and watch families fishing at the Sartell fishing pond.

to each other near 2-1/2 Street and 9th Avenue in Sartell.

About 10 years ago, the two

decided to take daily walks. After suppertime, the ladies set out for a leisurely walk that

takes them around the two large ponds in their neighborhood.

Ladies • page 4

School district's finances are healthy, audit shows

by Mike Knaak
news@thenewsleaders.com

Health topics – both physical and financial – dominated the Nov. 15 Sartell-St. Stephen school board meeting.

District leaders will discuss modifications to the current Safe Learning Plan, including masking, at its Dec. 1 work group meeting. In the meantime, the district needs to comply with

federal and state OSHA guidelines for staff vaccinations, Human Resources Krista Durrwachter said.

The state has advised the district to comply with the rules while lawsuits in federal court move ahead. By Dec. 5, the district will need to determine vaccination status of staff and by Jan. 3 implement a testing program for people who have not been vaccinated.

The district is not mandating vaccinations but has to follow the federal rules, Durrwachter said.

Auditors gave the district a clean bill of health on its annual financial audit.

Because of the large amount of federal Covid relief and nutrition money that flowed into the district during the audit period that ended on June 30, auditors focused on those accounts and

found no problems.

Auditors flagged one issue – the lack of segregation of accounting duties. Because of a small staff, it's not possible to separate accounting duties such as recording receipts and preparing and mailing checks. The same problem has been noted in past years and it's a common finding in cities and school districts with small business staffs.

Finances • page 4



contributed photo

A "Code Blue" team at the DeZURIK Co. learns how to properly transport someone during a medical crisis. From left to right are Devin Payment, Andy Whiwski (teacher), Matt Binsfield, Justin Juelke, Bill Sieben, Rick van den Arend Jr. and (on the backboard) Darrin Vanderwerf.

31 DeZURIK employees now the 'Code Blue Team'

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

Thirty-one employees of the DeZURIK Co. in Sartell recently completed 48 hours of training to become members of a medical responder team at the plant and beyond.

The training sessions, which took place at the plant, lasted throughout October. Those who participated did their learning mostly during working hours, and DeZURIK paid their wages during training times.

DeZURIK, the maker of specialty valves, has for many decades been one of the economic bedrocks/employers in Sartell. The company started in Sartell

and is known throughout the world for its valves, some of them huge in scope. The company has about 300 onsite employees and others who work remotely.

The state-certified licensed responders are now gung-ho ready to respond immediately to any medical crisis or workplace accident on the premises. Their training will allow them to help anywhere outside of the plant if they should witness or be called to an emergency, including right in their own homes with their own family members, guests or neighbors. The responders are now also Red Cross-certified.

"I am so excited for DeZURIK and our employees to have an

DeZURIK • page 4

Obituary

Daniel R. Brockton, 81
May 16, 1940-Nov. 5, 2021
Longville (formerly of Sartell)

Daniel R. Brockton, 81, of Longville, died Nov. 5 while surrounded by family while in hospice care in Baxter. He was diagnosed at Mayo in 2017 and treated by **Brockton**



Per Brockton's wishes there will be no funeral; the family may plan a get-together in the spring.

Brockton was born May 16, 1940 in Northfield, to Elroy and Maxine Brockton. With his family with him, he left us on November 5, 2021 while in hospice care in Baxter, MN.

Brockton grew up in the Northfield-Dundas area and graduated from Northfield High School in 1959 and married his high school sweetheart Pat Klingbile. He attended the University of Minnesota before transferring to St. Olaf, graduating in 1964 with a bachelor's degree in English education. He wrestled in both high school and college and won several awards and also worked at the Northfield Farm Service.

Brockton began teaching at Morris and Princeton, then earned a

certification to be a librarian/a-v coordinator; Litchfield was his first job in that area. In 1969, after his wife graduated from St. Cloud State University, both were hired in the Sartell-St. Stephen school district and spent the rest of their careers there. Dan also coached wrestling at Morris, Princeton and Sartell. He went through expansion programs developing libraries for two new buildings; he also helped develop and supervise computer labs, then a new concept. While teaching, early traveling included fishing and canoeing trips to northern Minnesota, the Canadian wilderness and a road trip to the west coast.

The couple both retired in 1997 and moved to their lake home on Long Lake in Longville where they had been building their future retirement home since 1981. They learned a lot about construction and basically did everything except the well and septic system. Besides relaxing, those first few years at the lake were spent finishing the house, landscaping, and building a workshop and two garages. Dan didn't keep busy enough so worked part-time a few years at Arrowhead Lumber. In the couple's spare time, they volunteered driving seniors to errands and medical appointments. They also helped neighbors and friends with building projects including a complete cabin.

The couple loved to travel and

after buying a small camper started going south in the winters –starting at a few weeks in 2001 and ending with three-plus months each year. Campers and tow vehicles got bigger as the years went on. The couple also enjoyed western trips and Minnesota State Park trips in warmer seasons. Longer trips were made to the East Coast and provinces in Canada. An almost yearly excursion favorite was Teddy Roosevelt National Park in North Dakota. Campers were sold after his diagnosis and he settled in for winters at home. His computers and the thousands of photos he took kept him quite busy until he went into the hospital. His specialties were wildlife (especially birds), flowers and scenery. The couple visited and photographed many historical sites on their travels.

Survivors include his wife Patricia (Longville), son Andrew (and Christine of Minneapolis), son Scott (and Nina of Lake Elmo), daughter Jo Franta (and John of Andover), five grandchildren, two step-grandchildren and a great-granddaughter, sisters Bernice Stenhaus (Northfield) and Marianne King (Breezy Point), a step-brother Ed Wolf (Faribault) and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; stepfather Willis Wolf; a sister Ida Brustad; brothers-in-law Joel Stenhaus, Ralph Holbrook and Lynn King; a nephew Tracy Lundstrom; and niece Shelby Lundstrom.

Arrangements were by Kline Funeral Home in Pine River. Memorials may be made to Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota, Longville Area Food Shelf, the Minnesota Historical Society or for Cancer Research at Mayo Clinic.

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 tri-countycrimestoppers.org. Crime Stoppers offers rewards up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for a crime.

Nov. 9

10:35 p.m. Suspicious item. 15th Street S. Dispatch informed a Sartell officer they received a call of a possible grenade on the back patio of a multi-family living building. When the officer arrived, it was found to be a plastic kid's toy grenade. The item was taken back to the police department and destroyed.

Nov. 10

5:36 p.m. Assault. Birch Circle. An officer was dispatched to the Scheels Athletic Complex parking lot for a road rage turned assault. The officer met with complainant who stated the road rage started in St. Cloud, but the assault happened in Sartell. The complainant tried evading the other driver by driving through neighborhoods, but once in a cul-de-sac the complainant was boxed in. Both drivers got out of the vehicle and an altercation took place. The complainant then again followed the other driver to get a license plate. The officer then spoke to the other driver, the stories differed slightly but neither party wanted to press charges. The officer spoke to both parties about how the situation could have been handled differently and in the future to reach out to law enforcement before it goes as far as an altercation.

Nov. 11

3:08 p.m. Lost property. Parkview Lane. Dispatch requested an officer call a complainant of a lost gun. The complainant told the officer his son had attended gun safety field training in the metro area. He said after the training the gun went back into the case and

stayed in the vehicle until today. When opening the case today, they found they had someone else's gun. He believed the guns were swapped out when everyone was sharing the guns. The complainant called the instructor of the class who called all attendees, but no one had the wrong gun. The complainant was missing a Mossberg 500 but had a Remington 870. The officer had Stearns County Dispatch run the serial numbers on both guns and both were clear. The officer had the Mossberg entered into NCIC as lost.

Nov. 12

9:48 p.m. Suspicious vehicle. 11th Street S. An officer who was on routine patrol and noticed a vehicle pull off 11th Street S. The officer stopped and spoke to the driver of the vehicle. The driver stated he had just stopped to let his dog out. The driver wasn't from the area, so the officer asked what he was doing in this area. The driver stated he had been in the area doing storm assessments. The officer noted the vehicle did have construction graphics on it.

Nov. 13

11:23 p.m. Suspicious person. Amber Avenue S. A female called dispatch stating someone was trying to get into her apartment. The complainant thought it possibly was a female, at this time the female was sitting on the ground kicking the door. While on the phone with dispatch the complainant stated the person was now trying to pick the lock and yelling to let her in. When officers arrived on scene, they found an intoxicated female who lived across the hall. The officers assisted the female and helped the female take her dog out to the bathroom. The female stated she would stay in her apartment for the evening. The officer noted the female was able to care for herself.

Earn Extra Income

Volunteer in your community as a paid volunteer!

Lutheran Social Service of MN is seeking volunteers to provide companionships to older adults or work with school age children as a mentor. Volunteers of the program qualify for small hourly tax-free stipends and transportation reimbursement.

Please contact Janel at 320.241.5173 or

Janel.Heinen@lssmn.org for more information and to make an impact in your community!!



**AmeriCorps
Seniors**



Lutheran
Social Service
of Minnesota

WOODWORKERS WANTED

Full-time 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Woodworkers wanted to manufacture rustic furniture. Job duties include use of all woodworking equipment plus assembly. We can train you! Competitive wages with benefits, vacation, health insurance, paid holidays, and profit sharing

Please contact Viking Log Furniture
38169 County Road 2, St. Joseph, MN 56374

Call or email for details
320-259-0909 or
sales@vikinglogfurniture.com





Rothstein Christmas Tree Farm
Located next to Thomsen Greenhouse

**Open weekends or by appointment
from Thanksgiving until Christmas**

9 a.m.-dusk

Kids enjoy free candy canes!

320-363-7828
29765 156th Ave. • St. Joseph

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

AUTO BODY REPAIR

Auto Body 2000

(behind Coborn's in the Industrial Park)
St. Joseph • 320-363-1116

YOUR INDUSTRY

Your Business

Address
City • Phone • Website

Call the Sartell-St. Stephen Newsleaders at 320-363-7741
if you would like to be in the business directory.

CRAFT-VENDOR- BAKE SALE

Saturday, Dec. 11
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

St Cloud Athlos Academy School
3701 33rd St. S., St Cloud
FREE ADMISSION
\$1 chance prize drawings & food

Proceeds benefit Athlos PTA

Food • page 3

Sartell-St. Stephen • St. Joseph

Reaching Everybody!
Newsleaders

Newsstands

Coborn's - Riverside
Country Manor
Country Store & Pharmacy
Holiday on 7th
Holiday - Riverside
House of Pizza
Kwik Trip

Little Dukes - Pinecone
Quik Stop - Cenex
Sartell City Hall
Sartell Community Center
School District Offices
Walgreens
The Newsleaders office

www.thenewsleaders.com

Published every other Friday by Von Meyer Publishing Inc.

The Sartell-St. Stephen Newsleaders is the legal newspaper for the Sartell-St. Stephen school district and city of St. Stephen

Publisher/Owner

Janelle Von Pinnon

Editor

Leanne Loy

Assignment Editor

Carolyn Bertsch

Assistant Manager

Rajahna Schneekloth

Designers

Marg Crumley & Meagan Simonson

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.

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

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

Food

from page 2

Its residents include men, as well as women with children.

For more information on how to help out, call 320-203-7881 or visit its website: www.placeofhopeministries.com

Place of Hope Ministries is located at 511 Ninth Ave. N. in St. Cloud.

HISTORIC SALEM CHURCH
Christmas Program
Saturday, Dec. 18

Everyone Welcome!
Horse-drawn wagon rides from 3 to 4:15 p.m.
Old-fashioned Christmas Program – 4:30 p.m.

We welcome your gifts of non-perishable food items and toys to be delivered to the Paynesville Community Center.

A free-will offering will be taken for the Salem Church and Cemetery restoration and upkeep. Refreshments served

Historic Salem Community Church, 5 miles north of Paynesville on 220th Street.
Call 320-249-0373 or check out our website for more information:
<https://saalemhistoricalchurch.com/>



Find your **purpose**
at CentraCare

Change lives and improve health through the work you do.

Choose an opportunity that encourages you to be your best and make a difference in the lives of our patients, coworkers and community.









Search positions at CentraCare.com to find the job right for you.

 CentraCare™

Our Medicare plans look a lot like you.



Everything you need plus the extras you want.

	Plan premium (you must continue to pay your Part B premium)	starting at \$0 per month
	Medical and hospital	✓
	Fitness programs	✓
	Dental	✓
	Eyewear and hearing aids	✓
	Over-the-counter allowance	✓
	Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage	✓ (most plans)
	Coverage when traveling	✓

Shop plans at ucare.org/medicare27



Ladies

from front page

For up to an hour, they walk and talk, often sitting for rest periods on the bench swings next to the ponds. They love to chat with the neighbors who pass by and the kids who run to greet their favorite “ladies.”

Marilyn

Marilyn and her husband, Terry, (now both retired) hail from the Baxter area, near Brainerd. They owned a jewelry store there, then moved to central Minnesota where Marilyn worked at Herberger’s in St. Cloud and Terry worked for Hustad Homes.

“When we moved many, many years ago to this place in Sartell, there were cornstalks in the backyard, and we could sometimes hear cows mooing when our windows were open. It was mainly farmland then,” Marilyn said. “This city has grown so much since then.”

Her walks with Janel are relaxing breaks from busy days.

“On our walks, what do we talk about? Well, you name it,” she said, laughing. “We talk about our health – aches and pains. We talk about our children and grandchildren and about my great-grandchildren. We talk about our pets, our hobbies, and we talk and laugh about a lot of dumb stuff, like how so many piles of leaves can blow into Janel’s yard.”

As the weather gets colder, the two ladies’ walks become fewer.

“Our walking days get mighty slim this time of year,” Marilyn said.

It’s almost puzzle season again for Marilyn. One of her winter hobbies is doing jigsaw puzzles, lots and lots of them.

The Kreilings are parents of four children, five grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Janel

Raised near Buckman, Janel has worked as a docks receiver and in merchandising for 31 years at Macy’s department store in Crossroads Center in St. Cloud.

A tad younger than Marilyn, she has two daughters and five grandchildren.

“I so enjoy my walks with Marilyn,” she said, “and I enjoy the neighbors we see. They always wave and say hi. Such nice people live in and around that neighborhood. We love to see them on our walks.”

Many of the children call Janel “the rock lady.” For years, they have been thrilled by the painted rocks Janel leaves for children to find – mostly by or near the two ponds on their circular walking route.

“When I was laid off from work during the pandemic last year, I put (painted) rocks all around those ponds, knowing the little ones would find them. Later, many of the children, once they discovered who the rock-painter was, would run over to talk to “The Ladies” and tell them how much fun it is to find the rocks.

An arts-and-crafts hobbyist, Janel creates art, including painted rocks, for her special causes, and making greeting cards and paintings for schools, nursing homes and veterans’ groups, such as the Eagle’s Healing Nest in Sauk Centre.

Throughout the years, Janel has painted a virtual ton of rocks (perhaps more). She gets the rocks from expeditions to the Great Lakes (lakes Superior and Michigan). She has a campground base in Grand Marais on the North Shore, and that is where she began her rock-painting hobby.

The painted rocks range in size from about an inch wide to about five inches. Janel uses acrylic paint for her rocks, which comprise a vast variety of whimsical critters and designs: everything from baby jellyfish to unicorns and even

a “pandemic rock” with a face mask painted on it.

Every summer, Janel’s grandchildren from Colorado come for a two-week visit. Every time, the kids can’t wait for Janel to bring out her collected rocks and her paints so they, too, can paint rocks.

Janel said the joy, happiness and love she puts into her arts and crafts is returned many times over.

“One of my grandkids – a Cub Scout in Colorado – started a gift drive for veterans. Twenty-eight Colorado families will send gift boxes for veterans to the Eagle’s Healing Nest in Sauk Centre.”

Marilyn and Janel, the “Two Ladies,” are already looking forward to more walks come next spring.

“We have a lot in common,” Janel said. “We’re both moms, grandmas, hard workers. We both love animals. Marilyn feeds the squirrels around here, and they are now eating pumpkin seeds.”

Said Marilyn: “When I first met Janel 31 years ago, we just clicked. I’ve known and sometimes babysat her two girls since they were just kids.”

To the neighbors by the two ponds, a sure sign of spring’s arrival, as sure as robins, is the sight of the “Two Ladies” walking, smiling and waving – and sometimes leaving painted rocks.

DeZurik

from front page

onsite that will make the difference if a life is on the line here at work, in their homes or in our community,” said Brandy Fischer, DeZURIK’s health-and-safety director.

It was Fischer who suggested the training program, with DeZURIK’s blessing. It is similar to another one Fischer started when she worked in a sugar-beet plant in Renville. After the program was first announced for DeZURIK volunteers, Fischer said she was pleasantly stunned about how employees came forward immediately to join on.

Dubbed the “Code Blue Team,” the responders learned how to respond quickly and help in the wake of heart attacks, diabetic responses, allergenic crises, air-passage obstructions, cases of bleeding and shock, bone injuries, poisoning, childbirth and much more. They learned CPR and how to use a heart defibrillator, among many other skills.

When and if they hear on the intercom “Code Blue” in the plant, the team immediately responds to the scene of the crisis.

CORRECTION

A story about overnight winter parking restrictions on page 3 of the Sartell Newsleader (Nov. 12) incorrectly stated the time frame of the restrictions. The accurate times of no overnight parking allowed on streets is from 1-7 a.m.

and half.

State revenue accounts for 81.2 percent of the district’s budget of almost \$49 million. Local property taxes account for 9.4 percent with other federal and state revenue making up the rest.

The audit report compares the Sartell-St. Stephen’s general fund revenue and expenses with similar districts and with the state average.

Sartell-St. Stephen’s general fund revenue per student is \$843 compared with \$2,477 at similar districts and with a \$2,180 statewide average.

911 will also be called immediately. DeZURIK also paid \$20,000 to have a fully-equipped first-aid room created in the middle of the plant where people can be assessed and treated.

The teachers of the course were Patrick Boon and Brent Ambuehl of Central Minnesota Health and Training, and DeZURIK medical director Dr. Alan Olson. All those who completed the course can be recertified each year with an additional 16 hours of training updates.

Fischer said she and others are proud of the program and its graduates because they encompass DeZURIK’s core values of thriving together, a “can do” attitude and “high power – low ego.”

The graduates are Rick van den Arend Jr., Lynda Ashcroft, Matt Binsfield, Jim Bowe, Terry Burke, Bryan Burns, Matt Fallon, Matt Fox, Joseph Hartung, Cody Haus-er, Jesse Heinen, Adam Imholt, Randy Johnson, Justin Juelke, Pat Kruchten, Ryan Meyer, Ryan Myklebust, Rachael Nieland, Devin Payment, Aishwarya Pillai, Dan Rothberg, Bill Sieben, Brian Spiczka, Conor Swanson, Andy Thorpe, Rich Thul, Darrin Vanderwerf, Ethan Way, Greg Weber, Leo Wehseler and Matt Zdrazil.

Finances

from front page

The audit report noted the cost of separating the duties exceeds the benefits.

The district’s financial health is supported by the size of its unassigned fund balance. District policy calls for a balance of at least 10 percent of expenses. For the most recent year, the balance stands at 14.2 percent, or \$6.4 million. That’s enough for the district to operate for a month

CLASSIFIEDS

ADOPTION
ADOPTION. Northern California family promises baby warm, loving home. Secure future, devoted grandparents, educational opportunities. Relocation possible, generous living expenses. Lisa 1(510)390-3524 or attorney 1(310)663-3467. (mcn)

AUTOMOBILES
DONATE YOUR CAR, TRUCK TO HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND. Free 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care Of. CALL 1-855-977-7030 (mcn)

DONATE YOUR CAR TO CHARITY. Receive maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details. 855-752-6680 (mcn)

CASH FOR CARS! We buy all cars! Junk, high-end, totaled – it

doesn’t matter! Get free towing and same day cash! NEWER MODELS too! Call 1-855-548-5240 (mcn)

CABLE/INTERNET
Earthlink High Speed Internet. As Low As \$49.95/month (for the first 3 months.) Reliable High Speed Fiber Optic Technology. Stream Videos, Music and More! Call Earthlink Today 1-855-679-7096. (mcn)

DISH Network. \$64.99 for 190 Channels! Blazing Fast Internet, \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & Get a FREE \$100 Visa Gift Card. FREE Voice Remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE Streaming on ALL Devices. Call today! 1-855-434-0020 (mcn)

DISH TV \$64.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. Promo Expires 1/21/22. 1-844-316-8876. (mcn)

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

Directv Stream - The Best of Live & On-Demand On All Your Favorite Screens. CHOICE Package, \$84.99/ mo for 12months. Stream on 20 devices at once in your home. HBO Max FREE for 1 yr (w/CHOICE Package or higher.) Call for more details today! (some restrictions apply) Call IVS 1-866-387-0621. (mcn)

EDUCATION
COMPUTER & IT TRAINING PROGRAM! Train ONLINE to get the skills to become a Computer & Help Desk Professional now! Grants and Scholarships available for certain programs for qualified applicants. Call CTI for details! 1-844-843-2771 (mcn)

TRAIN ONLINE TO DO MEDI-

CAL BILLING! Become a Medical Office Professional online at CTI! Get Trained, Certified & ready to work in months! Call 1-844-405-2328. The Mission, Program Information and Tuition is located at CareerTechnical.edu/consumer-information. (M-F 8am-6pm ET) (mcn)

EMPLOYMENT/HELP WANTED
Dakotaland Transportation Inc. is in search of cabinet haulers that are willing to travel the great USA and be home weekly. – Must have a Class A CDL. We have great benefits: health, dental, vision, life, supplementary, simple iras. Come join this great big happy family. Call 800-822-2703 (mcn)

COMMERCIAL APPLICATORS. Starting at \$20.00/hr, paid lodging, benefits. Traveling position for railroad vegetation control, 60-80 hours/week. RAW (Cooperstown, ND). 888.700.0292 www.rawapplicators.com | info@rawapplicators.com (mcn)

FINANCIAL
STOP worrying! SilverBills eliminates the stress and hassle of bill payments. All household bills guaranteed to be paid on time, as long as appropriate funds are available. Computer not necessary. Call for a FREE trial or a custom quote today. SilverBills 1-866-918-0981 (mcn)

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

Stroke and Cardiovascular disease are leading causes of death, according to the American Heart Association. Screenings can provide peace of mind or early detection! Contact Life Line Screening to schedule your screening. **Special offer - 5 screenings for just \$149. Call 1-866-742-7290 (mcn)**

Bus driver, crafter Etienne inspires fun, whimsy



contributed photo
This is Catrice Etienne in one of her many whimsical disguises – a “Kung Fu cat.”

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

Sartell school-bus driver Catrice Etienne has long believed that life should – as much as possible – be enlivened by heaping helpings of fun.

Her children passengers think so, too. They love to laugh at Etienne’s antics – the way she’ll dress up in goofy costumes, the way she cracks jokes, the way she loves her job and being protective of her young riders.

“I get along with kids because I can communicate on their level,” she said, adding she thinks of them as small people, who just haven’t become tall yet.

She has been driving school bus since February 2019.

Besides her school-bus driving, Etienne is also a dedicated crafter who loves making jewelry and other art works, using her sense of fun, whimsy and improvisation as her inspirations. In crafting her necklaces, earrings, bracelets and other objects, she uses all kinds of “found” objects, some of them so

ordinary and homely that people smile and react with delight when they see those “throw-away” objects transformed into oddly beautiful new uses. For Etienne • page 6

WANT EXTRA CASH FOR THE HOLIDAYS?

Work Part Time at OMI

Apply Online at www.opportunitymatters.org

or stop in to complete a paper application M-F 8am-4:30pm 701 23rd St South, Sartell MN 56377

Opportunity Matters
EMPOWERING LIVES
EEO/AAP Employer

barrett's music

Black Friday Event!!!

Open at 8 a.m.

Take \$25 Off

Any purchase of \$120 or more

Buy \$50 in Gift Cards

Get a \$10 Gift Card Free!

Additional In-Store Specials!

Acoustic and Electric Guitars Starting under \$200 packages available

\$50 Off Any keyboard regularly priced over \$200

Ukuleles Starting under \$40 available in multiple styles, sizes and colors

\$40 Off TonewoodAmps Purchase and installation MN #1 Dealer – demo available

10% Off All used merchandise

Guitars & Bases • Ukuleles • Mandolins • Banjos • Keyboards • Amplifiers • Drums • Band Supplies

Pedals • Sheet Music • Novelties • Pro Audio • Recording • Percussion • Lessons • Repairs

708 Elm Street E, St. Joseph, MN 56374 (320) 271-3152
www.barrettsmusic.com

Offers valid while supplies last, no rainchecks. Offers cannot be combined with other offers, promotions or coupons. Limit one offer per sale per household. All sales valid 11/26/2021 through 11/27/2021.

BEE LINE
Bee Line Service Center, Inc.

Auto, Truck, RV & Trailer Repair

320-363-1433

8805 Ridgewood Court, St. Joseph
beelineservice.com

Realife Cooperative at Mueller Gardens

55 + Senior Housing Community

Find your new home here!

Independent Living • Ownership w/ Tax Benefits
Secure Community • Maintenance Free
Enjoy Friendship and Social Activities

320-258-3094

6670 Northwood Lane, St. Cloud
reallifecoopmuellergardens.org

Sartell Soccer Association

2022 Spring/Summer Travel Season

All soccer players born 2003-2014, come join us!

Registration is open now and will close Dec. 31

Register early to guarantee a spot on the team

Don't miss out!
Winter training to begin Jan. 9

For more information, visit
www.sartellsoccer.org

SARTELL SOCCER ASSOCIATION

FIRE WORKS
FIREPLACE INSTALLATION INC.

HEARTH CONTRACTOR
design-build-sales-service

320-240-9490
3030 4th St S - Waite Park
www.fire-works-fireplace.com

Made in Minnesota
Thanks For Shopping Local!

KOZY HEAT
FIREPLACES

Let **Express**
EMPLOYMENT PROFESSIONALS

Open Doors For you!

Now hiring- Project Managers, Welder
Assemblers, Machine Operators, Customer
Service, Receptionists & More

Call 320-251-1038 to Interview
click to apply at expresspros.com/stcloudmn
ExpressJobs Ap for easy apply

Etienne

from page 5

example, some of her earrings she makes using bottlecaps or tiny playing cards or even discarded pencil erasers.

“I love to go to garage sales to look for stuff to use,” she said. “I buy old pieces of jewelry and use the parts to refashion into my own new pieces. I also look for T-shirts that I can cut apart and use to make quilts.”

Etienne is adept at just about all arts and crafts, and she enjoys teaching others how to make things. At her Sartell home, she holds regular arts-and-crafts classes for friends’ children, usually about six kids at a time. One time, they all painted “happy rocks” they then hid in their neighborhoods for other children to find.

She is hoping to host more fun arts-and-crafts learning sessions for more children.

“I’ve always been a crafter,” she said. “When I was a teen I would love to retreat to my room, my alone time, to work on arts and crafts. My father did macramé weaving so I might have gotten my love of crafting from him.”

Catrice and her husband, Thomas Etienne, have a 15-year-old son. Thomas is a human-resources worker and vice president for Brutger Equities.

Etienne showcases her crafts and other manifestations of her sense of fun on her Facebook page, dubbed “Catrice’s Side Gig.”

She recommends people visit that site to see if they would like to join her classes. She expects to host learning sessions for adults as well as children.

New Sartell business is family affair

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

When Kenzie DeSmet says her newly opened business in Sartell is a family affair, she’s not kidding. Not at all.

She works there; husband Brandon works there; their three children spend the day there (Sophia, 2; Kayden, 1; Paisley, 4 months), and their soon-to-be step-grandmother Sheri (who is engaged to Brandon’s father) hangs around there to help watch over the children.

The DeSmet family lives in St. Joseph.

Kenzie is the creator/owner of KD Customs LLC, located at 331 Fourth Ave. S. in Sartell. The shop specializes in customized creations such as laser-engraved items, wedding invitations, wedding-party favors, custom apparel and virtually any items that customers want with a personalized touch.

For two years, partly because of the virus pandemic, KD Customs was an at-home business in the DeSmets’ house in St. Joseph. In Sartell, the new shop opened just this week.

Brandon also owns his own auto-detailing business and has worked for dealerships in Avon and St. Cloud.

Born and raised in Mora, Kenzie moved to St. Cloud some years ago and studied marketing and psychology at St. Cloud State University. She is now only six credits shy of graduating with a



contributed photo
Kenzie and Brandon DeSmet stand by their super-versatile custom printer, which can do just about anything but walk the dog around the block. Kenzie just opened a business in Sartell called KD Customs.

bachelor’s degree.

There are actually two types of businesses in the new shop in Sartell, DeSmet noted. In the front is a women’s clothing boutique and in the back is the custom shop that boasts a laser engraver that can engrave words, images and designs onto glass or stone. It can even engrave images from photographs into – say, marble or granite, for example.

“We customize each item based on personalized requests from each customer,” Kenzie said. “We have thousands of designs available to print on shirts or whatever. This work is really fun. I used to do this as a hobby, but in just a few months I

became aware of how popular it is and how needed by people. And it just took off from there.”

DeSmet makes a lot of items for wedding vendors in the area and works to fill the needs of many grooms and brides with unique wedding invitations and party favors.

KD Customs will also try to meet the needs of people who walk into the shop looking for something unique and special for them or loved ones.

The shop will be open starting at 10 a.m. Monday through Saturday and will be closed most Sundays. The daily closing times have yet to be determined.

Shop • Print a poster • Have a snack • Learn something

A letterpress print shop

BRUNO PRESS
Open Shopday
Saturday
December 4th • 10am-2pm

154 5th Ave Se • St. Joseph • Enter the garage • mcbunopress.com

Find your **purpose** at CentraCare




Change lives and improve health through the work you do.

Choose an opportunity that encourages you to be your best and make a difference in the lives of our patients, coworkers and community.

Search positions at [CentraCare.com](https://www.centracare.com) to find the job right for you.



Ready to get more from your Medicare plan? I can help.



Ready to get started?
Call me, your local licensed Medicare broker. I can help explain the different parts of Medicare, talk through your needs and help you pick a plan that's right for you. Ucare has a Medicare plan for every lifestyle and budget.
For your safety, we can:

- Set up a phone conversation
- Meet online via Zoom
- Meet in person with all appropriate safety precautions

Megan McClure / McClure Insurance Agency
Licensed Agent/Medicare brokerage
320-685-7685 TTY 711
megan@mcclureinsuranceagency.com
www.mcclureinsuranceagency.com

people powered health plans

100th ANNIVERSARY
 **PARAMOUNT**
CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Plan Some Holiday Fun!

 CHRISTMAS WITH THE STEELES Sacred and secular songs of the season Sat, Dec 4 • 7:30PM	 THE NUTCRACKER BALLET Presented by Stroia Ballet Dec 9 & 10 • 7:00PM Dec 11 • 2:00PM	 GEORGE MAURER GROUP Holiday jazz tradition Mon, Dec 13 7:30PM	 ROCK & ROLL CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR Crank up your holiday spirit Dec 19 - 23 • 7:30PM
 FREE cake & coffee!	 THE TEXAS TENORS Deep in the Heart of Christmas Tue, Dec 28 1:30PM & 7:30PM	 SHAUN JOHNSON THE NIGHTS BEFORE CHRISTMAS TOUR Thu, Dec 30 • 7:30PM	 NEW YEARS EVE! TONIC SOL FA A Cappella Quartet Fri, Dec 31 • 7:30PM
PARAMOUNT THEATRE'S 100TH BIRTHDAY PARTY! Fri, Dec 24 10AM-2PM	SHAUN JOHNSON + THE BIG BAND EXPERIENCE Evolution of big band music Thu, Dec 30 • 7:30PM		

320.259.5463 | PARAMOUNTARTS.ORG

2021 VARSITY SABRES WINTER SPORTS

GIRLS BASKETBALL

11/30/21	7:15 p.m.	Rocori	Home
12/3/21	7:15 p.m.	Bemidji	Away
12/7/21	7:15 p.m.	Fergus Falls	Away
12/9/21	6:30 p.m.	Moorhead	Home
12/14/21	7:15 p.m.	Monticello	Home
12/17/21	6 p.m.	Willmar	Home
12/21/21	6 p.m.	Sauk Rapids-Rice	Home
12/29/21	2:30 p.m.	Buffalo	Home
12/30/21	4:15 p.m.	Lakeville South	Home
1/4/22	7:15 p.m.	Rogers	Home
1/6/22	7:15 p.m.	Brainerd	Away
1/11/22	7:15 p.m.	Alexandria	Away
1/15/22	1:45 p.m.	Detroit Lakes	Away
1/18/22	7:15 p.m.	Saint Michael-Albertville	Away
1/20/22	7:15 p.m.	St. Cloud Crush	Home
1/24/22	7 p.m.	St. Francis	Away
1/25/22	7:15 p.m.	Rocori	Away
1/28/22	7:15 p.m.	Fergus Falls	Home
2/4/22	7:15 p.m.	Willmar	Away
2/8/22	7:15 p.m.	Alexandria	Home
2/11/22	7:15 p.m.	Bemidji	Home
2/15/22	8 p.m.	Sauk Rapids-Rice	Away
2/17/22	7:15 p.m.	St. Cloud Cathedral	Home
2/19/22	4 p.m.	Cambridge-Isanti	Away
2/22/22	7:15 p.m.	Brainerd	Home
2/25/22	7:15 p.m.	St. Cloud Crush	Away

GIRLS HOCKEY

11/11/21	7 p.m.	Rogers	Away
11/13/21	3 p.m.	North Wright County	Home
11/16/21	7:15 p.m.	St. Francis	Home
11/23/21	7:15 p.m.	Brainerd-Little Falls	Away
11/26/21	5:15 p.m.	Northfield	Home
11/27/21	11:15 a.m.	TBA	Home
12/2/21	7:15 p.m.	Alexandria Area	Away
12/7/21	5:30 p.m.	Willmar	Away
12/9/21	7:15 p.m.	Fergus Falls	Home
12/14/21	7:15 p.m.	Rocori-River Lakes	Away
12/16/21	7:15 p.m.	Brainerd-Little Falls	Home
12/18/21	2 p.m.	Cloquet	Home
12/21/21	7:15 p.m.	Moorhead	Home
12/28/21	5 p.m.	New Ulm	Home
12/29/21	2 p.m.	Minot	Home
1/6/22	7:15 p.m.	St. Cloud Crush	Home
1/11/22	7:15 p.m.	Rocori-River Lakes	Home
1/13/22	7:15 p.m.	Bemidji	Away
1/18/22	7:15 p.m.	Alexandria Area	Home
1/20/22	7:15 p.m.	Willmar	Home
1/25/22	7:15 p.m.	Fergus Falls	Away
1/28/22	7:30 p.m.	Roseau	Away
1/29/22	12:30 p.m.	Thief River Falls	Away
1/31/22	7:15 p.m.	St. Cloud Crush	Away
2/4/22	7 p.m.	Buffalo	Away

BOYS BASKETBALL

12/4/21	3:30 p.m.	Delano	Away
12/7/21	7:30 p.m.	Bemidji	Home
12/9/21	6 p.m.	Rocori	Away
12/14/21	6 p.m.	Fergus Falls	Away
12/17/21	8 p.m.	Willmar	Home
12/21/21	7:15 p.m.	Sauk Rapids-Rice	Home
12/29/21	7:30 p.m.	Springlake Park	Home
12/30/21	7 p.m.	Buffalo	Home
1/4/22	7:15 p.m.	Princeton	Away
1/6/22	7:30 p.m.	St. Francis	Home
1/11/22	7:30 p.m.	Saint Michael-Albertville	Home
1/13/22	7:15 p.m.	Brainerd	Home
1/15/22	2:15 p.m.	Detroit Lakes	Home
1/18/22	7:15 p.m.	Alexandria	Home
1/21/22	7:15 p.m.	St. Cloud Apollo	Home
1/27/22	7:15 p.m.	St. Cloud Tech	Away
1/31/22	7:15 p.m.	Rocori	Home
2/4/22	7:15 p.m.	Fergus Falls	Home
2/10/22	7:15 p.m.	Willmar	Away
2/14/22	7:15 p.m.	Monticello	Home
2/15/22	6 p.m.	Sauk Rapids-Rice	Away
2/17/22	6:30 p.m.	Moorhead	Away
2/22/22	7:15 p.m.	Brainerd	Away
2/24/22	7:15 p.m.	Alexandria	Home
3/1/22	7:15 p.m.	St. Cloud Apollo	Away
3/4/22	7:15 p.m.	St. Cloud Tech	Home

BOYS HOCKEY

11/30/21	7:15 p.m.	Alexandria Area	Home
12/2/21	7 p.m.	Saint Michael-Albertville	Away
12/4/21	2:30 p.m.	Mankato West	Away
12/7/21	7:15 p.m.	Fergus Falls	Home
12/10/21	7:15 p.m.	Bemidji	Home
12/14/21	7:15 p.m.	Rocori-River Lakes	Home
12/16/21	7:15 p.m.	Brainerd	Away
12/21/21	7:15 p.m.	Sauk Rapids-Rice	Away
1/4/22	7:15 p.m.	Elk River	Home
1/6/22	7:15 p.m.	St. Cloud Crush	Away
1/11/22	7:15 p.m.	Willmar	Home
1/14/22	7:15 p.m.	Chanhassen	Home
1/15/22	5 p.m.	Moorhead	Away
1/20/22	7:15 p.m.	Fergus Falls	Away
1/21/22	7:15 p.m.	Alexandria	Away
1/25/22	7 p.m.	Buffalo	Away
1/27/22	7:15 p.m.	Rocori-River Lakes	Away
2/3/22	7 p.m.	Denfeld	Away
2/4/22	3 p.m.	Multiple Schools	Away
2/5/22	7:15 p.m.	Virginia	Away
2/8/22	7:15 p.m.	Sauk Rapids	Home
2/10/22	7:15 p.m.	St. Cloud Crush	Home
2/15/22	7:15 p.m.	Brainerd	Home

GIRLS & BOYS NORDIC SKIING

12/9/21	10 a.m.	Varsity Meet	Home
12/16/21	10 a.m.	Mora	Away
1/6/22	10 a.m.	St. John's Prep	Away
1/11/22	10 a.m.	Alexandria	Away
1/21/22	10 a.m.	St. Cloud Crush	Away
1/27/22	1 p.m.	Conference Championship	Away
1/29/22	10 a.m.	Little Falls	Away
2/3/22	4 p.m.	Varsity Meet	Home
2/10/22	10 a.m.	Varsity Sectional	Away
2/11/22	10 a.m.	Varsity Sectional	Away

ADAPTED FLOOR HOCKEY

1/18/22	4:30 p.m.	Buffalo	Away
1/20/22	4:30 p.m.	Anoka-Hennepin	Home
1/25/22	4:30 p.m.	North-Tartan	Home
1/27/22	4:30 p.m.	Mounds	Away
2/1/22	4:30 p.m.	Moorhead	Home
2/3/22	4:30 p.m.	Maple Grove	Home
2/10/22	4:30 p.m.	White Bear Lake	Away
2/15/22	4:30 p.m.	Various Schools	Away
2/17/22	4:30 p.m.	North Suburban	Home
2/22/22	4:30 p.m.	Minnetonka-Wayzata	Away
2/24/22	4:30 p.m.	Moorhead	Away

WRESTLING

12/3/21	4 p.m.	Invitational	Away
12/10/21	4:30 p.m.	Invitational	Away
12/11/21	10:30 p.m.	Invitational	Away
12/16/21	5 p.m.	Invitational	Away
12/17/21	TBD	Redwood Valley	Away
12/18/21	TBD	Redwood Valley	Away
12/29/21	TBD	Fargo	Away
12/30/21	TBD	Fargo	Away
1/6/22	5 p.m.	Triangular	Away
1/8/22	10 a.m.	Tournament	Away
1/14/22	4 p.m.	Invitational	Away
1/18/22	6 p.m.	Little Falls	Home
1/22/22	9 a.m.	Invitational	Away
1/25/22	7 p.m.	Milaca	Away
1/27/22	5 p.m.	Triangular	Home
1/29/22	TBD	Cretin-Derham Hall	Away
2/3/22	5 p.m.	Triangular	Away
2/10/22	5 p.m.	Triangular	Home
2/25/22	10 a.m.	Sectional	Home

DANCE

12/3/21	7 p.m.	Tournament	Away
12/4/21	TBD	St. Cloud Cathedral	Away
12/11/21	TBD	Eastview	Away
12/17/21	TBD	Sauk Rapids-Rice	Away
1/8/22	TBD	Edina	Away
1/14/22	7 p.m.	Conference Championship	Home
1/17/22	TBD	St. Cloud Cathedral	Away
1/22/22	TBD	Wayzata	Away
1/29/22	TBD	Blaine	Away
2/5/22	TBD	Sauk Rapids-Rice	Away

GYMNASTICS

12/9/21	6 p.m.	Brainerd	Away
12/16/21	6 p.m.	Alexandria	Away
12/21/21	6 p.m.	Fergus Falls	Home
1/4/22	6 p.m.	Sauk Rapids-Rice	Away
1/8/22	Noon	Big Lake	Away
1/13/22	6 p.m.	St. Cloud Crush	Home
1/15/22	11 a.m.	Multiple Schools	Away
1/18/22	6 p.m.	Willmar	Home
1/22/22	11 a.m.	Park	Away
1/27/22	6 p.m.	Melrose	Home
2/3/22	6 p.m.	Perham	Home

BOYS SWIMMING

12/10/21	6 p.m.	Moorhead	Home
12/14/21	6 p.m.	Saint Michael-Albertville	Home
12/18/21	10 a.m.	Monticello	Home
1/8/22	6 p.m.	TBD	Home
1/15/22	10 a.m.	TBD	Home
1/25/22	6 p.m.	Bemidji	Away



***SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. VISIT WWW.CENTRALLAKESCONFERENCE.ORG FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE SCHEDULE.**



Alloy
INSURANCE

Coverage built just for you

320-251-3333
AlloyInsured.com



REMARKABLE
fresh.

fresh. friendly

1725 Pine Cone Rd S, Sartell (320) 258-4347
707 1st Ave N, Sartell (320) 253-3400



Neighbors
BAR & GRILL
Albertville Princeton St. Joseph

Fresh home-cooked food

2010 CR 75 E.
St. Joseph, MN
320-557-0268



ST CLOUD
ORTHOPEDICS

ORTHO DIRECT
320-257-STAT
StCloudOrthopedics.com/OrthoDirect
Sartell & South St. Cloud



Keep all your goals in
FOCUS

Schedule your annual eye exam today!
PineConeVisionCenter.com

What do *you* want to see today?

2180 Troop Drive, Sartell, MN • (320) 258-3915 • PineConeVisionCenter

HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE | MUSICIANS

Gifts For Music Lovers

This holiday season, many people are faced with the difficult decision of what gifts to purchase for their friends and family. Music lovers can be especially difficult to shop for because of their different tastes and ways they enjoy music.

Whether they are die-hard Eminem fans, musical theater geeks, classical music enthusiasts, musicians themselves or simply enjoy listening to the occasional rock song, music fans are everywhere.

Depending on the person, shopping for presents music enthusiasts will enjoy can be as easy as buying a band T-shirt or it can be as difficult as trying to figure out where the nearest vinyl records store is located. It is important to know the person you're shopping for, but there are several go-to gifts if you are unsure of where to start.

RECORDINGS

CDs, records or music streaming gift cards are all options available to give as gifts for music lovers this holiday season. It is highly suggested to get CDs or records of bands the music fan already is interested in, but if you aren't

sure of what albums they already have or what specific bands they enjoy, it is still heartwarming to hand them a CD of songs that made you think of your friend. It goes to show you know that person well.

Of course, there is the option of hand-picking what songs to put on a CD and burn your own personalized list of songs for that special music lover in your life. Adding a touch of personalization goes a long way when it comes to gifts.

Vinyl records are another option. According to the Recording Industry Association of America, more

than 17 million vinyl records were sold in the first six months of 2021, practically doubling that which was sold during the same time-period in 2020. Vinyl records are coming back in style, and more than likely, the music lovers in your life would be happy to tell you more about it.

LISTENING

Many people listen to music through headphones or earbuds, so buying nice music accessories is a great way to improve a music lover's lifestyle. Bluetooth speakers, sound bars, karaoke machines and outdoor music options will allow enthusiasts to share

their love of music with others.

LIVE SHOWS

Concert tickets are a great gift for any music lover, and the good news is there are concerts taking place constantly for all different kinds of music. Make sure to buy tickets for a concert far in the future so the person you are giving them to will have time to put that concert on their schedule.

Music lovers who play an instrument might enjoy being given fun instrument accessories. These accessories can be both a funny and endearing way to show you care about that person. For example, there are flavored reeds for

woodwind instruments like saxophone and clarinet. Buying sheet music of a musician's favorite songs also is a good option for when that musician just wants to relax and have fun with their instrument.

It is always best to ask music lovers how they like to enjoy music. Do they love a certain genre or do they like many different types of music? Do they play an instrument themselves or do they just appreciate listening to it?

The more you know about this person's musical hobbies, the more comfortable you will be when picking out that perfect gift this holiday season.



© ADOBE STOCK

Great River
Chorale
presents

Upon the Midnight Clear

Holiday Music & Narrations
Cantabile Girls' Choirs | Brass Quintet

Presented online only December 4 - 10, 2021 | Advance ticket purchase required
Tickets available at greatriverchorale.org

20th
ANNIVERSARY
SEASON



Sponsored in part by
Saint John's Abbey



This activity is made possible by a grant provided by the Minnesota State Arts Board through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature and a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Central MN Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

Opinion

Our View

Small businesses over Amazon

No one wants to fight the crowds in malls and large department stores this time of year. It brings bouts of stress and anxiety and leaves one feeling depressed about holiday shopping in general.

That’s why things like online shopping and Amazon have become such wildly used alternatives to pushing your way through elbow-to-elbow people who generally have a chip on their shoulder and are less than pleasant to be around.

However, now is the time we should be focusing our attention toward supporting our own little small businesses right here in our communities. These businesses are often the legs our cities and towns stand on and they need our support to keep moving forward.

It’s no surprise to anyone the pandemic has really taken its toll on our small business neighbors. It’s sad to see how many of them have slipped through the cracks and disappeared without warning. What’s really sad is most of these small businesses were selling quality products you can’t get anywhere else.

While malls are filled with crowds of people pushing and shoving their way past you to get the best deals, if you shop at a local store, you are generally met with a friendly, inviting atmosphere where the owners and employees are thrilled to see you. They understand the value of having you as a customer and appreciate the time you take to shop their stores. The same cannot necessarily be said about what you purchase on Amazon; it’s hard to really know who your money is actually going to and what you are supporting.

Shopping at your local family-owned stores might not guarantee you small crowds and cheaper prices, but if you’ve spent time in one of these shops you will notice a difference. Even if there are crowds of people, the atmosphere is different. That’s because everyone there knows they are doing more than checking off an item on their shopping lists, they are proud to be purchasing unique items for their family and friends while also giving back to their community.

It might be easier to sit behind a computer and push, “add to cart.” And truthfully, there are other benefits to doing that because we do need to support our economy as whole. But starting with our own towns first ensures we are supporting families who live in our very own neighborhoods.

The pandemic has taken so much away from all of us, it’s our job to start rebuilding what has been lost. And there’s no reason that can’t start with supporting our local small businesses.

Letters policy

Letters to the editor may be sent to news@thenewsleaders.com or mailed to 1622 11th Ave. S.E., St. Cloud, MN 56304. Deadline is noon Monday. Please include your full name for publication (and address and phone number for verification only.) Letters must be 350 words or less. We reserve the right to edit for space or to not publish.

When keeping yourself safe feels unkind

Leanne Loy
Editor



Moments later, out of the corner of my eye. I saw movement and my beagles began to howl. As I looked up, I saw that the woman was now standing in my front yard. It appeared she was attempting to play tag with the officers. My concern for the woman now became concern for myself.

I locked the doors and closed the curtains. A little overkill maybe, but I needed to feel safe. It became quiet so I looked out my window just in time to see the three officers “needing to use force” getting the woman in the back of one of their cars.

Why am I sharing this story? Well, because I learned a sad, but necessary lesson that day.

When I initially saw this woman walking in the screaming cold, alone and hunched over a bag (which I later found out was filled with anxiety medication), my first instinct was to open my door to her. I wanted to help. I thought perhaps she was running from someone who had hurt her or was trying to hurt her. Or maybe she had a bit too much to drink the night before and was just completely lost. I’m sure that’s happened to the best of us. After speaking to my neighbor, I discovered the same thoughts had run through her head as well, until it became apparent

that much more was involved.

Moments upon entry into my neighbor’s house, it was clear this woman was suffering from some serious mental health issues. Luckily my neighbor was unhurt, and the cops’ arrival ensured all would be well. They were able to get her to the hospital for the help she needs. But it could have had a scarier ending.

As someone who has not only taken several self-defense classes but has also taught them, I know better than to let strangers into my house. And yet, here was this woman, so helpless and cold that my first instinct was to let her in. I think as women a lot of us have this natural instinct to want to help other women. That’s not a bad thing, it’s part of what makes us human. But the sad reality is we live in a world now where we really do need to think about our own protection first, which is something that doesn’t come naturally for a lot of us.

The safe thing would have been to hand her a blanket and let her know help was on the way. She may have tried to leave at that point, but as she was on foot she wouldn’t have gotten too far.

It makes me sad to think we cannot just open our doors anymore to help our fellow humans. But that doesn’t mean we cannot help in some way. This poor woman clearly needed to encounter kindness, but what she needed even more was the kind of help only professionals can provide.

Santa arrives with big bag of projects

Dennis Dalman
Reporter



poisoning people and stunting children’s minds; and the many thousands of deep potholes I’ve had to swerve to avoid driving over throughout the years.

The bill was passed in the House on a vote of 228-206, with help from 13 Republican votes. Six Democrats voted against it. Earlier, the Senate had approved it 69-30, with 19 Republican senators voting yes. Some of them have since reported receiving death threats. None of Minnesota’s Republicans voted for the bill; just wait, just watch them try to take credit when wonderful projects strengthen our state.

Minnesota is supposed to receive about \$4.5 billion for highways, bridge repairs and replacements, broadband Internet extensions, water-treatment facilities, electrical charging stations for vehicles, and airport improvements – to name just some. The projects and priorities will be determined by the Minnesota Department of Transportation, along with lots of input from residents, local officials and state legislators.

Nationwide, there will be projects

like the ones in Minnesota, but also rebuilding electrical grids, expansion of renewable energy sources, environmental mitigation, replacing of lead drinking-water pipes, kick-start projects for electric-vehicle production, and public transit and improvements at sea ports and airports. There are also funds to reconnect communities, mainly predominantly Black communities that had been isolated and/or divided by highway and other infrastructure projects of the past – examples of systemic racism.

This bill is nothing short of a massive rebuilding of America’s structure that will greatly enhance our country and its people.

Suzanne Clark, president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, lavishly praised the bill for all of its projects that will, she said, grow the economy and help the environment.

“It is,” she said, “the single largest investment in innovation, efficiency and resiliency to address climate change in U.S. history.”

At the White House ceremony, Biden said this: “Here in Washington, we’ve heard countless speeches and promises, white papers from experts, but today we’re finally getting this done. So my message to the American people is this: America’s moving again, and your life is going to change for the better.”

Thank you, Santa – um – I mean Mr. President.

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

PUBLIC NOITICE

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING • SARTELL-ST. STEPHEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO 748
OCT. 18, 2021 • SARTELL HIGH SCHOOL

The regular school board meeting of Independent School District 748 was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Chair Jeremy Snoberger. Members present: Snoberger, chair; Jason Nies, vice chair; Amanda Byrd, clerk; Matt Moehrle, treasurer; Patrick Marushin, director; Tricia Meling, director; and Dr. Jeff Ridlehoover, superintendent. Members absent: none.

A motion was made by Marushin and seconded by Nies to APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. All in favor. Motion carried.

During the public comment opportunity, three members of the community addressed the school board. Steven Kron, 412 Pheasant Drive, spoke on topic of district compliance; Chris Yasgar, 39522 115 Ave, spoke on the topic of policy revisions; Kelsey Yasgar, 1413 4th St. N., spoke on the topic of the school board’s management of the district.

A motion was made by Moehrle and seconded by Meling to APPROVE CONSENT ITEMS A.4.a – A.4.d AS PRESENTED BELOW. All in favor. Motion carried.

A.4.a.
Minutes of the regular school board meeting held on Sept. 20, 2021

Minutes of the school board work session held on Sept. 8, 2021

A.4.b Checks in the amount of \$1,249,187.16 as presented:

General Fund	712,096.45
Food Service Fund	178,290.73
Transportation Fund	252,003.09
Community Service Fund	29,962.76
Capital Expenditure Fund	74,423.81
ActivityAccounts	1,183.67
Internal Service Fund	1,226.65
Check numbers 182047 – 182287	

ACHs in the amount of \$6,763.48 as presented:

General Fund	4,945.00
Food Service Fund	298.81
Community Service Fund	25.42
Capital Expenditure Fund	23.09
Activity Accounts	1,471.16
ACH numbers 212200031-212200051	

Receipts in the amount of \$4,606,492.71 as presented:

General Fund	4,169,133.89
Food Service Fund	69,353.95
Transportation Fund	87,216.29
Community Service Fund	139,697.50
Capital Expenditure Fund	26,869.92
Building Fund	55.46
Debt Service Fund	98,276.66
Activity Accounts	4,352.00
Internal Service Fund	11,537.04
Receipts 49275 - 49426	

Wire transfers in the amount of \$1,542,138.75 as presented:

General Fund	1,038,949.83
Food Service Fund	54,412.05
Transportation Fund	21,772.73
Community Service Fund	25,352.10
Capital Expenditure Fund	2,570.75
Internal Service Fund	399,081.29
Wire transfers 202122176 – 202122253	

Building Fund Checks in the amount of \$167,972.98 as presented:

Building Fund	167,972.98
Check number 601220 - 601221	

A.4.c Approve resolution accepting the following donations;

Ramanathan, Gajendranathan, Riverview Intermediate School, one trombone and one trumpet, donation to RIS music department; Tony and Elise Dingmann Fund of Central Minnesota Community Foundation, Sartell High School, \$2,539.33, high school band program, United Way/PFSS, ISD #748, three \$50 gift cards, school supplies; United Way/PFSS, ISD #748, misc. school supplies, school supplies for students.

A.4.d Accept the resignation of Dianne Amundson, Transportation, bus driver, 10/7/21; Christine Duininck, SHS, food service

worker, 10/15/21; Jill Peterson, OREL, cashier, 10/5/21; Ashley Preusser, RIS, cashier, 10/19/21; Kenin Jensen, SMS, custodian, 10/22/21; Leah Saldana, RIS, food service worker, 10/25/21.

Superintendent Report: Dr. Jeff Ridlehoover reported on happenings around the district. Throughout the last month, he has enjoyed being able to talk to and meet with District stakeholders from a wide range of groups including: the Chamber of Commerce, Sartell Senior Connection, Lions Club and numerous students, parents and staff members.

District enrollment is currently at a total of 4,088, reflecting some first-month changes. The Equity and Student Experience Committee has continued to meet, with the group breaking out into 10 subcommittees. The committee will meet again in December. The Riverview Intermediate playground will be installed this week with help from community volunteers.

The Open Forum sign-up process has been modified based on feedback received since the last work session. The process has been positive for communication and afforded some good conversations. Additional thanks were given to the open forum speakers for their professionalism. Congratulations and recognition was given to the 10 certified staff receiving continuing contract status this school year.

The supply chain issues continue to cause meal changes in the food service department, resulting in last-minute changes to some menu items due to certain food item availability. In closing, a video of the Sartell High School’s industrial arts department’s Habitat for Humanity home build was shared with the school board.

District Finance Report: Director of Business Services Joe Prom provided an update on district finances.

COVID-19 Report: Director of Human Resources Krista Durrwachter provided an update regarding COVID-19.

School Board Committee Report: Clerk Byrd reported on the recent policy committee meeting and the new Memorial Policy set for the first reading on tonight’s agenda.

A motion was made by Nies and seconded by Moehrle to APPROVE #1-39:

New Employees/Changes:
Bethany Belling, SHS, custodian, \$19.32/hour, RIII,S2, 8 hours/day, 260 days/year, replacing Mike Lashinski, 10/6/2021; Christine Bos-

tic, SHS, food service worker, \$16.20/hour, RI, S1, 3 hours/day, replacing Janice Olson, 9/23/2021; Linnea Bouri, PMPS, student supervisor, \$14.15/hour, RI, S1, 2.25 hours/day, updated wage, 9/13/2021; Karen Butler, RIS, para, \$16.75/hour, RIV, S1, 7 hrs/day, new position, 10/15/2021;

Michael Carlson, SHS, Big Brothers, Big Sisters advisor, \$1,407 (3.35 percent), BA, Step A (\$42,002), replacing Emily Meyer, 9/28/2021; Rhonda Conda, OREL, cashier, \$18.67/hour, RI, S4, replacing Jill Peterson, 10/6/2021; David Deminsky, RIS, physical education, \$42,055, BA, Step E, .9126 FTE, replacing Mitchell Keeler, 9/27/2021; Zach Dinndorf, District, information technology – Level I, \$19.05/hour, 180 days/year, replacing Jasmyn Williams, 10/4/2021;

Robert Dyer, SMS, building supervisor/para, \$18.89/hour, RIV, S3, 8 hours/day, replacing Amy Reinert, 10/21/2021; Debra Edelbrock, OREL, cafeteria worker, \$16.20/hour, RI, S1, 2.5 hours/day, replacing Joyce Haider, 9/27/2021; Zachary Ewald, RIS, lead custodian, \$21.83/hour, RIV, S3, 8 hours/day, replacing Bev Wiebe, 10/1/2021; Anita Gruenhagen, OREL, ECFE teacher, \$32.50/hour, new position, 9/28/2021;

Joyce Haider, OREL, food service worker, \$16.20/hour, RI, S1, 3 hours/day, new position, 9/21/2021; Nicoline Hill, OREL, para – LTS, \$16.75/hr, RIV, S1, varies, replacing Kathy Mugg, 10/8/2021; Amanda Holstrom, SHS, assistant principal – LTS, \$78,351, .7462 FTE, replacing Nick Peterson, 10/4/2021; Dymond Huertas, SHS, cashier, \$16.20/hour, RI, S1, 3 hours/day, replacing Rhonda Conda, 10/7/2021;

Greg Jamison, SHHS, head Nordic ski, \$5,163 (12 percent), Ba, Step B (\$43,024), replacing Joe Teff, 9/28/2021; Brenda Koltes, OREL, para, \$16.75/hour, RIV, S1, 6.5 hours/day, replacing Lucia Laituri, 9/30/2021; Tyler LaBonne, SHS, head gymnastics, \$6,653 (12.5 percent), BA, Step L \$53,224), replacing Briquelle Joseph, 9/21/2021; Mike Lashinski, SMS, lead custodian, \$24.07/hour, RIV, S5, 8 hours/day, replacing Brian Larson, 10/1/2021;

Aimee Miron, District, COVID-19 testing coordinator, \$30/hour, new position, 10/4/2021; Kim Mitchell, SHS, temporary head cook, \$26.94/hour, RVIII, S5, 8 hours/day, replacing Laura Solt, 10/6/2021; Julie Peabody, SMS, cashier, \$16.20/hour, RI, S1, 3 hours/day, replacing Jeannie Stelten, 9/20/2021; Julie Peabody, RIS, morning cashier, \$16.20/hour, RI, S1, 1 hour/day, new position, 9/17/2021; Jill Peterson, OREL, para, \$16.75/hour, RI,

S1, 6.5 hours/day, replacing Megan VanHeel, 10/6/2021; Roger Reder, OREL, part-time cleaner, \$16.20/hour, RI, S1, 4 hours/day, 185 days/year, feplacing Haley Robben, 9/27/2021; Amy Reinert, SMS, para, \$18.03/hour, RIV, S2, 7 hours/day, updated wage, 8/30/2021;

Mike Rolfzen, SMS, custodian, \$17.97/hour, RIII, S1, 8 hours/day, 260 days/year, replacing Zach Ewald, 10/11/2021; Hannah Ross, SHS, fall play technical director, \$704 (3.35 percent), BA, Step A (\$42,002), 50-percent contract, new position, 9/21/2021; Melissa Rothstein, SMS, MTSS reading interventionist, \$38,268, BA, Step C (\$44,044), .8688 FTE, replacing Krista Ziemer, 10/4/2021; Michelle Sand, OREL, morning cashier, \$16.20/hour, RI, S1, 1.5 hours/day, replacing Jill Peterson, 10/5/2021;

Jared Saue, SHS, head boys tennis, \$3,990 (9.5 percent), BA, Step A (\$42,002), replacing Marcus Oistad, 3/15/2022; Tawnee Studeman, PMPS, para, \$16.75/hour, RIV, S1, 6.5 hours/day, new position, 9/27/2021; Lynn Tchida, OREL, parent educator, \$32.50/hour, new position, 9/29/2021; Isaiah Wallace, SMS, para, \$18.03/hour, RIV, S2, 7 hours/day, replacing Robert Dyer, 10/21/2021.

Leaves of Absence:
Beth Driste, SHS, Spanish, LOA, 11/12/21-11/24/21; Mike Maurer, SMS, sixth grade, LOA, 9/27/21-1/20/22; Molly Meier, OREL, kindergarten, LOA, 1/4/22-6/7/22; Chelsey Reimer, RIS, fourth grade, LOA, 1/20/22-4/14/22.

All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Byrd and seconded by Marushin TO APPROVE REVISIONS TO POLICIES 401, 404, 418, 419, 420, 422 and 504. All in favor. Motion carried.

Schedule Work Session and Committee Meetings:

Future Board Work Session – Monday, Nov. 8 @ Sartell High School - 5 p.m.

Future Regular Board Meeting – Monday, Nov. 15 @ Sartell High School - 6:30 p.m.

Official Review of Policies:
The Board had the first reading of adoption of policy 908.

Committee Assignments were reviewed

A motion to ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:01 p.m. was made by Meling and seconded by Nies. All in favor. Motion carried.

/s/ Amanda Byrd, clerk

Publish: Nov. 26, 2021

Emergency-Proof Your Finances

The best way to protect your finances in times of trouble is through pre-planning.

Disasters, whether in the form of storms, family crises or a larger economic issue, tend to arrive without warning. Making the right choices before there's an emergency can limit disruptions, help lower stress and give you a smoother pathway forward. Here are some planning strategies to help emergency-proof your check-book.

CREATE AN EMERGENCY FUND

Economies, by nature, are prone to booms and busts. Unfortunately, they will always be subject to downturns. We also can be impacted by sudden outside forces, like the banking crisis of 2008 or the pandemic of 2020. An important protection against financial hardship involves saving money to help bridge these cycles. The total amount varies depending on your costs, but a good rule of thumb for emergency funds is three to six months worth of expenses.

EVALUATE YOUR FINANCES

Pay close attention to your general savings, investments, income and debt. These financial markers can make all of the difference in navigating through a sudden problem. If you feel like there's room for improvement, create a budget that takes into account how much you're making against what you are paying out through bills.

Find places to cut costs before it's a requirement, and those choices become more easily made.

ORGANIZE YOUR DOCUMENTS

The impact of a natural disaster or family emergency can be unbearable;

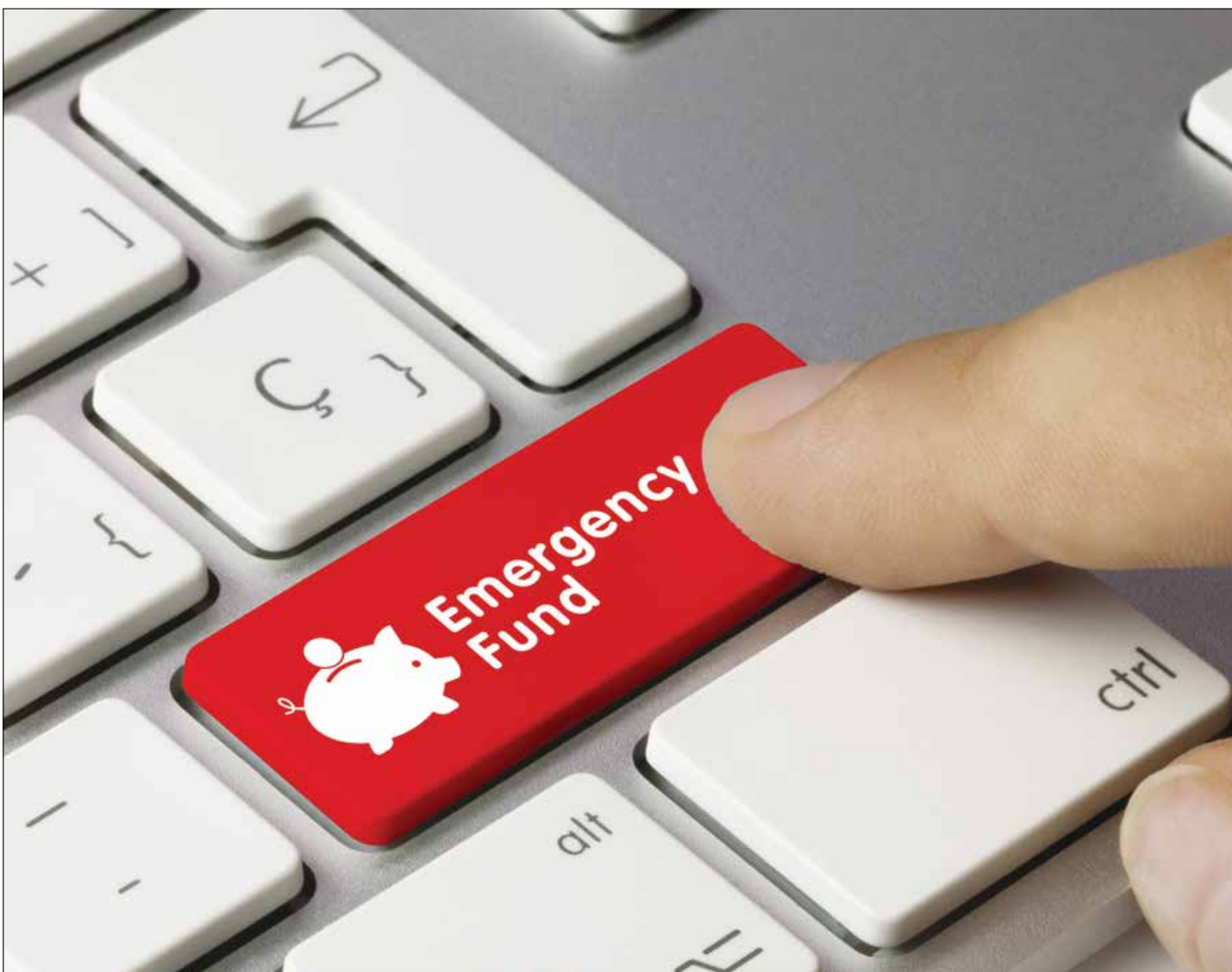
it gets worse still if disorganization creates new stress points as you try to move on. Organize important documents now, so you know just where to find them. Consider putting documents that are more difficult to replace — along with collectibles and other heirlooms — in a safety-deposit box. Keep things like passports and living wills with you, since you might not have immediate access to the deposit box.

IMPROVE YOUR CREDIT SCORE

Lenders always favor the healthiest borrowers, and that's particularly true during difficult times. The higher your credit score, the better rates and terms you'll earn. If you can't establish the recommended three- to six-month emergency fund, or if the fund simply runs out during your emergency, you might need access to credit until you can emerge from an uncertain period.

REVIEW YOUR INSURANCE

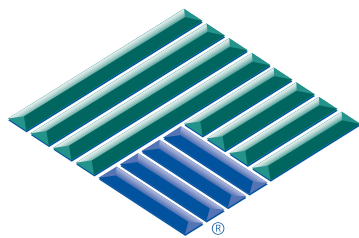
An essential part of any emergency planning, insurance coverage can create an umbrella of protection against difficult financial situations. If you don't have the right kind or amount, however, insurance can just as easily become another issue as you try to right your financial ship. Look into plans that will be of specific help during an emergency, like disability insurance to help replace lost income.



© ADOBE STOCK

You make endless decisions.

Declutter business banking with BusinessSmart™ checking.



STEARNS
BANK N.A.

StearnsBank.com/Newsleaders | (320) 253-6607

Follow us [f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [v](#) | Member FDIC | Equal Housing Lender

