

Reaching Everybody! Newsleaders

Friday, May 13, 2022
Volume 34, Issue 10
Est. 1989

Town Crier

Amadeus symphony performs tonight

The Amadeus Chamber Symphony will perform its spring concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 13 in Atonement Lutheran Church, 1144 29th Ave. N., St. Cloud. Free admission; donations welcome. atheimer@csbsju.edu.

Farmers' Market open Mondays

The Sartell Farmers' Market is now open weekly from 3-6 p.m. Mondays alongside Pinecone Road in the parking lot at Bernick's Arena, 1109 First St. S., Sartell. Come find many great items including the following: eggs, chicken, beef, caramel corn, coffee, honey, soaps, plants, canned goods and vegetables in season.

Back the Badge Car Show set May 21 at Crossroads

The "Back the Badge" Car Show will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 21 at Crossroads Center Mall, 4101 W. Division St., St. Cloud. All proceeds will benefit the Law Enforcement Labor Services Benevolent Fund, which provides support and financial aid for families of Minnesota's public safety professionals who are seriously injured or killed in the line of duty. The event is free for spectators, and a \$20 entry fee for each vehicle in the car show. All vehicle makes, models and years are welcome. Prizes and food trucks are available. LELS is Minnesota's largest public safety labor union and represents police, fire, 911 dispatchers, corrections officers and public safety support staff personnel throughout Minnesota. There are 6,700+ members, 260+ public safety agencies. For more information, visit LELS Benevolent Fund.

Brat sale to benefit flower basket project

The Y2K Lions will hold a brat sale Friday and Saturday, May 27-28 at the St. Joseph Meat Market, 26 First Ave. NW, St. Joseph. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. Partial proceeds and all tips benefit the St. Joseph Flower Basket Project.

INSERTS:
Bee Line Service
Culligan

Stearns commissioner boundaries redrawn

by Mike Knaak
news@thenewsleaders.com

The last piece in the redistricting puzzle is now in place as the Stearns County board approved a new commissioner district map and decided terms for the five districts.

All political district lines are redrawn every 10 years following the census, balancing representation to reflect population changes. A state commission sets congressional and legislative maps in February.

After narrowing the options to four maps, commissioners unanimously approved a map for two urban districts, two rural districts and what commissioners called a "swing" or suburban district, the Second District, which includes St. Joseph and Sartell.

See the new map on page 8.

The newly redrawn Second District now adds Brockway Township and the city of St. Stephen while Waite Park moves to the Fourth District, which also includes the south side of St. Cloud.

As the board debated the maps at its April 12 meeting, current Second

District Commissioner Joe Perske pointed out many people who live in Brockway Township work in the St. Cloud area and children attend the Sartell-St. Stephen school district. Brockway had been part of the old Third District that ran from Holdingford in the north to Richmond and Eden Valley in the south.

The Second District includes the fastest-growing portion of Stearns County. The county added about 9,000 residents in the last 10 years to bring county population to just less than 160,000 people.

Law requires political districts vary by less than 10 percent. The new Stearns districts vary within 5 percent.

Commissioners will be elected in all five districts in the 2022 election, but to maintain staggered terms in future elections, commissioners needed to pick two districts with only two-year terms instead of four-year terms. Board chair Steve Notch asked if any of his colleagues would volunteer for the two-year terms. There were no takers and there was some discussion of postponing the term-length decision.

Boundaries • page 2



photo by Carolyn Bertsch

St. Joseph outdoor market returns
Lilibeth Jerome, 2, and her brother Gabriel, 4, arrive at the St. Joseph Farmers' Market May 6 with their mother Daniella Zsupan-Jerome (not pictured) and begin dancing to music. All are from St. Joseph. Additional photo on page 3.

Local woman spearheads Parkinson's fundraiser

by Erin McIndoo
editor@thenewsleaders.com

On May 2, many community members and businesses showed immense support to the longtime St. Joseph resident Alicia Peters at the Parkinson's Moving Day Fundraiser at Bad Habit Brewing.

With the help of more than 15

volunteers, attendance of many community members and donated items, money and time, \$4,150 was raised. All proceeds will go to the Parkinson's foundation which helps to support those with Parkinson's, educate about the disease and fund research.

Many businesses donated items for the \$5 raffle at the Moving Day

Fundraiser, including; Steve Diamond Elements, Sundance Ridge, Naomi Ragatz, W/R Home Company, Minnesota Street Market, New Towne Hair, Krewe, Flour & Flower, Hudson & Company, Bruno Press, Pottery by Dane, Fairview Gardens, Simply Strengths, Floral Arts and Paramount.

Some of the items included an

electric guitar, a weekend getaway in Crosslake, locally made pottery and some gift baskets. All the food was donated by Jules' Bistro in St. Cloud and music provided by Carl Wockner who flew in from Nashville.

"I love my town a lot and I love supporting my community," Peters said. "When people come to me and ask me 'what can I do?' I say, 'donate to the Parkinson's Foundation' because that's really what helps me the most."

In November of 2018, Peters was diagnosed with Young Onset Parkinson's Disease. According to the National Parkinson's foundation of America, in 2015 there were more than 20,000 people living with Parkinson's disease in Minnesota and its expected to grow to 30,000 by 2024 due to the state having one of the highest rates of people with Parkinson's.

"It impacts a lot of people worldwide. I bet most people have a connection to somebody they love and care about," said Katie Christensen, Peters' best friend. "It's a collective cause of something we need to extinguish."

YOPD can look a little bit different than what most people expect

Fundraiser • page 6



Photo by Erin McIndoo

Crowds of guests flow out on to the patio May 2 at Bad Habit Brewing during Parkinson's fundraiser.

Obituary

Cyril “Cy” F. Neussendorfer, 89
St. Joseph
March 28, 1933-May 4, 2022

Cyril “Cy” Frank Neussendorfer, 89, died May 4 at the St. Cloud Hospital. His funeral was held May 12 at Williams Dingmann Family Funeral Home in Sauk Rapids. The Rev. Thomas Knoblach officiated and burial was in the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery near Little Falls.

Neussendorfer was born March 28, 1933 in Collegeville to Louis & Cecilia (Reisinger) Neussendorfer. He grew up on



Neussendorfer

the family farm and lived there for most of his life. Neussendorfer proudly served our country in the U.S. Air Force from 1956-1960. He married Esther Butenhoff on July 6, 1964. Neussendorfer worked as a testing engineer for Frigidaire, formerly Franklin. He was an avid reader and enjoyed fishing and trips to the casino with Esther. Neussendorfer was a very determined man, who always had a project going. He never asked for help, but he was always the first to offer to help others. He was easy going and always seemed to have a twinkle in his eye.

Survivors include the following: his wife, Esther of St. Joseph; sons and daughters, Daniel (Monique) of Sauk Rapids, Anthony (Jessica) of Juneau, Alaska, Donna Reichert (Partner Roger) of St. Cloud and Audrey

Bellmont of Clearwater; brothers, Norbert “Bro. Felix, O.S.B.” of Puerto Rico and Alex (Lucille) of Sauk Rapids; grandchildren, Tiffany and Danielle Bellmont, Danette Scephurek, Nicole Rumery, Madeline and Hayden Neussendorfer; and great-grandchildren, Maverick and Nadiana Scephurek, and Ollie Rumery.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sons, Mark and Michael Getchel; brother, Edgar; sisters, Bernadine Braeger, Frances Muggli and Margaret Biliias; and seven step-siblings.

The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the staff of Good Shepherd Lutheran Home and St. Cloud Hospital fifth floor med 1 for the kind and compassionate care that was given to Neussendorfer.

Obituary, guest book and video tribute available online at www.williamsdingmann.com.

Boundaries

from front page

sion. Notch then proposed drawing terms out of a hat. As a result, the commissioners elected in the Second and the Fifth districts will serve two-year terms while the other three seats will be for four years.

Benton County made no changes to its commissioner districts because the population fell within the 10 percent threshold that would require



redistricting. As a result, the east side of Sartell will still be part of the Third District along with the north side of Sauk Rapids. The Third District is currently represented by Steve Hein, whose term expires in 2023.

Filing for the county commissioner races, as well as other federal, state and local races with potential primaries, opens May 17 and closes May 31. Filing for offices without primaries runs from Aug. 2 through Aug. 16. Minnesota’s primary election is Aug. 9 and the general election is Nov. 8.

GENERAL NOTICE TO CONTROL OR ERADICATE NOXIOUS WEEDS

Notice is hereby given this 15th day of May, 2022, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 18.83, Subdivision 1 (2009), that all persons in Stearns County, Minnesota, shall control or eradicate all noxious weeds on land they occupy or are required to maintain. Control or eradication may be accomplished by any lawful method, but the method(s) applied may need to be repeated in order to prevent the spread of viable noxious weed seeds and other propagating parts to other lands. Failure to comply with the general notice may mean that an individual notice, Minnesota Statutes, Section 18.83, Subdivision 2 (2009), will be issued. An individual notice may be appealed within three working days of receipt to the appeal committee in the county where the land is located. Failure to comply with an individual notice will mean the inspector having jurisdiction may either hire the work done or seek a misdemeanor charge against the person(s) who failed to comply. If the work is hired by the county inspector, the cost can be placed as a tax upon the land and collected as other real estate taxes are collected. You may obtain a list of the plants that are designated as noxious weeds and the members of the appeal committee from your County Agricultural Inspector or County. You can also obtain this information from your Local Weed Inspectors. Local Weed Inspectors include the township supervisors, city mayors or their appointed assistants. More information regarding the statewide/county listed noxious weeds, the Minnesota Noxious Weed Law and a list of County Agricultural Inspectors can be obtained from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture’s Web Site by visiting: <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants-insects/noxious-invasive-weed-program>. Additionally, Stearns County is listing Rough Potato/ Metaplexis japonica as a county listed prohibited weed in 2021.

Bob Dunning
Stearns County Agricultural Inspector
P.O. Box 246, St. Cloud, MN 56301 Phone 320-656-6578



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- High school equivalency and 5 years related experience OR combination of five years post-secondary education and related work experience in construction trades.
- Extensive knowledge and background in residential construction and energy conservation.
- Experience estimating home repairs, scope of work write-ups and housing inspections.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills.
- Must have the ability to obtain all Minnesota state required certifications to conduct WX audits & QCI.
- Ability to work with minimum supervision and maintain customer confidentiality.
- Must have ability to pass Xcel Energy security clearance.
- Must have a current Class D driver’s license and reliable transportation, including current Minnesota state liability insurance for travel in four-county service area.

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The mission of Tri-CAP is to enhance and expand opportunities for the economic and social well-being of our residents and our communities.

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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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Random act of kindness spreads love

Erin McIndoo
Editor@thenewsleaders.com

At the Kwik Trip in St. Joseph on a normal Friday, St. Cloud resident Tara Demarais decided to stop and put about \$10 in her tank. She normally only puts this amount in because her car is a “hunk of junk,” but someone approached her before she left.

“I got back in my car and I have to get in through the passenger door and I started my car,” Demarais said. “Somebody to the right of me, which was Bill, came up to my window and asked if he could put 10 or 20 more bucks in there.”

At first Demarais declined his offer but it was clear he was doing it out of the kindness of his heart so she allowed him to do it.

“He probably saw me get in through the passenger door

and thought ‘oh my gosh, this girl is having a rough day’ but every time I get in my car it’s rough,” Demarais joked. “It was so kind, he put his card in and I went to go pump the gas and he goes ‘fill it up’ and I was like what?”

Although Bill wished to stay mostly anonymous, Demarais decided to share her story on a few group pages on Facebook – St. Cloud, MN Area Community Page and It’s a Minnesota Thing – to which she has gotten a lot of positive feedback from. It seems her story has

brightened many peoples’ days and brought more positivity in helping other people.

“I was shocked actually, I never thought that’d happen to me,” Demarais said. “I hear of people experiencing random acts of kindness and I like to do that too but I don’t know maybe he was just feeling generous. Everybody deserves the benefit of the doubt. Always accept an offer that’s out of kindness, it not only makes you feel good, but it makes the person doing it feel good too.”



photo by Carolyn Bertsch

Outdoor market returns
Shannon Tomczik of St. Cloud leaves the first St. Joseph Outdoor Market of the season May 6 with a bag full of treats and her heart full of kind words said by Popcorn Patty owner Dale Scott, “So good to see you again, it’s like seeing an old friend.”



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Tri-CAP is looking for a passionate, energetic, committed individual to join us! This person will supervise staff and will oversee Tri-CAP's Workforce Development and Self-Sufficiency Programs, as well as outreach services for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and others.

Primary responsibilities of this full-time, exempt position based in Waite Park will include:

- *Development and implement workforce development-specific policies and procedures.
- *Oversee development of curriculum for workforce development programs, employment plans, life-skills classes, case management, volunteer training, etc.
- *Assist in program budget development and monitoring.
- *Build relationships with area human service agencies to stay abreast of activities, trends and collaborative efforts.
- *Supervision of staff, internship and volunteer assignments in the department, performance evaluation, corrective action as necessary, etc.
- *Ensure holistic case management services are provided to clients.
- *Represent Tri-CAP on community-based committees with agency partners.
- *Facilitate community presentations about Tri-CAP and specific program services as requested.
- *Assist in program planning, goal setting, evaluation plans, measuring outcomes, reporting program activities to funders as necessary.

Starting salary: \$50,773-\$57,117 annually, includes comprehensive benefits package and training!

Qualifications:

- *Minimum of a bachelor's degree in social work/human services or related field and two years of experience or a combination of five (5) years' experience and/or education.
- *Two years supervisory experience.
- *Knowledge of case management best practices.
- *Proficiency with Microsoft Office Suite, client data software.
- *Strong communication and presentation skills.
- *Strong organizational skills and ability to prioritize.
- *Ability to build relationships with community partners and volunteers. Identify barriers that impact low-income individuals.
- *Experience with career planning, workforce development programs, preferred.
- *Hybrid work arrangement involving both telecommuting and in-office environments.
- *Ability to travel in four-county service area.

To apply:

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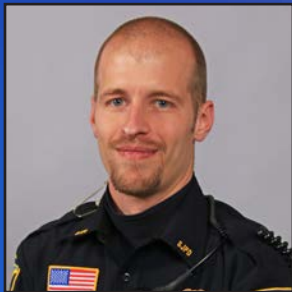
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Sergeant



Jason Luethmers
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Sergeant



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Anthony Milostan
8 years
Officer



Eric Brutger
7 years
Officer



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Officer



Russ Lipinski
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Alex Lyon
1 year
Officer



Reece Riegel
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Nathan Vossen
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Officer

Let's h po

They help our kids when they're lost. They're on call at all hours of the night to mediate the worst domestic disturbances. They do all the legwork that drives a successful conviction when the law has been broken. During National Police Week (NPW) this May 9-15, let's shout a big Woot! Woot! to our local police officers who carry the badge and swear to keep us safe.

NPW is celebrated across the country in many different ways. Our local police departments hold special events for fami-

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ear it for all our ice officers

lies and kids, such as National Night Out and many other gath-
erings throughout the year.

The goal is always to raise awareness about the import-
ant role these men and women play in keeping our streets as
safe as possible every day of the year.

It's not easy to be a crime-fight-
er and police officer. On a
daily basis, officers witness
the heart-wrenching destitution
and violence experienced by
the homeless, the mentally ill
and the substance-addicted.

They console the parents of
missing children and investi-
gate criminal acts. They see
the tough side of life that wears
people down and that many
lucky people in our cities and
towns never really have to deal
with. But worst of all, they bat-
tle negative public perception
in the very streets they patrol.

During National Police Week,
wave and give a friendly smile
to a police officer. And remem-
ber they are our front-line buf-
fers between safety and chaos.

NEVER FORGOTTEN



"We have Memorial Day coming up at the end of this month
on which we celebrate the memory of those brave soldiers
who were struck down on the field of battle in their prime.
Whether it was on foreign shores or in our own land, these
deaths are to be viewed as heroic and a mark of valor and
bravery.

However, we have another group of men and women who
have made no less of a sacrifice for our country: the police
officers who have fallen in the line of duty. These are the
men and women who defend us daily on our streets and
towns. They stand up for the law, that system of the Social
Contract that makes ours a civil society.

On this day, May 15, we set aside to honor those officers
who so bravely and skillfully served their cities and friends
and family. They have made the ultimate sacrifice in their
line of duty. They have exhibited the valor that is so valued
to a democratic society."

~ Gerald Boerner

the St. Joseph Police Officers!





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from front page

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Opinion

Our View

Small businesses make big impact

National Small Business Week was May 1-7 and was created to celebrate the top entrepreneurs in every state with awards or recognition. Looking back on last week, it is important to recognize, appreciate and understand how small local businesses help their communities and economy. According to National Today, there are 31 million small businesses in the United States and more than 450,000 of them are in Minnesota.

The opportunities these businesses provide for local entrepreneurs is vast. They allow them to have a job that can be more creative and self fulfilling than a job with a larger company might be. A small business can be anything from a handy-man service to a boutique to a family clinic, so there is a lot of freedom in what someone may decide they want to do.

Local businesses also can create jobs in your neighborhood and when you choose to spend your money at a local cafe rather than Starbucks, that money stays within the local economy rather than going to a corporate company whose headquarters might not even be in your state.

Additionally, larger companies don't benefit from your money as much as a local company would. When you spend money at a small business most of it goes back to the business itself and some could even be put toward other businesses in the neighborhood.

It's important to also note the struggles small businesses may go through. The choice to start a small business is not an easy one and can be hard for the first couple years and more than 50 percent fail during this time, according to National Today.

Because of the pandemic, small businesses had to close their doors if they weren't considered an essential business and many weren't sure when they could open back up again. There were even 31 percent of these businesses that closed down for good.

Since then there has still been an adjustment to different procedures to make sure their customers and community members feel safe shopping in their stores, sitting in their dining areas and interacting with their employees. It is, now more than ever, important to support and show appreciation toward them.

So even though National Small Business Week was last week, as a community we can continue to show support by choosing to shop with them rather than always choosing bigger national companies. When you shop locally you're putting your money right back into your own community and making it even better than it was before.

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.

Transitioning to the ‘real world’

Erin McIndoo
Editor



I ended up dropping two of them, which set me back by a semester.

When I found out my friends were all going to graduate on time and I wasn't, I felt like a failure. However, it worked out for the better. I ended up learning even more and got to take an art class as my last college credit. I got to write and work with my university and learned so much more about the alumni and their own successes.

After finally moving out of my dorm and saying goodbye to all my friends, I really didn't know what I was going to do next. I knew I always loved writing and editing but it didn't seem there were a lot of options around St. Cloud at the time.

I scrolled through job postings everyday it seemed and created all

kinds of accounts on job apps. It seemed like every place that was hiring wasn't in my field or required me to have more experience. After about a month of looking, I decided to take a break from filling out applications and just try to relax and enjoy not being in school anymore.

That only lasted a couple weeks before my mom told me about a posting for an editor and I jumped right on it and now here we are. Because of how much journalistic writing I did in college for the first week it kind of felt like I was still just working on a project for class, but to have one of my articles be published felt amazing. I had so much support from my family and friends who were all excited I had found something I truly enjoy.

College is tough and the first few steps afterward can seem even harder or discouraging, but I realized everything will work out in your favor when you're ready for it. I can't wait to write even more and meet more people in the community and hear their stories.

Contagious virus can cause dangerous delusions

Dennis Dalman
Reporter



day and night to protect the public. Blaming all for the actions of a few is utterly ridiculous. Spouting "Defund the Police" is tantamount to saying they are all bad and thus defund them. The slogan should be "Defend the Police," not "Defund the Police."

Throughout this nation, teachers, school administrators and school-board members are often under verbal attacks by groups of parents. Among the unfounded charges are the following: that Critical Race Theory is being taught to make White children squirm with guilt about the brutalities perpetrated against Blacks throughout history; that children are being "groomed" by teachers in regards to topics of sex and LGBTQ sexual identities; that many books should be banned because they allegedly promote "subversive" diversity.

Many of those charges come directly from ultra-right-wing conservative "think tanks" that rile up gullible adherents. Some of those "think" groups have long wanted to eradicate (de-fund) public education. Some parents have shouted or screamed at school-board members, demanding resignations, accusing boards of pushing socialist-communist agendas. Never mind that Critical Race Theory is not taught in grades K-12, that students are not being groomed by

sex-crazed teachers, that certain books are not brainwashing children. Never mind. Those loud folks believe that saying so, shouting so makes it so. It's déjà vu, just like Sen. Joe McCarthy's communist witch hunts of the 1950s all over again.

For two years, some doctors, nurses and other medical personnel have been the targets of harsh criticism and in some cases even verbal nastiness and/or physical assaults from people spewing disinformation about masks, vaccines and medical protocols. Medical employees worked long shifts in jam-packed care units, tending to the dying, grieving the deaths, going home utterly exhausted physically, mentally, emotionally. That horrific stress was and is bad enough. It is made worse by the disinformation know-it-alls, such as those with Covid virus demanding treatments proven not to work. Some dunderheads accused doctors of inflating death rates from Covid by reporting that as the cause of death to victims of car accidents or heart attacks.

Police, teachers and medical personnel are among the front-line workers who have been in danger of contracting the Covid virus. Their front line has sometimes become a battle line when those good people have to endure hostilities hurled at them by those who have been infected by a different virus, one that can cause dangerous delusions.

Will there be a future cure for that insidious virus? Will those who should get the cure take it? Alas, probably not.

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

Maximizing your Benefits

Taking full advantage of your company's benefits package can help smooth the way for retirement. You'll also live a healthier life along the way.

YOUR POCKETBOOK

Not taking advantage of your company's 401(k), retirement plan or related benefits package is like leaving money on the table — both now and in the future. Many companies have a match program where they will mirror your 401(k) investment up to a certain dollar amount, after you are fully vested as an employee. That doubles the amount of money you are putting into retirement with every pay check going forward. Program details sometimes change over time, and can be impacted by outside forces like market changes or a global health crisis. So check with human resources to explain your options.

YOUR WELL-BEING

Wellness is another way to build wealth, since you're saving on chronic doctor bills. Ask your employer about medial and dental programs, as well as flexible spending accounts. Health insurance is particularly expensive when purchased on the open market, so enrolling through your company makes great financial sense. These programs

can also reduce or eliminate some out-of-pocket expenses, which really add up. Some employers also offer wellness programs, in addition to insurance. These are often in the form of voluntary diet or exercise activities, but might include incentives like discounted gym memberships.

SMART CHOICES

Take advantage of life insurance options as early as possible. That builds security for later, and it's usually cheaper the younger you are at enrollment. Many companies are switching to insurance plans with high deductibles, leading to higher every-day expenses

for their employees. In some cases, these are the only plans available. Start a health savings account to build up a reserve of tax-free funds for emergencies. If you don't use it at the doctor, you can withdraw the funds later. Keep in mind that some of your benefits can be taken with you to a new job, or

rolled over into successive accounts. Depending on the firm, you might also gain access to a legal team, either for free or at a discounted rate. This can be a huge benefit, considering how much working with an attorney can cost — even for straight-forward processes like drafting a will.

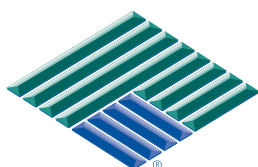


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