

The Star Post

Melrose Beacon ★ Albany Enterprise

Wednesday, July 15, 2020

Volume 130

CITY, SCHOOL BOARD POSITIONS OPEN

Candidates can file July 28-Aug. 11

BY CAROL MOORMAN
STAFF WRITER

If you have ever thought of running for a city council or school board position, now is the time to seriously consider it. Filings for positions open Tuesday, July 28, and close at 5 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 11. Affidavits for candidacy can be filed at city or school offices.

The general election is Tuesday, Nov. 3.

Candidates for positions must be eligible voters, must be 21 years of age or more on assuming office, must have been residents of the city or school district from which the candidate seeks election 30 days before the general election, and must have no other affidavit on file for any other office at the same primary or next ensuing general election.

The following cities and school boards have seats open for terms expiring Dec. 31.

Albany Area Public Schools: Four school board member seats. The four-year terms of Scott Hansen, Matt Kreuzer, Ron Paulsen and Ozzie Carbajal expire.

City of Albany: Two-year mayor and two four-year council member seats. The terms of mayor Tom Kasner and council members John R. Harlander and Keith Heitzman expire.

School board page 3



A log cabin, the first house the Borgerding family lived in when they took possession of the farm in 1870, still stands on the Clarence Borgerding farm near Freeport. It is now used for storage. PHOTO BY HERMAN LENSING

Borgerdings preserve farm for 150 years

BY HERMAN LENSING | STAFF WRITER

It will be Christmas in July at the Clarence Borgerding farm west of Freeport.

The celebration has become a tradition, keeping a sense of history in the family.

"Two years ago, we started Christmas on the farm in July," said Clarence Borgerding, the current owner of the sesquicentennial farm.

The farm is noting its 150th anniversary of being in the Borgerding family this year. Clarence Borgerding is the fourth generation to farm the land but is the fifth in a line of Borgerdings to live on the site.

The family's ownership dates back to the 1870s.

"My great-grandfather, Bernard, bought it in 1870," he said. "They (Bernard and wife Catherine) were born in Germany and settled in Indiana for a number of years."

Bernard and Catherine purchased the Min-

nesota farm from Henry and Caroline Borgerding. Just when Henry and Catherine obtained the farm is not recorded.

"They were not relatives at all," Borgerding said. "It's interesting, though, that they were Borgerdings."

Records and memories of the family history are preserved in scrapbooks, photos and buildings on the property.

"My mom (Frances, 1924-2016) took pictures and kept scrapbooks," Borgerding said. "I have a lot of old pictures."

One of the pages covers 1870 to 1972, documenting new buildings or building improvements. A photo from the late 19th century shows Bernard and Catherine with a child in front of a white wood house.

"It was a log cabin," Borgerding said. "I guess it was built by Bernard. The original house

is still standing in the yard. It's used for storage. It originally stood where this house is. They moved that log house. I don't know how."

Before the house was replaced by the current yellow brick structure in 1907, a barn, machine shed and granary were built on the site. They were built when Frank (1866-1942), the son of Bernard, and his wife, Anna (Kerfeld, 1873-1947) owned the farm. Frank assumed possession of the land in 1887. He also added a corn crib, pig barn, the white barn, a brooder house and small silo.

Various buildings reflected changes in farming over the years. Most of the time it was a crop and animal farm.

"When I was little, we had a lot of chickens," Borgerding said. "We also had pigs, more of them than dairy cows."

Borgerding page 3

HAPPY TO BE BACK OPEN

Shady's owners continue fight for rights, liberties of small businesses

BY CAROL MOORMAN | STAFF WRITER

"Lookin' good back here," Kris Schiffler said, walking into the Shady's Hometown Tavern kitchen in Albany July 10, where employees are preparing the noon food on their salad bar.

For Schiffler, reopening the business for inside dining is "awesome."

And he, and the other partners in the Shady's six restaurant/liquor establishments they own, hope it stays that way.

In May, they began their fight to ensure all small businesses are considered essential and should remain open during COVID-19. That mission continues today as they take their fight to federal court. It led to support beyond what Schiffler anticipated, in the form of calls, text messages, a GoFundMe page and even prayers.

"A lady messages me three times a week [to say] that she's praying for me," he said, tears welling up in his eyes.

Schiffler admits he never envisioned 15 years ago, when he and Lee Mergen purchased their first bar in New Munich, calling it Shady's (after Schiffler's nickname), that something like this would happen. There were growing pains, however, as the two friends in their early 20s learned the ropes of running a business.

Shady's page 3



Kris Schiffler holds a Shady's Rocks & Cows T-shirt July 10 standing behind the bar at Shady's Hometown Tavern. He estimates they have sold more than 3,000 T-shirts with the saying taken from a phrase by Gov. Tim Walz. PHOTO BY CAROL MOORMAN

Stearns County 4-H moves forward with showcases

Youth to compete in virtual contests

BY JENNIFER COYNE
STAFF WRITER

Youth throughout Stearns County will have the opportunity to demonstrate their fair projects, but without a county fair.

This year, youth will showcase their learning — both in static and livestock judging — virtually. The projects will be evaluated by judges with the opportunity to advance to a virtual state level showcase in lieu of the Minnesota State Fair.

As with all showcases, youth will receive feedback on their projects to help further their work in coming years.

4-H page 2



The newspaper of today is the history of tomorrow.

PUBLIC NOTICES

- Mechanic Lien Sale - 17 INTL PROSTAR - pg. 0
- Mechanic Lien Sale - 11 Chev. Silverado - pg. 0
- Mechanic Lien Sale - 12 Chev. Malibu 1LT - pg. 0
- City of Holdingford Audit Report - pg. 0
- City of Albany Audit Report - pg. 0
- CentrePoint Energy Rate Increase Notice - pg. 0
- Millwood Township Notice - pg. 0
- City of New Munich Notice - pg. 0
- City of Meire Grove Filing Notice - pg. 0

OBITUARIES

pg. 4

Anthony W. Kulzer
Levinus A. Sand

BIRTH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

pg. 7

Evan Jean Klaphake

WEATHER

Date	High	Low	Prec.
July 6	81	66	.64
July 7	86	64	.00
July 8	90	66	.05
July 9	82	63	.00
July 10	83	59	.00
July 11	79	64	.12
July 12	82	61	.00



\$1.50

Former priest sentenced to prison for criminal sexual conduct

ST. CLOUD – A former priest, assigned to parishes in Sauk Rapids, Holdingford, Opole, St. Anna, St. Wendel, Pearl Lake, Rockville and St. Cloud, was sentenced July 8 to 41 months in prison for third degree criminal sexual conduct.

Anthony Joseph Oelrich, 54, was sentenced by Judge Kris Davick-Halfen.

Oelrich was charged Feb. 13, 2018. In 2017, a victim reported to the St. Cloud Police Department that she sought spiritual guidance from Oelrich following previous sexual abuse, and he used those vulnerabilities against her, according to a press release from the Stearns County Attorney's Office.

Oelrich, who was ordained to the priesthood June 6, 1992, was suspended from his priestly faculties in February 2018.

He entered a plea of guilty to the offense Nov. 26, 2019, admitting he engaged in sexual penetration with the victim who was seeking spiritual guidance from him at the time, the press release said.

At sentencing, Oelrich asked the court to depart from the sentencing guidelines and place him on probation. The court denied his motion and imposed a sentence in line with the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines.

Oelrich was also ordered to register as a predatory offender.



Anthony Joseph Oelrich

Melrose man convicted of drug possession

ST. CLOUD – A Melrose man has been convicted of felony second degree drug possession June 30.

Cesar Cervantes, 23, was arrested Aug. 23, 2018, by the St. Cloud Police Department for possessing cocaine.

The court issued Cervantes a stay of imposition. Cervantes must serve four days in the Stearns County Jail and successfully complete a five-year term of supervised probation with the Stearns County Community Corrections.

If Cervantes successfully completes the probationary period and follows all required conditions outlined by the court, the level of offense will be reduced to a misdemeanor under Minnesota law.

If Cervantes fails to successfully complete the stay and remain law-abiding, he may be sentenced to serve up to 48 months of prison time.

4-H from front

“Minnesota 4-H looked at several platforms to offer showcase opportunities and made their decisions based on what would provide the best opportunity for youth, judges and staff, as well as keeping safety for all involved in mind,” Katie Petty said. “Each county had the freedom to make their own decisions from a list of recommendations from Minnesota 4-H to accommodate their youth.”

Petty is the University of Minnesota Extension Educator for 4-H Youth Development in Stearns County.

Youth enrolled in non-livestock projects will use Flipgrid Inc. to upload their project information. Those showcasing a livestock project will use FairEntry to upload a photo and video of their animals and Zoom for showmanship judging.

“We’re using a whole new platform that staff and youth may not be used to using,” Petty said. “But what we’re finding is that many of our youth have used Flipgrid for distance learning.”

While Petty recognizes the disappointment youth and families might feel from this decision, she has been pleased with the support of these changes. And, she hopes youth can make the most of the experience.

“Even though these avenues of showcasing the projects our 4-H members have been working on might not be the traditional 4-H experience, we hope youth can still receive the recognition for the hard work that they put into their projects,” Petty said. “This is still an opportunity for youth to showcase their learning.”

Entries for the 4-H projects are being accepted through Friday, July 17.

BEHIND THE LENS



Raspberries and bread

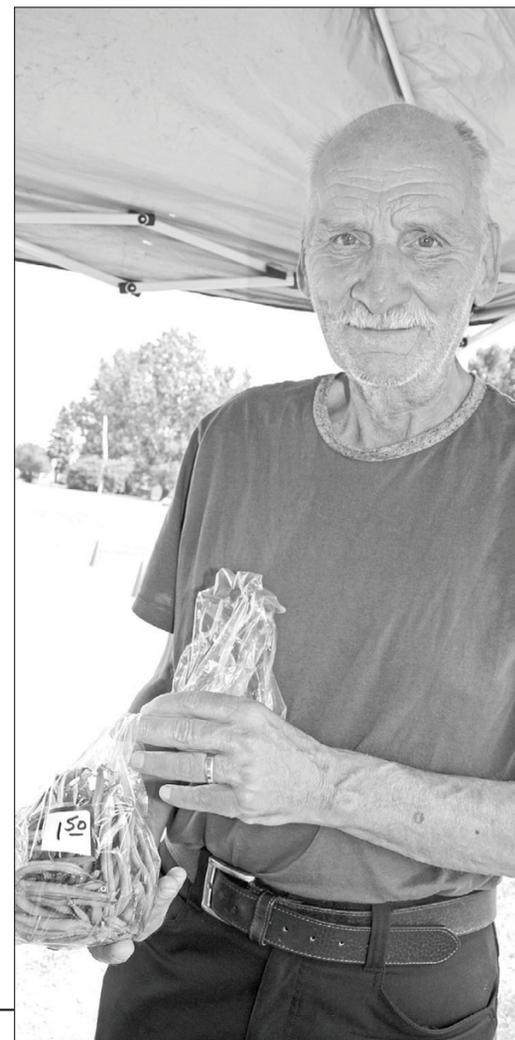
PHOTOS BY HERMAN LENSING

Sisters Hermione (from left), Wendy and Miley Torres, of Melrose, display raspberries and bread they purchased July 8 at the Melrose Farmers Market. Garden produce is becoming more common at this market, which is open Wednesday afternoons.



Onions from the garden

Onions from the garden of Gilda Gieske of Sauk Centre found their way to the Melrose Farmers Market. They were just some of produce seen July 8 at the market.



Homegrown green beans

Bob Welz, of Melrose, found homegrown green beans July 8 at the Melrose Farmers Market. Beans are among produce harvested from gardens and sold at farmers markets.



Sale at the market

Cucumbers, onions, peas and beans are among garden produce John Rakotz displays July 8 at the Melrose Farmers Market. Rakotz, of Holdingford, had produce and other items for sale at the market.

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Borgerding from front

Frank's son, and Borgerding's father, Alphonse, (1909-86) took control of the farm in 1941 and, with his wife, Frances (Kometzsch, 1924-2016), owned the farm until 1972. Two chicken houses (one became a calf barn), a double garage, a milk house, another machine shed, a double car garage and a silo were built. Additions were also made to the barn and silo.

Borgerding grew up on the farm as the oldest of eight children, three boys and five girls. None of the others showed an interest in farming. Borgerding never really left the farm, working on it most of his life.

"I think my dad had a hired man until I was 11 years old," he said "Then I took over (that work)."

When he thinks about it, he was maybe too young to be operating some of the machines used to farm.

"I was driving tractor when I was 12 or 13," he said. "Today, that is almost too young to be driving tractors. The machinery is too big for them."

On the other hand, he did learn to drive a variety of tractors. There is one element of modern tractors he really appreciates.

"Those cabs are nice," he said. "They are climate controlled so you have heat in the spring and fall."

Borgerding took over the farm in 1972, the same year another silo and a calf barn were built. Those buildings indicate there has been a definite shift in the farm operation.

"We were all dairy when I started. The hogs were gone. The chickens were gone by then," he said. "I didn't do any more building."

Borgerding's young start in farming served him well. When he purchased the



PHOTO BY HERMAN LENSING

Clarence Borgerding pages through a collection of family scrapbooks, photos and records June 30 at the 150-year-old family farm near Freeport. The items keep Borgerding in touch with his family history.

farm, he could barely vote. "My dad was 62 at the time and tired of farming. I was only 20 years old. He said either I take it over or he would sell," Borgerding said. "I decided I didn't want to see it sold."

Borgerding married Marilyn Ostendorf in 1988, and they farmed together until her death in 2018 at age 60. They had no children.

Borgerding has held on to family scrapbooks and photos representing docu-

mented links in the family and community history. Having such links is important to this man who never knew his grandparents.

"My dad's parents died before I was born," he said.

Borgerding likes living on the farm. It is close enough to Freeport to have access to the community without being in town. He is semi-retired, rents much of the land and raises around 11 steers a year.

He would like to see the

farm continue in the family. It just might. He has had nephews express interest in taking over the farm. There would be a value to having that happen. He sees it every year at the Christmas in July celebration.

"A lot of the kids have not seen the farm where their grandparents or great-grandparents grew up," he said. "Everyone comes and they eat. They stay here all day."

And they learn about the Borgerding family history.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Frank and Anna Borgerding, an unidentified child and hired man Joe Dierkhising are pictured on the Borgerding farm in the late 19th or early 20th century. They took possession of the farm in 1887, and are the grandparents of current owner Clarence Borgerding.

Shady's from front

Partners grew to include Ryan Spanier, Mandy Fladmark, and Jeremy Glenz as they acquired other businesses under the Shady's chain — Shady's of Rice, Shady's Hometown Tavern in Albany, Shady's Golden Eagle in rural Burtrum, Shady's Long Shots in Cold Spring and Shady's Silver Spur in St. Martin.

When Gov. Tim Walz ordered bars and restaurants to temporarily close to in-house dining March 17 because of the pandemic, all of the Shady's establishments closed.

"For the safety of the people and to build up the supply of hospital beds, ventilators and PPE (personal protection equipment), that's what we did," said Schiffler, whose girlfriend is a registered nurse.

Schiffler said takeout orders were great, and they appreciated community support.

As time drug on, and still not being able to work, "you get depressed," he said. "I like to talk to people. I want to meet 'em, see their face," Schiffler said.

The decision was made to open all Shady's locations May 18, defying the governor's executive order. Precautions were in place, and he talked with city and county law enforcement and the county health department.

"We didn't try and hide what we were doing," said Schiffler who knew of other businesses reopening for in-house dining.

He was notified he could be fined \$25,000 per business per day if he reopened, so he chose to just open the Albany Shady's location as the "guinea pig, hoping to call the governor's bluff."

An estimated 200 people showed up at Shady's before the noon reopening May 18.

"It was one of the coolest things, just all the support," Schiffler said.

Fifteen minutes before the Shady's doors opened Schiffler received a letter stating he would be held in contempt of court and jailed if he violated the governor's order. With his employees behind him, Schiffler announced on a megaphone, with tears in his eyes, that Shady's would not be opening.

"Nobody could come in, but people didn't leave," Schiffler said. "They asked for menus and we served them outside."

He vowed to take this issue to court. A GoFundMe account, set up by one of his bartenders, raised more than \$250,000, which blew him away.

"This is going for attorney bills, not to Shady's," Schiffler said. "Whatever is left after attorney fees are paid, will be donated, \$5,000 at a time, to businesses having a hard time."

The GoFundMe money is now in a trust, to ensure only authorized use.

Most of the 163 employees at the Shady's locations are working; 12 of them when outside dining was allowed June 1, and the rest a week later when inside dining reopened.

A table inside Shady's dining room is filled with T-shirts that say "Shady's Rocks & Cows." Schiffler estimates they have sold more than 3,000 T-shirts.

"He (Gov. Walz) said everything out of the metro is rocks and cows," Schiffler said. "So, we took his saying and put it on shirts."

To promote the cause, Schiffler travels statewide, meeting with small business owners.

"We met with close to 300 people at the Pioneer Days grounds, and we had eight legislators there, all Republicans," Schiffler said. "Not one Democrat has reach out to us."

He never used to think this was about politics, but

he has changed his mind.

"When somebody eats at this table you wipe it down," Schiffler said. "That's the right thing to do. I don't understand why our legislative system is so broken. You just do what is right."

Shady's filed a counter claim to the Minnesota Attorney General's claim, and Schiffler received word recently their motion was dismissed.

"It's delayed justice," he said.

His lawyers tell him it may be November before the case is heard in federal court.

"We're not quitting," he said. "It's all about rights and liberties."

Meanwhile Schiffler and fellow owners are happy to have their Shady's businesses open again. Their first wedding reception will be at Shady's Hometown Tavern this weekend.

He and Mergen have talked about what to do if the governor closes bars and restaurants again, due to a possible uptick in confirmed cases.

"We'll find out if that time comes," Schiffler said, knowing if he goes against the governor's order and leaves Shady's in Albany open, he could be held in contempt of court and jailed.

Good has come out of this frustrating situation. Schiffler has a spread sheet of bar and restaurant owners he has met.

"I've made so many good friends. It brings tears to my eyes," he said.

He is looking at having The Johnny Holm Band perform in Albany in August, while abiding by social distancing and other guidelines.

"We've had a tough year," Schiffler said. "It's an amazing feeling to have people back in the bar."

School board from front

City of Avon: Two-year mayor and two four-year council member seats. The terms of mayor Jeff Manthe and council members Jim Stang and Kurt Marthaler expire.

City of Freeport: Two-year mayor and two four-year council member seats. The terms of mayor Mike Eveslage and council members Jake Renneker and Ben Ertle expire.

Holdingsford Public Schools: No election this fall as this school district is on an odd year election cycle.

City of Holdingsford: Two-year mayor seat and two four-year council member seats. The terms of Susan Marstein and council members Bob Sanchez and Robb Berscheid expire.

Melrose Area Public Schools: Four school board member seats. The terms of Pat Heller, Kris Winter, Lee Uphoff and Randy Dufner expire.

City of Melrose: Two four-year council member seats. The terms of Tony Klasen and Justin Frieler expire.

Avon may clamp down on nuisance violations

City considering issuing administrative fines

BY MIKE KOSIK | STAFF WRITER

Avon wants to clamp down on those few residents with cluttered, unsightly and unsafe properties.

The council at its July 6 meeting, along with police chief Corey Nellis and city attorney Mike Couri, discussed what could be done with those properties that violate the city's nuisance ordinance.

Couri said the city could take a violating owner to civil court to make them clean up their property.

"That whole process is expensive," Couri said. It would cost the city up to \$10,000, he estimated. Another way, which is simpler and less expensive, is to use an administrative fine process.

The offending property owner would receive a letter from the city asking them to clean up and include a fine if they do not. The city staff would handle the situation and not get the city attorney involved at that point.

While a fine would be administered, Couri said, "It's not a revenue generator." He said it is a way to get a property owner's attention and "hopefully they will cooperate."

Nellis said 70 to 80% of the time a property owner will comply, but the others are the problem.

For a variety of reasons, those few will not correct the problem.

Nellis said they are dealing with a situation where one neighbor will see items as junk, while the owner sees them as valuable.

Council member Jim Stang said those problem properties do have an impact on the value of other properties. He said the city needs to take a tougher stance on problem properties.

The council decided to have the city attorney look over its nuisance ordinance and get back to them.

The council also discussed an issue with several property owners in the Water's Edge development about a resident parking recreational vehicles off of their property and in an undeveloped area.

The council at its June 1 meeting heard the complaints and ordered barricades put up, but they were moved.

An owner of the items was at the meeting and said if his neighbors would have talked with him before hand, he would have moved them.

Nellis said the city has an ordinance that vehicles parked on city streets must be moved every 72 hours.

Mayor Jeff Manthe said while the area in question is an undeveloped roadway, once homes are built in that area, it will be used as a road.

After much discussion, the council decided to rescind its action from the last meeting and have the barricades removed.

"You all just need to talk," council member Kurt Marthaler said to the residents at the meeting.

The council also discussed another issue touching on ordinance enforcement.

Clerk/administrator Jodi Austing-Traut said the situation at the Middle Spunk Lake beach is getting out of hand.

While the beach is officially closed, there are a number of people using it. Some are drinking alcohol and smoking, which is prohibited.

After discussing a couple of possibilities, the council decided to have the Avon Police Department patrol the beach area during the day.

"Let's have a police person down there and see what we can do," Stang said.

The council also agreed to place a donated buoy rope marker in the lake designating the safe swimming area and separating it from a drop off.

In his report, Nellis talked about the July 4 drowning at Middle Spunk Lake.

Stang expressed his condolences to the family and thanked first responders.

What's happening

Do you know of a free, public event or a civic group that has returned to regularly scheduled in-person meetings? Call 320-351-6579 or 320-845-2700 to have events placed in the What's Happening calendar. Events published one issue before occurrence.

Wednesday, July 15, 6 p.m. — **Holdingsford School Board Meeting.** Holdingsford Junior and Senior High School media center, 900 Fifth St., Holdingsford.

Wednesday, July 15, 6 p.m. — **Albany School Board Meeting.** Albany Area High School board room, 30 Forest Ave., Albany.

Wednesday, July 15, 6:30 p.m. — **Albany City Council Meeting.** Albany City Administration Building, 400 Railroad Ave., Albany.

Thursday, July 16, 6 p.m. — **Melrose City Council Meeting.** Melrose City Hall, 225 First St. SE, Melrose.

WEEKLY RECIPE

Creamy Cucumber Salad

2 large cucumbers, peeled and thinly sliced	2 tablespoons vinegar
1 sweet onion, thinly sliced	1 tablespoon white sugar
1 tablespoon salt	1 teaspoon dried dill weed
	1 teaspoon garlic powder
	1 teaspoon ground black pepper

Dressing:
1 1/2 cups mayonnaise

Mix cucumbers, sweet onion and sea salt in a bowl. Cover bowl with plastic wrap and let sit for 30 minutes. Turn cucumber mixture into a colander set over a bowl or in a sink; let drain, stirring occasionally until most of the liquid has drained, about 30 minutes or more. Transfer drained cucumber mixture to a large bowl. Stir mayonnaise, vinegar, sugar, dill, garlic powder and black pepper together in a bowl until smooth. Pour over the cucumber mixture and stir to coat vegetables with the dressing. Cover bowl and refrigerate at least two hours.

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Celebration of life for Levinus A. Sand

Come join us for a celebration of life for Levinus "Lee/Lovie" A. Sand, Saturday, July 25 from 1-5 p.m. at Moose Lodge, 1300 North Third St., Waite Park. Please RSVP to Michelle Sand at 320-290-1246.

P-29-1E

Check us out online!

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Anthony W. "Tony"

Kulzer

Anthony W. "Tony" Kulzer, age 87 of Greenwald, Minn., died peacefully on July 9, 2020, at his daughter's cabin near Battle Lake, Minn., surrounded by family.

Known as "Andy" to his siblings and throughout his childhood, Tony was born on May 28, 1933, to Bernard and Catherine (Caspers) Kulzer. He was born, grew up and lived most of his life on the Kulzer family farm south of Greenwald. On May 24, 1966, he was united in marriage to Darlene Dingman. Together, they farmed and raised four children, eventually retiring in Greenwald in 1999. Although long since retired, he remained a farmer until his passing and never mentally left behind the land, his cows or the many chores of daily farm life. Tony was a dedicated husband, father



Anthony W. "Tony" Kulzer



and grandfather, and he also enjoyed spending time with his siblings, neighbors and friends. He was a sweet, gentle soul, who lived simply and was known for his kindness, compassion and generosity. Tony is loved and will be deeply missed by his wife of 54 years Darlene; children Mary Kay (Eric) Nepsund and Michelle (Krisler) Johnson of St. Cloud and Greg (Angie)

Kulzer, who took over the family farm; grandchildren Allison (Calvin) Herold and Alexandra Nepsund (fiancée Mitchell Bebus), Matty and Sylvia Johnson, and Isaac, Austin and Maverick Kulzer; and sisters Irma "Amy" Patras and Mary Ann "Mae" Samuelson of Chicago, IL. He was preceded in death by his son, Mark, in 1995; parents Bernard and Catherine

(Caspers) Kulzer; and siblings Alois, LeRoy, Nick, Leona Zehrer, Renee Mergen and Monica Joaquim.

In an effort to best support current guidelines established during this global pandemic, the family has arranged for a private service to occur at St. Andrew's Catholic Church in Greenwald. We look forward to a future remembrance with all who knew and loved Tony, and we thank you for your understanding as we seek to do our part in protecting the vulnerable among us during these difficult times.

We also wish to thank all those who provided love and support to Tony and our family over the years as he struggled with Parkinson's Disease.

Arrangements were made with Patton-Schad Funeral & Cremation Services of Melrose.

P-29-1B

Newspapers are renewable energy for democracy

BY REED W. ANFINSON
President of the National Newspaper Association Foundation

Print is dead. We've heard it too often.

We've heard dinosaurs mentioned in the same sentence as print. Buggy whips, too. Print is obsolete having outlived its usefulness in the face of the digital revolution, it is said. Social media - Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram - are now the primary source of news for many youth. A fair number of older adults also turn to the internet for their news. A friend of ours recently asked a group of young people if they read the local newspaper. The looks on the faces communicated a single message: "You are kidding, aren't you?" Facebook. That's where their news came from.

Obviously, we don't believe print is dead. Nor do we believe that a person can get the news needed to be an informed citizen through social media. What passes as news today is entertainment, gossip, rumor and the latest crime news. Give a person who doesn't read the local newspaper a quiz on the most important news stories in their community and they will fail miserably - but they don't care.

Not all old technology is buried by innovation. In its simplicity the windmill remains relevant through refinement. At its core, it is the same but with enhanced productivity. Drive around the country and you will see giant windmill blades sweeping slowly in circles pushed by the wind creating clean energy that feeds into the nation's electric grid.

Standing windmills have been used for more than 800 years. They are an ancient technology that provided water for human consumption, for livestock and for crops. They were used to grind grain into flour. It was in 1888 that the windmill was first used to generate electricity.

As the nation turned to coal, hydroelectric dams and nuclear energy, with a nationwide grid connecting their power to homes and

businesses, windmills disappeared from the landscape. Why the resurgence of this ancient technology? Because its simple design has been improved to provide cheap, clean energy at a scale that allows it to replace more expensive and polluting sources of power.

We like to think of print newspapers as windmills. Print is still relevant.

Print book sales continue to rise going up every year since 2013 while sales of digital books have flattened out. Even with significant price breaks on the digital books, people still want the print edition.

Studies have shown that while students prefer to get their textbooks digitally, they do better when their books are in print. Multiple studies have shown reading print increases a person's retention and understanding of what they have read while digital reading leads to shallow comprehension.

Then, there are all those catalogs you get in the mail.

There is a reason L.L. Bean sends a catalog in the mail regularly. It knows that if it stops sending magazines and relies on emails or its website to try to get you to shop with them, you'll soon forget they are still around. Competitors like Eddie Bauer will then dominate the market.

They know they must constantly keep their brand fresh in your memory. They know you will page through their magazine and maybe see something you like, then go to their website to buy it. They know that constant reminder of the magazine sitting on your coffee table will prompt you to go to their website when you are sitting with your computer in your lap.

While the wind is free, the technology to turn it into renewable energy is not. Windmills cost money. They must be repaired when their generators or gears wear out. The powerlines that bring electricity to homes and businesses must be serviced.

Essential to our continuing to provide informa-

tion fundamental to sustain citizen knowledge essential to an informed electorate, is revenue provided by advertising and subscriptions. They are the wind, the water and the sun that sustains us.

Now Google, Facebook and other internet sites hoard and block our sources of energy. They are a blight on democracy eroding our sources of news. Rather than creating a sense of community, they isolate and divide us.

The coronavirus's impact on newspapers has been devastating to newspapers in America at a time when they were already seriously wounded. As businesses have had to shut down or dramatically cut back on expenses during the pandemic; they have eliminated or reduced their print advertising.

What has been happening underscores the imperative to separate newspapers from reliance on subscribers and advertising. Newspapers are a public good and must be financed with the help of citizens.

We are not self-sustaining in today's digital world though we remain the most important source of news gathering and reporting in America. In many of our communities, we are the only source of local news.

Like newspapers, democracy is not self-sustaining.

"We also may have become too complacent, too sure of democracy's robustness or of its long-term viability," Margaret S. Branson and Charles N. Quigley wrote in a piece for the Center for Civic Education. "History, however, teaches us that few countries have sustained democratic governments for prolonged periods, a lesson which we as Americans are sometimes inclined to forget."

They go on to paraphrase the writings of Alexis de Tocqueville, a French student of American democracy in the 1830s. "Each new generation is a new people that must acquire the knowledge, learn the skills, and develop the dispositions or traits of private and public character that undergird a constitutional democracy," they write. "Democracy is not a 'machine that would go of itself,' but must be consciously reproduced, one generation after another."

We are clean energy for democracy - we don't pollute citizen knowledge with false information. We don't print vitriolic rants filled with bitterness that polarizes friends, neighbors and fellow citizens. We inform, educate, entertain and hold power accountable.

What happens to democracy without us?

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2008 Jeep Grand Cherokee - Bright Silver • US2689	\$5,900	\$4,990
2008 Toyota Camry Hybrid - Black • UC4202	\$7,800	\$6,990
2012 Dodge Journey - Billet Silver • US2678	\$8,700	\$7,990
2008 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT - Bright Silver • UV2253	\$8,200	\$7,990
2014 Dodge Grand Caravan - Silver • UV2635	\$10,300	\$8,399
2016 Dodge Journey - Silver • US2422	\$15,100	\$9,999
2011 Ford Explorer - Blue • US2666	\$11,700	\$10,990
2015 Chrysler 200 - Silver • UC4068	\$13,700	\$10,999
2016 Chrysler 200 - White • UC4088	\$16,800	\$13,899
2017 Chrysler 200 - Deep Cherry • UC4157	\$18,100	\$13,999
2016 GMC Terrain - Black • US2518	\$15,880	\$13,999
2018 Ford Fusion - Black • UC4096	\$17,700	\$14,399
2017 Toyota Camry - Black • UC4197	\$15,800	\$14,990
2016 Nissan Pathfinder - Black • US2537	\$18,100	\$14,999
2018 Dodge Grand Caravan - White • UV2611	\$18,200	\$14,999
2018 Dodge Grand Caravan - Billet • UV2623	\$18,800	\$14,999
2017 Dodge Grand Caravan - White • UV2597	\$20,600	\$15,499
2017 Ford Fusion - Purple • UC4188	\$17,700	\$15,990
2016 Dodge Journey - Silver • UV2635	\$17,700	\$15,990
2012 GMC Sierra 1500 - Gray • UT4367	\$17,700	\$15,990
2011 Dodge 1500 - Red • UT4406	\$16,600	\$15,990
2018 Dodge Grand Caravan - White • UV2617	\$19,900	\$15,999
2018 Dodge Grand Caravan - Billet • UV2619	\$19,700	\$15,999
2014 Chrysler Town and Country - Tan • UV2638	\$17,700	\$15,999
2015 Dodge Durango - Gray • US2542	\$22,800	\$18,999
2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee - Red • US2605	\$22,300	\$19,299
2015 Dodge Durango - White • US2641	\$21,300	\$19,990
2017 Jeep Cherokee - White • US2665	\$21,300	\$19,990
2014 Jeep Grand Cherokee - Stone White • US2677	\$21,100	\$19,990
2017 Jeep Renegade - Blue • US2687	\$20,700	\$19,990
2017 Buick Enclave - Black • US2688	\$23,200	\$19,990
2017 Ram 1500 - Max Steel • UT4230	\$23,750	\$19,999
2017 Chrysler 300 - Black • UC4208	\$23,600	\$21,990
2017 Jeep Cherokee - White • US2636	\$23,400	\$21,990
2019 Chrysler 300 - Max Steel • UC4155	\$25,800	\$21,999
2017 Chrysler Pacifica Touring L - White • UV2636	\$23,800	\$21,999
2017 Chrysler Pacifica Touring L - White • UV2452	\$27,300	\$22,899
2017 Jeep Cherokee - White • US2692	\$23,700	\$22,990
2017 Jeep Cherokee - White • US2694	\$25,700	\$22,990
2019 Chrysler 300 - Black • UC4156	\$26,200	\$22,999
2019 Jeep Cherokee - Billet • US2609	\$25,800	\$22,999
2018 Dodge Charger - Billet Silver • UC4189	\$25,970	\$23,990
2019 Dodge Challenger - Granite • UC4211	\$26,100	\$23,990
2018 Chrysler 300 - Black • UC4212	\$25,700	\$23,990
2017 Dodge Durango - Black • US2604	\$27,700	\$23,990
2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee - Black • US2626	\$27,300	\$23,990
2017 Ram 1500 - White • UT4305	\$27,700	\$23,999
2017 Ram 1500 - White • UT4306	\$27,700	\$23,999
2017 Jeep Grand Cherokee - Black • US2652	\$25,500	\$24,990
2017 Jeep Cherokee - Black • US2664	\$27,700	\$24,990
2017 Ram 1500 - White • UT4316	\$28,990	\$24,990
2015 Ram 1500 - White • UT4404	\$28,200	\$24,990
2016 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 - White • UT4407	\$26,600	\$24,990
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SENIOR DINING MENU

Pondview Estates, 334 Golfview Drive, Albany
320-845-4070, July 15-22

Wednesday: Meatloaf, scalloped potatoes and carrots.
Thursday: Breaded chicken breast, peas and carrots, and mandarin oranges.
Friday: Egg bake, hash browns and peaches.
Monday: Sausage and peppers, milk, vegetables and pears.
Tuesday: Parmesan chicken, roasted potatoes, carrots
Wednesday: Tator tot hotdish, cucumber salad and cinnamon apples.

Menu items are subject to change.

Catholic Charities Senior Congregate Dining remains suspended, but grab-and-go meals and frozen meals are available for pick-up. People age 60 or older (or families of people who are age 60 or older) may call 320-845-4070 to place an order and set up a date and time for pick up. If no one answers line, please leave a message. Meals provided by Catholic Charities Senior Dining Meals on Wheels.

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