

Grief from 1

"The way I see it is: The more people who have them, the better chance lives will be saved. I'd like to see them given away with every car safety kit... Just keep it in your trunk kind of thing," he stated.

Purfeest has passed out at least 50 Narcan kits—free of charge, no questions asked—since his son's death.

At least three of the kits have saved lives.

"Three people have come back and thanked me for giving them the kits. That's at least three people who are still living and three families who are not grieving because the kits were available," Purfeest stated. "It feels good to be doing something."

There's no harm using the kit, according to Wilcox. If you use naloxone (the Narcan kit) in good faith to resuscitate someone who has overdosed on opioids, you won't face any negative legal consequences thanks to the Good Samaritan law, which protects people trying to provide assistance in an emergency situation.

In addition, if you administer the naloxone from a Narcan kit, but the person you administered it to wasn't in fact experiencing an opioid overdose, you won't do the person any harm.

"You won't hurt them. They just won't respond," Dr. Wilcox explained.

So why aren't Narcan kits more readily available?

According to Wilcox, the

kits are good lifesaving tools, but some users use them as safety nets—a backup for when or if they overdose.

"Narcan saves a lot of lives, but resuscitating someone who has overdosed is just the first step," Dr. Wilcox stated. "It's important those requiring naloxone get chemical dependency treatment, follow a treatment plan, and stay the course."

Purfeest encourages everyone to carry a Narcan kit—especially if you have a friend or loved one fighting an opioid drug addiction. But, it's always good to have one on hand, just in case. After all, some users are very good at hiding their drug use.

"Life of a drug user is not a healthy life. It's very dirty. They don't want anyone to know," Purfeest stated. "Noah was only honest with me at the end. He tried to get clean, but... those drugs—that lifestyle—are powerful. They just pull a person back in... It's pretty tough to stop."

Purfeest isn't blind to the fact his son had run-ins with law enforcement over the years, mostly due to drugs. Noah had been released from jail just a few days prior to his death.

"They released him because of COVID. Isn't that ironic? They released him to keep him healthy, but what he really needed was to stay in for awhile, get clean, and get help," he said. "It was just a few days later, we got the

call... and he was dead."

Purfeest misses his son every day, but Sundays are the worst.

"We would hang out and do the Sunday barbecue thing... Noah was a happy young man who tried to help everyone else. He is missed a lot," he shared. "Now, most Sundays, I go to Noah's gravesite."

As the one-year anniversary of Noah's death approaches, Purfeest takes solace raising awareness of opioid addiction and overdose and actively giving out Narcan kits.

"I think Noah would be happy I'm doing this. He was in a spot he didn't like... Maybe these kits can save someone else, help them get out of their bad spots and get help," Purfeest stated. "I couldn't save my son... I have to live with that pain, but maybe I can help someone else. Save someone else from losing their son or daughter, parent, or friend."

For those who have a loved one struggling with addiction, Purfeest offers these words: "Don't ever give up. Keep encouraging, fighting to get them help. It's tough, but don't give up on them. Don't back off... It's important they know someone is trying to get them help."

Purfeest invites anyone interested in acquiring a free Narcan kit to contact him on Facebook.

Speech from 1

dent selects a well-known speech given by a famous or influential orator, in this case, Martin Luther King Jr., and selects impactful or artful moments in that speech to analyze with her own writing and speech formation," Gerst explained. "Alex's speech is roughly half MLK Jr. and half her analysis, so she must present King's portion in an attempt at capturing King's style while also presenting her own portion which demonstrates heightened analytical thought and speechcraft... Alex's aim is to focus modern attention on creating a culture of openness and caring by reminding us of King's call for such a world all those years ago."

Kerekes and Atherton will

be presenting a speech titled "Flowers," which was written by Katherine Vaughan and shows the impact that caring individuals can have on others in a time of great darkness.

"The speech follows the life of a first-grader named, Carrie, as her mother passes from a terminal illness and her teacher, a Ms. Duncan, whose kindness helps to guide Carrie out of that darkness," Gerst explained. "The girls provide their own introduction, expounding upon this lesson and demonstrate intense theatrical skill in presenting multiple characters and heightened emotions throughout the speech."

Each speech is carefully practiced and adjusted

throughout the season to be just under 10 minutes in length and delivered entirely memorized.

"These young ladies receive feedback each week towards adjusting their work and through regular practices with their two coaches, Rachel Wendlandt and myself, they have crafted amazing works," Gerst stated. "Their work this season has been truly remarkable. In light of the challenges of this particular season, what these young women have done would be impossible for most adults, let alone high schoolers. As their coach, I simply could not be prouder of their effort."

Area Church Schedule Thursday, April 22 - Wednesday, April 28, 2021

--WATERVILLE--

Cannonville Community
20092 Tetonka Lake Road
507-384-2181
Sun: 8:30 a.m. Worship Service.

Evangelical United Methodist
319 Main St. E.
Pastor Kathy King
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship & Confirmation.
Wed: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Act 29 Ministry.

First Baptist
14534 State Hwy 60
Sunday: 8:45 a.m. Prayer Time; 9 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages; 10:30 a.m. Worship In-person & On-line.
Wed: 6 p.m. 7-12th Gr. Youth Group.

Holy Trinity Catholic
506 Common St. E.
Father Michael Ince
Sat: 5 p.m. Mass.
Sun: 10:30 a.m. Mass.
Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri: 9 a.m. Weekly Mass.

N. Waseca Lutheran ELCA
40430 120th St., Waseca
Pastor Kristen Anderson
507-234-6463
Sun: 8:45 a.m. Worship Service. Check our Utube Channel
northwasecalutheran&faithlutheranjanessville

St. Andrew's Episcopal
210 W. Lake St.
Handicap entrance in back
507-835-1309 * 362-8292
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer - Coffee & Fellowship follows service.

St. Peter (Bell) Lutheran
21377 Tetonka Lake Rd.
Rev. Russell Grabau
Sun: 10 a.m. Worship-Spring Voters Mtg - Visitors Welcome - Masks Available.

Trinity Lutheran LCMS
415 Lake St. W.
Rev. David Mumme
Sun: 7:45 a.m. Divine Service; 9 a.m. SS & Adult Bible Class; 10 a.m. Divine Service. Tues: 3 p.m. Midweek Bible Study.
Wed: 4 p.m. Catechesis.

-- ELYSIAN --

Bethlehem Lutheran
200 Park Ave. NE
Rev. Russell Grabau
Sun: 8:30 a.m. Worship/HC - Spring Voters Mtg - Visitors Welcome - Masks Available.

St. Andrew's Catholic
E. Main St.
Father Michael Ince
Sun: 8:30 Mass.
Wed: 9 a.m. Mass.

United Methodist
Pastor Dean Wolf
201 4th St. NW
Sun: 9 a.m. Worship.

- - MORRISTOWN - -

Bethlehem Lutheran
404 W. Franklin St.
Pastor Travis J. Loeslie
Thurs: 6:30 a.m. Bible Bkft; 7 p.m. Church Council Mtg.
Sat: 9 a.m. A.A. Mtg.
Sun: 9 a.m. Divine Service/HC; 10:30 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Class.
Tues: 10:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study; 7 p.m. SS Teachers/VBS Mtg.
Wed: 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Confirmation;
7 p.m. Voter's Mtg.
Peace United Methodist
205 Division St. N
Pastor Elden Eklund
Sunday 10 a.m. Worship & Sunday School inside church - Facebook- Radio 91.3 FM.

Trinity Lutheran
North Morrilton
Rev. Juan Palm
507-685-2307
Handicap Accessible
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service.

--KILKENNY--

St. Canice Catholic
183 Maple St.
No Worship Services until further notice.

St. John's Lutheran
158 N. Laurel Ave.
Sun: 9:30 a.m. Worship/HC.

--CLEVELAND--

Church of Christ
900 State Hwy 99
Pastor Rob Perry
507-931-5924
Sun: 10 a.m. Worship Service.
clevelandchurch.net

St. Paul's Lutheran on German Lake ELCA
10 mi. W of Waterville or 10 mi. NW of Elysian
Pastor Richard Jorgenson
507-332-8066
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Drive In Worship Service.



Prom from 1

scheduled for when the buses arrive.

A dance will be held from 7 p.m. until 9:45 p.m. Snacks and drinks will be available.

According to White, there won't be a dinner at this year's prom because funding is tight. "Normally, the Ju-

nior class gets all of its prom funding from the concession stand. No concession stand because of COVID," she explained.

This year, a prom ticket is \$25 per person.

Buses will leave Chankaska at 10 p.m. and will return

to Waterville.

An After-Prom Party, hosted by parents, will be held at the school following the dance. All students going to Prom are invited to the After-Prom Party.

Waterville Police Report

Monday, April 12: Security Check, Area Business and Residential Check, Permits, School Patrol, Theft of Gas - Drive Off at PhilMart.

Tuesday, April 13: Alarm, Security Check, Area Business and Residential Check, Welfare Check, School Patrol, Medical, Alarm, Suspicious Activity/Person/Vehicle.

Wednesday, April 14: Security Check, Area Business and Residential Check, Security Check, Harassment/Threats, School Patrol, Harassment/Threats, Suspicious Activity/Person/Vehicle, Agency Assist, Traffic Stop, Traffic Stop.

Thursday, April 15: School Patrol, Area Business and Residential Check, Motor Vehicle Theft - Motor Vehicle Has Been Re-

covered, Suspicious Activity/Person/Vehicle, School Patrol, Administrative Detail.

Friday, April 16: Security Check, Area Business and Residential Check, Motor Vehicle Accident - Vehicle Hit Overnight, Driving Complaint, School Patrol, Area Business and Residential Check, Traffic Stop, Driving Complaint, Warrant.

Saturday, April 17: Security Check, Informational, Area Business and Residential Check, Security Check, Area Business and Residential Check.

Sunday, April 18: Informational, Suspicious Activity/Person/Vehicle, Area Business and Residential Check, School Patrol, Animal Complaint, Security Check, Area Business and Residential Check, Medical.

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