

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR COMMUNITY

OBITUARY

BULLETIN BOARD

Joseph Hutton, 64, Waite Park

Joseph "Joe" Hutton, 64, of Waite Park, Minn., passed away on Thursday, March 19, 2020, at Quiet Oaks Hospice after a brief illness with esophageal cancer.

Joe was born on July 8, 1955, to Samuel and Betty (Fearing) Hutton in Minneapolis, Minn. He grew up in California and moved back to Minneapolis in 1981.

In 1983, he married Pauline Hemmesch in Richmond, Minn. They raised three children.

Joe was an RN and worked at hospitals in California, Paynesville, and Litchfield. He later worked as a computer programmer for DeZURIK, followed by his work as a

retirement counselor for the State of Minnesota until his retirement.

Joe valued education and enjoyed traveling, reading, and trips to the casino.

Joe is survived by his wife, Pauline; children, Justin, Chantyl, and Christopher; brother, K.C. (Jana); in-laws, Nick (Nettie) Hemmesch, Eileen (Dave) Schwindel, Jerry (Kathy) Hemmesch, Rosie (Daryl) Steil, and Alma (Rick) Hansen; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Due to the coronavirus, a gathering of family and friends will be held at a later date.

Cancelled/Postponed Events

Free movie showing cancelled

A free movie showing, which was scheduled for Friday, March 27, at the Eden Valley Community Center, has also been cancelled in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

(march25f)

Eden Valley Area Library closed

The Eden Valley Area Library is closed until further notice in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

(march25f)

Stearns Electric meeting postponed

Stearns Electric Association's annual meeting for members, originally scheduled for Thursday, April 2, in the Melrose High School auditorium, will be postponed to a later date. The cooperative will select a new annual meeting date once the Center for Disease Control advises that it is safe for a large number of people to once again gather in the same space. Information about the annual meeting is available at www.stearnslectric.org/annual-meeting.

(march25f)

Cancelled/Postponed Events

WIC not seeing patients in Paynesville

The WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) clinic has suspended service in Paynesville until further notice.

(march25f)

Habitat Day in Litchfield postponed

In keeping with guidance from the Center for Disease Control and acting out of an abundance of caution, organizers are postponing the annual Habitat Day, originally scheduled for Saturday, April 4, in Litchfield. "We know many people across the community will miss this event, but we are committed to doing our part to ensure public safety and slow the spread of COVID-19. We will continue to monitor the situation and all relevant guidance, and will reschedule when it is convenient to do so," read a statement from the Litchfield Wetland Management District.

(march25f)

MANANNAH NEWS

BY DEB MCCANN

What a wild and crazy week! This Covid-19 is a pretty crazy ordeal! We went from hearing about it, to living the reality of it. Schools, businesses, churches, and just about everything else closing. Funerals and weddings are being canceled or are attended by immediate family only. We are asked to practice social distancing and distance learning. Meals are handed out curbside, church services are done by video, and we now have drive-up confession.

Never in my wildest dreams did I ever think something like this would happen. But with all the bad things going on, people are really stepping up. I see neighbor helping neighbor, people donating food, baby formula, diapers, Kleenex, masks, and even TP to those who need it.

One of the neatest things is all the family time people are having. I love seeing all the Facebook posts about families playing games, hiking, building forts, schooling, dancing outside, and just being together. We have to make the best of it and remember God is in control and He will be with us.

Stay safe, my friends!!

That about does it for this time. I hope you all gave a great week ahead. Until next time...see ya!

Thank you for your patience during this difficult time. For updated information about the library call 453-4434 and leave a message. You can also message us through our Facebook page or go to our website at <https://eval22.org.doodlekit.com>.

Until we see you again, remember to take all necessary precautions to stay safe. Our patrons are important to us!

(A column by volunteers about the happenings at the Eden Valley Area Library.)

CHECK IT OUT

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE EDEN VALLEY AREA LIBRARY

The Eden Valley Area Library is adapting to the threat of the coronavirus. With the majority of our volunteer staff in the at-risk group, we need to take every precaution to keep ourselves and those around us safe.

•Garden Dreams, scheduled for Thursday, April 2, has been cancelled. We will look forward to a gardening program in the future.

•Tentatively planned for Saturday, April 11 at 1 p.m. is the EVAL board meeting. It will be decided by the board

whether or not to have a face-to-face meeting.

•"Storytime Stars," our toddler story hour, is cancelled until further notice.

•Also cancelled is the Educational Forum on Politics and the EVAL Book Club meeting. Both were planned for Tuesday, April 21.

•"Schoolroom Storytime" will be cancelled until further notice.

•Voter Registration can be done online at <https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/VoterRegistration/>

VoterRegistrationMain.aspx.

If you are staying close to home, consider some amazing online resources for you and your family. Virtual tours are available at artsandculture.google.com. Scroll down the page to "Walk Around the City of Pompeii" or "Explore the Stars in 3D." The list is mind-boggling.

For the younger set, check out Storyline Online, where actors read to children. Enjoy some great picture books with the children in your life at www.storylineonline.net.

BUSINESS BRIEF

Cenex, Land O' Lakes give \$5,000 to foodshelf



Paynesville Farmers Union Coop (Cenex) donated \$2,500 to the Eden Valley Food Shelf for their annual March drive. The Land O' Lakes Foundation matched the donation, also giving \$2,500, totaling \$5,000 for the food shelf. Pictured are: Cenex board chair Albright (left) of Eden Valley, food shelf director Pat Arnold (center), and Cenex general manager Paul Evans (right). Cenex and Land O' Lakes also donated a total of \$5,000 to the Paynesville Community Service Center, the food shelf, for its March drive.

We Will Get Through This... Together

Dear Minnesotans, As the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic continues to unfold, we – the Minnesota Congressional delegation – would like to speak to all Minnesotans with one unified voice. Over the past few weeks, we have watched as this crisis has grown exponentially.

So much has changed quickly, and many Americans are wondering where to find information they can trust to keep themselves and their loved ones safe. We know many families are facing anxiety and fear – and that is why we have written to you together.

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic is a rare event that is reshaping our society. We all need to follow the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Minnesota Department of Health; additionally, the president has called for Americans to avoid being in groups of more than ten people. We

Guest Editorial

know that by working together and using best practices like social distancing, we can help to "flatten the curve" of COVID-19. This must be our first priority.

To be clear: Regardless of your age or health, we all have a responsibility to follow these guidelines to protect our loved ones and neighbors.

The rapidly changing nature of this pandemic means we all need to stay informed and communicate with each other. Misinformation – through the use of scare tactics or by underplaying the severity of the situation – only serves to hurt our collective response to this crisis.

We encourage all Minnesotans to stay informed as well.

We extend our sincere gratitude and thanks to all of the doctors, nurses, hospital staff and the Minnesota Hospital Association, first responders,

and countless other frontline health workers who are working tirelessly to keep us all safe. We will continue to work with you and collaborate with federal agencies, the governor's office, local and tribal governments, as well as the medical community to ensure you have the resources needed to combat this pandemic and care for your patients.

These are unprecedented times, and more changes are likely in the days and weeks ahead as we take on COVID-19. But as our nation has shown countless times before, no challenge is too great for America to overcome. We will get through this too – together.

Sincerely,

Sen. Amy Klobuchar
Sen. Tina Smith
Rep. Jim Hagedorn
Rep. Angie Craig
Rep. Dean Phillips
Rep. Betty McCollum
Rep. Ilhan Omar
Rep. Tom Emmer
Rep. Collin Peterson
Rep. Pete Stauber

Department of Commerce warns about COVID-19 scams

Wednesday, March 18: As the nation continues to respond to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and consumers are settling into their homes with increased social connections by e-mail, phone, mail, and social media, the Department of Commerce is urging Minnesota consumers to be on alert for potential scams created to take advantage of the fear, isolation, and uncertainty during this unprecedented time. "First and foremost, consumers should not share any financial or other sensitive information with anyone who contacts them unsolicited," reminds commissioner Steve Kelley.

In addition, consumers should be asking the following questions about every e-mail, phone call, and piece of mail they receive because the answers could trigger potential red flags for fraud and scams:

- Is the e-mail, phone call, or mail from someone you don't know?
- Is the sender, caller, or item offering you something that seems too good to be true?
- Is the sender, caller, or item using language to incite fear or threaten you?
- Is the sender, caller, or item urging you to "Act Now" before it's too late?
- Is the sender, caller, or item requesting payment from you and promising to give you something in return?

Minnesota consumers should be cautious. If there is doubt about the sender, caller, or the idea being pitched – hang up! Delete the e-mail. Recycle the mail.

At this time, the Minnesota Department of Commerce does not have any reported cases of COVID-19 financial scams.

If you have questions or if you believe you may have been the victim of a scam or fraud, please contact the Consumer Services Center by e-mail at consumer.protection@state.mn.us. Or call 651-539-1600 or 800-657-3602, but e-mail is best.

SCHOOL NEWS

Lisa Colon...

Lisa Nicole Colon of Watkins earned a bachelor of science degree in nursing from Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall, Minn. A total of 295 degrees were awarded to students following the 2019 summer and fall sessions of courses at Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall, Minn., following the fall 2019 semester. Southwest Minnesota State University is a liberal arts university of 3,500 students and is a member of the Minnesota State system.

EV-W SENIOR DINING

March 26-31

Thursday: Roast beef with gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, cinnamon apples, roll

Friday: White chicken chili, cheese sandwich, lettuce salad, banana, bar

Monday: Egg bake with sausage, fruit cocktail, coffeecake

Tuesday: Pork loin, mashed potatoes with gravy, broccoli, apricots, chef's choice dessert

Meals include milk. For questions, call Mary Lou Niewind at 320-453-4407.