

## KKJM Issues & Programs Q2 2019

**4/1/19**

The city of Waite Park is looking to start a volunteer reserve police unit. They're expecting large crowds when they open and start holding events at their new amphitheater next summer, so volunteer police would help with things like traffic direction and crowd control. You don't have to live in Waite Park to be a part of this, but you have to be at least 18 and pass a background check. Reserve officers will get some training in defense tactics and first aid, and they'll get a uniform too.

The Minnesota Legislature officially approved "snow day relief" legislation and sent it to Gov. Tim Walz for his signature. It was a bipartisan compromise approved by both the House and Senate that gives school districts more flexibility for making up all the days they canceled this winter due to weather. Minnesota normally requires public schools to hold 165 days of classes, but this bill lets them off the hook this year only.

In sports, the Twins won yesterday, they beat the Cleveland Indians 9-3. And the Final Four is set in men's college basketball...the games are in Minneapolis this year...Texas Tech will take on Michigan St, and Virginia will play Auburn.

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**4/2/19**

Today is [World Autism Awareness Day](#) -- a day set aside to increase the understanding and acceptance of autism. You may see people wearing blue today as part of this, and hundreds of thousands of landmarks, buildings, and homes world wide will also light it up blue today in recognition of people living with autism.

Well it went through the house and senate, and yesterday Gov. Tim Walz officially signed a bill giving schools and students a break for all the days they missed due to this winter's weather.

Police Officers in Sauk Rapids will be getting body cameras this year. Mayor Kurt Hunstiger says the plan is to get about 15 cameras by the end of the year. They follow in the footsteps of Waite Park, who started doing this a couple years ago, and the Benton County Sheriff's office, which is planning on equipping patrol officers with body cameras this year.

**4/3/19**

The St. Cloud Fire Department had a busy afternoon yesterday after people at two different businesses smelled gas...the first happened at Electrolux in St. Cloud at about 2 PM, then the second was less than a mile away and about 15 minutes later at American National Bank. Both businesses voluntarily evacuated. Both firefighters and Xcel Energy employees checked, and fortunately neither found a gas leak.

The College Basketball Final Four is in Minneapolis this weekend...and if you're trying to get tickets, be wary of scams. The Better Business Bureau is urging people to buy from reputable ticket sellers. They say one thing you can do is look the seller up on BBB.org. Also look at the web address of the seller, because some scammers will create a URL that's similar to a well known seller, but a little bit different.

And the Twins beat the Kansas City Royals 5-4 yesterday. They're off to a good start this season with 3 wins and just one loss. They'll play the Royals again today.

**4/4/19**

St. Cloud District 742 is planning to combine Lincoln and Talahi elementary schools. Pre-K, first, and second graders will be at Talahi while third through 5th graders will be at Lincoln. Both are high needs schools, and leadership believes this will help students.

The Minnesota DNR shared photos this week of the mess that officers are finding on the melting ice...people have left behind a lot of litter after removing fish houses. The DNR can find ways to track people down, and if they're caught littering, they could face fines of up to several hundred dollars.

And just a head's up...road construction starts in south St. Cloud next week...they're adding a roundabout at the intersection of 33rd street south and Cooper Avenue South, and so that intersection will be closed 'til further notice starting Monday.

**4/5/19**

It's Final Four weekend right here in Minnesota...the Final Four games are going on tomorrow at US Bank Stadium in Minneapolis, but there's plenty of fun going on before then, and some of it's free! Today, fans can watch free team practices and later cheer on college all-stars. Fan Fest starts at 11 this morning at the Minneapolis Convention Center...that's 10 dollars but lots of fun

with games, autograph sessions and pep rallies. And Nicollet Mall has a lot going on with free music, interviews, and even a giant ferris wheel.

And if you want to experience those Final Four Festivities, but don't want to worry about the heightened parking prices this weekend, the Northstar Commuter Rail is making some special runs. Today it'll leave the Big Lake Stop at 1 PM, and head back from downtown Minneapolis at 6:15 PM. Tomorrow it departs Big Lake at 2:30 PM, then starts back from Minneapolis at 8:30 as well as one more trip one hour after the last game gets done.

The City of St. Cloud is teaming up with District 742 to offer swimming lessons for your kids to get 'em ready for fun on the lake this year. They'll offer both spring and summer classes with the first round getting going April 15th. Still time to sign up...you can find out more on the city of St. Cloud's website.

#### **4/8/19**

Might wanna mark this on your calendar...Saturday, May 19th...they're gonna be offering free airplane rides for kids 8-17 that day at the St. Cloud airport. Registration will be the day of at the airport.

There's gonna be a crackdown on distracted driving starting today and going throughout this month. Three hundred law enforcement agencies are part of this...they're obviously looking for people who are using their phones, but also other forms of distraction that DO happen like reading the paper, putting on makeup, and even shaving. The first distracted driving ticket costs ya 50 bucks, the second jumps up to 275,

And it was a great Final Four in Minneapolis on Saturday...Virginia squeaked past Auburn and Texas Tech beat Michigan State. Virginia and Texas Tech will meet tonight at US Bank Stadium for the National Championship.

#### **4/9/19**

Just a head's up, this is still a ways away, but might want to get it taken care of now...you may need a REAL ID in order to get on a plane, even for flights in the US, after October of next year. The TSA details on their website that they won't be accepting standard driver's licenses as a form of identification to board domestic flights. You can tell the difference between a REAL ID and a standard license by a gold star generally marked in the upper portion of the card.

The Minnesota Senate has approved tougher penalties for people who text while driving, especially if they injure someone or take a life. Sen. David Osmeck says [his bill](#) "puts some teeth" into existing state law by raising fines for texting while driving, and by treating texting drivers who cause serious accidents more like drunken drivers, with felony penalties for fatal accidents. It also mandates that drivers education classes address distracted driving.

And a champion was crowned at US Bank Stadium last night...Virginia beat Texas Tech 85-77 in overtime to win the National Championship for college basketball.

He turned bedsheets into board games...that's today's good news story of the day. His name is Kevin, and he went to visit a friend's kid who was sick and in the hospital, and he was heartbroken over the idea of a child confined to bed in a boring, stale hospital room with nothing to do. And so he got this idea...his wife had always played games on his son's bed to help their son fall asleep...so he developed bed sheets that have GAMES on them...they have everything from cover geography, math, science, grammar, to word find games and checkers... all on a three-piece set...and these are already being used in 10 different hospitals across the country, and will likely spread to more. You know what I like though...Kevin saw a need, and he just stepped up and did something about it.

Today we're talking about times when God turned trials into triumphs...I'd love to hear your story if something comes to mind...257 0929...about a time when he brought good out of impossibly bad situations. Shelly and Todd went through every parent's worst nightmare, when their 5 month old son Nash tragically lost his life. Just devastating. But they didn't want their son's legacy to be one of sadness. And so, as the day approached when Nash would've turned 6 months old, family members decided to honor him by doing random acts of kindness in his name. They agreed to do that on the ninth of every month at least until his first birthday. With each act of kindness, they would hand out a card with the baby's picture and the words "[Have a Nash day.](#)" And it took off on social media, even went international, with people doing acts of kindness in memory of little Nash. An incredibly hard trial that turned into a triumph of kindness and love.

**4/10/19**

More than half a dozen airlines operating out of the Minneapolis-Saint Paul Airport have issued travel waivers ahead of this week's winter storm. That means you may be able to re-book your

flight for free if you're traveling today or tomorrow. Check your specific airline's website to learn more.

Well we were supposed to have a tornado drill statewide where they could test the storm sirens...it got cancelled statewide because of the impending blizzard, but some individual counties are still gonna go ahead and test the storm sirens. Both Stearns County and Morrison County will test those sirens at 1:45 and 6:45 PM today.

In sports, the Timberwolves will play their last game of the season tonight against the Denver Nuggets. The Twins are just getting going...they beat the Mets yesterday 14-8. They've had a good start to the season...they're 6-3 right now. They'll play the Mets again tonight.

Today's Good News Story of the Day comes from New Jersey...Kristin took her son to the skatepark...it was his 5th birthday...her son also happens to be on the autism spectrum. And he was riding his scooter around. And then a group of teenagers showed up. And some people might just ignore the kid, or in a bad situation even be mean to him, but NOT these guys...they played with him, they included him...his mom says they were beyond kind...one of 'em even brought out a mini skateboard for him and taught him how to use it. And so Kristin was just blown away by this, brought to tears...she bought all the teenagers ice cream to say thank you.

#### **4/11/19**

The Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport says more than 60 flights have been canceled or delayed as of 6 this morning. Airport officials said they were down to one runway around 4 p.m. Wednesday but just a few hours later they started using two. If you have a flight scheduled for today, you can check the airport's website to find out if it's currently cancelled or not.

A 4 mile stretch of I-35W south of the Cities had to be shut down for HOURS yesterday because there were so many crashes and cars in the ditch. Eastbound I-94 by Monticello was closed as of earlier this morning...you can check 511 MN dot org for the latest info. The State Patrol says that just from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. yesterday, there were 244 crashes, 208 vehicle spin outs and 18 jackknifed semis across Minnesota.

In sports the Twins and Timberwolves both lost last night...the Twins lost to the Mets 9-6...they'll be back in action (weather permitting) at Target Field tomorrow night. The Timberwolves lost to the Nuggets and that's their final game this season...they ended this year with a 36-46 record.

In today's Good News story of the day...Avett Ray is only 7 years old...he is an absolute prodigy as a musician...he plays piano and sings...and he also happens to be blind. Completely blind in one eye...severely impaired in the other. His mom is Sara...she found out he was blind when he was just 2 months old, and was obviously devastated. She was thinking "How will he get through life? What's his future gonna be?" Well fast forward a few months...when he was just 11 months old...he was already plunking out the tune to Twinkle Twinkle Little Star on the piano. And now a few years later, he's incredible. He's performing locally in front of hundreds of people, he's gone viral on the internet...here's a sample of him playing and singing:

**4/12/19**

Well we officially got 7.1 inches of snow in St. Cloud between Wednesday and last night, that makes it the 8th snowiest season EVER in St. Cloud...at least since we've been keeping track.

And lots of snow caused a lot of problems statewide. There were many power outages because of the high winds knocking lines and power poles down.

Governor Walz declared a state of emergency last night after the storm created dangerous conditions for travelers. He ordered the National Guard to help local authorities with stranded motorists across the state.

And we've been hearing about this for a while, and now it's official: Minnesota will become the 17th state to bar drivers from holding a cell phone while they're behind the wheel, It's part of an effort to reduce deaths and accidents caused by distracted drivers. Governor Walz will sign that bill into law today, and it'll take effect August 1st.

Your good news story of the day comes from Toldeo, Ohio. Jay owns a gas station there, and recently he caught a shoplifter red handed. He could've thrown the book at him, a lot of people would've. An employee told him there was a suspicious person pocketing items. And so Jay approached the person...it was just a kid...a teenager. And what Jay decided to do was ask the kid WHY? Why you stealing? And as it turns out he was stealing it because he was hungry...it was for him and his younger brother. And Jay could've blown up and got this kid arrested in that moment, which he DID have the right to do...but instead, he said "Well hey, you need food? I can get you food. That's not a problem." He filled a bag full of groceries and gave it to this teen. He didn't wanna ruin the kid's life over this, so instead of going by the letter of the law, Jay went by grace.

**4/15/19**

President Trump will be in Minnesota today to highlight the economy and his tax bill. He is expected to attend a roundtable discussion. Governor Tim Walz will "continue the tradition of greeting the president" at the airport. The governor said he will use it as an opportunity to advocate for federal disaster aid for Minnesota.

Flooding COULD become an issue the next couple weeks with all the snow we got continuing to melt, as well as some rain on the way. The Mississippi in St. Cloud isn't expected to crest until next week, and as of now they're saying it'll get up to 8 and a half feet, which is 6 inches below flood stage.

Well after their first game last week got postponed because of our lovely spring weather, the Twins ended up winning the next two games over the Detroit Tigers this weekend. They're off to a good start...8-4 right now...that's good for first place in their division.

**4/16/19**

Sad news out of Paris that I'm guessing you saw yesterday as the iconic Notre Dame Cathedral was engulfed by a fire that happened during renovation work. The blaze collapsed the cathedral's spire and spread to one of its rectangular towers. However its main structure was saved after firefighters prevented the flames from spreading to the northern belfry. A massive fundraising campaign has already raised over 339 million dollars to help rebuild.

The Minnesota DNR is urging us to use extreme caution around lakes and rivers. Conditions are obviously changing quickly, and last week's snowfall on top of already weak ice has made things especially dangerous. The DNR is hoping to avoid a repeat of last year, when an ATV rider died after breaking through the ice in April.

And the state is looking for volunteers to help with the adopt-a-highway program, which saved Minnesota around 7 million dollars last year. Volunteers pick up litter in ditches, and last year

cleaned almost 9000 miles of state roadways. If you're interested in getting a group together to volunteer, you can find out more on MNDot's website.

#### **4/17/19**

The Benton County Sheriff's Office is asking for help finding a missing 16-year-old boy. They're searching for 16-year-old Randall Weisser, who was reported to have run away from his home in Alberta Township this past Saturday. Randall is described as an African-American teen, about 5 feet 10 inches tall and 240 pounds, with brown eyes and black hair. He was last seen wearing red, white and blue pants, and a black Northface jacket. Authorities believe he may be in the St. Cloud area, and if you've seen him, please contact the Benton County Sheriff's office.

There was a brief police chase yesterday...police pulled over a car yesterday afternoon on highway 15 near Wal-Mart in Sartell. The vehicle was unregistered, and the driver sped away down highway 15 across the Bridge of Hope before crashing into a concrete median and snow bank. He then tried to run away, but was tackled by police. They're still investigating the incident.

And if you're looking for something fun to do with the family tonight...the Harlem Globetrotters are coming to Saint Cloud State University. They always entertain crowds with trick shots, fancy dribbling, and big dunks...you can find tickets on the SCSU website.

#### **4/18/19**

St. Cloud's mayor Dave Kleis issued a cease and desist for a private security car that's been causing some concern and confusion. The reason people have been confused is because the security car has lettering and coloring very similar to the St. Cloud police department's vehicles. And so Mayor Kleis issued that order which prevents the car from being on the streets.

After its roof collapsed this winter, the building on 9th and University in St. Cloud that held Subway, Kwikfix Electronics, and Campus Book and Supply is officially being torn down. Demolition started yesterday. The owners ARE allowed to rebuild if they want.

Farmers from many parts of the state are having their spring planting delayed because of the wet weather. Saturated ground makes it impossible to get started, and the later planting starts, the more production goes down.

#### **4/19/19**



The next time you think about passing your preschooler a smartphone or tablet at the dinner table to keep them entertained, you might want to think twice. A new study shows more screen time is linked to a higher risk of developing ADHD in young children.

A man was arrested after approaching the historic St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City on Fifth Ave. with two gasoline cans on Wednesday, just days after a large fire caused major damage to the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. Millions of dollars in pledged donations to help restore Notre Dame have been made from wealthy citizens of France, Disney corporation, Apple corporation, and others.

**4/22/19**

Sad news as Minnesota Conservation Officer Eugene Wynn passed away over the weekend while on the job. Officer from various police departments honored Wynn with an escort of flags and salutes as he was taken home to Pine County. Wynn worked with the DNR for 18 years.

Benton County is considering a half cent countywide sales tax that would help fund road and bridge repair. The sales tax is projected to bring in about 1.9 million every year. If you're in Benton County and want to weigh in on this, there's a public input meeting tonight at 6:30 at the County Administrator's Building in Foley.

And the Twins had a good weekend...they beat the Orioles three times to improve their record to 12-7...that's first place in their division.

**4/23/19**

After the incident in Sri Lanka Easter Sunday that took the lives of almost 300 people, Sri Lankan students at St. Cloud State University are planning a vigil today in remembrance. It'll be at 4 today on the Atwood porch...anyone is invited to attend.

And you've probably been thinking and praying for 5 year old Landen who was so badly injured at the Mall of America...a pretty awesome update there from Landen's pastor:

Amazing...the Go Fund Me Campaign for Landen is among the largest GoFundMes ever...it's closing in on one million dollars.

**4/24/19**

If you have a car seat that your child has grown out of, Target is doing car seat trade-in through May 4th. You just bring that old car seat or booster seat to guest services at Target, and they'll take it and give you a 20 percent off coupon for a new one.

Burning restrictions are now in place...the Minnesota DNR says with warmer temperatures and dry conditions there's an increased fire risk, and so open burning is completely prohibited in Benton, Stearns, and Sherburne Counties. That means if you have brush or yard waste, the state won't give you a permit to burn it right now...you'll have to chip it or take it to a compost site, or wait until the restrictions are lifted.

In sports, the Twins beat the Astros Monday, lost to 'em last night...and they'll try to take the series with a game tonight...it starts at 7:10 in Houston. The Twins are still in first place in their division.

#### **4/25/19**

If you see flags at half-staff today, it's in honor and memory of Conservation Officer Eugene Wynn, who passed away in a work accident last week. Governor Tim Walz ordered that flags should fly at half-staff 'til sunset tomorrow.

Downtown St. Cloud is getting a little more bike friendly...22 bike racks are getting installed in 15 different locations, mostly along St. Germain Street. All of those should be in by mid-May.

And the Twins lost last night...they were beaten soundly by the Houston Astros 7-1. They have today off, then they're back in action tomorrow night at Target Field.

#### **4/26/19**

St. Cloud firefighters had to put out a housefire in North Saint Cloud...the fire started just after 5 yesterday evening...the homeowners were there, but fortunately no was hurt...the cause is still under investigation.

Families who may not be able to pay for dental care can get a free teeth cleaning...Children's Dental Services and Stearns County are working together to give dental cleanings to low-income youth up to age 26 as well as pregnant women. They do have a date coming up on Monday...you can find out more at [Childrens Dental Services dot org](http://ChildrensDentalServices.org)

And the NFL draft started last night....the Vikings used their first round pick on a center from North Carolina State, Garrett Bradbury

#### **4/29/19**

In case you missed it over the weekened, there was another update about little 5 year old Landen who was hurt so badly at the Mall of America, the family says he's alert and conscious and no longer in critical condition. They said Jesus saved their son's life and is healing him in the most miraculous ways." If all goes well, they're hoping to have Landen home by June.

After a long winter, you might be really excited to get your yard and maybe even garden going this spring. So, what work can you do now and what should wait for a bit? They say you can rake your yard, prepare garden beds, plant perennials, and plant a number of direct seed vegetables that can handle cooler soil temps. For annuals, you'll wanna wait a bit until nighttime temperatures are consistently in the 50s.

The Twins had another great weekend...they swept the Baltimore Orioles in a 3 game series...that boosts their record to 16 and 9...still in first place in their division.

#### **4/30/19**

Red light runners in Central Minnesota are about to experience a blue light. Stearns County is using a federal grant to install traffic signal confirmation lights, they're little blue lights that are wired to come on at the same time as red lights, and they make it easier for police to catch red light runners from a safe distance. They'll be installed at a number of intersections, including parts of highway 15, highway 75 between Waite Park and St. Joe, and county highway 75 in St. Cloud.

Speaking of Stearns County, they're holding an auction on Saturday for seized and surplus property. There'll be a number of vehicles, lawn mowers, snow blowers, and electronics up for sale. The auction starts at 9:30 Saturday Morning at the Stearns County Highway Department, close to Mills Fleet Farm.

And the Minnesota House of Representatives passed a 20 cent per gallon gas tax increase yesterday that would be phased in over the next four years to pay for road and bridge projects. While the bill passed the House, it sounds like there's a complete roadblock in the Senate.

#### **5/1/19**

May is trauma awareness month, and the Red Cross is looking for blood donors. A major trauma can oftentimes call for multiple units of blood to save someone's life. There'll be a number of blood drives over the next few weeks across Central Minnesota if you want to do your part...you can find out more about giving at Red Cross Blood dot org, or download their app.

It's no secret that websites collect your data online, turns out your smart TV is doing something similar. An [investigation by Consumer Reports](#) found that all smart TVs can collect and share personal data about their viewers. It's collected by technology called automatic content recognition, or ACR. You can turn this off, but how to do it varies from TV to TV...you can Google how to turn off ACR for your specific TV brand

And the Twins lost last night...to put it gently. 11-0 was the final score against the Houston Astros. They did beat them the night before though, and they'll play again tonight.

#### **5/2/19**

The embattled MNLARS licensing and registration system that's had so many problems in recent years may be getting scrapped. An independent audit of it called for new, 73 million dollar software to replace it that would be purchased from a company. Gov. Walz supports the idea of buying a system from a vendor, but it's up to the legislature to approve the funding.

St. Cloud Mayor Dave Kleis is hosting a milestone meeting...his 700th town hall meeting since he's been in office. That'll be tomorrow morning at 10 AM in downtown St. Cloud, and anyone is welcome to make comments or ask questions.

Here's something to keep in mind for NEXT week. A week from Saturday will be the annual Stamp Out Hunger event to help feed the hungry in our community. The postal service does this every year, and all you have to do is leave a bag of non perishable food items near your mailbox before your mail carrier arrives on the 11th, and they'll pick 'em up and get them to local food pantries, churches, and food banks so they can be given out to those in need.

### **5/3/19**

The National Day of Prayer was yesterday, and of course Central Minnesota participated. There was a gathering on the Stearns County Courthouse steps yesterday afternoon to pray for America, and many other gatherings across the state and country.

An online initiative to stop parents from giving smartphones to their kids until they reach 8th grade has reached a new milestone. It's called "Wait Until 8th," started by an Austin, Texas, mother in 2017. The movement said it reached 20,000 pledges as of earlier this year from people in all 50 states. You can find out more about the pledge at Wait Until 8th dot org.

And the Twins, they're hot right now! They beat the Houston Astros 8-2 yesterday. They're 19-10 on the year, which as of now is the best record in major league baseball.

### **5/6/19**

Well you may remember the sad news from last year when Casey Myers from Holdingford and her unborn child passed away in a car accident near Sartell. She worked for CentraCare, and they're doing something in her honor and memory. Her team in pediatric and adult rehabilitation set up a memorial fund in Casey's name....the fund will allow patients to buy things that insurance won't cover but that'll help them as they recover.

Electrolux in St. Cloud announced a while back that they're closing their St. Cloud plant, and now they're saying November 1st is when about 90 percent of their employees will officially be laid off. Over 750 people work there, and they're trying to help them as they search for new jobs.

In sports, the Twins played a 3 game series with the Yankees over the weekend...they took 1 out of 3...they're still in 1st place in their division with a 20 and 12 record.

### **5/7/19**

Today is Teacher Appreciation Day. If you're a teacher, administrator, or educator, there are some freebies for you. You can get a free chicken sandwich at Chick-fil-A in St. Cloud from 11 AM to 8 PM...just show your school ID. And you can get a buy one get one deal at Chipotle from 3 PM 'til close.

It was a scary situation over the weekend as a couple of kayakers capsized in the Mississippi near Sauk Rapids. Anna Rosburg was able to swim safely to shore, Leo Johnsen was pulled under water by a whirlpool several times before getting out and being helped to shore by a witness. Both were treated for minor injuries.

If you follow the Royal Family, I'm sure you heard the news that Prince Harry and Meghan just had a baby boy...he was born yesterday morning. They haven't announced his name yet.

### **5/8/19**

After 5 year old Landen was so badly injured at that incident at the Mall of America, you might remember a Go Fund Me was set up to help him and his family....well that Go Fund Me just surpassed 1 MILLION dollars raised. Incredible...donations came from 50 states and 42 different countries. The family hasn't given an update for a while, but at last check Landen was alert and conscious, and they hope to have him home by June.

St. Cloud Mayor Dave Kleis declared yesterday Bob Karn Day. Bob is a longtime teacher and coach at St. Cloud Cathedral High School...he's served for 50 years, taught about 5000 students, coached about 750, and is Minnesota's all time winningest baseball coach. There was a short ceremony to honor him and say thank you yesterday.

And you'll probably see a lot of boats being hauled behind trucks today, lots of anglers very excited because the fishing opener is tomorrow. More than 500 thousand people are expected to fish this weekend. The water is high this year because of all the snow, and also very cold, so the DNR is encouraging us to actually WEAR life jackets, not just have them in boats, to prevent any sort of tragedy from happening.

## **5/9/19**

St. Cloud will be hosting the Minnesota Senior Games for the next two years. Registration is officially open for the 2019 Senior Games around the St. Cloud area on August 1st through the 4th.

The Senior Games is an athletic competition with over 20 different events for athletes age 50 and older.

<http://www.mnseniorgames.com/>

The Minnesota State Patrol says they busted nearly two thousand distracted drivers during a recent three-week enforcement campaign compared to last year.

The state says officers, deputies and troopers wrote 1,927 tickets for texting and driving from April 8th to the 30th. Last year during a two-week campaign, they wrote 1,576 citations.

The National Association of Letter Carriers annual "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive is this Saturday.

The U-S Postal Service is asking residents to set bags of non-perishable foods next to their mailbox. Then carriers will pick them up and get the donated items to local food banks.

## **5/13/19**

Governor Tim Walz and legislative leaders met last night to continue budget talks but were unable to strike a deal. Lawmakers have until May 20 to pass a two-year budget for the period beginning July 1, 2019. If they miss that deadline, the governor would have to call a special session to avoid a partial state government shutdown.

Well a beautiful week in store and it's actually Bike to Work Week. And if you take part in this, there's actually a potential prize. Bike St. Cloud and the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership have joined forces to try to get people on bikes, and so what you do this week is take pictures of you or co-workers riding bikes to and from work, post them to Facebook or Instagram with the hashtag #BikeMeetsWork2019, and you'll have the chance to win breakfast for your workplace!

And the Twins are still in first place in their division...they won 2 and lost 2 versus the Detroit Tigers this weekend.

**5/14/19**

The Sauk Rapids police department is getting an automated license plate reader in one of the city's police cars. The reader will have access to the same information they have now, but it'll be able to read it faster than an officer can type it in, so this could help them identify and catch criminals faster than they can now. Sauk Rapids joins St. Cloud in doing this...St. Cloud has 3 of these automated readers installed in squad cars.

The DNR says there's a wildfire danger right now. Even though we've had some wet weather this spring, leaves and pine needles can dry quickly and be fuel for a potential fire. Benton, Stearns, and Sherburne counties are all still under burn restrictions

**5/15/19**

The man accused in the Mall of America incident with 5 year old Landen pled guilty in court yesterday...he'll be sentenced to 19 years in prison.

Today is Peace Officers Memorial Day, that comes in the middle of National Police Week. Here in Central Minnesota we remember a number of officers who gave their lives in the line of duty. Deputy Steven Sandberg, Officer Tommy Decker, Officer Brian Klinefelter, Deputy Edwin Arendt, Detective Fred Nolan, and Officer Albert Mathiason. If you want to leave flowers in remembrance of the fallen officers, St. Cloud has a monument dedicated to them right outside the police department.

And for what it's worth, Minnesota was named the third best state by US News and World Report. We were only bested by number one Washington and runner-up New Hampshire. Rankings were compiled by looking at thousands of data points that measure how well states are performing for their citizens.

**5/16/19**

It's not too early to start talking ticks...there have already been tick-related cases this year in Minnesota. Data from a couple years ago from the Minnesota Department of Health reported 1,408 confirmed Lyme disease cases in our state. So even though it still feels a little early, good idea to watch for ticks with kids, pets, and yourself after being in tall grass or wooded areas.

Budget talks resumed at the Minnesota Capitol yesterday, with Gov. Tim Walz, House Democrats and Senate Republicans saying little publicly about their discussions as they tried to complete a deal that would let the legislative session end on time. They have to reach an agreement by May 20th, otherwise Governor Walz would have to call a special session to avoid a partial government shutdown.

In sports, the Twins squeaked past the Angels yesterday 8-7. They start a 4 game series with the Seattle Mariners today.

**5/17/19**

With school days winding down, the Minnesota State Patrol is reminding us to continue to be aware of school buses stopped to load or unload children. In a report released yesterday the state patrol said 1,164 tickets were written for stop arm violations in 2018. State law requires all vehicles must stop at least 20 feet from a school bus when the bus driver activates the flashing lights and has the crossing arm fully extended. Drivers who violate the law face a \$500 fine.

May is stroke awareness month, and medical experts are using the opportunity to remind us to call 911 immediately if you notice someone exhibiting the signs and symptoms of a stroke, which include Facial weakness, weakness in arms and/or legs, and slurring or thickening of speech. Nearly 800,000 people experience a stroke in the US each year.

Over 25,000 pounds of food were collected during the recent Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive in Central Minnesota last Saturday. The food was split between The Salvation Army and Catholic Charities of St. Cloud food shelves.

**5/20/19**

Minnesota lawmakers reached an agreement last night on a two-year state budget just one day before they're required to adjourn. There's not enough time to pass the entire \$48 billion dollar



budget so they'll need a special session this week to finish their work, but there will NOT be a government shutdown.

We were just shy of 3 inches of rain in St. Cloud the past couple of days. We ended up at 2.98 inches over the weekend . That brings this month's total up to 4.36 inches...which is well above the average for May.

And if you travel on 94 a lot, you may have some delays over the next few weeks. Road construction on a 20 mile stretch of 94 between Albany and Sauk Centre starts tomorrow, and it'll be down to a single lane in both directions in spots. They're hoping to get that finished up by June 7th.

### **5/21/19**

In Minnesota and across the midwest, this spring hasn't been kind to farmers. Some have not even been able to plant any crops in their fields because of the cold and wet. The latest report shows Minnesota farmers only have 19 percent of their corn and soybeans in. By comparison, at this time five years ago, nearly 83 percent of it was done.

Minnesota lawmakers have reached a deal to address the opioid epidemic by slapping fees on drug companies to pay for treatment and prevention efforts. The house and senate both passed it, and the bill now heads to the governor's desk, where it will likely be signed.

And the Minnesota Timberwolves have made Ryan Saunders, son of the late Flip Saunders, their full time head coach. He had the position on an interim basis for about half of last season...at 33 years old, he's the youngest head coach in the NBA.

### **5/22/19**

Benton County approved a new half-cent sales tax to help repair and maintain local roads. It'll cost 50 cents for every 100 dollars someone spends, and it'll bring in approximately 1.9 million dollars per year.

St. John's University President Michael Hemesath is stepping down. He started his role in 2012 and oversaw a number of projects and improvements to the school during his time. His last day will be August 1st.

And in lighter news, it was an abnormal, but memorable day for Mille Lacs County Deputy Andrew Bromberg...he was called in to round up a lost Emu. He WAS able to wrangle it. The sherriff's office posted a picture of Bromberg and the Emu on Facebook and said...Sometimes you're a peace officer, a counselor, a referee and sometimes a cowboy.

### **5/23/19**

Well with our rain yesterday, another 6/10 of an inch, we're up to 5.72 inches of rain so far this month, that's over 3 and a half inches above average.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration predicts gas prices will be higher than average this summer. Their [Short-Term Energy Outlook Report](#) says gas prices are currently slightly below 2018 levels, but are expected to rise.

Well the Twins are hot...they've won 7 of their last 8. Last night's game was postponed because of weather, but they'll have a makeup game against the Angels today at 3. It's been an impressive start to the season...they have the best record in baseball right now.

## **5/24/19**

Just days before one of the biggest grilling weekends of the year, a meat packing company is recalling more than 40 types of beef, 62000 pounds because of e.coli concerns. The recalled products were packaged on April 19, 2019 with the establishment number "EST. 788." You can find more information online.

The family of little Landen who was hurt so badly in the incident at the Mall of America says he needs additional medical procedures and that there's still a long road to recovery. Landen's GoFundMe page has surpassed 1 million dollars raised.

In sports, the Twins keep cranking out the wins. They smacked 8 home runs yesterday in a 16-7 victory over the Angels. They're back at home to play the White Sox in a 3 game series starting today.

Today's good news story of the day starts with a scary situation...Tom is from Fredericton a town in Canada...and he was vacationing in Florida recently when suddenly he collapsed...he was having a heart attack. A friend called 911 and two bystanders tried to find someone who knew CPR, and a man named Sandy happened to be nearby, they flagged him down...he had taken CPR classes, but never actually performed it on another person until that day, but in a blur of adrenaline he did...for 5 minutes, non-stop chest compressions on Tom until paramedics got there. And Tom ended up surviving. Later on, after surgery, Tom was able to be reunited with the man who helped save his life, and here's the craziest part of this story, although they were both down in Florida at the time, both Tom and Sandy were from Fredericton in Canada, close to 2000 miles away. Isn't it awesome how God puts the right people in our lives at the right time?

Monday is Memorial Day, so of course this weekend, we specifically remember and honor those who gave their lives in service to our country. I thought, for today, i'd open it up to you if there's someone you'd like to remember who served in the military, even if they didn't give their life IN service, but they've since passed away, give me a call and tell me about them. 257 0929. And for me, let me just tell you a little about my grandpa. William Byers. He just went home to be with Jesus this past summer. He was in the army during World War II, was actually over in Europe, and didn't see combat there, but was stationed there for a while. Probably would've been in Japan had the war not ended, but it did, and he came back to the US, and got married, had a bunch of kids including my mom. And he was just a hard-working, God fearing man. And he'll be one of the people I'll think about on Monday.

These 4 men gave up their lives so 4 others would have a chance at life. Spirit 92.9 it's Josh...don't know if you've ever heard the story of the 4 chaplains. It was February 3rd, 1943...World War II was raging on...and 4 military chaplains were on board the SS Dorchester in the icy North Atlantic with about 900 others....and in the blackness of night, an enemy submarine fired torpedoes at the Dorchester...one of them striking the middle of the ship. ...the ship started taking on water...the men were scrambling to find life jackets...It was panic...pandemonium. And in the midst of this, 4 military chaplains preached courage...providing comfort and hope in the midst of this chaos. And when life jackets ran out. The 4 chaplains removed their own...and handed them to soldiers who didn't have one. Some of the survivors later recounted that as the ship was plunging into the frigid Atlantic waters...the 4 chaplains were on deck, their arms linked...praying. I can't help but think of the verse in the Bible that says "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."

If you want Memorial Day to sink in a little more this year, I saw this movie last year...you may have heard about it...it's called "Hacksaw Ridge"...it's based on a TRUE story from World War II....and just a fair warning...disclaimer up front...this is not for everybody...it's a war movie...it's extremely violent...it's definitely not for kids...but it also does a wonderful job showing the truly incredible bravery of those who fought and died for our country...and maybe you wanna check it out...it might make Memorial Day a little more real to ya this year.

**5/28/19**

Despite the rain yesterday, hundreds of people gathered at Fort Snelling National Cemetery for the annual Memorial Day observance. It's the largest military cemetery here in Minnesota, with over 180 thousand graves dating back to the Civil War.

If you're traveling on highway 10 between Big Lake and Clear Lake this week, there are gonna be some slow downs...crews are doing striping work this week, and that of course will impact traffic in both directions.

If it feels like it's been a rainy month, you're right...and it's not just here. The last 12-months add up to the wettest year in U.S. history, according to data compiled by the National Weather Service. Right now much of the country is running about 10 to 20 inches above their normal precipitation.

**5/29/19**

Sad news for donut lovers...the Tim Horton's in St. Cloud is officially closed as of yesterday. It opened just over a year ago, but they announced a string of closures throughout the US, and that includes the one here.

Minnesota farmers are still struggling to get their crops in the ground with how wet the weather's been. The USDA said yesterday that a third of the corn crop here hasn't been planted yet, and only 35 percent of the soybean crop is in, both 8 days behind last year's pace.

And in sports the Twins won last night, they beat the Brewers 5 to 3 after losing to them the night before. They still have the best record in the majors and a 10 game lead in their division.

**5/30/19**

There's good news for fans of Jeopardy and its beloved host Alex Trebek...you might remember Trebek was diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer recently...he said the cancer is nearly in remission...the doctors said they hadn't seen this kind of positive result in their memory. He said "I've got a lot of love out there headed in my direction and a lot of prayer, and I will never ever minimize the value of that."

The Great River Regional Library is getting rid of late fees on young adult and children's materials like books, CDs, and DVDs. They'll still send overdue notices, but no more fines, because they want to encourage kids to become lifelong library users and readers.

And that wind turbine you see along highway 15 by the St. Cloud VA...it's finally coming down. It wasn't cost effective to try to fix it, so it'll be demolished July 15th through 24th.

**5/31/19**

One of the most dangerous intersections in the state is in St. Cloud...highway 15 and 2nd street south, and starting tomorrow the Minnesota State Patrol will begin using a brand new kind of red light camera to help monitor it without collecting personal info or mailing citations. Minnesota doesn't allow fully automated cameras that snap photos or license plates and mail tickets to potential violators. This system is a video live stream that feeds to officers cars. The cameras will only capture vehicles traveling south on Highway 15, and will use radar to generate an alert when a vehicle passes the crosswalk after the light turns red.

Gov. Tim Walz signed a \$20 billion dollar education funding bill approved by lawmakers in last week's special session. The bill includes a number of things, including an increase in per-pupil state aid to public school districts.

And St. Cloud's new skatepark is underway...they started excavating this week. It'll be built directly to the south of Costco. They're hoping to be done by fall.

### **6/3/19**

The man who pled guilty in the incident at the Mall of America with 5 year old Landen will be sentenced today. He pled guilty in exchange for an agreed-upon sentence of 19 years.

About 160 Minnesota National Guard members were officially welcomed back to the US at the River's Edge Convention Center in a formal homecoming event Saturday. It was the The 851st Vertical Engineer Company. They had been deployed for 9 months in several different countries, and events like this one help soldiers transition back to life in the US.

And the Twins stayed hot over the weekend...they took 3 of 4 games from the Tampa Bay Rays to reach 40 wins already. They still have the best record in all of baseball.

### **6/4/19**

If you're a Jeopardy fan you've been keeping up with James Holzhauer, he's a contestant who's had an incredible winning streak on the show over the past few weeks...he racked up 32 straight wins and close to 2.5 million dollars...well, he finally lost in the episode that aired last night. His streak ends with the second most money made on the show EVER.

The Center for Disease Control says tick and mosquito borne illnesses are on the rise. The number of cases has tripled since 2004. There is a little bit of good news on that front though...because of the long winter, there is a chance we could see fewer ticks this year. Good reminder though to always be on the lookout for them.

A new hockey team is coming to St. Cloud...technically not new, just new to the area...they're relocating from South Dakota, they're the St. Cloud Blizzard...they play in the North American Hockey League and develop players to go on to play in college and the pros. They'll play their home games at the MAC in St. Cloud

### **6/5/19**

Severe storms rolled through a good chunk of Minnesota yesterday. There were strong winds, up to 80 mph in some places, hail was reported, and of course a whole lot of rain. At one point, close to 10,000 people were without power.

If you're looking for something to do this Friday, the annual Relay for Life to fight against cancer is going on at Apollo high school. Anyone can go and be a part of it...it starts at 6 PM Friday, and their overall goal is to raise 60 thousand dollars.

And the Twins dropped one last night to the Cleveland Indians, 5 to 2. They're 40-19 on the season, that's good for a 10 and a half game lead in their division.

## **6/6/19**

June 6th, 1944, D-Day, was 75 years ago today. The allied invasion of Normandy that turned the tide of World War II. It's estimated that 10,000 allied soldiers lost their lives that day. A number of veterans parachuted in again to commemorate the day, and President Trump and French President Emmanuel Macron honored those who were part of the invasion at a ceremony in Normandy. Locally, Freedom Flight is holding a special event tonight for the 75th anniversary...they'll launch their Freedom Flight hot air balloon at 6:30 PM at Whitney Park in St. Cloud.

Just a couple more months until the "Slowpoke" left lane law goes into effect in Minnesota. It means that drivers who are going under the speed limit in the left lane will be required by law to move over for those traveling faster. If they don't, they could face a 125 dollar fine. That'll officially start on August 1st.

## **6/7/19**

Lots of stuff to do this weekend in Central Minnesota. The relay for life is tonight at 6 at Apollo High School. Sartell Summerfest is this weekend with a parade and dance and games, there's an Art Crawl in downtown St. Cloud tonight. There's an outdoor family movie night at Haws Park in St. Cloud tonight, And Family Fun Day starts tomorrow at 11 AM at Lake George.

If you're going to a Twins game this summer, you probably won't have to wait as long to get in. With the Twins winning a lot, there have been bigger crowds, so security lines have been long lately. So the Twins just announced security changes...Starting Tuesday, you won't have to put your keys or cellphones in a dish anymore as you walk in. you can just hold them or leave them in your pockets. Starting in July, multi-compartment bags and backpacks will NOT be allowed in the stadium...you'll still be to bring purses, diaper bags, medical device bags, and bags with single zippers.

And speaking of the Twins, they won last night! 5-4 over the Cleveland Indians.

**6/10/19**

Hundreds of Central Minnesotans gathered at Apollo High School in St. Cloud on Friday night for the annual Relay for Life to fight back against cancer. Survivors started the night off with a lap, and then many others joined in the walk. All proceeds from the night went to the American Cancer Society.

St. Cloud is considering adding a new bridge over the Mississippi on the south side of the city. The Area Planning Organization along with the city is in the preliminary stages of exploring the possibility...if it happened it would connect highway 10 and county road 75.

The Twins had a good weekend, they took 2 of 3 from the Detroit Tigers, including a 12-2 trouncing yesterday. They have a big lead in their division and one of the best records in all of baseball.

**6/11/19**

If you or your kids went to St. Cloud Tech, they're having a farewell ceremony today at 4:30. Of course the new Tech high school will be used for next school year, so the city will take over the old building, so today's a chance to say goodbye.

If you have teen girls at home, they might be interested in this...it's a free 8 week course at the Village Family Center in St. Cloud, covering lots of topics including body image and self-esteem, healthy and unhealthy relationships, peer pressure, healthy eating and more. It's called Girls 360, it'll meet at 10:00 a.m. Wednesdays this summer.

Might want to set a reminder for tomorrow...it's Kids Day for the Waite Park Family Fun Fest...lots going on for that...inflatables, a bike rodeo, cookie decorating, a library day program, and even a movie in the park with free popcorn.

**6/12/19**

The Central Minnesota Habitat for Humanity had a big moment yesterday...they had been working on their first home for a veteran, and yesterday they got to give the keys to Brandon Rogers, a local disabled veteran. Him and his family are thrilled to live there after being in an apartment for almost 3 decades. Habitat for Humanity is already taking donations for their second home for a veteran if you want to get involved.

Tonight kicks off another round of a longstanding St. Cloud tradition, Summertime by George with live music at Lake George from the Johnny Holm Band.

And in sports, the US Women's Soccer team started off World Cup play with a record setting 13-0 win over Thailand. And the Twins won yesterday too, 6-5 over the Mariners.

**6/13/19**

President Donald Trump has approved a major disaster declaration for spring storms and flooding that caused nearly 40 million dollars in damage to infrastructure across Minnesota. The declaration will provide federal emergency relief money for 51 Minnesota counties and four tribal governments

Governor Tim Walz is calling on legislators to come together and agree on a plan to provide insulin to diabetics in crisis, and he says he's willing to call a special session to make it a reality as soon as possible. The comments came during a special meeting with affordable insulin advocates at the Capitol yesterday. Last month, some of the same advocates purchased insulin in Canada without a prescription, at prices that were about one tenth the cost of those in the US.

In sports, there's a new NHL champion...the St. Louis Blues claimed their first ever Stanley Cup with a game 7 win over the Boston Bruins last night.  
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### **6/14/19**

Today is Flag Day, a holiday to celebrate the official adoption of the Star and Stripes. Some reminders from the American Legion about flag etiquette: The American flag should generally be displayed from sunrise to sunset. It may be displayed 24 hours a day if it's illuminated. They shouldn't touch the ground, and they shouldn't be flown during bad weather unless they're all-weather flags.

June is National Smile Month, and Delta Dental along with Boys and Girls Clubs across Minnesota are giving 50 thousand toothbrushes to kids to help teach them healthy habits for their teeth...they'll give more than 15 thousand of them to kids in the St. Cloud area

And in sports, you probably heard about the St. Louis Blues winning their first Stanley Cup a couple of nights ago, last night it was the Toronto Raptors turn...they're NBA Champions for the first time ever after edging the Golden State Warriors 114 to 110.

### **6/17/19**

If you tried to shop at Target over the weekend, things got a little crazy...there was a nationwide cash register outage Saturday for around 2 hours, then another outage on Sunday. Target said there was no data breach, and that Saturday's problems happened because of an internal technology issue, whereas Sunday's were caused by national payment processor NCR.

Well if you have an eye for photography, St. Cloud is hosting a photo contest. They're trying to highlight special places within St. Cloud during each season, and awarding a 250 dollar prize for each winning photo. You can find out more on the city of St. Cloud's website.



And it was a special moment for Twins star Joe Mauer...he had his #7 jersey retired at Target Field Saturday. The Twins won 2 of 3 against the Kansas City Royals over the weekend.

### **6/18/19**

Governor Tim Walz says he'll briefly transfer power to Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan while he has surgery on his knee Thursday. He expects to be back in the office Monday.

Minnesota Police are cracking down on speeding, starting today. Last year, 113 people lost their lives in speed related crashes, the most since 2008, and so the State Patrol and many other law enforcement agencies will be part of this crackdown to try to prevent that.

The good news if you're driving a lot this summer is that gas prices are continuing to trend downwards. Usually after Memorial Day, prices start to go up, but this year, the average statewide is 21 cents per gallon cheaper than a year ago.

### **6/19/19**

The 4th annual Dancing With Our Stars happened Monday night, and it was a big success...local celebrities paired up with professional dancers, and they raised almost 200 thousand dollars for a number of charities.

Just a reminder from the DNR to watch for turtles. Female turtles are searching for good nesting areas this time of year, and many are hit while they cross roads.

And it was the longest game in Target Field history, but the Twins emerged victorious 4-3 over the Red Sox on Max Kepler's walk off single in the 17th inning. They still have a 10 game lead in their division.

### **6/20/19**

It might be entertaining, but it also could be harmful. That's what the federal government is saying about kids and YouTube, which gets billions of views each year. YouTube has millions of videos for children, and may now move all of them to a separate platform called YouTube Kids to help keep them safe. The idea comes after several media reports that found dangerous videos aimed at kids sometimes play on YouTube automatically.

The Minnesota State college system's board of trustees has voted to raise tuition by 3% this fall as enrollment declines. The college system has lost almost a fifth of its enrollment over the past decade. In recent years, state lawmakers have required the system to freeze tuition. Officials had vowed to do that again if the Legislature granted more money for the next two years - but the system got only a third of what they asked for.

Sauk Rapids River Days kicks off today. They have the Community Ambassador Pageant at the high school tonight, the parade tomorrow at 6, weather permitting, and then Saturday is a 5K

and the Food Fest with live music and there'll also be a strongman/strongwoman championship.

### **6/21/19**

Well up here we got rain yesterday, in southwestern Minnesota they had a tornado touchdown. The tornado was confirmed at 5:45 PM in Redwood County. The good news is, there were no reports of injuries or property damage.

If you're looking to get some great deals, the St. Cloud Area School District is having an auction to get rid of excess stuff since Tech High School is moving. There'll be a variety of things up for grabs...kitchen appliances, a safe, shop equipment, woodworking equipment and more...the auction starts at 9 AM tomorrow at the old St. Cloud Tech High School.

In sports, the NBA draft was last night...the Timberwolves traded up to take Jarrett Culver from Texas Tech with the 6th overall pick. And the Twins lost yesterday, 4-1 to the Royals.

### **6/24/19**

If you or someone you know is looking to go to college, now's a great time to apply...there's no application fee this week at all of Minnesota's state colleges and universities.

To help keep your kids entertained this summer and their minds engaged, Great River Regional Libraries are holding reading programs for kids all the way up to age 18. They just read, keep track of it, and they'll have a chance to win cool prizes. Libraries will also be holding lots of fun events throughout the summer. You can find out more at G River dot org.

Well it won't be too long before we have another outdoor concert venue in Central Minnesota. Construction is officially underway for the new Waite Park Amphitheater. Once it's finished, they're expecting it to hold 4 to 5 thousand people and they want to host quite a few concerts every year. They're hoping to have it open and have the first concert by August of next year.

### **6/25/19**

You've probably been hearing about the hands-free driving law that'll go into effect August 1st. State officials are calling it one of the biggest changes on Minnesota roads in a decade. The law means you can only use your cell phone while you're driving if you aren't holding it in your hand. You can use voice commands or single-touch activation to make calls, text, listen to music or get directions. You can't hold your phone in your hand at any time unless there is an emergency.

Maybe you and your family go to the St. Cloud fireworks every year, they always do a great job every 4th of July...but it doesn't happen without a lot of people, and they're looking for volunteers for this year's show. If you wanna help you can find out more at [St Cloud Fireworks dot org slash volunteering](http://StCloudFireworks.org/volunteering).

And just a head's up in case you have this at your house right now. There's a recall on a baby formula from Wal-Mart. It's Parent's Choice Advantage Infant Formula Milk-Based Powder with Iron produced by The Perrigo Company. On the bottom it has code C26EVFV and a use-by date of Feb. 26, 2021. There haven't been any injuries reported but they say it COULD have bits of metal in it, so they're just being proactive. You can bring it back to Wal-Mart for a full refund if you have that.

### **6/26/19**

Lots of fun things going on the rest of this week for you and your family. Summertime by George is in week 3 tonight, then tomorrow kicks off Granite City Days with the Lemonade Concert and art fair, and the fun continues throughout the weekend with lots of fun events, live music, a parade, a 5K, and family fun day on Sunday.

There's a new executive order from President Trump that requires healthcare providers and insurers to say how much a service will cost before it happens. The goal is to make pricing for healthcare more transparent.

And the Twins won last night, they beat the Tampa Bay Rays 9-4. That's their 51st win of the season already.

### **6/27/19**

Please continue to pray for 5-year-old Landen if you think of it, he's the one who was hurt so badly in the incident at the Mall of America. His family just gave an update...they say Landen is still in intensive care because of some severe complications. He's had more than 15 medical procedures. His parents say it's been a challenging road to recovery and they're not sure when Landen will be able to go home.

St. Cloud's Granite City Days kick off today...the Lemonade Art Fair starts at 11 this morning and goes 'til tonight on St. Cloud State's campus, tomorrow there's a canoe trip and then a block party, Saturday is the parade and a street fair, and then Sunday is Family Fun day. You can find out more at [St Cloud Granite City Days dot com](http://StCloudGraniteCityDays.com).

The St. Cloud Rox won last night, they beat Thunder Bay 9-3. Tonight they're having a Military Appreciation Night. They're honoring military with special jerseys, which will be up for sale online after the game, with the proceeds going to support local veterans.

**6/28/19**

Gonna be a hot weekend for St. Cloud's Granite City Days...they continue today with a canoe trip and the Liberty Bank Block Party tonight, tomorrow's the big parade, as well as a Band-orama and a street fair, and then Sunday is family fun day! You can visit St Cloud Granite City Days dot com for a full schedule of events.

Catholic Charities could use our help right now...they're short on cereal, and now that kids are out of school that's a highly sought after item. You can drop off donations at their food shelf.

And the Twins lost yesterday in a super long game...18 innings...they fell to the Rays 5-2. The St. Cloud Rox won their 7th straight game...they beat the Waterloo Bucks 5-3, and they're now in first place in their division.

**7/1/19**

I'm sure you heard the tough news from Friday about the North Memorial Air Care helicopter that crashed in Brainerd. Nurse Deb Schott and pilot Tim McDonald didn't make it. Paramedic Josh Duda was hurt in the crash, but IS expected to survive. Many first responders and community members gathered for a prayer vigil for him over the weekend.

Now that we're into July, the Great Minnesota Get together is less than two months away, and it just got some international recognition. Newsweek put the Minnesota State Fair on its list of 10 best late summer festivals. It's the only American celebration on the list.

And in sports the Twins beat the White Sox once and lost twice to them over the weekend. They're 53 and 30 on the year, still comfortably in first place in their division.

**7/2/19**

Well during a week when we remember the freedom we have, how appropriate that a World War II Veteran was honored. 96 year old Boyd Sorenson who lives in Waite Park received the French Legion of Honor...it's France's highest award. Sorenson flew 89 missions during World War II, including the beginning of the liberation of France on D-Day.

If you or someone in your family is a veteran or is currently serving, Valleyfair said yesterday that military members can get in for free this weekend. Free admission includes active military, retired military, National Guard, veterans and those who have been honorably discharged. The deal runs Thursday through Sunday, you just have to show a valid military ID.

The DNR will be cracking down on Boating Under the Influence this weekend...they're sending extra officers to the lakes to patrol. They're calling it Operation Dry Water...they're just trying to keep everyone safe since alcohol is involved in 30 percent of fatal boat accidents in Minnesota.

**7/3/19**

Lots of fun stuff going on in Central Minnesota over the next few days. Joetown Rocks kicks off tonight at 5 in St. Joe, they'll be live music, food, games...fireworks at 10:15...that'll continue tomorrow with the annual 4th of July Parade and more live music. And then of course tomorrow night is the 73rd annual St. Cloud fireworks show, and they always do a great job. The fireworks start at 10, but get there early...the St. Cloud municipal band will play at 8:30 at Hester Park, and of course there'll be lots of food vendors and fun at both Hester Park and Wilson Park.

And while the fireworks are a lot of fun for many, they can be a big problem for those who have served in our military and suffer from PTSD, and so the Minnesota DNR is trying to help out...all 75 of Minnesota's parks and recreation areas will be free for veterans tomorrow. It's illegal to launch fireworks in any of those areas, and so it's a safe, quiet place to celebrate the 4th.

And if you live in St. Cloud and you've been wondering if the garbage and recycling schedule is changing for this week, it's not...it stays the same even with the 4th. The only thing that's different is the city compost site will be closed tomorrow.

**7/8/19**

You may have heard about this that happened over the long weekend...on the morning of the 4th, there was a fire at St. Elizabeth Anne Seton School in St. Cloud. No one was hurt, but a

vestibule, an adjoining hallway, and the ceiling above that area were damaged. The police and fire departments aren't sure yet what caused the fire...they're actively investigating.

If you or someone you know is looking for part time work at the end of this summer, the state fair is looking for employees. They're holding a job fair Wednesday from 4 to 8 on the Fairgrounds at the Progress Center. You don't need a resume, but you need to be at least 16 years old and be free to work all 12 days of the fair.

And for the 2nd time in a row, the US women are World Cup Champions. They beat the Netherlands 2-0 to claim the championship. It's the 4th World Cup title all time for the USA.

**7/9/19**

The National Night Out is about a month away, Tuesday, August 6th, but they say now is the time to get your neighborhood signed up. The National Night Out is an annual event to get together with your neighbors and have some food, ice cream, and just socialize, it helps keep neighborhoods safer....and if you get signed up, a local police officer will drop in and visit too. You can find out more on the National Night Out Website.

Well IF the rain holds off at some point tonight, sounds like we'll be able to see something pretty cool...Saturn, Earth, and the sun are all in a straight line right now with earth in the middle, so Saturn should be visible in the night sky. If you have a telescope, you may even be able to see one of Saturn's moons.

And the Major League Baseball All Star game is tonight....three Minnesota Twins made it onto the All-Star Roster....Jake Odorizzi, Jose Berrios, and Jorge Polanco.

