

## Good attendance recognized for 2019 without in-person celebrations

Employees using 24 hours or less of sick leave in 2019 will be sent certificates acknowledging their achievement.

The award recognizes exemplary attendance of year-round, certified, non-probationary staff.

Due to COVID 19, divisions did not hold celebra-

tions in 2020. Instead we are naming them here and sending out certificates.

Administration hopes to honor those with exemplary attendance during the year 2020 later in 2021. The goal is to have in person celebrations in the fall, depending on the COVID 19 situation in the state.

### Administration

**Bruce Berg**  
**Dennis Rosemark**

**Andy Vang**

### Business

**Vincent Bader**  
**Dean Bennett**  
**Connie Garrahy**  
**Jen Guertin**  
**Frances Lemay**

**Gayle Moser**  
**Mary Obey**  
**Nathan Pearl**  
**Natilee Squires**  
**Joe Tronson**

### Distribution

**Joseph Ahrens**  
**Kim Block**  
**Brian Finnegan**  
**Tommy Hehn**  
**Bryan Jensen**  
**Craig Landkamer**

**Mark Luzinski**  
**Richelle Nicosia**  
**Rick Reese**  
**Michael Searson**  
**Kathy Travis**  
**Jeremy Wry**

### Engineering

**Issac Afwerke**  
**Tom Jauquet**  
**Amanda Leier**

**Dave Strobel**  
**Dave Wagner**

### Production

**Randy Barnes**  
**Jon Beck**  
**Jason Belair**  
**Coni Cassity**  
**Che Fei Chen**  
**Mark Cullen**  
**Heinrich Fox**  
**Metric Giles**  
**Larry Healey**  
**Larry Larsen**

**Rich Keeney**  
**Paul Rice**  
**Daniel Salinas**  
**Steve Schoenecker**  
**Matt Stone**  
**Rick Svoboda**  
**Greg Thompson**  
**Nate Torgerson**  
**Ryan Travis**

## Don't lose your FSA money; claim it by February 15

Make sure you get reimbursed for all of the money you put into your 2020 flexible spending account. You will lose money remaining in your 2020 FSA account you have not claimed by Feb. 15.

This year, there is an exception to the use it or lose it rule: if you signed up for an FSA both this year and last year, you will be allowed to carry over \$500 from last year into 2021.

Flexible spending accounts can be for medical expenses, dependent care, and parking.

The company handling all FSA and health reimbursement accounts/VEBA accounts is 121Benefits.

Their website is [www.121benefits.com](http://www.121benefits.com). You can also use their mobile app on your smart phone. It is called 121 Benefits Mobile App under both Google Play and the app store for iPhones.

If you have an FSA or VEBA/HRA account, you should have received an email from 121Benefits /

## Tuition reimbursement can make classes affordable

Keeping up-to-date on your area of expertise is essential in today's economy.

The city and SPRWS assist employees in maintaining their education by providing tuition reimbursement for eligible coursework.

The city provides up to \$600 of tuition reimbursement per year for full-time employees and up to \$300 for part-time staff.

The utility will provide up to \$2,500 per year for full-time employees and up to \$600 for part-time staff. With city and SPRWS benefits combined, a full-time employee could be reimbursed up to \$3,100 for coursework taken as part of an accredited program.

If you are interested, now is the time to apply. Funds are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Forms are available in Documentum under employee documents.

Water-related courses offered through the WUTT program at Saint Paul College are paid for up front by the water utility, as well. Courses must be taken on personal time.

For more information on these employee benefits, contact Sandy Kimbrough at 266-6510 or Racquel Vaske at 266-6815.

## Don't lose your FSA money; claim it by February 15

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or the city on their behalf earlier providing you with instructions on how to check on the balances in your account with them.

If you have not used the site before, go to their website/app and click on the account access button. Enter your social security number for both your user name and password. Change these once you get into the site.

Use the site to look up balances and file for reimbursement for 2020 claims.

If you have questions, or need assistance, contact 121Benefits customer service at 612-877-4321 or 1-800-300-1672.

## Ken Reeves and wife stop to assist hit-and-run victim

Ken Reeves blocked part of the street with his vehicle to keep passing cars away from 66-year-old Susan Elizabeth Harlan, who was laying in the street after being fatally struck by a hit-and-run driver the evening of Jan. 29.

Ken and his wife, Sarah, tried to help the woman.

"We kept talking to her and I told her, 'It's OK, I need you to hang on with us. They're coming,'" said Sarah Reeves, who is a personal care assistant and South St. Paul resident. "She kind of moaned, but she couldn't talk," Sarah told the *Pioneer Press*.

Harlan was pronounced dead later that evening.

The Reeves family went back to the scene in Dayton's Bluff on Friday and left balloons in memory of Harlan.

Ken Reeves works at the control desk in dispatch.

## Century College courses still available this spring

SPRWS' partnership with Century College offering continuing education classes to water utility staff is ongoing. Courses are still available in March and April.

To find out what is still available and to sign up for course(s), please contact Sandy Kimbrough. You can email her at [sandy.kimbrough@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:sandy.kimbrough@ci.stpaul.mn.us) or call her at 266-6510.

You must obtain management approval prior to signing up for the course(s) you are interested in.

## Comp time to be used or cashed out by March 31

Do you have more than 40 hours of compensatory time on the books?

You have until March 31 to use the hours over 40 or the overage will be cashed out for you.

You can accrue up to 150 hours of comp time a year and use 120 hours. The reporting year ends on March 31 and you are only allowed to carry over 40 hours into the new reporting year.

If you have any questions, you can always ask your supervisor, Sandy Kimbrough, or Racquel Vaske.