

SAINT PETER MN 55052-3904
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St. Peter

Tsunami hits home

Local group forms to help 200,000 displaced



Episenter of Sumatra, 9 Earth's surface, measuring 9 on the Richter scale

Submitted map

Cleveland priest with Sri Lanka connections grieves loss

By Pat Beek
Sports Editor

Send to: **Nicolllet Catholic County Bank**, 220 S. Third St., St. Peter, MN 56082.
Lutheraan Church, 410 S. Third St., St. Peter, MN 56082.
Community of St. Peter, 102 S. Third St., St. Peter, MN 56082.
Community Bank of Cleveland, 326 Broadway, Cleveland, MN 56017.

The tsunami traveled 1,000 miles to Sri Lanka.



Father Edwin Savundra

Many of his former parishioners lost their lives as 20,000 people in Sri Lanka, died

placed from their homes. About 200,000 people have vacated their homes without any basic necessities left with them. Almost all of them are left with empty hands. Cooked foods are provided. But there are other needs such as clothing, shelter, medicine, mats, cooking utensils and dry rations.

Although Savundra didn't lose any of his family members in the tidal wave, he lost many of his former parishioners and friends. "My family is in the interior of



Scottie Carter

Sickness likely saves life of man who would have been scuba diving at time big waves hit

By Kurt Hildebrandt
Staff Writer

ST. PETER — Understanding the devastation countries halfway around the world have experienced as the result of the recent tsunami might be hard for people in the St. Peter area to really comprehend.

For tourist Scottie Carter, the tsunami provided a near brush with death. A bronchial infection might have saved his life.

Carter is the son of former St. Peter resident Anita (Wettergren) Carter and the nephew of Bob Wettergren, who still resides here.

Carter, who works for a brokerage firm in the Los Angeles area and resides in Brentwood, was staying at a hotel in Bangkok at the time the earthquake hit and was a long way away from the path of the destructive force the waves.

However, if not for his illness, Carter would found himself right in the middle of it, and chances are he might not have lived to tell about it. "I had originally planned to go to Phuket to do some scuba diving the day it hit, but

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Theft suspect charged

Man allegedly stole items from parked cars in St. Peter. Le Sueur, Mankato

By Kurt Hildebrandt
Staff Writer

LE CENTER — Four felony charges were filed on Dec. 17 against Jonathan Leroy Thomas, 21, of Le Sueur, in regards to a string of burglaries that allegedly took place in Le Sueur, St. Peter and Mankato.

Thomas entered not guilty pleas on all four charges and was released on \$500 bail. The conditions of his bail were he keep court/attorney informed of current address, no contact with victim(s), remain law-abiding and make all future court appearances. His first court appearance is set for Jan 18 in Le Sueur County District Court where he is expected to enter pleas of not guilty on all four charges, according to Le Sueur County Ass. County Attorney Jason Moran.

The Le Sueur Police Department began investigating the matter after they were tipped off early in December by another Le Sueur resident that Thomas was trying to sell stolen car stereo equipment. The informant saw some of the equipment in question — include



Jonathan Thomas

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