

Inside this issue:

Grand slam in baseball win
Home run, walk-off hit in softball
Library coffee talk on health issues
Seven Cardinals head to state speech
Early start for stream trout anglers



Wednesday, April 15, 2026

Staples, Minnesota

\$125

Speech Showcase At the Staples-Motley Speech Showcase on April 6, Raina Mikhaeil struggles with her emotions as she acts out her drama performance titled “Free Churro,” about a person dealing with the death of her mother and somehow got a free churro out of it. Mikhaeil placed fifth at the Section 6a meet. See page 2a. (Photo by Mark Anderson)

CLC President Charlier moving to Massachusetts

Central Lakes College announced that President Dr. Hara Charlier will conclude her tenure after 10 years of leadership to accept the presidency at Berkshire Community College in Massachusetts, an opportunity that allows her to be closer to family. Since joining CLC, Charlier helped reposition the college through two strategic plans centered on student success, equity, and community engagement. Under her leadership, the college redesigned the student experience to better serve underrepresented populations, strengthened its focus on upward social



Hara Charlier

and economic mobility, and fostered a campus-wide “culture of caring.” Today, Central Lakes College is recognized for its

strong enrollment, improving student success outcomes, and a nationally recognized employee culture. The college has been named a “Great College to Work For” six times, reflecting high levels of employee engagement, shared governance, and trust in leadership. Charlier also strengthened the college’s financial foundation and community presence. During her tenure, the college: • Launched more than 20 new academic programs aligned with workforce needs, including pathways See **CHARLIER** on page 3a



Continuing a family tradition

Mark Anderson of Staples is now the sole owner of the Staples World newspaper, something that became official just recently. Anderson came on board at the paper in 2010 as editor, and since 2019 has been the Staples World’s Managing Editor and part owner. He is a fifth generation newspaper owner. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Ruby’s Pantry ending food distribution program

The Ruby’s Pantry food distribution organization has ended operations for all of their distribution locations in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa. The food distribution had been held in Staples since 2020, started during the COVID pandemic. The operation was held on the first Tuesday of every month, with recipients driving to Central Lakes College to pick up large amounts of food for a

small fee. Staples United Methodist Church staffed the distribution with volunteers every month. “While Ruby’s Pantry is closing, the need in our community has not gone away,” said Erich Heppner, Ruby’s Pantry coordinator for the Staples distribution. “Families, children, and seniors across our region will continue to rely on local support.” See **Heppner’s full statement on page 4a.**

Mark Anderson is new owner of the Staples World

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter
as Staples World Editor, becoming Managing Editor and part owner in 2019. Anderson is now a fifth generation newspaper owner. It started with his great-great grandfather, J. W. Hinchon, who owned the Algona Courier in Algona, Iowa. His son, William D. Hinchon, purchased the Madelia Times-Messenger in Madelia, Minn. Hinchon’s daughter Ruth (Hinchon) Manahan continued as owner and publisher See **ANDERSON** on page 10a

Palmers share baseball adventures

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter
Mike and Gloria Palmer talked about baseball the first day they met, and it’s been a shared passion since that time, nearly 45 years later. The Staples couple can rattle off baseball trivia and important dates of the season, especially when it pertains to their beloved Minnesota Twins. “Spring training started Feb. 12, in Ft. Meyers, Florida,” Mike said recently, going on to note that after a long winter up north, talk of baseball is a welcome sound. America’s favorite pastime? Yes, indeed, say the Palmers. It’s a sport they’ve both loved from an early age. Mike, a New Ulm native, inherited a love of the game from his grandfather, Oren Wendt. In fact, his grandpa’s employer, Wheelock Whitney, was one of the individuals responsible for bringing the Minnesota Twins’ franchise to the state. And Gloria, who grew up on a dairy farm north of

Becker, had a blast playing softball as a kid, a sport she continued to enjoy as an adult. No doubt, these were among the things they discussed on that first date all those years ago, never dreaming that talks of tied games would lead to their tying the knot and one day inheriting the title “MLB (Major League Baseball) Stadium Chasers.” In addition to their family, which of course is number one, photo albums and travel journals compiled by Mike and Gloria are a clear indicator that baseball’s an important part of their lives. Married in 1982, the Palmers even went to a baseball game on their honeymoon - it was at the old Metrodome in Minneapolis. “Our seats were right behind the dugout,” Mike notes, adding that Gloria obtained an autograph of outfielder Gary Ward. Early in their marriage, Mike and Gloria attended a game or two per year, but it wasn’t until 1999 that See **BASEBALL** on page 10a

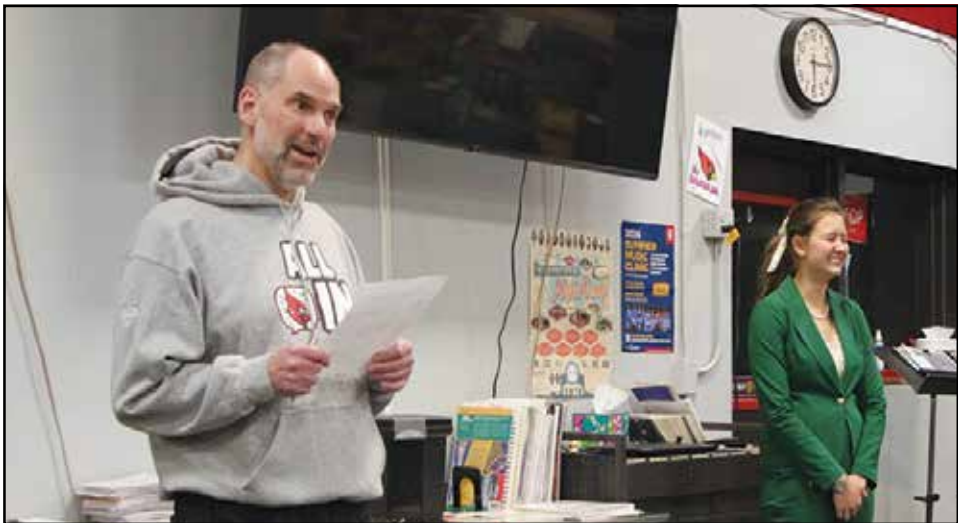


Stadium chasers

Mike and Gloria Palmer of Staples have successfully visited 30 Major League Baseball stadiums. They’re pictured at Stadium #30 in New York City, home of the New York Mets, where they visited on July 4, 2025. (Submitted photo)

Weather
2026
This Week’s Forecast
High Low Cond.
Apr 15 68 41 P. Cloudy
Apr 16 76 48 Sunny
Apr 17 58 26 Showers
Apr 18 36 21 Cloudy
Apr 19 45 30 M. Sunny
Apr 20 61 40 P. Cloudy
Apr 21 68 44 P. Cloudy
Last Year, 2025
High Low Cond.
Apr 15 50° 30 Sunny
Apr 16 58 32 Sunny
Apr 17 61 43 M. Cloudy
Apr 18 47 40 P. Sunny
Apr 19 57 24 M. Sunny
Apr 20 54 34 Sunny
Apr 21 70 35 Sunny
Average Temps:
H = 56° Low = 34°
Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO’s Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices
Staples Township 9A
Moran Township 9A
Meadowbrook Township 9A
Motley Township 9A
Todd BOA 8A
Obituaries
Marvin Fiemeyer
Marlys Vollegraaf



Warming up the crowd

To kick off the Staples-Motley Speech Showcase, Coach Kip Hines gets a laugh, and maybe a cringe, with a joke while introducing Walker Johnson.



Bringing a book to life

Junie B. Jones comes to life as Brynn Bestland performs a humor category piece featuring the beloved children’s book character. Bestland also performed her drama piece at the Speech Showcase, “The Moonshot Tape.” Bestland competed in seven of the 13 speech categories at different meets this season, and will be taking her drama piece to the section meet.



Whodunit mystery

Walker Johnson points out a murder suspect in her creative expression speech performance titled “Whodunit,” with references to the game/movie “Clue.”



Tragedy and loss

Sadye Anderson invokes a higher power during her poetry selection titled “The Andrew Poems,” about a mother coming to terms with the death of her son.

Seven Cardinals advance to state speech meet

The Staples-Motley speech team has seven contestants advancing to the state speech meet by placing in the top three of their event. The team competed at the Section 6A meet at Perham on April 11. Cardinal champions were Brynn Bestland in Drama, Walker Johnson in Creative Expression, Maddock Harvey in Storytelling, Tristan Rendon in Prose and Meridith Hoemberg in Extemporaneous Reading. Joshua Chushing was third in Creative Expression and Lexi Ann was third in Prose to advance to state. The State Tournament is April 24th-25th in Brooklyn Park.



Compassion piece

Lexi Ann performs “How to Help Your Husband Die,” a prose selection about a woman struggling with her husband’s diminishing quality of life in a hospital.



Science gone awry

Kai Bestland portrays a science lab assistant who forsakes his experiment and concentrates instead on how his test subject Santiago feels about him personally, in a humor performance titled “Don’t Fall in Love with Your Monkey.”

Cardinal speech contestants advance at speech Sub-section

The Staples-Motley Speech team competed in the Sub-section 6A East tournament in Pequot Lakes on March 31. The team placed second in the sub-section. The following competitors advanced to the Section 6A tournament held in Perham on April 11. Creative Expression, Walker Johnson, first and Joshua Cushing, fourth; Discussion, Bella Hines, second and Charlotte Aldrich, sixth; Drama, Brynn Bestland, second and Raina Mikhaeil, sixth; Meredith Hoemberg, second and Ava Davis, seventh in Extemporaneous Reading. Angie Paklonsky, seventh in Extemporaneous Speaking; Molly Hoemberg, sixth in Great Speeches; Humor, Caleb Bestland, first, Jackson Alexander, third, Landon Zeigler, fourth; Original Oratory, Hailey Richardt, third and Annabella Hurtig, sixth; Poetry, Addie Brenny, third, Sadye Anderson, fifth, Nadia Santos, eighth; Prose, Tristan Rendon, first and Lexi Ann, fourth; Storytelling, Maddock Harvey, third and Jackson Bitzer, ninth.

Needing/Wanting a Granite Memorial FOR YOUR FAMILY?

I can help!

Diane M. Hahn

32 years serving our area!

Rep. for Fergus Falls Monument Co.

Call 218-445-5685 or 218-640-2341



Podiatry Care at Lakewood

Podiatry care at Lakewood starts from the ground up. **Dr. Taylor Heck** and **Dr. Travis Johnson** focus on diagnosing and treating conditions that affect the feet and ankles, supporting balance, comfort, and how you move every day. Whether you’re dealing with pain, injury, or chronic foot concerns, our approach is designed to help you move forward with greater ease and confidence.



Travis Johnson, DPM
PODIATRIST



Taylor Heck, DPM
PODIATRIST



CHARLIER continued from page 1a

Charlier built programs, partnerships as CLC President

in healthcare, manufacturing and skilled trades

- Built extensive partnerships with business, industry, and community organizations
- Expanded assets to support scholarships and programs through partnership with the CLC Foundation and by securing significant grant funding
- Improved facilities to support student success, including the extensive renovation of the Brainerd campus and athletic complex and creating state-of-the-art facilities for instruction in meat cutting and butchery and dental assisting/hygiene.

These efforts resulted in increased scholarship support for students, expanded access to high-demand programs, and a stronger, more resilient institution.

“Dr. Charlier’s kind, caring, and thoughtful nature brought tremendous and effective leadership to Central Lakes College through these challenging times,” said Scott Olson, Minnesota State Chancellor. “The tone she set was exemplified by the many times CLC has been recognized as a ‘Great Place to Work,’ a designation that was the envy of all. Hara always kept students at the center of her thoughts and actions. Her style was not only a benefit to both CLC campuses and the communities of Brainerd and Staples; that same leadership shone brightly across the state as we addressed issues to help Minnesota prosper.”

Throughout her presidency, Charlier has been a visible and active leader in the region, strengthening relationships with local, state, and federal partners and helping elevate the college as a key driver of workforce development and economic growth in Central Minnesota.

“It has been an honor to be part of the Central Lakes College family and the communities we serve,” said Charlier. “I am grateful to my CLC colleagues who always go above and beyond, and I am incredibly proud of the work we have done together to transform students’ lives and strengthen our communities. This college will always have a special place in my heart.”

Charlier’s final day at Central Lakes College will be June 30. A search is underway to identify an interim president, who will be appointed by the Minnesota State Board of Trustees in May. A national search will launch in the fall for the college’s next leader.

Motley area law enforcement

Recent reports from the Motley Police Dept. (MPD) and Morrison County Sheriff’s Office (MCSO) included the following:

April 7 - Motley Police issued a speeding citation to Marley Jo Zimmerman-pipenhagen, 19.

April 3 - Motley Police issued a citation to Tasha Christine Olds, 52, for having a vehicle parked on the wrong side of the street at the 100 block of Beaulieu St. W., Motley. The report went on to note that they’ve noticed this same vehicle parked on the wrong side of streets in Motley numerous times. The officer knocked

on the door several times and no one answered. The citation was left on the vehicle’s driver’s side window.

April 1 - Motley Police received a report from two individuals that they’ve been defrauded by someone in the amount of \$30,000.

April 2 - A Morrison County deputy arrested Robert Allen Anderson, 51, for driving while intoxicated.

April 2 - Morrison County deputies received a report of suspicious activity at the 100 block of Riverfront Ln., Motley.

Todd Cty. court report

APRIL 15

Long Prairie Police

Devon Rein Ryan, Long Prairie. Expired registration. Fine \$30. Fee \$85.

MN State Patrol

Vicki Lynn Foust Hanisch, Staples. No insurance-owner. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Micah James Robert Stanley, Verndale. Fail to Yield right of way stop sign/blinking. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Tessa Marie Braun, Dilworth. Speed 79/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Maxx Timothy Brennan, Minneapolis. Speed 79/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Marth De La Cruz Placendo, Sauk Centre. No MN Driver’s license. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Joshua Shane Evans, Alexandria. Speed 64/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Treyvion Jajuan Harris, Fergus Falls. No MN driver’s license. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Bray Line Jr. Haynes, Williston, ND. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Caden James Huhta, Williston, ND. Speed 86/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Kaya Isabelle Johnson, Sauk Rapids. Speed 80/70 Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Renato Lemus Robles, Long Prairie. No proof of insurance. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Stacy yn Oleksiw, St. Michael. Speed 89/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Steven William Parkhurst, Rosholt, SD. Speed 75/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Joshua John Pfaff, Swanville. Window tint. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Anthony Robert Uphus, Melrose. Speed 92/70. Fine \$70. Fee \$155.

Gullermo Vilchis Morelos, Long Prairie. Seat belt required. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.

Todd County Sheriffs Dept.

Matthew Ermin Bowers, Browerville. Speed 70/55. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Shawn Kevin Garvey, Isanti. Speed 64/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Gary Urban Hommerding. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Junior Noel Joseph, Long Prairie. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Michelle Rita Notermann, Swanville. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$125.

Courtney Kayla Ost, Sauk Rapids. Unlawful passing. Fine \$50. Fee \$85. Careless driving. Fine \$100.

Leondy Perez Reyes, Browerville. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85. Driver’s license-instruction permit violation-persons 18 years or older. Fine \$50.

Joshua Mark Reiersen, Bertha. Speed 56/30. Fine \$70. Fee \$155.

Nelson Mercedes Valdez Rodriguez, Long Prairie. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

The following cases were heard before Judge Heidi L. Hovis Seventh District Court in Todd County April 7, 2026.

Jeremy Charles Bachmann, Staples. Open bottle law. Sentenced. Unsupervised probation, 60 days. Fine \$50. Fee \$75. Expired registration. Sentenced, Unsupervised probation, 60 days.

Juvenal Hernandez-Luna, Long Prairie. DWI-operate motor vehicle under influence of alcohol. Dismissed. DWI-4th degree driving while impaired. Dismissed. Traffic-DWI-Operate motor vehicle-alcohol concentration 0.08 within 2 hours. Sentenced. Local confinement (90 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 89 days for 1 year credit for time served: 1 day). Supervised probation, 1 yr Fine \$250. Fee \$110.

The following cases were heard before Judge Heidi L. Hovis Seventh District Court in Todd County April 6, 2026.

James Robert Miller, Randall. Drugs-5th Degree-possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 or paraphernalia residual-not cannabis/hemp. Dismissed. Drugs-5th Degree-possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 or paraphernalia residual-not Cannabis/hemp. Continued. Local confinement (364 days, stay 347 days for 1 year credit for time served: 17 days). Supervised probation, 1 yr. Fine \$50. Fee \$75.

Joshua George Marty, Burtrum. 2nd Degree DWI-operate motor vehicle-any amount Schedule I/II Drugs/metabolite. Sentenced. Local confinement (364 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 274 days for 4 yr credit for time served: 4 days). Supervised probation, 4 yr. Fine \$50. Fee \$105.

2nd degree DWI-Dismissed. Driving after revocation. Dismissed.

Kelli Marie Karst, Burtrum. Theft. Continued. Supervised probation, 3 yr. Fine \$50. Restitution \$4,521.77.

Looking back



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week’s archive photo is from 1978. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photo? Do you have a memory to share? Email your answers and where you’re from to dtimbs@staplesworld.com by Friday, or call 218-894-1112. The answers will be published in next week’s paper, as well as a new mystery photo.

April. 1, when the vehicle he was driving collided with a Burlington Northern freight train at a crossing two miles west of Motley in Todd County.

Injured in the mishap was Kim Jenkins, 19.

The accident happened about 7:45 a.m. Thursday. Todd County sheriffs office reported that Jenkins, driving a 1965 Chevrolet, was going north across the tracks, as he was en route to work at the Laverne Jenkins Service Station in Motley. The 50-car Burlington Northern train was heading east.

Jenkins was brought by Staples ambulance to the United District Hospital in Staples. The attending physician told The World that Jenkins suffered serious injuries, lacerations and some fractures. He is still confined to the local hospital, where his condition is reported as stable and improving.

April 8, 1976 - The Sizlers Bowling team captured the league championship of the Wednesday afternoon Koffee Klutch league at Hi-Way Lanes for the 1975-76 season. Members of the title winning team are Juanita Johnson, Jan Dryburgh, Darlene Germann and Lu Wagner.

April 8, 1976 - The Staples Bicentennial mugs now are on sale by the Staples Bicentennial Commission at dj’s Men’s Wear, Mid-Central Federal Savings and Loan, Staples State Bank, and at the Community Center.

The china mugs are of 11-ounce capacity, and are 3 1/4 inches high. The Staples Bicentennial logo appears on the front, and on the back is the legend: “Share with us in our pride the commemoration of our nation’s 200th anniversary. Staples Bicentennial Commission, limited edition.” It was the intent of the Commission to make the mugs a companion piece to the plates put out by the Staples Historical Society.

April 8, 1976 - The District 24 Speech tournament was held in Staples Saturday, April 3, and the Staples team captured the first place trophy in the event.

In capturing the District 24 championship, Staples emerged with five

individual first placers. They were John Uhrich in humor, Sharon Gardner in drama, Mary Cunningham in poetry, RoAnn Reichel in storytelling and Lori Johnson in non-original.

April 8, 1976 - Melanie Fuller has been named by the Agriculture Committee of the Staples Chamber of Commerce as the Staples Dairy Princess for 1976.

A senior at Staples High school, Princess Melanie is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Fuller.

She will be the Staples representative in the Todd County Dairy Princess Contest, which will be held June 10 in Bertha.

25 YEARS Ago - 2001

April 12, 2001 - A man from rural Verndale, in Bartlett Township of Todd County, was treated for injuries suffered by being mauled by a bear late Monday afternoon.

James Nelson, 46, was apparently repairing a corn crib in which the bear was confined when the bear attacked him. The attack was reported to the Todd County Sheriff’s Department about 6:10 p.m. Monday by Cynthia Nelson.

The Todd County Sheriff’s Department said details of why the Nelsons were caring for the bear were not available. Details

of his injuries were also not reported.

The Nelsons live in Section 21 of Bartlett Township.

April 8, 1976 - Eric Neznik and Rachel Domier of Staples have just recorded a compact disc recording “Escape from Today.”

The CD, available in early April from Eric and from selected outlets, features his vocal talents coupled with the keyboard skills of Rachel, the Staples Motley High School senior pianist.

Eric, who at just 24 is a country music veteran of three separate bands and many gigs, is hoping this recording is the start of a new phase of his career. He has his eyes and goals set clearly on Nashville.

10 YEARS Ago - 2016

April 14, 2016 - Tom Kajer, outgoing president of the Old Wadena Society, is the recipient of the 2016 Friend of Old Wadena award. He was presented with the award (a Hudson Bay wool blanket and plaque) by Jamie Robertson and Tom Crawford April 10, at the annual meeting of the Old Wadena Society.

Kajer has served as OWS president for the past several years and was also instrumental in completing the bogwalk project a Old Wadena County park.



Mystery solved

Last week’s mystery photo published in the April 27, 1978 edition of the Staples World featured three students at Staples Elementary School being taught hand signals to be used when operating a bicycle by Cliff Emmert of the Staples Police Department. From left, demonstrating the signals of Officer Emmert, are Delaina Haidle, Tony Mertens, Tom Hegre.

Staples World

The Staples World office, moved to 207 4th St. NE open every weekday, 8 a.m. - noon.

•For afternoon availability, call 218-894-1112.

Regular advertising and copy deadline is Friday, noon.

The office closes at noon on Friday.

Across from the old Staples Theatre marquee

Time to renew our covenant with the local community

By Mark Anderson
Publisher

With a new location and new ownership, the Staples World will be forming a new covenant with our local communities.

We still plan to do all the things the newspaper has done for 136 years. As always, our entire business model revolves around the local people.

So our first and only place to look is to you, the reader. Let us know what you like about the Staples World and what it means to you. Tell us what you want to see more of or what you think we are missing.

Send any ideas to editor@staplesworld.com and also let us know if you will let us put your letter in the newspaper.

Secondly, think about what you can contribute to the community conversations. Did you read something in the newspaper and then follow up on it? Keep that dynamic going by letting us know what else is

going on in town. We are not the only place to build community, but we are the only platform to put everything into one easy-to-read edition.

“Haunts of beauty”

On my way back to Staples after finalizing the sale of the newspaper, I stopped at a park dedicated to my favorite Minnesota author, Sinclair Lewis. His novel “Main Street” still resonates throughout small towns in Minnesota, 106 years after he wrote it.

The park is “Inspiration Peak,” south of Vining, and it is an uphill hike to get to the peak.

A sign at the trail entrance says Lewis would climb the hill to get a view of the 50 lakes in the distance. He once asked the Minnesota governor “if he has ever stood on Inspiration Peak,” both an invitation to promote the state’s natural landscapes and a subtle dig that the governor may be lacking inspiration.

The sign also says that

Lewis “chided Minnesotans for not knowing about their own “haunts of beauty.”

After working and living in the area for 15 years, I can agree that there are thousands of “haunts of beauty” in the area, not just in the landscape, but in the people, the built environment, the art, music and activities that people here embrace.

I disagree with the notion that Minnesotans don’t know about their best places. Our people have a very good eye for unique local scenes, we get pulled in all the time. So that is another request to renew our covenant with the community, let us know your favorite “haunts of beauty.” Maybe it could be through the best photos you took this year or just tell us the things you like most about your neighborhood, so we know where to look for news and photos.

We have a new location and new ownership, but the biggest change is that we are now fully local, which is the only thing we have ever wanted to be.

Quote of the week

“Listen to my music, hear what it can do. There’s something here that’s as strong as life, I know that it will reach you.”
— Neil Peart, (sung by Geddy Lee, Rush, 2112)

Newspapers are how we protect one another

By Mikki Morrisette
Minnesota Women’s Press Publisher

Several speakers and local independent media outlets gathered at the Minnesota Capitol for an April 7 rally about local news, as part of a national Local News Day movement.

One of the speakers was Jasmine Russell, the Chief Narrative & Data Justice Officer at the African American Leadership Forum. She described as example the history of media as central to “shaping public understanding in entirely new ways for Black communities. These weren’t just stories. They were systems of survival and also strategies of liberation, backed by fact and also urgency. The Freedom Journal was established in 1827; that same year, slavery was abolished in New York. This was the first African American operating newspaper in the United States. It was how we documented what we were seeing in our communities.

“Newspapers are how we protect one another. News is how we imagine what is possible beyond our present conditions,” said Russell.

Russell said that while today’s media landscape has expanded across digital platforms, “the core purpose remains the same: to reflect the truth of the people, to connect, cite, engage. It’s required to move us forward.”

Building narratives that inspire and sustain our communities for generations to come requires investment, she added. “It’s essential for infrastructure, just like education, housing, health care. Without trusted information, communities can’t make informed decisions, organize effectively, or participate in democracy.”

Russell described the critical point we are at today. “While we’re seeing both the expansion of voices and also the erosion

of resources, truth is being challenged in a very unique way — misinformation is being amplified. This is a moment of key possibility. It’s a moment to choose investment over neglect, truth over noise, and the strength of the ecosystems that keep our communities informed, connected, and empowered. When stories are distorted or silenced, we lose more than information. We lose that original trust, that oratory alignment, and the ability to move forward together. So today, we’re here to affirm that local media matters, that community voices matter, and that truth matters — and investing in media is invested in the future of our communities.”

If you haven’t done it yet, this is a good time to support our unique community-focused stories:

Policy Ideas

Senator Heather Gustafson (White Bear Lake), a former radio broadcaster in Fargo, also spoke at the rally. “Community-driven journalism, from voices of people that you see and talk to, there in your community, is so valuable — and it’s fading away,” Gustafson warned. She grew up in Sartell, and said she has seen what happened to the local Saint Cloud Times newspaper. “We’ve watched it go from a really large newspaper to a skeleton crew, because that’s all the funding and the support they have.”

She noted that when we lose a local media outlet, “that’s where we can really get in trouble, because the (social media) algorithm does not care who you are like that local reporter does.”

Gustafson is chief Senate author of SF4183, a workforce development bill that would create a local news talent pipeline program to place emerging media professionals into Minnesota’s community-based newsrooms and print, radio, and TV platforms.

Quote of the week

“Without a paper, a journal of some kind, you cannot unite a community. You belong to a very important profession.”
— Mohandas Gandhi, from the movie “Gandhi”

Ruby’s Pantry volunteers made sure local people were supported

By Erich Heppner
Ruby’s Pantry coordinator

After more than five years of service in Staples, the monthly Ruby’s Pantry drive-thru food distribution has come to an end following the organization’s decision to close after more than 20 years of operation.

While this news is difficult, it is also an opportunity to reflect on what this community has accomplished together. Since the Staples distribution began, more than 400 individuals stepped forward to volunteer. Over the course of 67 distributions, those volunteers gave approximately 3,015 hours of their time to serve their neighbors. Together,

we helped distribute more than 10,000 food shares to individuals and families across our area.

This effort was never just about food. It was about showing up for one another. It was about treating people with dignity, offering a warm greeting in all kinds of weather, and making sure folks left feeling supported.

We are especially grateful to Staples United Methodist Church and the Central Lakes College Staples campus students, whose partnership made this effort possible month after month.

While Ruby’s Pantry is closing, the need in our community has not gone away. Families, children, and se-

niors across our region will continue to rely on local support. If you are looking for a way to help, consider donating to the Staples Food Shelf, Motley Food Shelf, Central Lakes College Food Pantry, or Discover Staples which hosts the annual free holiday community meals. These organizations continue to do important work to ensure our neighbors have access to food.

I am proud of what this community has done. When there was a need, people stepped up. That spirit is still here, and I have no doubt it will continue to show itself in new ways.

Thank you to everyone who played a part in this work.

Letter to the Editor

Train adventures

We’ve had so many wonderful excursions via the Empire Builder, the passenger train leaving from the Staples station. It’s always an adventure. Going east to Minneapolis, or west to Glacier or Seattle. No long lines, porters who help you with your bags, comfortable

seats with leg room and the chance to walk around, meet people, play cards, have a lovely, leisurely breakfast with new friends.

It’s fantastic for day trips to downtown Fargo or the Cities, for seniors traveling alone, independent college students, families; anyone who has heard a train whistle and wondered what’s around the bend.

The Minnesota legislature is considering two bills,

one advocating a second train between Fargo and the cities, and a second one that would create a new route from Fargo to Kansas City, which opens up so many more possibilities. We need our rural MN legislators to get on board.

Phone or email and ask your MN Senator Paul Utke to support Senate File 2887.

Deb Wallwork
Dent, Minn.

Plans for affordability

By Paul Utke
Minnesota State Senator

If you talk to just about anyone, in any corner of the state, and ask what their top concern is, you’ll hear the same thing over and over: affordability. Whether it’s high taxes, ever-rising property taxes, or the sticker shock of tab fees, Minnesota families are worn out. They’re tired of paying more and more, with little to show for it when it comes to quality of life. With about six weeks left in session, affordability needs to be front and center.

Earlier this Session, Senate Republicans proposed a plan that tackles affordability in a tangible way. We can’t

ignore the fact that families are feeling squeezed, and we know the answer isn’t to tax them even more. That’s why our plan focuses on lowering property taxes, reducing tab fees, and ending taxes on tips and overtime.

Let’s start with property taxes. We’ve all heard the stories—folks being priced out of homes that have been in their families for generations. Seniors on fixed incomes have been hit especially hard by these constant increases. When property taxes keep climbing, people simply can’t afford to stay put. It’s also pushing first-time homebuyers out before they even get started. Back in 2020, the average age of a first-time homebuyer was 33. Just six years later and it’s up to 40. There are many reasons for that, but property taxes are the biggest one. People might be able to afford the home itself, but can they afford the unknown tax increases that come with it? For many, that’s a tough question.

There is a simple solution: ending the unfunded mandates that are putting pressure on our counties. They’re stuck in a tough spot, and it costs everyone. The state needs to get out of the way – if Democrats are so intent on forcing mandates on our counties, those mandates should come with dollars attached to make them workable. Unfortunately as we’ve seen time and time again, that’s just not how they operate. The answer is clear: end the unfunded mandates immediately.

Another issue causing sticker shock is tab fees. This is one of the top issues I’ve heard throughout the district. Folks are going to renew their tabs, and they are seeing costs upwards of

\$700 per year. This is rotten. People can’t simply choose not to drive, and buying an older car to save on registration often means paying more in repairs. Meanwhile, you’d expect that with fees this high, our roads and bridges would be in great shape, but that’s not what we’re seeing.

The average five-year total for registering a new car in Minnesota will run drivers about \$3,520, making us an outlier compared to every one of our neighboring states. Drive across the border to North Dakota, and you’d pay about \$465 over that same period. Head south to South Dakota, and it’s around \$378. Yet despite Republicans’ repeated attempts to bring this issue forward, there’s been little discussion about it at the Capitol. Minnesotans have been loud and clear: they want life to be affordable. Yet those requests have been ignored. It’s time to roll back these costly changes.

Another easy way to make life affordable for many is by ending taxes on tips and overtime. This simple change would bring us into conformity with federal tax code, and it’s just common sense. Workers who go the extra mile shouldn’t be taxed more for it. This also helps small businesses keep good workers by effectively putting more money in employees’ pockets without raising costs for employers. That’s a win-win.

This is not complicated. These are three simple ways we can make life affordable again in our state. Costs are higher here than in neighboring states and it’s all because of bad Democrat policies. Minnesotans have been clear about their concerns – it’s time government start listening.

StaplesWorld

Established in 1890. USPS 518-760
©2026 RMM Publications
Published Wednesdays by RMM Publications
Office located at 207 4th St NE
Periodicals postage paid at Staples, Minnesota 56479.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100
Telephone: 218-894-1112 - Fax: 218-894-3570
Toll Free: 1-888-894-1112
www.staplesworld.com - E Mail: editor@staplesworld.com
Deadline: 12 noon, Friday
Official Newspaper for:
City of Staples, Todd County,
Staples-Motley School District,
Freshwater Ed. District and area townships.



Publisher RMM Publications LLC
Owner Mark Anderson..... editor@staplesworld.com
Advertising Rep..... editor@staplesworld.com
Photo Tech/production..... Janice Winter jwinter@staplesworld.com
Bookkeeping/Circulation/
Reporter..... Kathy Odden kodden@staplesworld.com
Reporter.....Dawn Timbs dtimbs@staplesworld.com
Front Office..... office@staplesworld.com

Subscription Rates:
Local: (Todd, Wadena, Morrison, Cass Counties) \$53 per year
Website: \$50 per year
Minnesota: \$58 per year - Out of State: \$63 per year
Foreign: on-line only - Student Rate: (Sept. through Apr./in-state) \$43
There is a \$5 charge for address change from local to out-of-state.

Letters: Readers are encouraged to express their views by writing letters to the editor. Letters are verified for authenticity, so please include a name, address and phone number. Only the author’s name and city will be published. Letters may be edited for spelling and grammar errors, libel, length and other factors. Private thanks, solicitations and libelous letters will not be published. Letters are printed on a space available basis. The editor reserves the right to reject letters.
The deadline is 12 noon, Friday. Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily represent the views of this newspaper.
Printed at Quinco Press, Lowry, MN

Fairness: The Staples World tries conscientiously to report fairly and accurately. If you feel we fall short of this objective at any time, please direct your complaint to the manager whose name appears on this page.
Note to Advertisers: Advertisers should check their ad following first publication. This newspaper shall not be liable for failure to publish an ad or for the typographic error or errors in publication except to the extent of the cost of the ad for the first day’s insertion. Adjustment for errors is limited to the cost of that portion of the ad wherein the error occurred. The publisher reserves the right to cancel any advertisement at any time.

Member: Minnesota Newspaper Association, MCAN Advertising



Children’s painting class held at Staples Library



Children’s painting class was recently held at the Staples Public Library with guest artist Mary Waltzing providing step-by-step instructions on creating a bunny in a flower pot. Register for upcoming events by calling the library, 218-894-1401.

Above: Ophelia Taylor, Magnolia Shequen Schinbler, Grace Fink, Lauren Fligge.

At left: Annika Weber, Molly Kirscht, Alora Weber, Sloane Tholl. (Submitted photos)



Dr. Benson host at library coffee talk

Dr. Julie Benson, LHS, was the speaker at the Staples Public Library during the monthly Coffee Talk (conversation, coffee and donuts). Dr. Benson shared tips to help manage long-term health issues. The next Coffee Talk will be held Monday, April 20 at 10:30 a.m. on the topic “Advanced Care Planning” at the Staples Public Library, 122 6th St NE. Help ensure that your values, preferences and wishes are clearly understood and respected. Becky Misegades, Lakewood Health System Social Service member will answer questions and provide resources. For questions, call the library at 218-894-1401. (Submitted photo)

Mark Your Calendar

Apr. 16
‘WALK WITH A DOC’
Thursdays at 5:15 p.m., at Lakewood Health System’s main campus in Staples. Meet at the main entrance. For more information about this free program, visit <https://walkwithadoc.org/join-a-walk/locations/staples-minnesota>

Apr. 17
WOMEN’S OPEN AA RECOVERY MEETING Fridays in person, 10:30 a.m., Motley Free Methodist Church (lower level), 33 Wellwood St. E. Motley. All women welcome.

Apr. 19
CELEBRATE RECOVERY GROUP MEETINGS Sundays, 6 p.m., at Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood St. E., Motley.

Apr. 21
EXPERIENCE STRENGTH AND HOPE AA GROUP MTGS IN STAPLES Tuesdays, 7 - 8 p.m., at Church of Christ, 27343 490th St., Staples. For info., call Dan at 218-640-7228.



Casey and Eliza Greer



Genevieve and Harrison Underhill

Workable Older Machinery

AUCTION

As I have sold my place, I will sell the following personal property at public auction, located: from Motley, MN (56466) approx. 8 miles South on Hwy 10 or from Lincoln, MN (56443) approx. 2 miles North on Hwy 10 to Cty #203, East approx. 3 miles to Fire #3676. Follow signs on:

Saturday, April 18, 2026

SALE TIME: 10:00 A.M. RESTROOMS AVAILABLE LUNCH ON GROUNDS



WD45 Allis NF, being rebuilt



Wrenches, sockets



Antique Pieces



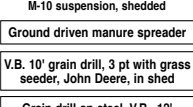
Polaris, 2004 Classic short track, M-10 suspension, shedded



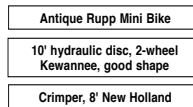
Antique Rupp Mini Bike



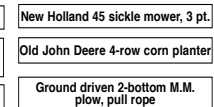
New Holland 45 sickle mower, 3 pt.



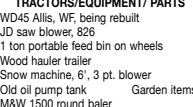
Ground driven manure spreader



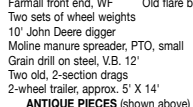
10' hydraulic disc, 2-wheel Kewanee, good shape



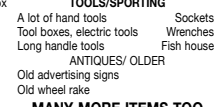
Old John Deere 4-row corn planter



V.B. 10' grain drill, 3 pt with grass seeder, John Deere, in shed



Crimper, 8' New Holland



Ground driven 2-bottom M.M. plow, pull rope



TRACTORS/EQUIPMENT/ PARTS
WD45 Allis, WF, being rebuilt
JD saw blower, 826
1 ton portable feed bin on wheels
Wood hauler trailer
Snow machine, 6', 3 pt. blower
Old oil pump tank
M&W 1500 round baler
New Holland 68 square baler, workable
12-38 rims
Two H's for parts, Farmall



Farmall front end, WF
Two sets of wheel weights
10' John Deere digger
Moline manure spreader, PTO, small
Grain drill on steel, V.B. 12'
Two old, 2-section drags
2-wheel trailer, approx. 5' X 14'
ANTIQUE PIECES (shown above)
Cultivator
Corn Sheller
Horse evener



Old flare box
A lot of hand tools
Tool boxes, electric tools
Long handle tools
ANTIQUE/ OLDER
Old advertising signs
Old wheel rake
MANY MORE ITEMS TOO. NUMEROUS TO MENTION.

Arnie Ackerman, owner

Trantina Auction Service
Col. Walter Trantina, Lic. #17-61 • Brownville, MN 56438 • 218-620-1019
www.midwestauctions.com
Previews at allauctionsales.com and www.midwestauctions.com

Celebrating 5 years, April 19, 2026



LIQUOR DEPOT

1017 US Highway 10 East, Staples, MN 218-895-5710

10% OFF
all purchases
April 19 at the
Liquor Depot

"Thank you to our customers for your loyal patronage over the past 5 years. We appreciate everyone who walks through our door."

-The Staff at Liquor Depot
-Jim and Jackie Tyrrell, owners



DEADLINES
Newspaper deadline for copy and advertising: 12 noon Fridays



GENERATOR

Installation & Maintenance

CALL FOR A FREE QUOTE **651-643-6699**



Stevens County Deputy Sheriff Vacancy

Stevens County is looking to hire a full-time Deputy Sheriff. Our schedule will be 5 on/5 off; 2 on/2 off, which provides every other weekend off as a 5-day weekend. Group health insurance w/ 100% single Employer paid and up to \$1600 per month toward family. There is also dental, vision, life, disability, 457(b), H.S.A., Flex Accounts, critical illness, accident, hospital insurance and PERA.; two-week's vacation, one personal day, two-week sick leave, and 12 paid public holidays annually. Stevens County also offers tuition reimbursement for credits earned beyond an associate degree. Starting Salary: Successful candidates will be placed on to the pay scale based upon the number of years of law enforcement experience. 2026: \$28.53 - \$41.30 per hour based upon years of experience. 2% COLA added on July 1st.

To apply visit www.co.stevens.mn.us under Employment Opportunities or scan the QR Code. Upload a legible photocopy of your Minnesota P.O.S.T. License or eligibility letter from Minnesota P.O.S.T. Board and a resume and cover Letter by 4:00 p.m., Monday, April 22nd, 2026.

Stevens County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. ADA accommodations available.



SCAN ME



Firefighters have our backs. MnFIRE has theirs.

Confidential, no-cost counseling & peer support for all active Minnesota firefighters and their families.



Andrea
SAUK CENTRE FIREFIGHTER

“

Firefighters like to shoulder more than their fair share. But we can only hold so much. Talking with someone might be all you need to feel better.”

”

888-784-6634 • mnfirehealth.org



Round-trip celebration

Clara Maros, left, runs through the gauntlet of her teammates after crossing home plate on her home run in the

game on April 10. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Maros hits home run, Bettis walk-off hit in win

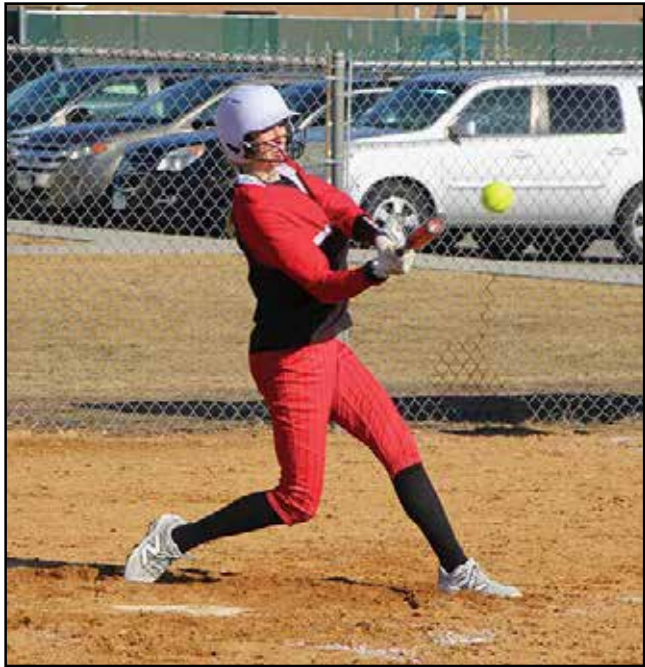
The Staples-Motley softball team won their second game of the season on a walk-off hit, this time by Leighton Bettis. The Cardinals beat Pelican Rapids 11-10 on April 10, played at the Staples-Motley home field. Clara Maros hit a home run in the third inning and Bettis ended a 10-10 tie in the seventh inning on a single.

With a snowfall covering

the field the morning of the game, Coach Darren Holst said he raked the infield for quite a while until it became dry enough to play on. The Cardinals started the game by falling behind. Pelican Rapids had some timely hits get past Staples-Motley infielders to go up 4-0. The Cardinal hitters were aggressive, but unable to break through the defense for their first time through

the lineup. Finally, they started scoring and got within one run in the third inning. With nobody on base, Maros smashed a line drive that kept rising over the left fielder and made it over the outfield fence to tie the score at 4-4. The teams traded runs until the final inning, when Bettis hit in the winning run.

Aleea Holst pitched all seven innings and had 10 strikeouts. Coach Holst emphasized the teamwork that is necessary in a close game like this. "The girls stayed strong together," said Holst. "With a few ups and downs in the game, they never let up."



Addison Potter

Cardinals track in first outdoor meet

The Staples-Motley track and field teams competed at the Houligan Extravaganza in Pillager on April 10. This was the first outdoor meet of the season. It was moved back a day to take advantage of a window of good weather that day.

Top finishers for the boys included Noah Larson in the 110 hurdles and discus, Angel Luna in the 400, Andrew Dobson in the 3,200 and Avandre Brandt in the long jump.

High placers for the girls included Lucille Maros in the 400 and high jump, Suhaila Mikhaeil in the 800 and 3,200, Alexis Odden in the 1,600, Suhaila Mikhaeil in the 3,200, Abby Brichacek in the 100 hurdles and Annie Schlosser in the discus and shot put.

Boys results
Pillager Houligan Extravaganza
100 meter dash - 6. Jesus Gallardo 12.02, 18. Carson Dewald 12.96, 19. Charlie Maros 13.02
200 - 7. Gallardo 25.46, 20. Josiah Mumm 31.52
400 - 3. Angel Luna 57.43, 10. Easton Larson 1:01, 12. Jacob Faulkner 1:02, 19. William Lange 1:07
800 - 8. Andrew Dobson 2:25, 13. Spencer Olsen 2:34
1,600 - 8. Olsen 5:45, 11. Faulkner 5:55, 12. Jackson Odden 5:56, 14. Alex Leach 6:02
3,200 - 3. Dobson 11:33, 6. Reed Leach 12:39
110 hurdles - 2. Noah Larson 15:59, 9. Kalah Homan 21:01

High jump - 5. Avandre Brandt 5'10", 9. Larson 5'4"
Long jump - 2. Brandt 20'4.5", 7. Gallardo 17'11.5", 13. Dewald 16'3", 18. Guage Holst 14'8.25"
Triple jump - 7. Harman 35'7.5", 15. Liam Jennissen 31'1"
Pole vault - 9. Aaron Oeltjenbruns 8'0", 10. Odden 7'0"
Discus - 3. Larson 107'3", 18. Jennissen 81'4", 25. Peter Oeltjenbruns 59'8", 28. Lange 53'8"
Shot put - 10. Larson 35'5", 23. Jennissen 28'7", 24. P. Oeltjenbruns 28'4", 28. Ben Oeltjenbruns 22'1.5"

Girls results
Pillager Houligan Extravaganza
100 - 10. Chadia Schultz 14.01, 13. Mari'vel Duran 14.56, 16. Iva Hinson 15.18
200 - 10. Lucille Maros 28.84, 19. Schultz 31.70, 24. Iva Hinson 33.09
400 - 4. Maros 1:08, 10. Piper Hanson 1:14, 15. Belle Mevissen 1:20
800 - 3. Suhaila Mikhaeil 2:52, 8. Alexis Odden 3:02, 10. Maddie Kist 3:08, 14. Elizabeth Kroll 3:18
1,600 - 5. Odden 6:34
3,200 - 4. Mikhaeil 14:09
100 hurdles - 6. Abby Brichacek 19.96
4x100 relay - 5. SM 57.65
High jump - 5. Maros 4'4"
Long jump - 17. Lily Davis 12'1", 18. Abigail Phillippi 11'9", 22. Maci Mithun 8'11"
Triple jump - 10. Brichacek 27'9"
Discus - 5. Annie Schlosser 94'10", 8. Josie Jennissen 83'0", 17. Gemma Fairbanks 57'9", 24. Jocelyn Vogt 47'5"
Shot put - 6. Schlosser 29'7.5", 17. Jennissen 22'9", 19. Schultz 21'2" 22. 12'10"

Tappe grand slam sparks high scoring wins

The Staples-Motley baseball team swept a double-header against Pelican Rapids on April 10, winning 12-2 and 13-2. The games were played at Pine Grove Park in Staples, the only dry baseball field among the two towns.

The Cardinals won both games by getting runners on base early and moving them up and in. The small-ball playing style was shattered in the first game when Colbe Tappe hit a grand slam home run.

Staples-Motley 12, Pelican Rapids 2

The Cardinals jumped out to a 2-0 lead with Elijah Kossan stealing two bases and John Schotzko hitting an RBI single.

Cooper Tappe started the game on the mound and finished the first inning by

striking out the side.

In the third inning, Isaac Halverson hit a double and Tristan Moore followed with a single. Gabe Decker hit a fielder's choice RBI before the Cardinals loaded the bases again with Colbe Tappe stepping up to the plate. Tappe smashed the ball over the deep part of the right field wall for a grand slam and an 8-0 lead. The team added another run on a double by Silas Claussen and a sacrifice fly by Schotzko.

The Cardinals added three runs in the fourth, with Kossan getting a hit and stealing two bases. Halverson hit a two RBI single.

Owen Roline came in to pitch in the 4th inning and he started the fifth before Eli Bounds came in to strike

out the last two batters and preserve a 12-2 win.

Staples-Motley 13, Pelican Rapids 2

In the second game, the Cardinals started out with a 5-0 lead in the first inning.

A single by Kossan, two walks, and a double by Halverson kept the runners circling the bases. Camrik Tappe added an RBI single.

RBI hits by Halverson and Schotzko made the score 9-1 after two innings.

The Cardinals added two more runs in the third inning and two in the sixth, when Moore hit a double and scored on a hit by Cooper Tappe.

Kossan started the game on the mound. Seth Cossentine, Xander Moench and Tristin Moore pitched in relief and Colbe Tappe finished the final inning.



Eli Bounds



Owen Roline

Stream trout anglers get early start

After roughly five months of ice-covered lakes, few seasonal events are as eagerly anticipated as wetting a line in open water. For those to whom "fishing opener" means pursuit of our state fish—the wall-eye—the wait in most years is not just for ice-out. It is for the second weekend in May, when our general fishing opener arrives. Unfortunately, that's still nearly a month away.

By then, Minnesotans who fish for trout in the state's inland cold water streams and rivers will be four weeks into their 2026 season. A handful of streams in Minnesota's Southeast are open year round, but these are the exception. Each year the general inland trout season ends September 30th, and remains closed until the second weekend in April.

After this hiatus of six and a half months—longer than the closed seasons for Minnesota's warm water species—there is an understandable itch that needs to be scratched, even if the prospects of success are substantially less than later in the season.

A number of factors contribute to stacking the odds in favor of the trout at this time of year. The numerous species and subspecies of North American trout need water temperatures colder than bass, walleyes, panfish, northern pike, and muskies, in order to survive. But like most creatures, their metabolism and need to feed are related to body temperature. When the water in a stream

ing snow, as it is in many streams in April, trout are swimming in water that might be compared to a cocktail with ice cubes in it. At such times they can be sluggish, and hard to motivate.

There is also matter of wariness. Trout that live in streams and small rivers survive only by being alert and skittish. They are generally more exposed to predators than fish in lakes, where deep water is a sanctuary. Trout are stalked and pursued by wading herons, swimming otters, and diving kingfishers, to name a few suspects. That, and their own kind, too. As a result, trout flee for the cover of an undercut bank, the protection of a logjam, or to as deep a pool as they can find at the sight of stream-side motion, the vibration of an angler's heavy foot-falls on the stream bank, or the grinding of a wading angler's boots on rocks or gravel.

Any approach other than a stealthy one is likely to end in failure. At least this is the case with wild trout that are the product of wild parents, fish that had the instincts to avoid predators long enough to mature and reproduce. On the other hand, hatchery-raised trout—when first stocked in a stream—may actually be attracted by a disturbance, associating it with "feeding time," when in the hatchery they received their ration of fish or soybean meal pellets.

Hatchery-bred trout that survive long enough can adapt to a wild environment, if it has the requisite water temperature, shelter, natural foods, and in general the capacity to meet all of a trout's needs. Such so-called "hold-over" fish can over time be about as wary and worthy of an angler's best effort as a wild fish. Still, some feel that a wild fish is a better fish

is unique to spring on some trout streams is the appearance of other fish that temporarily enter the trout stream to spawn, then return to a warmer lake or stream environment where they spend the bulk of their lives. The stream where I do a large share of my trout fishing has a spawning run of white suckers every spring, often coinciding closely with the beginning of trout season. Some suckers run to five pounds or more, and they move upstream to shallow riffles paved with gravel and rock to do their mating. Their splashy, writhing spawning antics, like the clumsy intrusion of an over-eager angler, can spook the trout, and spoil your chances of catching one.

Then there can be the matter of high water, when melting snow swells a stream to a depth above normal. This changes the "map" of a stream's surface, altering current speed, sometimes the direction of flow, and making more difficult the recognition of fish-holding areas,

Idyllic fishing magazine images of trout fishing are not what a Minnesota stream trout angler usually sees on a typical April opening weekend. Trees and shrubby forest understory are likely to be still without leaves, and the color palette will be mostly drab, save for evergreens. The wildflowers that will add splashes of color in a few short weeks will still typically be invisible in the leaf layer beneath, or in the soggy banks that border a stream.

The color-to-come on my stream will include the butter-yellow blooms of marsh marigold, which grow right out of the wettest stream-bank edges. Much of the forest floor away from the stream banks will be dotted with the pure white of trillium blossoms, a flower

in threes; thus the name. There will also be the single star-like white flowers of bloodroot. The orange-red juices from its tuberous root are said to have been used by Native American tribes as a body paint. Soon, too, we'll see the lavender or blue flowers of hepatica, barely an inch across, and easy to miss when you're consumed with trout fishing zeal.

On this year's opening Saturday, I strategically chose to wait until late afternoon before easing my vehicle over the deep, rain-filled ruts of the access road that leads to my favorite stream. By then, all but one angler had abandoned the spot. A light rain settled the issue of whether to pull on a rain lightweight jacket over waders and vest.

Tactically, it can be a crap-shoot deciding what kind of presentation might tempt a trout. For this stream, on this day—fed as it was by icy snowmelt—it seemed prudent to offer the trout something small and slow, something that didn't require an aggressive response from the fish.

It would be nice to share that this tactical approach yielded great success. It did not. As on many another opening day, finding and tempting fish proved difficult. Sharing pleasures with that fellow angler at sundown, as we pulled off waders and took down rods, we both had caught and released just one fish. Assuming we were both being honest—or as honest as you can expect a fisherman to be—both had been very good fish.

One fish does not merit bragging rights. But it was enough to remind one of that welcome scent of trout slime on your hands, and to feel the adrenaline surge from the solid pull of a fish on the opposite end of your rod.

Inside the Outdoors



Mike Rahn

Public Notice

TODD COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

215 First Ave. South
Long Prairie,
Minnesota 56347
320-732-4420
toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on **Thursday, April 30, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.** the Todd County Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing in the Commissioner's board room, 215 1st Ave South, Suite 301, Long Prairie, MN.

NOTE: This meeting is again being held in-person and the public is encouraged to attend. Those who do attend in person can find parking atop the hill on the west side of the Historic Courthouse and enter through the north doors, near the American Flag and monument.

Questions? Call or email 320-732-4420 or toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us

Agenda

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Introduction of Board of Adjustment Members and process review
- Approval of agenda
- Approval of March 26, 2026 Board of Adjustment's meeting minutes
- The applicant is introduced

•Staff report

•Applicant confirms if staff report accurately represents the request

•Site Visit Review

•Public comment

•Board review with applicant, staff, and public

Parker and Heidi Kretsch:

Section 29, Grey Eagle Township, Big Birch Lake

Site Address:

10563 Co. Rd. 47, Grey Eagle, MN 56336

PID:

11-0042500

1. Request to reduce the lake setback from 100' to 93' for the construction of a deck attached to an existing cabin in Recreational Development Shoreland Zoning District.

Adjournment.

Next meeting:

May 28, 2026

All persons interested are invited to attend said hearing or submit a letter to be heard on these matters. All correspondence must include name, mailing address and be received 48 hours before the date and time of the hearing.

Todd County Board of Adjustment

Russell VanDenheuvel,
Chair

17pnc

SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT

205 Help Wanted

Join Our Team!



Social Media & Tourism Marketing Specialist

Position details available online

www.discoverstaples.com

218-895-1400

208 Storage

FOR RENT

Japke's North 8th Street Mini Storage, 894-1551

6x20, 10x12, 10x20, 10x24

WANTED TO BUY

501 Miscellaneous JUNK CARS and TRUCKS. 218-639-5509. 16-17c

FARMERS

Buying Fieldstone Boulders

Contact Chris At 320-630-4570

REAL ESTATE

602 Apartments for Rent

FRONTIER TOWNHOMES

FOR RENTAL INFO CALL 218-296-5031

Under new ownership

We are accepting applications for 2 and 3 bedroom townhomes in Staples, a community you can get attached to. Rent based on income. Now professionally managed by



Income guidelines apply.

GARAGE SALES

701

2 DAY INDOOR MOVING SALE: Fri., April 17, 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Sat., April 18, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. 12762 Vintage Circle, Staples Annex, follow signs (North on Airport Road or South of Gun Range Club) 5 hp outdoor motor; wood lathe w/chisels and jig saw, drill press by Delta, 6 ft. work bench, standing disc sander; a lot of shop items, garden, household and decorating items, Mission crossbow (scope & crank system, arrows), 2 Sitka camouflage cold weather suits, hunting/fishing items. cl17p

STAPLES ASSEMBLY OF GOD YOUTH:

NOW accepting donations for upcoming missions garage sale. Call Kathy at 218-296-1647 for drop off or pick up.

8-17c

THE CLASSIFIEDS

★ ALWAYS A BEST SELLER ★

NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS

Sunny Pines Apts. in Motley

Tenant must be income eligible, 62 years or older, handicapped or disabled. Heat, water, sewer, electric provided.

Call Rosie Talberg, Manager at: 320-468-2303

MOTLEY, MINN.

Prairie View Neighborhood

2 AND 3 BEDROOM HOMES FOR SALE IN STAPLES

2 NEW HOMES NOW AVAILABLE

- TWO STALL GARAGES
- LANDSCAPED YARDS
- COMPETITIVE PRICES

CALL MICHELLE 218-326-6098

MIKE IVES REALTY

www.prairieviewneighborhood.com

*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY

SERVICE DIRECTORY

GIZA

EST 1934

PLUMBING & HEATING

- PLUMBING
- HEATING
- AIR CONDITIONING
- GEOTHERMAL
- NEW CONSTRUCTION
- REMODEL
- SERVICE

MN LIC. #PC644417

218-894-2284

WWW.CALLGIZA.COM

Ultimate Septic Service LLC

David Odden - Owner/Operator

Services:

- Septic Pumping •Jetting
- Emergencies

Call USS for all your septic pumping needs!

218-296-1137

ultimatesepticservice@gmail.com



CELL 218-838-0581

RESIDENTIAL AND LIGHT COMMERCIAL ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS

Altrichter

Excavation & Septic Service

218-575-2222

- Septic System Installation
- Camera Inspection, Tank Pumping and Cleaning

MN State Certified

6685 330th St., Cushing, MN. 56443

LPS Inc.

Long Prairie Sanitation

Long Prairie, MN

218-631-3101 888-878-5578

*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE

PROFESSIONAL

Sellnow Law Office, P.A.

Thomas H. Sellnow*

sellnowt@sellnowlaw.com

Jason R. Sellnow

sellnowj@sellnowlaw.com

218-894-4618 • 133 4th St. NE, Staples

229 Central Ave., Long Prairie

320-732-1919 • Toll free: 877-297-1125

*Thomas Sellnow is a Real Property Law Specialist certified by Real Property Section of Minnesota State Bar Association.

- Probate and Trusts
- Estate Planning
- Real Estate
- Title Insurance
- Personal Injury
- Family Law
- Business Law
- Elder Law
- Auto Accidents

www.sellnowlaw.com

PHB Excavating Inc.

Phil Bjerga

218-639-5007

Licensed / Bonded / Insured

Septics • Waterlines • Trenching • Basements • Retaining Walls

Landscaping & Site Preparation • Backhoe & Skid Loader Work

Sewer Pipe Cleaning and Steaming • Custom Pressure Washing

Equipment, Buildings, Driveways, etc. • Snow Plowing & Removal

IDEAL CONSTRUCTION LLC

PAYING THE WAY FOR YOU!

Staples, MN 56479

218-894-3105

SINCE 1958

Asphalt Paving • Seal Coating • Excavating • Driveways

Roads • Parking Lots • Site Prep • Gravel • Rock • Black Dirt

Fill • Peat • Ponds • Demolition • Hauling • Landscaping

Recycled Concrete and Asphalt

Statema Backhoe Service, LLC

MPCA CERTIFIED SEPTIC SYSTEMS

- FREE ESTIMATE FROM DESIGN TO INSTALLATION
- COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS

Site Prep • Basements • Waterlines • Driveways • Landscaping • Black Dirt • Gravel • Construction & Abandonment of Manure Pits • Fill Dirt

Clearing & Grading • Ditch Cleaning • Snow Plowing: Commercial & Residential

Andy Statema •320-594-2912 • 320-594-6347

LICENSED BONDED INSURED

*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY

SW 2024 changed wk. #3



**NOTICE
MOTLEY PUBLIC
CEMETERY**

The Motley Public Cemetery Association will hold its Annual Meeting Tuesday, May 5, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at BRICKS Restaurant, Motley. The public is welcome.

Lana Hansen, Treasurer
Motley Public Cemetery
17pnc

**NOTICE
BULLARD TOWNSHIP
ASSESSMENT
Important Information
Regarding
Assessment and
Classification of
Property
This may affect your
2027 property tax
payments.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That the Board of Review - *Equalization of the Township of Bullard of Wadena County, Minnesota, will meet at the Bullard Township Hall in Section 27 of Bullard Township; at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 21, 2026. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, contact your assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you disagree with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the local board of appeal and equalization. The board will review your assessments and make corrections as needed. Generally, you must appeal to the local board before appealing to the county board of appeal and equalization.

Janelle VanAlst, Clerk
Bullard Township
17pnc

**NOTICE OF
MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE SALE**

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: September 28, 2006

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$44,481.94

MORTGAGOR(S): Gary W. Mertens, Jr. and Dayna S. Mertens f/k/a Dayna S. Case, husband and wife

MORTGAGEE: CitiFinancial Services, Inc.

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on October 3, 2006 as Document Number 444789 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC by assignment recorded on August 12, 2016 as Document Number A500326 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to Bayview Dispositions IVB, LLC by assignment recorded on February 26, 2019 as Document Number A513288 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely in its capacity as Indenture Trustee of CIM Trust 2019-R5 by assignment recorded on March 18, 2026 as Document Number A550468 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lots 7 and 8, Block 1, Donovans Addition to Staples, according to the plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the Todd County Recorder. Lots 7,8,9, and 10, Block 1, Don-

**NOTICE
MEADOWBROOK
TOWNSHIP 2026
ANNUAL ROAD
REVIEW**

Meadowbrook Township will hold its Annual Road Review on Thursday, April 23, 2026. The board will meet at 11:00 a.m. at the Leader Community Hall and proceed to drive and review all township roads from there, making note of road maintenance issues that must be corrected.

Ty W. Peterson, Clerk
Meadowbrook Township
17-18pnc

**NOTICE
MORAN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF APPEAL
AND EQUALIZATION
Important Information
regarding Property
Assessments
This may affect your
2027 property taxes.**

The Board of Appeal and Equalization for Moran Township will meet on Monday, April 20, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at the Town Hall. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, contact your assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you disagree with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization. The board will review your assessments and make corrections as needed. Generally, you must appeal to the local board before appealing to the County Board of Appeal and Equalization.

Diane Mack, Clerk
Moran Township
16-17pnc

**NOTICE OF
MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE SALE**

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: September 28, 2006

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$44,481.94

MORTGAGOR(S): Gary W. Mertens, Jr. and Dayna S. Mertens f/k/a Dayna S. Case, husband and wife

MORTGAGEE: CitiFinancial Services, Inc.

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on October 3, 2006 as Document Number 444789 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC by assignment recorded on August 12, 2016 as Document Number A500326 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to Bayview Dispositions IVB, LLC by assignment recorded on February 26, 2019 as Document Number A513288 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely in its capacity as Indenture Trustee of CIM Trust 2019-R5 by assignment recorded on March 18, 2026 as Document Number A550468 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lots 7 and 8, Block 1, Donovans Addition to Staples, according to the plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the Todd County Recorder. Lots 7,8,9, and 10, Block 1, Don-

**NOTICE
MORAN TOWNSHIP
ANNUAL ROAD TOUR**

Moran Township will conduct the Annual Road Tour on Saturday, April 25, 2026. The supervisors will begin the tour at 7:00 a.m. from the town hall.

Diane Mack, Clerk
Moran Township
17-18pnc

**NOTICE
MOTLEY TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF APPEAL
AND EQUALIZATION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting for the Township of Motley, in Morrison County, Minnesota shall meet at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, April 17, 2026 at the Motley Township Hall.

The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether taxable prperty in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor and to determine whether corrections need to be made.

Ken Swecker, Clerk
Motley Township
16-17pnc

**NOTICE
THOMASTOWN
TOWNSHIP
CLASS #1 BIDS**

Thomastown Township is seeking bids for four (4) to five (5) miles Class #1, spread and packed with a wheel packer, 1,000 yards per mile. Also include cost for spot graveling of some areas in the township. Must meet Wadena County test specifications for Class #1. Deadline for completion: August 14, 2026. Watering of roadbed required in event of drought. Bids must be received before 7:00 p.m., May 5 2026. A representative from the company must be present at the meeting Tuesday, May 5 2026. Mail bids to: Thomastown Township, Jon Hamberg, 14380 241st Ave., Staples, MN 56479. Contact Lance

or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on June 4, 2027.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: March 26, 2026

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY IN ITS CAPACITY AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE OF CIM TRUST 2019-R5 Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.
By: /s/
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Alexa Marsh, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(26-0067-FC01)

Federal law may require reporting to the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network for certain purchases of residential property by entities or trusts. A successful third party bidder may be required to provide ownership and identifying information as a condition to completing the transfer.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

16-21pnc

Perius, 218-402-0133.

Jon Hamberg, Clerk
Thomastown Township
17-18pnc

**NOTICE
THOMASTOWN
TOWNSHIP
ROAD WORK**

Thomastown Township will be working on township roads this year. Work will include reclaiming shoulders, adding gravel, and brushing ditches.

Jon Hamberg, Clerk
Thomastown Township
17-18pnc

**NOITICE STAPLES
TOWNSHIP BOARD
OF APPEAL AND
EQUALIZATION
MEETING
This may affect your
2027 property taxes.**

The Board of Appeal and Equalization for Staples Township will meet on Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at the Town Hall. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, please contact your assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you disagree with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization. The board will review your assessments and make corrections as needed. Generally, you must appeal to the local board before appealing to the County Board of Appeal.

Bonnie Thoele, Clerk
Staples Township
16-17pnc

**NOTICE OF
MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE SALE**

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: July 31, 2015

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$92,857.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Joel

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Guardian Mortgage, a division of Sunflower Bank, N.A.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Sunflower Bank, N.A.

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 02-0003900

TRANSACTIONAGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1005554-1200011864-0

THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.

PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: May 28, 2026 at 10:00 AM.

PLACE OF SALE: Todd County Sheriff's Office, County Detention Center, 115 Third Street South, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is twelve (12) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the

Ambriz Carrillo, a single person

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Wintrust Mortgage, a division of Barrington Bank and Trust Co., N.A.

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on August 3, 2015 as Document Number 495310 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. by assignment recorded on September 10, 2019 as Document Number A515937 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The East One hundred sixty-five (165) feet of the South Seventy-six (76) feet of the North Eighty (80) feet of Lot Three (3), Block One (1), Budget's First Addition to the Village of Long Prairie, Todd County, Minnesota.

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 215 6TH ST SE, LONG PRAIRIE, MN 56347

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Todd County, Minnesota.

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$77,622.88

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Wintrust Mortgage, a division of Barrington Bank and Trust Co., N.A.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 36-0077000

TRANSACTIONAGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1000312-0001250034-1

THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.

PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: June 25, 2026 at 10:00 AM.

PLACE OF SALE: Todd County Sheriff's Office, County Detention Center, 115 Third Street South, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the

County Sheriff's Office, County Detention Center, 115 Third Street South, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on December 28, 2026.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: April 02, 2026

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.
By: /s/
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Alexa Marsh, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(25-0371-FC02)

Federal law may require reporting to the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network for certain purchases of residential property by entities or trusts. A successful third party bidder may be required to provide ownership and identifying information as a condition to completing the transfer.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

15-21pnc

premises by 11:59 p.m. on May 28, 2027.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: March 23, 2026

GUARDIAN MORTGAGE, A DIVISION OF SUNFLOWER BANK, N.A., Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.
By: /s/
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Alexa Marsh, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(23-1001-FC04)

Federal law may require reporting to the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network for certain purchases of residential property by entities or trusts. A successful third party bidder may be required to provide ownership and identifying information as a condition to completing the transfer.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

15-20pnc

Statewide tornado drills on April 16

By Mike Wisniewski
Todd County Emergency Management Director

April 13–17 is NOAA Severe Weather Awareness Week, an important time for businesses, employees, families and individuals to prepare for Minnesota’s severe weather season.

We encourage all businesses, employers and employees to review their Emergency Action Plans (EAP) and company procedures for tornadoes and other severe weather emergencies. Take time to identify shelter locations, evacuation routes, notification procedures and accountability processes to help protect staff and visitors.

The public is also encouraged to review their home severe weather plans, including where to take shelter during a tornado warning and how family members will communicate during an emergency.

On Thursday, April 16, there will be two statewide tornado drills:

- 1:45 p.m. – Intended for businesses and schools to practice tornado sheltering and accountability procedures
- 6:45 p.m. – Intended for families and individuals to discuss and take action on where to go at home during severe weather

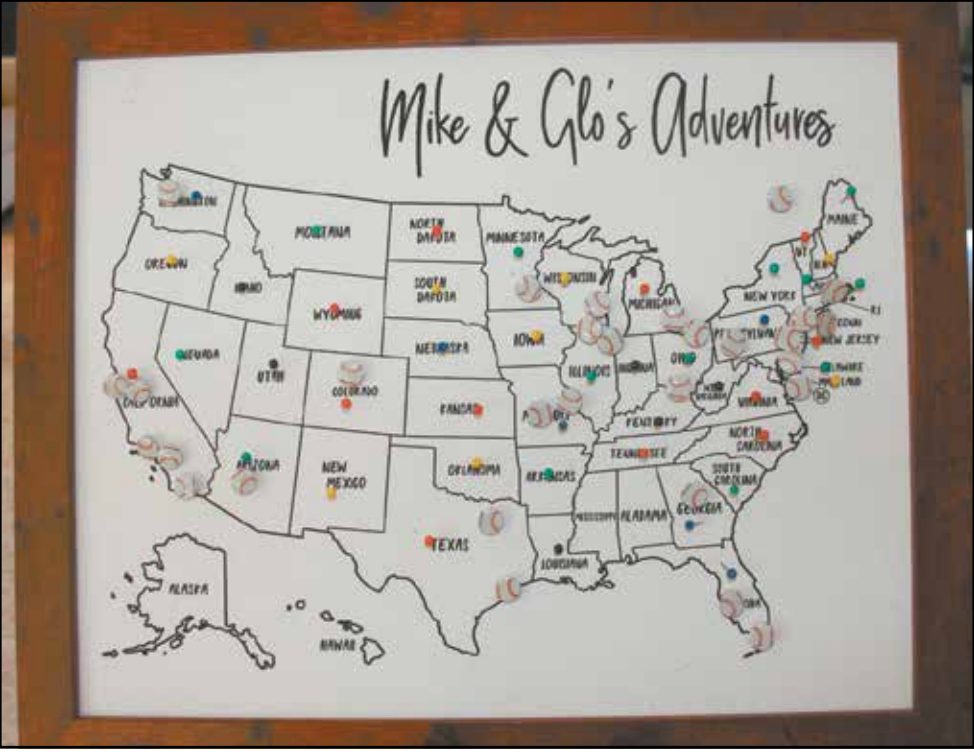
Take part in these drills to ensure everyone knows where to go and what to do.

We also strongly encourage all businesses and residents to sign up for the Todd County CodeRED Mass Notification System. By signing up, you can receive:

- Emergency notifications
- Community safety alerts
- Severe weather alerts and warnings

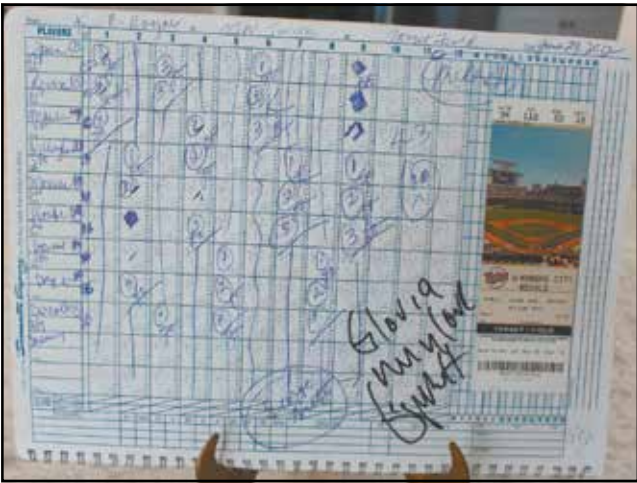
To sign up, text TODDCOUNTYMN to 24639.

Being prepared before severe weather strikes helps protect lives and property. Stay informed, stay prepared, and stay safe.



Documenting their adventures

Gloria Palmer has documented the adventures she and her husband, Mike, have had over the years visiting major league baseball stadiums. Above is a United States map Gloria created with baseballs marking the various spots they’ve visited. Below is one of the score sheets Gloria kept from a game at Target Field June 29, 2012, where she noted each player and how they did, as well as the final score of 4-3 (Twins lost to Kansas City). In addition, a ticket from the game is attached and the score sheet was autographed by George Brett, former Kansas City Royals player. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



SAFE, HIGH-QUALITY CARE From the team you trust.

We are very proud of our remarkable colleagues who provide award-winning, nationally recognized care. Thank you to everyone on our care teams and in our communities who care for our neighbors in the Brainerd Lakes Area.



ST. JOSEPH’S MEDICAL CENTER



Essentia Health

ANDERSON continued from page 1a

Anderson drawn to community aspect of newspapers

of the Times-Messenger when he retired. The same newspaper went to her children when she retired, with Mark’s mother, Patricia (Manahan) Anderson and his uncle, James Hinchon Manahan continuing to write for the newspaper until they sold it a few years later.

“I didn’t set out to own a newspaper, but the more I got involved, the more I saw how it connects the local community and that’s something I wanted to continue to do,” said Anderson.

His own newspaper journey began in 1999, when he was hired on at the Times-Messenger in Madelia. Anderson also worked at the St. James Plaindealer before accepting the job as Staples World Editor in 2010. Recently, Anderson was the recipient of a Minnesota Newspaper Association Award.

Since moving to Staples, Anderson has been involved in a number of community organizations. He is currently a member of the Chamber of Commerce,

the Staples Motley Area Arts Council and the Trails Committee which he helped start.

He’s happy to be part of the Staples community and is excited and committed to continue helping the Staples World, an entity since 1890, succeed.

“I’m very proud to be a part of this historic and prestigious newspaper,” said Anderson.

Anderson is married to Nicky and they have three grown children, Sondra, Norah and Emmet.

Lakewood Health System and Staples Police Dept. to host prescription drug take back day

Lakewood Health System in Staples, in partnership with the Staples Police Dept. is hosting a prescription drug take back day on Saturday, April 18, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the main entrance of Lakewood’s main campus (49725 Cty. 83, Staples).

This event is open to anyone who would like to dispose of unneeded

prescription medications anonymously and safely. Syringes, sharps and illicit drugs will not be accepted. Liquid products should remain sealed in their original container. The cap must be tightly sealed.

For 16 years, the Drug Enforcement Administration’s (DEA) National Prescription Drug Take Back Day has helped Americans

safely dispose of unneeded medications that are old, unwanted or expired, in an attempt to prevent drug misuse and abuse.

In partnership with local law enforcement, Take Back Day has removed more than 20.4 million pounds (10,200 tons) of medication from circulation nation-wide since its inception.

BASEBALL continued from page 1a

National stadium tour included Twins training camp in Fort Myers, Florida; ends at Citi Field in New York

they began to contemplate visiting all 30 MLB stadiums. “We were at a Palmer family reunion in Seattle,” Gloria wrote in her journal, noting that Safeco Field had just opened. “We thought it would be fun to see a baseball game while in Seattle. Other Palmer family members decided to join us. This was our very first out-of-state stadium,” she said.

Over the years, their quest brought them to new cities where they not only watched games at iconic stadiums, but were able to visit other landmarks along the way including Niagara Falls, historical sites in Boston, Key West, San Francisco, Pittsburgh, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, and New York City. Mike noted that while they were in NYC, he and Gloria were part of the live audiences for the Late Show with both David Letterman and Stephen Colbert.

few trips to Ft. Myers to see the Twins in spring training.

And of course they’ve collected a few funny stories during their baseball adventures. Gloria recalled their first Jay Buckley tour, which included a visit to PNC Park in Pittsburgh, situated along the beautiful and historic Allegheny River. They were traveling with Mike’s step-dad, Richard (Dick) Fritz, a baseball enthusiast and avid Chicago Cubs fan. “We took a water taxi to the ballpark and were dropped off right at the gate,” Gloria recalled. “After the game, we wanted to take a taxi home, hoping to make it easier for Dick,” she went on, adding that they couldn’t hail a taxi to save their lives. However, the story goes on, the trio happened upon a young man with a bicycle rickshaw who agreed to give them a ride. “The three of us climbed into the rickshaw and that poor young man biked us up over the Roberto Clemente Bridge and to our hotel. Mike gave him a large tip, but the poor man probably couldn’t get out of bed for the next week.”

chasing, including those of Harry Carey and George Brett. Other notables they’ve met along the way include Harmon Killabrew, Kirby Puckett, Lou Pinella, Bob Allison, Boog Powell, Jimmy Morris, Tony Oliva, and Staples’ own Dick Bremer who went on to be the official announcer for the Minnesota Twins.

They’ve shared their love of baseball with their three daughters Kate, Abby and Anne (now grown); and their nine grandchildren, all of whom they’ve taken to a Twins game, except for baby Elsie.

Mike and Gloria’s final stadium on their 30 ballpark tour was at Citi Field with the New York Mets against the New York Yankees on July 4, 2025. The Mets won, with the final score being 6-5.

But, that doesn’t mean their baseball watching days are over, by a long shot. The Palmers are already gearing up to attend a game this summer at Target Field. And of course, they’ll need to bring Elsie to a game when she’s old enough. Like the other grandkids, they’ll be sure to treat her to a hot dog or two and if they’re lucky, maybe help her get the autograph of her favorite player.

In 2014, they decided to leave all of the driving and hotel details to the Jay Buckley tour guides and traveled to U.S. Cellular Field in Chicago to see the White Sox play. From there, they went to Comerica Park in Cleveland to see the Detroit Tigers, then on to PNC Park in Pittsburgh. After that, the tour brought them to Wrigley Field in Chicago and ended at Miller Park in Milwaukee. Gloria noted that, “Although we had only been to eight stadiums (including the Metro Dome), it was after this Buckley tour that our stadium chasing aspirations became a ‘talking point.’”

They’ve collected a number of ‘baseball highlights’ stories over the years. Some of Mike’s favorite memories include taking their grandchildren on the Northstar commuter train from Big Lake to Target Field, and of watching a Twins game in Minneapolis in August of 2004 against Oakland. “We left the stadium after 11 innings. We were just coming into Motley when the game finally ended after 18 innings. The game was completed in 297 minutes,” Mike recalled.

Other favorite memories include watching a walk off homerun by Jim Thome, seeing a year end game at Metropolitan Stadium, attending a playoff game in Minneapolis, and taking a



At the National Baseball Hall of Fame

Mike and Gloria Palmer of Staples, longtime fans of Major League Baseball (and the Minnesota Twins), are pictured at the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y. during one of their cross country trips. (Submitted photo)