

Inside this issue:

New take on Romeo and Juliet in Staples July 20
River Rats play at next Music in the Park
U10 baseball plays at Converse Park
U12 baseball finishes season with one loss



Wednesday, July 9, 2025

Staples World

Staples, Minnesota

\$125

Yoga at Little Italy Free Yoga sessions are being offered Saturday mornings at Little Italy, part of the Batcher Block Opera House in Staples owned by Colleen Frost. The sessions, which begin at 10 a.m., are led by Denise Baumgart of Staples. (Photo by Dawn Timbs)

SEDA hears update from Wadena Economic Alliance

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Hope Williams of the Wadena County Economic Alliance talked about her organization at the June 24 Staples Economic Development Authority meeting. She said this year, they became a satellite office for the North Central Small Business Development Center (SBDC). Services include one on one consulting and business training sessions. She is also able to do loan packaging and financial projections for businesses in Wadena County. Williams said there are housing developments throughout the county, including in Sebeka, Menahga, Wadena and Staples. She said the county is looking to do a housing study, since one hasn't been done in several years. A future project is to develop a welcome wagon

program for new businesses in Wadena County. **Christmas vision** SEDA Executive Director Lucas Wakefield updated the board on a project by a subcommittee of the LEAP non-profit, which he is calling a "doers committee." He said they are looking for larger project ideas that could be done to make an impact in the community. One of the emerging ideas is to create a community vision that shapes Staples into a Christmas destination for greater Minnesota. With already popular Christmas features such as the lights at Pine Grove Park and the Polar Xpress at CLC, Wakefield said the group would make sure the people involved are communicating with each other. They would help support the existing projects and look for additional offerings.

See **SEDA** on page 3a



Reciting the Pledge of Allegiance

Dozens of people braved the heat and humidity July 4, to attend the July 4 Celebration at All Veterans Park in Staples. Above, people recite the Pledge of Allegiance. More pictures from the event will be included in next week's paper. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Talking with the firefighters

Kripa Reese of Staples, above center, spoke with firefighters July 6, following a fire that badly damaged Williams Floral & Nursery, a business she and her husband Bryan Reese have owned for approximately two months. The Reeses, along with several of their children, have been working diligently at their new business, a fixture in the community for decades. Williams Floral & Nursery shared on Facebook, "Early this morning, we experienced a fire at Williams Floral. While we are incred-

ibly grateful no one was hurt, the inside of our beloved shop has been heavily damaged. We will be closed until further notice as we begin the process of cleanup and rebuilding." Kripa Reese, said, "This isn't just a building - it's a piece of history," adding that she fell in love with the building when she was 15 years old, recalling trips there with her mother, Marie. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

Weather

2025

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
July 9	83	64	M. Sunny
July 10	89	65	P. Cloudy
July 11	73	58	Rain
July 12	77	60	Showers
July 13	86	62	Sunny
July 13	86	62	Sunny
July 14	85	63	M. Sunny

Last Year, 2024

	High	Low	Cond.
July 9	79°	61	Sunny
July 10	83	65	M. Sunny
July 11	85	62	Sunny
July 12	84	63	Sunny
July 13	85	64	M. Sunny
July 14	86	62	M. Cloudy
July 15	74	65	Rain

Average Temps:
H = 81° Low = 59°

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Moran Township 9A
Todd Planning 9A
Todd Cty Commissioners 9A

Obituary

Jeanne Rooney

Lakewood/TCO offer free high school sports physicals



Talking with Dr. Diekmann

Beau Carlson, right, a student at Staples-Motley High school, checks in with Dr. Paul Diekmann at Twin Cities Orthopedics-Staples June 24, where free high school sports physicals were being offered to local student athletes. (Submitted photos)



TCO staff help at event

Staff members at Twin Cities Orthopedics (TCO) in Staples assisted at the free 'High School Sorts Physicals' event June 24, at TCO-Staples. In front, from left, are Patient Services Representatives Jana Munger and Kay Mueller. In back is Izaak Schafer, Occupational Therapist at TCO-Staples.

Drinking water testing available through Todd Cty

Todd County Planning and Zoning, in partnership with Todd Soil and Water Conservation District and Todd County Public Health, have received grant funding for testing of drinking water. The grant program focuses on testing of drinking water in households that have water supplied from private wells. Water test kits are available to land owners to pick up at the Planning and Zoning Office. Testing instructions are provided in the sample kit along with a link to a video format to assist with taking the sample. The sample kit provides 4 sample bottles that test for 5 impairments that are common in drinking water. The impairments consist of nitrates, bacteria,

arsenic, manganese, and lead. Sample kits will be provided free to charge to County residents that are connected to a private well. Water tests should be taken from the primary drinking water source within the house. We are allowing one sample kit per household. Additionally, additional cost sharing may be available to low income families if the sample shows impairments in excess of the drinking water standard. If you would like to testing your drinking water, stop in or call the Planning and Zoning Office for additional information. The Planning and Zoning Office can be reached at 320-732-4420.

Free high school sports physicals were offered June 24 at Twin Cities Orthopedics (TCO) in Staples. The event was made possible thanks to Lakewood Health System (LHS) and TCO, both of Staples. Thirty-seven local student athletes were seen by medical providers, with all given clearance to participate in their respective sports. It was the third year this service was offered, and the second year to be held at TCO-Staples. According to Amber Houselog, Senior Communications Specialist at LHS, the students came from nine local schools: Bertha-Hewitt, Brainerd, Browerville, Lakeville, Long Prairie-Grey Eagle, Pillager, Staples-Motley, Verndale and Wadena. Houselog went on to note that the providers included Family medicine: Chris Hughes, MD and Lisa Smeby, DNP; and Ortho/musculoskeletal: Paul Diekmann, MD (TCO) and Josh Kempf, DO. In addition, several nurses were a part of the process, as well as TCO staff. Each appointment took about 10 to 15 minutes from start to finish. After filling out Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) forms, students were brought by a nurse to see one of the ortho/musculoskeletal providers. From there, another nurse would check their weight, height, vision, etc.; and when that was complete, students would be seen by one of the family medicine providers.



Getting measured

Lakewood Health System nurse Macie Fox, left, measures Reed Leach, Staples-Motley student, at the free 'High School Sports Physicals' event held at Twin Cities Orthopedics in Staples June 24.

Once their exams were completed, copies of students' health records were made and future well-child appointments scheduled upon request. Finally, athletes received a swag bag of Lakewood and TCO goodies and then they were on their way.

Motley area law enforcement

Recent reports from the Motley Police Department (MPD) and Morrison County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) included the following: June 29 - The MCSO received a report of an unwanted subject at the 400 block of 3rd Ave. S., Motley June 28 - Morrison County deputies responded to a report of an assault at the 3600 block of 270th St., Cushing, subsequently arresting Jason Michael Beckner, 49. June 26 - A Morrison County deputy responded to a report of suspicious activity at the 400 block of Pine Ave. S., Motley. June 25 - A Morrison County deputy responded to a report of suspicious activity at the 6400 block of 280th St., Cushing.

Norman selected for Aspen Institute fellowship

The Aspen Institute College Excellence Program (Aspen) announced that Cheryl Norman, Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs at Central Lakes College, is one of 40 leaders selected for the 2025-26 Aspen Rising Presidents Fellowship. Rigorously selected from among over 120 applicants, fellows will learn from—and apply to their own contexts—lessons from over a dozen years of Aspen research about how to lead an institution to higher and more equitable levels of student success. "I'm incredibly honored to be selected for the Aspen Rising Presidents Fellowship," Norman said. "This is a unique opportunity to learn from national leaders in higher education and bring back strategies that will directly benefit CLC students and our college."

Many sitting community college presidents plan to retire in the next decade, creating an opportunity for college trustees and system heads to select leaders who have the skills and knowledge to achieve better outcomes for students. Aspen Presidential Fellows represent the next generation of diverse college leaders, including by institution and geography, representing 19 states and ranging from small rural to large urban colleges. The fellows will work closely with highly accomplished community college presidents and thought leaders over ten months to learn from field-leading research, examine demographic and labor market conditions in their communities, assess student outcomes at their colleges, and advance a clear vision for excellent outcomes for all their students while in college and after they graduate. "Our research on excellent colleges reveals that they have a few big things in common: They have presidents who focus on a few large-scale reforms that transcend enrollment and completion goals and centrally focus on whether



Cheryl Norman

graduates are set up to succeed in the next stage of their lives—either the world of work or at a university where they aim to earn a bachelor's degree," said Josh Wyner, executive director of the College Excellence Program. During her time at CLC, Norman has been a thoughtful and student-centered leader dedicated to fostering academic excellence, equity, and institutional sustainability. She provides leadership in academic programming, student services and institutional planning. Rising Presidents Fellows are chosen based on their commitment to student success, the extent to which they exhibit the characteristics of excellent presidents revealed in our research, and interest in pursuing a college presidency within five years of completing the fellowship. As Aspen Presidential Fellows, they join a network of over 430 forward-thinking peers—197 of whom are sitting college presidents—who are applying concrete, grounded, and innovative strategies to meet student success challenges at their colleges. The Aspen Rising Presidents Fellowship is made possible by the generous support of the Burton Family Foundation, Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Philanthropies, College Futures Foundation, and the Mellon Foundation. For more information, visit www.aspeninstitute.org.



Youth ATV Safety Course held

Eighteen students completed the ATV Youth Safety Course held in June at Wilderness Park by the Lake Country ATV Riders. Students from the Staples, Motley and Leader area completed safety checks and education, rider knowledge and operation as well as classroom work. Certified instructors were James Kenyon, Jeff Zabinski, Robert Bodine with safety helpers Tanya Zabinski, Lydia Zabinski, Kyan Turk, Wayne Marklowitz and Tyler Marklowitz. (Submitted photos)





Steve Fields
Minnesota Attorney



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SEDA continued from page 1a

SEDA Board hears updates on bank building, meat processing plant and Lakewood cancer center progress

“It could turn the winter lull into an economic engine for the community,” said Wakefield.

Economic development updates

Wakefield updated the board on the Small Cities Development Program, which has funded 17 projects in Staples through the state grant. He said the city should re-apply as soon as possible because he has talked to around 20 people who have inquired about the grant, but all the slots have been filled.

City administrator Jerel Nelsen updated the board on progress with the Mid-Minnesota Federal Credit Union, which is building a new banking facility on Highway 10 on the block next to Casey’s convenience store. He said the title work is done and they planned to close on the lot purchases in early July. They would remove the houses on the lots this summer and start their building project this fall or in the spring of 2026.

Nelsen said the meat processing facility being built by the Minnesota Farmers Union at the Staples Industrial Park is planning to add their retail section sooner rather than later. It was originally an option that they might pursue, but now they want the sales portion to move ahead quickly. He said the USDA is giving scholarships for spots in the Central Lakes College meat cutting program to teach people about the business. The scholarship program is just for one year. The scholarship program was facilitated by Region Five.

SEDA Board member Lisa Bjerga, Lakewood Health System CEO, said that the Lakewood cancer center is on schedule and on budget. They are planning to have the facility opening in October, with radiation services coming in November.

The board also approved repair work on the garage doors at the Staples EDA industrial building to replace panels that cracked.

Todd County Sheriff’s report

Recent report(s) from the Todd County Sheriff’s Office (TCSO) included:

June 27, 2025, 9:55 p.m.: The Todd County Sheriff’s Office (TCSO) responded to the intersection of County Rd 22 and 205th Ave for an I-phone crash detection alert coming from Lyle Meyers cell phone. Todd County Deputies arrived on scene located just north of County Rd 22 on

205th Ave and observed a male party later identified as Lyle Meyers laying face down in a field. Law enforcement immediately began life saving measures, assisted by Clarissa Fire/Rescue and Bertha Ambulance. Meyer was later pronounced deceased at the scene. The fatal accident is being investigated by the TCSO.

Court report July 2

Long Prairie Police
Maximim Alexis DiazAbreu, Miami, FL. Driving after suspension. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.
Mary Marie Dobmeier, Bertha. Expired registration. Fine \$30. Fee \$85.
Alexis Javier Gutierrez Orozco, Long Prairie. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.
MN Dept. of Resources
Teresa Jean Johnson, Zimmerman. Fail to affix valid registration sticker. Fine \$25. Fee \$75.
James Randall Poulin, Clarissa. Game and fish-licenses-must have license or proper paperless in personal possession. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.
Daniel Ross Schendzielos, Sauk Rapids. Fishing Walleye regulation violation. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Mark William Weber, Coon Rapids. Watercraft-Fail to affix valid registration sticker. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.
State Patrol
Patrick Norman Johnson, Fort Meyers, FL. Speed 75/65. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Kevin John Klawitter, Staples. Speed 75/65. Fine \$40. Fee \$85. No proof MV insurance. Fine \$200.
Hunter Joseph Romanowski, Staples. Speed 75/65. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Marian Jennifer Williams, Speed 80/65. Fine \$60. Fine \$85.
Miguel Angel Abonce, Melrose. Window tint. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Parker Aiden Carpenter, West Fargo, ND. Speed 90/70. Fine \$70. Fee \$155.
Thomas James Debaere, Tyler. Hands free law. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Tilly Kim Duong, Moorhead. Speed 85/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.
Helen Christine Dyar, Sarosota, FL. Hands free law. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Lisveidis Ferreras Matos, Long Prairie. No MN Driver’s License. Fine \$100. Fee \$85. Seat belt required. Fine \$25.
Derwin Eliazer Garcia, Browerville. No MN Drivers License. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.
Joseph Luke Gonzales, Fargo, ND. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Brooklyn Elizabeth Jurchenko, Alexandria. Speed 79/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Natasha Louise Kaiser, Hoffman. Seat belt required. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.
Jaime Paul Kegley, Rolette, ND. Speed 86/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.
Lyndsey Mae Langenfeld, Fargo, ND. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Maximo Antonio Montero De La Rosa, Long Prairie. Speed 73/60. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Alexander Misael Moreno, St. Paul. Speed 83/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Ricardo Ojeda Lopez, Sauk Centre. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Jason Christopher Pendleton, Fargo, ND. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Matthew Oliver Pobst, Fargo, ND. Speed 88/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.
Tanya Rose Poster, Bertha.

Speed 68/50. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.
Dale Robert Reining Wadena. Seat belt required. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.
Augustine Abel, Jr. Rogers, Minneapolis. Speed 98/70. Fine \$100. Fee \$185. Unsafe lane usage. Fine \$50. Instruction permit violation (18 years or older). Fine \$50.
Varney Vah, West Fargo, ND. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
David S. Vanwalleghe, Sanford, MB. Speed 81/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Jeffrey Todd Walker, Avon. Seat belt required. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.
Michael William Werts, Clearwater, FL. Hands free law. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Cody James Wolbeck, Grey Eagle. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Amanda Ann Wysocki, Long Prairie. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Ella Lynn Zanetti, St. Michael. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Osakis Police Dept.
Jordan Taylor Folkestad, Wadena. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85. Driver must carry proof of insurance when operating a vehicle. Fine \$200.
Thomas James O’Connor, Alexandria. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Todd County
Cory James Abers, Villard. Speed 72/55. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.
Garvin Luis Acevedo, Long Prairie. Driving after suspension. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.
Kendra Marie Goff, St. Cloud. Speed 55/45. Fine \$40. Fee \$85. Driving after suspension. Fine \$200.
Carla Vanessa Gomez Ramirez, Long Prairie. Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.
Garrett Michael Hurd, Browerville. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Jose Eduardo Martinez Ambriz, Long Prairie. Speed 75/55.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County June 24, 2025.
Abdi Haashi Muhumed, St. Cloud. Criminal Sexual conduct. 5th Degree. Nonconsensual sexual contact. Dismissed. Disorderly conduct. Sentenced. Local confinement (90 days, stay 85 days for 1 yr credit for time served: 5 days). Probation-adult (supervised probation, 1 yr). Fine \$50. Fee \$75.
Nathaniel Mendez Diaz, Long Prairie. Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. Sentenced. Local confinement (90 days, stay 90 days for 1 yr). Unsupervised probation, 1 yr. Fine \$100. Fee \$75. Traffic collision. Dismissed. Disorderly conduct. Local confinement (90 days, stay 87 days for 1 yr credit for time served: 3 days). Supervised probation, 1 yr). Fine \$100. Fee \$75.
Joshua John, Jr. Plaff, Swanville. Underage drinking & driving. Unsupervised probation, 6 mo. Fine \$100. Fee \$75.
The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County June 25,

75 YEARS Ago - 1950

• July 13, 1950 - A much needed rain fell last Saturday, and some has fallen since that time, with the result that many of the farmers are wearing big smiles on their faces, and are happy because the rain has brightened their hopes for a crop, in spite of the late spring which came to this territory.

Gardens too, have been greatly benefitted by the moistures, and all vegetation is “looking mighty green” in these parts at the present time.

The rain has held up haying some, but this is not too serious, because the

- O -
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
- O -

moisture was needed for the crops, so farmers are over-looking their haying troubles at the present time.

• July 13, 1950 - Charlie O’Dell, who can boast of being Staples oldest resident, celebrated his 97th birthday anniversary July 3, at the home of his granddaughter, Mrs. Oscar Johnson.

His son Ed O’Dell and his wife of Minneapolis came up to spend the day with him, and took Charlie and the Johnsons with them to Gull River Bridge, where they spent the afternoon fishing. Charlie brought home three northerns that afternoon, and considered the day’s catch pretty good.

• July 13, 1950 - Local circus fans will have another opportunity of seeing a real circus on July 25, when the Cole & Walters circus will pitch their tents on Tuesday, July 25 at the ball park.

Many stellar performers are with the circus and these will be here for the entertainment of Staples people. See herds of performing elephants, featuring ‘Big Bertha,’ the largest elephant in captivity; baby hippopotamus, prancing horses and funny clowns. A clean show! Bring the family! Adults, \$1, children, 50 cents.

• July 13, 1950 - Motley baseball team wins again. After dropping a 4th of July tilt to Nimrod by a score of 6 to 3, Manager Dick Brown’s boys got back into high gear by trouncing Midway 19 to 3, to keep their league record clean with 6 wins and no defeats.

Martin Klingenberg led the Motley hitting with 4 singles in 5 trips to the plate. Close behind though were Jackie Sklenicka and Chub Skeesick who each collected two doubles and a single. Bud Skeesick and Bud Schrupp also came through with 2 singles a piece.

50 YEARS Ago - 1975

• July 10, 1975 - Tuesday, July 1, at Dower Lake, the Staples nine and ten year old baseball team won the open game of a double-header with Menahga by a 5-4 score and then tied the second game at 3-all.

Rick Jay with a home run and Dayne Moe with two doubles led Staples to the 5-4 victory in the first game. Rick Jay was also the winning pitcher.

Rick Jay, Don Stohlanske and Shag Miller each scored a run in the second game to deadlock the score 3-3.

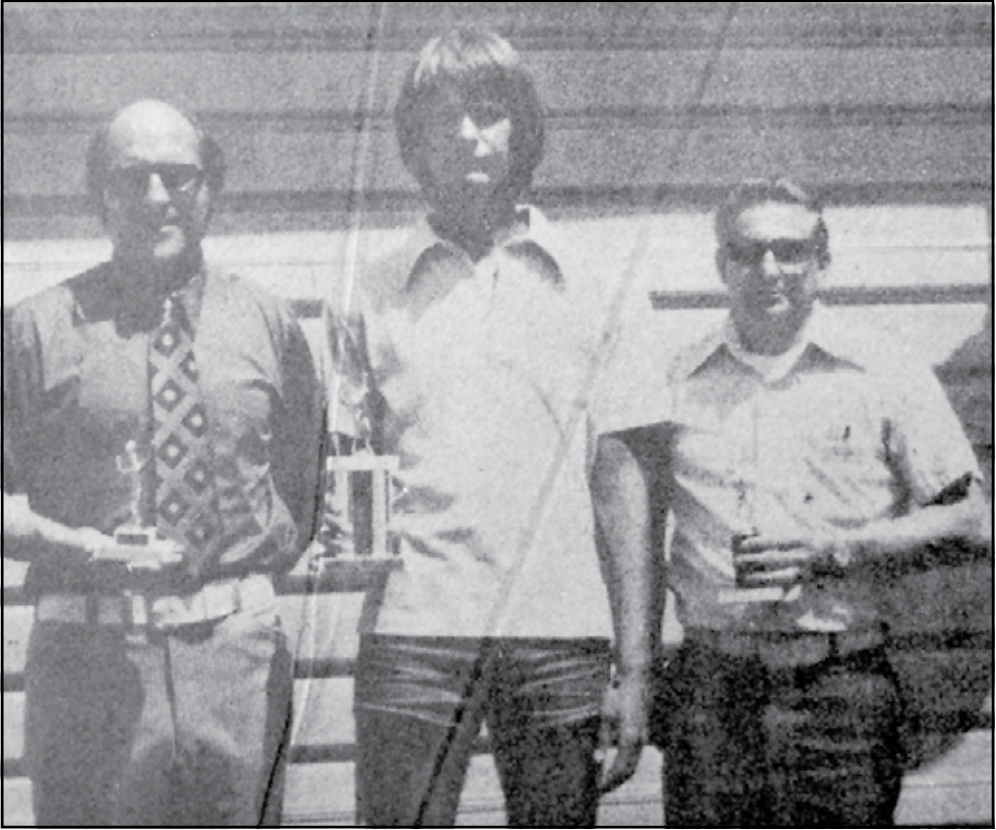
Seeing action for Staples in the games were Dayne Moe, Mike Case, Jerome Volesky, Don Stohlanske,

2025.

Yerferson Daniel Martinez Villamizar, Hollywood, FL. Sentenced. Disorderly conduct. Local confinement (90 days, stay 88 days for 1 yr credit for time served: 2 days). Supervised probation. Fine \$100. Fee \$75.

Desiree Annecelle Boie, Staples. 2nd Degree Driving while impaired. Dismissed. 2nd Degree Driving while impaired-blood alcohol content greater than .08 within 2 hours of driving. Sentenced. Local confinement (364 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 310 days for 4 yr). Supervised probation, 4 yr. Fine \$525. Fee \$75. Careless driving. Dismissed. Traffic-wrong way on one way. Dismissed.

Jordan Joseph Burns, Browerville. Domestic assault. Sentenced. Local confinement (90 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 0 days for credit for time



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week’s archive photo is from 1975. 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.

Rick Jay, Tom Hollister, Kip Crabb, Lynn Germann, Mike Lauer, Shag Miller, Joe Cunningham, John Cline, Curt Jenkins, Bob Latham, Todd Card and Kerry Erickson.

• July 10, 1975 - The Cardinal Marching Band of Staples, directed by Larry Correll, placed second in the Johnny Inkslinger Parade in Brainerd Saturday, July 5.

The Long Prairie Band placed first, with Staples second and Park Rapids taking third.

• July 10, 1975 - A Minneapolis man was one of six drowning victims in Minnesota over the July Fourth weekend.

Lawrence Hanych, 42, of Minneapolis, drowned Saturday, July 5, in Horseshoe Lake near Browerville. Todd County authorities reported that Hanych was with three companions when his boat capsized in Horseshoe Lake. The three companions were not harmed.

25 YEARS Ago - 2000

• July 13, 2000 - A tornado rated by weather officials as a F-2 in magnitude tore through the Staples area Saturday night, leaving a path of destruction but no significant injuries.

The tornado first hit west of Staples destroying a mobile home. It then hopped and skipped across about five miles of woods and farm fields. Trees were felled at several rural homes before the twister crossed Highway 10 in the vicinity of the Woodland Container (Box Plant) building before plowing into a residential area on Staples south side.

John Hoppes, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Grand Forks, said the NWS determined it was a tornado that swept through the area shortly after 9:30 p.m. Saturday night. A survey crew determined it started south of Verndale and moved to Staples. The tornado was a weak F-2, with winds estimated at about 115 miles per hour.

In Staples, authorities had been watching the threatening clouds and lightning for some time. Bob Blessing, the Staples Emergency Operations Direc-

tor, reported he called out the Staples Volunteer Fire Department for weather spotting duties at 9:22 p.m.

“We sounded the siren system at 9:30 and the storm came through at 9:40,” Blessing added. He reported he was talking with Police Chief Kyle Huber, Fire Chief Joe Hassler and city officials as the storm approached. “I went to Centennial Auditorium to warn the people there (people attending the Lamplighter Theatre performance of Oliver),” Blessing said.

Other stories and photos in the paper that week told of the destruction in the Staples area in the aftermath of the tornado, including that of the Gene Altenbrun family, who had an experience very few people live to tell about.

Eugene and Charlene Altenbrun, who were in their mobile home that evening, know they are lucky to be alive. The same is true for their son, Richard Schmitz.

All three rode out the Saturday tornado and came

away with a few bruises and cuts. Their trailer had been left a mangled mess. They were all very shaken, but alive and able to talk about their experience.

• July 13, 2000 - Cartwright Railroad Art of Shoreview will be one of the features at the Chili Cook-Off during Railroad Days Aug. 25-27 in Staples.

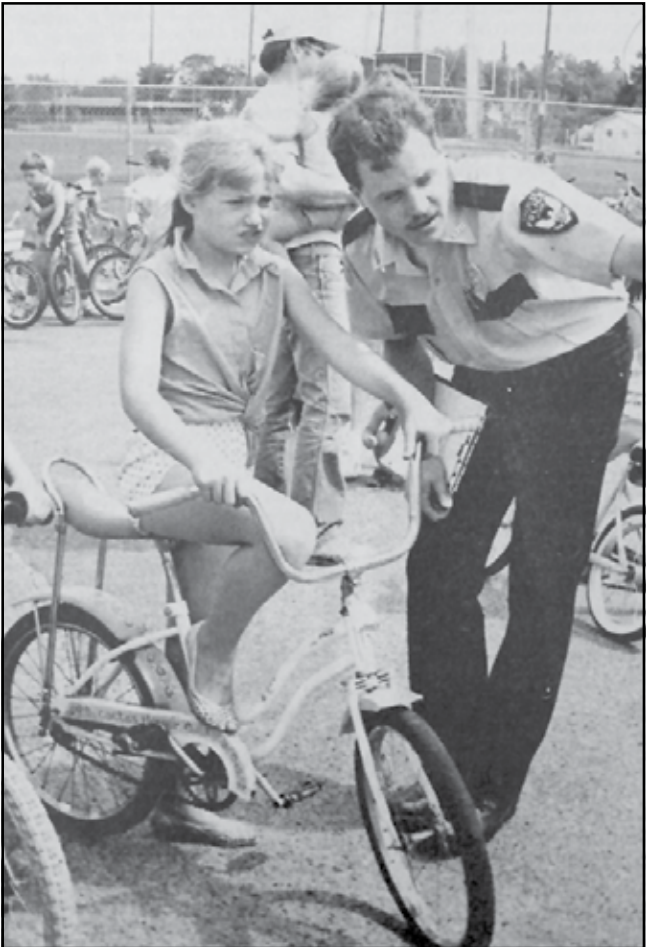
John Cartwright will be displaying and selling his prints of Minnesota depots during the cook-off which is from noon - 4 p.m. Aug. 26, at the Staples Community Center parking lot.

10 YEARS Ago - 2015

• July 9, 2015 - It’s official. Mary Klamm is the new superintendent of the Staples Motley School District.

Her contract, which is effective Aug. 1, 2015, through June 30, 2018, was approved by the school board at a special meeting July 1.

Klamm is currently serving as superintendent at Menahga Public Schools, a district of 960 students.



Mystery solved

Last week’s mystery photo published in the June 11, 1987 edition of the Staples World featured Staples Police Officer Rob Schreiber pointing out a bike obstacle course to Peggy Tabbat, daughter of Gerald and Bonnie Tabbat, during the Bike Safety Rodeo at the Staples Community Center. She was one of 132 youngsters to take part in the event.



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Passenger rail funding protects taxpayer investment

Jim Mathews
President & CEO, Rail
Passengers Association

Fresh off his stellar performance during the Senate hearing on Modernizing America’s Rail Network within the Committee of Commerce, Science and Technology on June 18, Senator Bernie Moreno (R-OH) is doubling down on comments he made for the government to get out of the railroad passenger business. “The government should just sell it. We shouldn’t be in the railroad passenger business. It’s the only business line the government is involved in and deals with consumers. The Government is just incapable of running a private business. Let’s just sell it. I’m not against rail service. I think we need to have great rail service. And the impediment to great rail service is America owning Amtrak.” Senator Bernie Moreno recently said during an inter-

view with Fox 5 Cleveland. The Rail Passengers Association has built a strong bi-partisan alliance who understand the importance of passenger rail to individuals and communities across the country. But, there are others, like Senator Moreno, who don’t quite appreciate that Congress is part of the problem. The investments needed in passenger rail infrastructure have long been a political football in Washington, DC. Playing politics is the very reason our nation lags behind the rest of the developed world in building modern transportation. The type of “... great rail service.” Senator Moreno says he desires. Amtrak only recently announced record levels of ridership and revenue, both nationally and on key State-supported corridors. The American public is best served by Amtrak adopting a strategy of improving its operating ratio by growing service, not by pretending

to be a for-profit corporation delivering earnings-per-share at the expense of carrying out the mission Congress set for it more than half a century ago. Rail Passengers have made it clear we oppose pennywise, pound-foolish decisions to chase “profitability” a goal not required in any law passed by Congress, during a period of record taxpayer subsidies to the Federal interstate highway system. “The government should just sell it.” No, Senator Moreno, the Government should not. Congress should take better care of the taxpayer dollars that they have invested. Recapitalization efforts in service of the 40+ million rail passengers across our great country must continue. Rail Passengers works every day as your voice. Your generosity makes it possible for us to make sure “Let’s just sell it” doesn’t happen.

Argument for openness: Facts quell rumors

By Jim Pumarlo
Red Wing Republican Eagle

As youths we all likely tried to hide bad behavior from our parents. The truth inevitably surfaced, and we bore the brunt of punishment. Lesson: Be up front with circumstances and repercussions typically are minimized. Newspapers should communicate the same lesson to public officials who try to keep secret what they deem sensitive or unwelcome news: Be forthright. Make it standard procedure to volunteer the news and minimize rumors. Newsrooms work tirelessly to deliver on the “public’s right to know,” and for good reason. In the words of David Bordewyk, executive director of the South Dakota NewsMedia Association: Open government is essential to good government. The public’s right to know was the thrust behind the SDNA’s support for a bill that passed this year’s Legislature to require all public boards to review the open meetings laws once a year, Bordewyk writes. “Keeping an eye on government and informing readers about public meetings are among the most important jobs for community news media organizations.” Government transparency often centers on open records and open meetings laws, Bordewyk notes, acknowledging that laws can be confusing and lead to misunderstandings. So why not require an annual refresher course? It’s a great idea, one that should be pursued by other state press associations if it’s not already on the books. At the same time, newspapers should not wait for the often lengthy and zigzag path of a worthy idea to reach the finish line. Why not initiate meetings with local officials to review and explore the intricacies of open meeting and data practices laws. Newspapers certainly should stand on the letter of the law when seeking access to public information and meetings. Two other points should be stressed. First, advance requests based on the spirit of openness – no matter what the law dictates. Challenge public officials to place themselves in the position of friends and neighbors seeking answers from City Hall. Would they be satisfied with “no comment”? Second, underscore the value of setting benchmarks for community conversation. Meeting in secret or withholding infor-

mation only fuels rumors. If gossip has reached the newspaper, those affected can rest assured it has circulated broadly, especially fueled by social media. At minimum, hearsay exaggerates the facts. At worst, the whispers promote blatant falsehoods. The opportunity to deliver facts straight from the source is one of the strongest arguments editors can present to those otherwise hesitant to share information. Citizens still may dismiss statements as a “company line,” but parameters have been set for community discussion. The premise of openness should be delivered to the private sector as well. Companies and individuals are not subject to the same laws as public bodies, but they ought to be aware that their news is equally important to the community and often travels more quickly than a city council vote. Conflicts over the public’s right to know often focus on a specific meeting or particular document. Officials also should be reminded of the value of everyday openness. I vividly recall the “news” passed along by my photographer when I sat behind the editor’s desk. Word had reached his son’s elementary school that a teacher at the middle school had lost all his fingers in a lab experiment. We promptly tracked a story for that day’s edition. The superintendent set the record straight. The teacher lost a fingertip and all was handled very calmly and professionally. Our first inquiry, however, went to the school principal. She refused comment, charging us with sensationalism. A few minutes later she called and canceled her subscription without even seeing our report. I’ll stand by our decision to pursue and publish the story. I’m certain we prevented a lot of misinformed table talk at dinners that evening. I applaud Bordewyk and his association for securing legislation to require all public boards to review the open meetings laws once a year. In tandem, I encourage newspapers to pursue meetings to orient public officials on the laws. Nothing is more important in newspaper missions than to preserve and advance the public’s right to know. Editors too often find themselves demanding information in confrontation. Seize the opportunity to structure these meetings as an effort to reach a common understanding.

Quote of the week

“A fool thinks himself to be wise, but a wise man knows himself to be a fool.”
— William Shakespeare

Get to know a scammer

Common scams used in Todd County

Scammers often target the elderly, but anyone who uses electronic devices, such as phones or computers, can be a target of scammers. Be wary of a scam if they are contacting you out of the blue. Scammers often pretend to be from an organization you know. Before giving away information or money, contact a family member or a professional who you know you can trust. Below are some of the scams that have been used in Todd County recently. Thanks to the Todd County Sheriff’s Office for providing these examples of scams.

Business swindle

Small businesses will receive calls from scammers claiming they’re working on an FBI sting related to counterfeit money. They ask you to shut down your store, take all the cash from registers and safes and turn it into gift cards or crypto currency. Law enforcement would never ask a business to do anything like this. It is a scam.

Naughty nudes

Scammers will contact you and make a relationship online. They will gain your trust, eventually asking for nude or provocative pictures. After the photos are sent, they’ll blackmail you into sending money or they will put the photos out on social media. Never send provocative photos, it can break many laws.

Artificial bill

A business owner or government entity receives an email about an overdue bill.

account information. Sometimes they’ll request you wire transfer the money instead of send a check/ money order like you normally would. Make sure multiple people at your business can confirm the authenticity of any bill.

Red flags

If the caller wants you to stay on the phone line with them while the transaction is in the process (buying gift cards or exchanging money for bitcoin), this is one of the biggest tell alls. The scammer will even tell the victim where to walk in stores to find the machines.

Never do this

- Do not keep talking to them even though they want to keep you on the phone. It is best to hang up and block their number.
- Never click on a link or attachment in a text message or email that you’re not sure who/where it came from. You can hover your mouse over a link and see if it matches where the email claimed to be from.

Fischbach supports pause in tariffs, trade efforts

Congresswoman Michelle Fischbach joined 55 of her colleagues in sending a letter to U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent, Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins, and Secretary of Commerce Howard Lutnick. The letter commends the Trump administration for ongoing efforts in trade negotiations and advocates for robust market access on behalf of American farmers, ranchers, and manufacturers. In the letter, the members wrote: “We write to you to express our strong support for ongoing trade negotiations to level the playing field for American producers and

manufacturers. President Trump’s decision to pause the implementation of certain reciprocal tariffs creates momentum to secure meaningful and enforceable agreements for U.S. agricultural producers, energy producers, and manufacturers. “...Certain barriers may require long-term negotiations. However, we are confident in your ability to utilize this 90-day pause to come to agreements that can benefit all American industries while providing opportunity for continued dialogue. There are pressing trade issues, including digital services taxes, import quotas, and tariff reduction, which we cannot delay addressing.

“American manufacturers, producers, and consumers are eager for the long-term certainty trade agreements provide. This certainty could prevent the decline of commodity prices, recover global market share, and unleash American industry to counter global competitors. Further, bilateral agreements which address both tariff and non-tariff barriers provide opportunities to strengthen supply chains, drive innovation, and increase international collaboration, all of which would reassert the United States’ global leadership and combat China’s malign influence.”

Federal bill projected to raise electricity prices

Citizens Utility Board

A Minnesota ratepayer advocate is raising alarms over the anticipated effects of the “One Big Beautiful Bill Act” on the cost of energy. According to analysis conducted by the non-partisan think tank Energy Inno-

vation, by 2035, the bill will cause Minnesotans’ home electricity costs to rise by 28 percent and Minnesota industrial electricity costs to rise by 46 percent. The legislation, narrowly passed by the U.S. Senate, repeals multiple federal policies, funding programs and tax credits that drive American energy manufacturing and deployment. It eliminates clean energy tax credits that reduce the cost of electricity to ratepayers and have generated billions of dollars in investment in Minnesota. The bill also claws back unobligated funding, expands new oil and gas leasing, changes and eliminates existing energy and manufacturing tax credits. “More than 91,000 Minnesota households had their utility service shut off for nonpayment last year,” said Annie Levenson-Falk, executive director of the Citizens Utility Board of Minnesota, a non-profit advocate for the state’s energy consumers. “At a time when we need to focus on making energy more affordable, this bill is a huge step in the wrong direction.” Utility disconnections in 2024 far exceeded any year in at least a decade, as far back as the Citizens Utility Board has compiled records. “America’s grid is facing the fastest electricity growth in 20 years, and

Minnesotans are struggling to pay the bills in the face of rising inflation,” said Robbie Orvis, Senior Director of Modeling and Analysis for Energy Innovation. “Congress has decided to kneecap utilities’ ability to build new generation to meet demand and impose billions in new energy costs on households and businesses. The country is teetering on a recession and this bill will cost jobs and cancel manufacturing—it couldn’t come at a worse time for our communities.” Energy Innovation’s analysis found the bill will:

- Increase Minnesota household electricity bills by \$240 million in 2030, swelling to more than \$750 million 2035. Between 2025-2034, the bill will add a cumulative \$2.7 billion to Minnesotans’ household energy costs.
- Reduce Minnesota’s GDP by \$2.3 billion in 2030 and \$4.3 billion in 2035. Between 2025-2034, cumulative state GDP would shrink by \$22 billion.
- Cut Minnesota employment, costing over 14,400 jobs in 2030 and nearly 22,900 jobs in 2035.
- Slow the deployment of electricity generation in Minnesota by more than 25 percent (nearly 4 gigawatts of power) by 2035 – at a time when electricity demand growth is projected to increase dramatically.

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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.

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.

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Romeo and Juliet Lottery Style

Unique performance in Staples before Fringe Festival

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

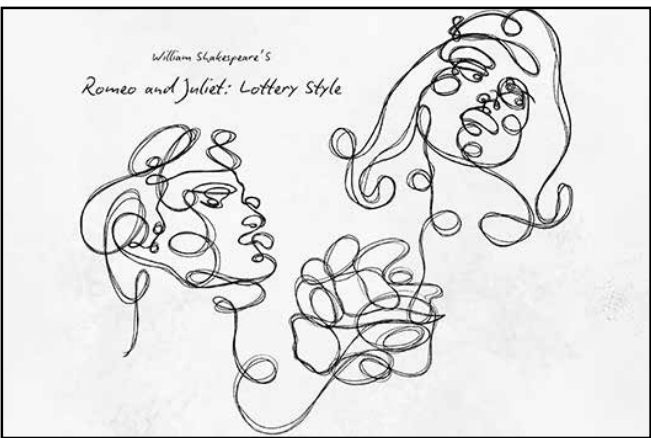
Shakespeare performed live with actors learning which roles they will play right in front of the audience as the performance starts. That's the plot of Romeo and Juliet Lottery Style, which will be performed Sunday, July 20 at 6 p.m. at Centennial Auditorium in Staples.

Staples native Matthew Olsen, assistant theatre professor at University of Minnesota Duluth, said two of his former students and two current students will be in the cast.

The concept for the play was developed by student Katherine Warmka, who will be one of the actors, as will Olsen. Other actors are Olivia Nelson, Irie Unity and Molly Fabian.

Warmka's web page describes how the play works: "The ensemble will work together to create the characters and world of the play based on the unique abilities and personalities of each person in the room."

That means all the actors need to know all the roles and it also means no two plays will ever be the same,



each experience will be unique.

After the performance in Staples, the troupe will perform at the Minnesota Fringe Festival the following week, with their performance at the Theatre in the Round in Minneapolis.

The performance in Staples is also scheduled to be "theatre in the round" style, with audience members in chairs up on the stage. It is a free event, anyone interested in seeing the Fringe Festival performance are invite to show up before 6.

The performance is about 45 minutes, with the audience invited to stay for a discussion afterwards.

camp" of practicing their many roles for two days before the performance.

The challenge is not just learning Shakespeare's lines, there are also physical challenges.

"Romeo and Juliet has a lot of fight scenes I choreographed," said Olsen. "Every person has to know every part of every fight, and they have to know the inverse of each fight in case they are playing the other role."

Olsen has been a part of many productions through Lamplighter Community Theatre and the Staples-Motley schools, as actor and director. Bringing live theatre to the community is one of his great joys.

"It's marrying all of my worlds," said Olsen, "I'm coming home, it's Shakespeare and I'm supporting students and their growth."

The Fringe Festival is a week long festival with around 100 troupes putting on 500 theatre performances at different theaters in Minneapolis. Each play is less than 60 minutes in length and fans can buy five or ten ticket packages.



1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

Zoey Maule recently completed the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program at the Staples Public Library. Parents may sign their child up for the reading program at the library and receive a free book backpack. The program is sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library. Above: Zoey (parents Anthony and Heather Maule) receiving her certificate and new book with Library Assistant Angie Johnson. (Submitted photo)

River Rats return to rock Music in the Park

The River Rats were a breakout hit at the Little Red Caboose variety show the past two years, and their fans packed NP Park for a show last July.

The group of local musicians, including many current and former music teachers in the area, will be back at Music in the Park at Northern Pacific Park in Staples on Sunday, July 13, at 7 p.m.

With a mix of guitars, horns and a variety of singers, the band plays classic rock songs from the '50s to the '80s and beyond.



The River Rats at the Batcher Block Opera House in Staples.

Lakewood Health System EMS team to offer free Stop the Bleed® training to the public

Lakewood Health System's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) team, Staples, is offering a free Stop the Bleed® training to the public on Wednesday, July 16, from 12 to 12:45 p.m. The training will take place in the Burlington conference room, located just inside Door C at Lakewood's Senior Campus (401 Prairie Ave. NE, Staples).

All ages and abilities are welcome and encouraged to attend this training which is part of a national campaign that empowers bystanders to control life-threatening bleeding before medical help arrives. During this hands-on training, attendees will be educated on basic bleeding control techniques, such as applying direct pressure, packing wounds, and using tourniquets, with the ultimate goal of saving lives.

No RSVP is required, but if you have questions, you can call 218-894-8010.

ing, attendees will be educated on basic bleeding control techniques, such as applying direct pressure, packing wounds, and using tourniquets, with the ultimate goal of saving lives.

No RSVP is required, but if you have questions, you can call 218-894-8010.

"It's an opportunity to give it a test run in front of an audience we don't know," said Olsen. "It's a bit nerve-racking, every performance could be a really different interpretation. One actor could be Romeo, a friar and a nurse."

He said even if you see the show in Staples, you can go to the performance at the Fringe Festival and it could be a completely different show.

"It's bare-bones storytelling," said Olsen, "there are not set pieces and the audience gets to be on all sides."

The troupe is meeting in Staples the day before the performance for a "boot

Mark Your Calendar

- July 10**
'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>
- July 11**
BREAKFAST WITH SKEETER THE CLOWN (PRELUDE TO THE CIRCUS) will be held Friday, July 11, at BRICKS Travel Center in Motley from 8 - 10 a.m., and at the Silo Ice Cream Parlor in Motley from 10:15 - 11 a.m. Tickets for the upcoming circus in Motley (Saturday, July 19) will be available at both sites.
- WOMEN'S OPEN AA RECOVERY MEETING** Every Friday in person, 10:30 a.m., Motley Free Methodist Church (lower level), 33 Wellwood

- St. E. Motley. All women welcome.
- July 13**
CELEBRATE RECOVERY GROUP MEETINGS are held every Sunday at 6 p.m., at Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood St. E., Motley.
- July 15**
EXPERIENCE STRENGTH AND HOPE AA GROUP MTGS IN STAPLES are held at the Church of Christ, 27343 490th St., Tuesdays, 7 - 8 p.m. For info., call Dan at 218-640-7228.
- July 16**
STAPLES ALL VETERANS AND COMMUNITY PARK ASSOCIATION will hold its monthly board meeting on Wednesday, July 16, at 5:30 p.m., in the lower level of Lakewood Health System in Staples. The public is invited. To attend via Zoom, call Bob Hamann at 218-894-3139.

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Staples World

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On-Line: \$50

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Staples, MN 56479
218-894-1112
www.staplesworld.com

DEADLINE

for all classified ads and copy is 12 noon Friday

For the Staples World

Menu

Senior Nutrition Program
Call on mornings the Friday before to reserve next week's meal and for current suggested donation info. LSS Meal; traditional older adult menu. Menu is subject to change.
Staples 894-2556
Meals include bread (specific kind noted), marg. and 1% milk.
July 14 - July 18
Monday - Baked chicken, 5 way mixed veggies, Rosemary baked potato, chocolate chip bar, cornbread.
Tuesday - Swedish meatballs, mashed potatoes, brown gravy, mixed veggies
vanilla pudding, dinner roll.
Wednesday - Pork roast, pork gravy, candied yams, green beans, wheat bread, chocolate chip cookie.
Thursday - Tuna noodle casserole, peas/carrots, whole kernel corn, Gala apple, dinner roll, vanilla wafers.
Friday -Cheese omelet, turkey sausage, Rosemary diced potatoes, fresh clementine, blueberry muffin, ketchup.
wk29

TWO PARCEL AUCTION IN TODD COUNTY
ONLINE ONLY
BIDDING OPENS THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2025 AT 8:00 AM
Thursday, August 28, 2025 • 2:00 PM
Online Only Auction in Fawn Lake Twp, Todd Co
Two Parcel Auction - 190± Total Deeded Acres

Go to FladeboeLand.com
for more details and to view the drone video & aerial photos

Parcel 2
80± Deeded Acres
43.75± Tillable Acres

Parcel 1
110± Deeded Acres
35.32± Tillable Acres



Building Site Address:
42243 County Road 7, Browerville, MN
Open House Dates:
July 16, 3 - 5 p.m.; August 2, 1 - 3 p.m.;
August 19, 3 - 5 p.m.; August 27, 3 - 5 p.m.
Glen Fladeboe 651-208-3262
Glen@FladeboeLand.com


SCAN FOR INFORMATION

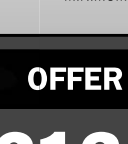
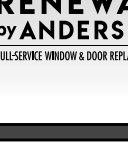
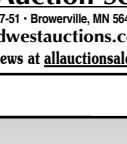
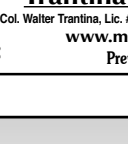
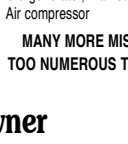
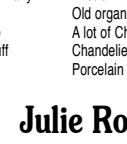
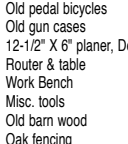
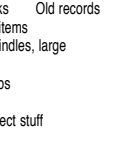
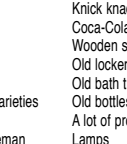
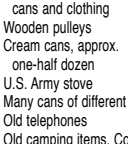
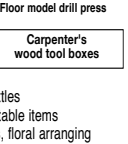
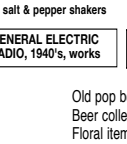
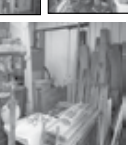
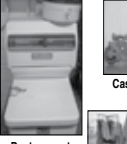
INVENTORY REDUCTION AUCTION

Located in Staples, MN 56479, Hwy. 10 and Hwy 210 Junction, south by railroad tracks (200-1/2 6th St. SE). Follow signs on:

Saturday, July 12, 2025

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

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Ardis Schimpp
is turning **"90"**
Help her celebrate
Saturday, July 12
1 to 4 p.m.
Thomastown Covenant Church
15940 251st Ave., Staples

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Class of 1969 reunion

The Staples High School Class of 1969 is having a class reunion on Friday, Aug. 15, at Holst Acres in Staples, from 3-7 p.m. The meal will be served at 5 p.m.

The Classes of 1968 and 1970 are invited to attend as well. To RSVP by Aug. 1, and for more information, call Sherry at 815-222-6735 or Kaye at 218-821-8153.

Hello World

ONLINE BIRTHS REMOVED AT THE REQUEST OF LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM.

Obituary

Jeanne Rooney

Jeanne Elaine Rooney, age 81, of Prior Lake, passed peacefully in the presence of her beloved family on Friday, June 6, 2025, at McKenna Crossing.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held June 12, at St. Michael Catholic Church, Prior Lake with Father Tom Walker presiding.

Jeanne was laid to rest at St. Michael Catholic Cemetery.

Gracing this world on April 23, 1944, in Motley, Jeanne Elaine was born to Magnus and Loretta (Smith) Hanson. One of six girls, Jeanne grew up in Motley, where she loved to work with her father milling lumber. She shared a passion for the woods with her father and talked about how much she enjoyed that time with her dad. She was particularly close with her twin sister, Janice and they remained inseparable through childhood and beyond. Jeanne was very active and popular growing up, involved in cheerleading throughout her schooling.

Jeanne graduated from Motley High School and moved to the city for work. She would return on the weekends to take care of her son Tim, as her parents helped take care of him during the week. She took a job waitressing in Minneapolis and met a young man, Philip Rooney, through a mutual friend. After a generous tip, not long after, Jeanne and Phil united in marriage on January 30, 1965, at St. Michael Catholic Church in Motley, and settled in the Twin Cities area. Together, they were blessed with three more children, Maria, Chris and Missy.

In 1968, Jeanne decided to venture into real estate, and secured her license with Hartwick Realty. She was one of the first woman realtors to show homes. Several years later, Phil joined the business. Soon after they established their own company, Realty III, in 1974. Jeanne also picked up a part time job working the Christmas rush at Target in the jewelry department. She loved it so much she stayed for the next 18 years. She won numerous awards and design contests within the company, including the cart rack designs in use today.

Jeanne was an excellent writer and excelled in creative tasks. She always wanted to write her own book. She had unique designing instincts while decorating and staging homes for the family real estate business. Jeanne was fantastic at cooking but never followed a recipe and, unfortunately, never wrote anything down. Jeanne was immensely proud of her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Family was always at the center of Jeanne's fun-loving life. She and Phil were



fixtures at the kids' sporting events and enjoyed springing surprise vacations whether going on road trips, cruises, or an extended spin with a shiny new car. She loved a good roast and teasing her family and friends. Jeanne never missed a birthday or Christmas card and filled them to the brim with personal messages. Many people commented that her heartfelt memorial cards had a profound effect on them.

Phil and Jeanne also started wintering in Mesa, AZ, in 2006 with extended family and friends. They were active in the club, decorating, planning and working activities. She also enjoyed bowling and played in a league for over 20 years, with some championships to brag about. Jeanne could always be counted on to bring a good time, dancing to Elvis and Debbie Reynolds.

In her last few months, when Jeanne's health started failing with dementia, she was blessed to have the friendship of Jo and Deb. They would enjoy excursions, shopping, and visiting Tim together. The care team at McKenna Crossing, from the front desk to floors 1, 3, and 4 were greatly appreciated by her family.

Jeanne is loved and will be greatly missed by her children, Tim Rooney, Maria (Casey) Brinkman, Chris (Christine) Rooney, Missy (Bruce) Hudoba; grandchildren, Alexandra (Jake Pofahl) Borchardt, Tony Borchardt, Drew Brinkman, Cole Brinkman, Nick Rooney, Morgan Rooney, Jack Hudoba, Charlie Hudoba; great-grandchildren; Rooney, Georgia, Emryn; twin sister, Janice (Don) Scott; many nieces, nephews, relatives, lifelong friends and recent special friends, Joann Millar, Deb Schmidt and Ryan Murray.

Greeting Jeanne home in eternal peace is her husband, Phil; granddaughter, Jessica Borchardt; parents, Magnus and Loretta; sisters, Donna, Darlene, Mildred and Marilyn and other family members and many friends.

Arrangements by Ballard-Sunder Funeral & Cremation, www.BallardSunderFuneral.com.

w29p A00006B2020JL09

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance

1512 8th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2891
Jonny Olson, Associate Pastor
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 11:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
AWANA 6:00 p.m.

Assembly of God

914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples 218-894-1081
Pastor Roy Miles
Small Groups (Bible classes for all ages) 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Children's Church (Kids start in main worship service) 11 a.m.
Prayer Meeting 5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Sonlight (kids ages 4 yrs.-6th grade) After school to 5:30 p.m.
Youth Group (Teens, 7th-12th grade) After school to 5:30 p.m.

Church of Christ

27343 490th St., Staples 218-894-2609
Pastor Barry Klein
Facebook Live
Bible School (youth and adult) 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY:
Adult Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Faith Lutheran

430 12th Street. NE., Staples 218-894-1546
Pastor Carl Larson
Sunday Worship Service 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School and Coffee Fellowship 10:05 a.m.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

310 4th St. NE, Staples
Church 218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn and Fr. Rick Aubol
MASS:
Sunday 8:30 a.m.

Seventh Day Adventist

421 Dakota Ave. SE, Staples
Pastor Joshua Jeresek
218-894-0033
Saturday Worship 9:30 am.
Sabbath School 10:45 a.m.

Thomastown Covenant

15940 251st Ave., Staples 218-894-3923
Pastor Scott Jorgenson
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH 6:30 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran

1000 4th St., NE, Staples 218-894-2372
Pastor Vicar Paul Koehler
Sunday Divine Service 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School and Bible Class ... 10:30 a.m.

United Methodist

310 5th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2248
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
(Nursery Available for Sunday Worship)

Aldrich

Balsamlund Lutheran

19550 490th Street, Aldrich
Janet Eckman SMA 218-837-5831
jre227@yahoo.com
Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.

Cushing

Bethany Lutheran

25430 Bison Rd. Cushing, MN
320-749-2140
Pastor Carl Larson
www.bethanylutherancushing.org
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
Communion 1st and 2nd Sunday of each month

Lincoln Evangelical Free

1354 320th Street, Cushing, MN 56443
Phone: 218-575-2449
www.lincolnefree.org
Facebook Lincoln E Free
Office Hours: Tues. - Thurs., 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Senior Pastor: Don Reigstad
SUNDAY
Church Worship Gathering 10:00 a.m.
YouTube Channel 10:00 a.m.

Cushing Baptist

26298 Bear Rd., Cushing
Pastor Dan Holmes 320-749-2583
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible study 7:30 p.m.

Leader

Swan Valley Lutheran

Leader 218-397-2470
Sandy Knight, Synodically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament
Sunday Worship
January - July 9 a.m.
July - January 11 a.m.

Maple Hill Lutheran

Sandy Knight, Synodically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament
Leader 218-397-2470 (Rural Pine River)
Worship and Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Motley

Motley Free Methodist

33 Wellwood St. E
Motley 56466 218-352-6888
Jim Johnson, Senior Pastor
Casey Reynolds, Assistant Pastor
Sunday Worship 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.
facebook live 9 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
AWANA 4:00-5:30 p.m.
Youth Group 6:00-8:00 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran

497 3rd Ave. S, Motley 218-352-6399
Pastor Vicar Paul Koehler
Sunday School and Bible Class 8:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
St. Michael Catholic Church
1st St. and Birch, Motley 218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn
MASS:
Saturday 4:00 p.m.

St. Michael

280 1st Ave S, Motley 218-894-2296
Fr. Aaron Kuhn and Fr. Rick Aubol
MASS:
Sunday 10:30 a.m. (May - Nov.)
Saturday 4:00 p.m. (Dec - April)

United Methodist

847 3rd Ave. S. Lane, Motley 218-352-6466
Pastor Greg Leslie
www.motleyumc.net
Sunday Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Monday AA meeting 8:00 p.m.

Oylen

Oylen Alliance

Cty. Rds, 7 and 9, Oylen
218-472-3440 or 218-472-3316
Pastor Neal Malcore
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

Pillager

First Lutheran Church

Pastor Mathew Sundquist
717 River Street S, Pillager, MN
218-746-3775
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School, 2nd and 4th Sundays 8:30 a.m.

Casino Assembly of God

Pastor Dan Johnson
N. of Motley, Hwy. 64, E. on Cty 34 to Cty. 104.
Phone 218-746-3839
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 7:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY 7:00 p.m.

First Baptist

903 River Street South, Pillager
Pastor Jake Anderson
218-746-3768
curious@fbcpillager.com
Worship Gathering 10:00 a.m.
Connection Point 9:30 a.m.

Hewitt

Church of the Nazarene

114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146 Hewitt, MN
218-924-2028
Jim and Linda McGaffey, Pastor
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.
WEDNESDAY PRAYER 7:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS)

524 Front Street, PO Box 116, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Robin Fish
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Hewitt Community Church

Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Kenneth Uhren
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Verndale

Verndale Alliance

109 NW Brown Street, Verndale, MN 56481
218-445-5619
Senior Pastor Tony Stanley
Youth Pastor Joe Ward
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Bible Fellowship Classes 11-11:45 a.m.

Family Life Church

402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale 218-445-5568
VerndaleFLC@gmail.com
Pastor Amos Self 218-371-7189
Tahna Rurup, Connections & Media Pastor
Tillman Phagan, Kid's & Food Shelf Pastor
Ryan Wolfenden, Youth Pastor
SUNDAY
Youth Prayer 9:20 a.m.
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting 5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Life Groups 6:30 p.m.

Hope Chapel Alliance

18126 County Road 7, Verndale
218-445-5643 or 218-472-3316
Pastor Neal Malcore
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Family Night 5:30 p.m.

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Bartlett Township (LCMS)

17097 460th St., PO Box 37, Verndale
Pastor Robin Fish
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Verndale United Methodist

10 3rd Ave. SW, Verndale
218-445-5108
Pastor Jill Pawlowski
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.

Central Community Church

5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar)
Pastor James Middendorf, 320-260-4952
Sunday Service 9:00 a.m.
Bible Study 10:30 a.m.

St. Frederick Catholic Church

20 Mason Avenue NW
Vermdale 218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn and Fr. Rick Aubol
MASS:
Saturday 6:00 p.m.

St. Hubert Catholic Church

Bluegrass 218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn and Fr. Rick Aubol
MASS:
Sunday Service 10:00 a.m. (Dec - April)
Saturday 4:00 p.m. (May - Nov.)

Leaf River Township

The Old Country Church

Leaf River Twp., Wadena County Rd. 6
Info. 218-837-5690 Call first.

Wadena

St. Helen's Episcopal Church

22 Dayton Ave. SW, Wadena, MN
218-631-3928
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

"Discovery"

By Pastor Scott Sorenson, Thomastown Covenant Church, Staples

It is discovery time here in Minnesota. Sure, plenty of things to explore in minus forty degrees temperatures but.... it's Summer. I have lived here all my life and made my first discovery of Minnehaha Falls. With a four inch rainfall this cute little creek in Minneapolis was transformed into a roaring river. And then... The Falls...an amazing 53 foot drop! Quite remarkable.

God reminds us that our spiritual life can be filled with such discoveries as well. In fact, just as God created the physical wonders around us, He has prepared inconceivable discoveries for our walk with Him.

1 Corinthians 2:9-11

However, as it is written: "What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no hu-

man mind has conceived" - the things God has prepared for those who love Him - these are the things God has revealed to us by His Spirit.

Just as it took an intentional detour to see Minnehaha Falls, an historic train depot and a sprawling, forested urban park (Minnehaha Falls is worth the trip..just sayin') so it takes an intentional detour from our normal routine to discover what God has prepared for us. He will reveal: the unimaginable, the unheard of, the inconceivable...if we simply ask. God has given us His Spirit and blesses us with an amazing adventure...if we embrace our own spirit of discovery.

May your discoveries of God's spiritual blessings be as inspiring as the beauty of summer in Minnesota.

THE STAPLES AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY IS SPONSORED BY THESE AREA BUSINESSES:

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Staples, MN 218-894-1775

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Staples, MN 218-894-3299

Central Building Supply
Hwy. 10 West, Staples, MN
218-894-3794

Staples World
Your community newspaper since 1890
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218-894-1112

The Church Directory is supported by the advertisers listed above and the Ministerial Association.

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DEADLINE
for all classified
ads and copy is
12 noon Friday

For the
Staples World

Needing/Wanting a Granite Memorial FOR YOUR FAMILY?
I can help!
Diane M. Hahn
30 years serving our area!
Rep. for Fergus Falls Monument Co.
Call 218-445-5685 or 218-640-2341

Life Currents Policy

To request that an obituary, anniversary or other event (including benefit events) be placed word for word, personalized, contain more than one photo, or to run for more than one week, it may be placed as a display advertisement at the regular advertising rates (\$10.75 /col. inch). The item will be placed in our newspaper with a border around it and must be paid for at the time of placement. Deadline for advertising copy is noon on Friday.

Obituaries received from private parties, funeral homes, will be edited to our format and paid for prior to running at our obituary rate (\$10.25 pci) plus \$5 per photo. Minimum is \$60. Deadline for copy is noon on Friday, however, every effort is made to include those with timely services. Death notices are available and are free if followed in the next publication by the entire obituary. Obituaries printed in the Staples World will be posted on our website.

All obituaries are paid advertisements. Obituaries requested to be printed word for word will be charged regular advertising rates and marked as a -Paid Advertisement- with a box around it.

Please be sure to include the name of the deceased, date of birth, age, city of residence, when and where he or she died and the name and city of the funeral home handling the arrangements.



U10 games in Motley

The Staples-Motley U10 baseball team played their home games at Converse Park in Motley this summer, bringing a large crowd and baseball action to the community. Pictured, both Cardinal teams in the league face off on July 1. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



U12 Bronco league team has just one loss

The Staples-Motley U12 baseball team, playing in the Bronco League, finished their season with just one loss.

Back row from left, Derek Zimmerman, Evan Lehner, Isaiah Detloff, Carson Vargas, Jace Odden, Rylan Kuhns,

Charlie Maros (far back), Brekken Kuhns, Harrison Grunewald (far back), Ryker Weite, Coach Sauber and Porter Lehner; front row, Ben Decker, Connor Reeck, Candan Sirucek, Bennet Sonensthal and Hugo Ellingsen. (Submitted photo)



Iron nine end Bronco season with sweep

With nearly half the team unavailable, nine boys swept a hard-fought doubleheader at Pine River on the last day of the Bronco League season. Pictured, back row from left, Derek Zimmerman, Isaiah Detloff, Coach Sauber and Charlie Maros; front row, Hugo Ellingsen, Bennet Sonensthal, Ben Decker, Harrison Grunewald, Carson Vargas and Candan Sirucek.

One observer described the doubleheader: "This proved the grit this coach and team have together. They played an

River to get across home base. Carson Vargas #21 threw infield for five outs himself in the first game, two of them being back to back in the same inning. Charlie Maros #12, 'hit em out of the park' with 2 homeruns bringing home full bases on each run, one in each game. Harry Grunwald #24 and Bennet Sonensthal #6 were both pitching right through them in the second game. Harry also hitting one to the fence for another grand slam in the evening for the Cardinal boys. What a season it was." (Submitted photo)

Alumni basketball to feature 10 teams

The Staples-Motley alumni basketball tournament will be held Saturday, July 12, with a three point shooting contest to kick off the festivities on Friday, July 11.

Games begin on Saturday, July 12 at 9:30 a.m. There are six men's teams

and three women's teams signed up for the tournament. The women's championship game is scheduled for approximately 1:30 p.m., with the men's championship game to follow at 2 p.m.

The gym will be open for warm-up and practice on Friday evening, July 11,

with the three point shooting contest finals at 8 p.m.

Basketball fans are welcome to attend all events. There will be a free will donation for anyone who wants to contribute to this semi-annual tournament.

Penfield inducted into VCSU Coaches Hall of Fame

Rollie Penfield was inducted into the Valley City State University Coaches Hall of Fame on June 12, at the Valley City, Eagles Club. "It was quite an honor, and it was completely unexpected," said Penfield. "Somebody has been doing some research."

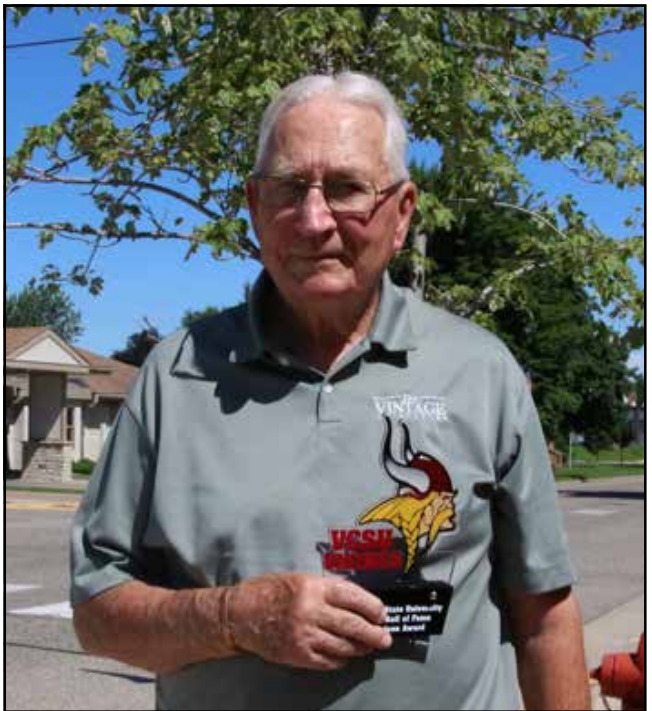
Penfield graduated from VCSU in North Dakota in 1964. There were 27 inductees in total, ranging from the Class of 1959 to the Class of 2003. Penfield said he knew two of the other inductees, but they had passed away before the induction.

Penfield said his wife Carol attended the ceremony with him, as did his brother and his wife.

The induction ceremony program stated "Penfield built an outstanding coaching career spanning more than three decades, leaving a lasting legacy."

He played on the 1963 VCSU football team that was inducted into the VCSU Athletic Hall of Fame.

After starting his coaching career at Blooming Prairie, the program states "In 1969, Penfield began a remarkable 29 year tenure at Staples and Staples-Motley High School, where he coached football, basketball and volleyball."



Alma mater award

Rollie Penfield with his award from Valley City State University Coaches Hall of Fame induction on June 12. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

guiding 25 of his 29 teams to district or section finals, with 30 individual golfers qualifying for state. Teams advanced to the Minnesota State Golf Tournament four times, claiming the state

ing third in 1995, fourth in 1993 and sixth in 1996."

The program also mentioned his induction in the Minnesota Golf Coaches Hall of Fame and the Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of



MORAN TOWNSHIP
WEED NOTICE

The Moran Township supervisors will conduct a weed tour on Tuesday, July 29, 2025. The tour will begin at 6 p.m. at the town hall. Anyone that would like to follow along should meet at the town hall by 6 p.m.

Diane Mack, Clerk
Moran Township

29pnc

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, July 24, 2025 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, Minnesota.

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 June 26, 2025 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
- 1. **Theresa and Tom Petermeier:** Section 11, Birchdale Township, Sauk Lake
- Site Address: 12918 Bayview Drive, Sauk Centre, MN 56378
- PID: 03-0030300
- 1. Request to reduce the lake setback from 100' to 65' for construction of dwelling replacement in Recreational Development Shoreland Zoning District.
- 2. Request to increase the height of a structure within the setback from 18' to 25' for dwelling replacement in Recreational Development Shoreland Zoning District.

Adjournment.

Next meeting: August 28, 2025

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

29pnc

Central Lakes College Spring Honors List

Central Lakes College, Brainerd and Staples, has announced its 2025 Spring Semester Honors List. The President's List includes students who earned a grade point average of 3.75 or higher while enrolled in at least 12 credits. The Dean's List includes students who earned a grade point average of 3.25 - 3.74.

The released honors list does not include students who have requested no release of information. Local students named includes:

Central Lakes College 2024 - 2025 graduation List

Central Lakes College, Brainerd and Staples, has announced its 2024 - 25 graduates. These students have completed degree, diploma or certificate programs. High honors students earned a 3.75 - 4.0 grade point average. Honors students earned a 3.25 - 3.74 grade point average.

The list includes all but those students with data privacy requested. Local students named includes:

Motley

Kattera Barnhart, Associate of Arts, Honors; **Hank Bemlott**, Diploma of Occupational Proficiency, Diesel Equipment Technician, Honors; **Dustin Converse**, Associate of Arts; **Riley Dabbs**, Associate of Applied Science, Graphic Design, Honors; **Drake Dukowitz**, Associate of Arts, Honors; **Solomon Epple**, Associate of Arts, Honors; **Nevaeh Fratzke**, Associate of Applied Science, Dental Assisting and Diploma of Occupational Proficiency, Dental Asisting, High Honors in both; **Ethan Gephart**, Associate of Arts; **Morgan Kanten**, Associate of Science, Pre-Social Work Transfer Pathway, High Honors; **Nathan Lindell**, Associate of Applied Science, Computer IT Security and Networking, Certificate, Computer Comp TIA and Diploma of Occupational Proficiency, Computer IT Security and Networking, High Honors in all; **Caden Mrazek**, Associate of Applied Science, Welding & Fabrication;

Motley

President's List: Sawyer Ferdon, Nathan Lindell, Shaylee Zeidler. **Dean's List:** Kattera Barnhart, Eli Carlson, Taylor Henry, Natalie Kossan, Amanda Rossetti, Zachary Veen.

Pillager

President's List: Reagan Kilbarda, Ethan Kocur, Eva Mudgett, Kaylee Mudgett, Autumn Peterson, Allie Tryggseth, Steven VonDali, Hunter Woidyla, London Zapzalka. **Dean's List:** Brandon Burgau,

Corinne Olson, Associate of Arts, High Honors; **Dar-nell Reynolds**, Associate of Arts; **Keith Rollins**, Diploma of Occupational Proficiency, Welding & Fabrication; **Amanda Rossetti**, Associate of Applied Science, Conservation Officer Preparation, Honors; **Isaac Trout**, Diploma of Occupational Proficiency, Welding & Fabrication, Honors; **Heidi Zimmerman**, Associate of Arts, High Honors.

Pillager

Jena Bentson, Associate of Arts and Psychology Transfer Pathway; **Nicholas Granberry**, Associate of Applied Science, Natural Resources Technology; **Ezra Hopman**, Associate of Arts, Honors; **Brian Johnson**, Associate of Applied Science, CNC Technologies; **August Johnson-Ding**, Diploma of Occupational proficiency, Computer IT Security and Networking; **Reagan Kilbarda**, Associate of Arts and Certificate, High Honors in both; **Ethan Kocur**, Associate of Arts and Certificate, Athletic Coaching; **Gracia Larson**, Certificate, Meat Cutting and Butchery; **Paul Liffbrig**, Certificate, Sustainable Local Food; **Taisha Linder**, Associate of Applied Science, Dental Assisting, and Diploma of Occupational Proficiency, Robotics/Automated Systems Technology; **Jack Carlson**, Associate of Arts, Honors; **Erica Cooper**, Diploma of Occupational Proficiency, Practical Nursing;

ing, Honors; **Eva Mudgett**, Diploma of Occupational Proficiency, Early Childhood Education, Honors; **Gracie Mudgett**, Associate of Arts, High Honors; **Kaylee Mudgett**, Associate of Arts and Certificate, Athletic Coaching, Honors in both; **Autumn Peterson**, Associate of Arts, High Honors; **Blake Piette**, Associate of Applied Science, Welding & Fabrication, High Honors; **Leana Ruggles**, Associate of Arts, Honors; **Amelia Sjostrom**, Associate of Arts, Honors; **Molly Smith**, Diploma of Occupational Proficiency, Practical Nursing; **Andrew Sullivan**, Associate of Science, Nursing, Honors; **Edward Volki**, Associate of Applied Science, Criminal Justice and Certificate, Criminal Justice Skills; **Hunter Woidyla**, Associate of Arts, High Honors.

Staples

Miranda Anderson, Associate of Applied Science, Accountant, Honors; **Camellia Bailey**, Associate of Science, Nursing, Honors; **Luke Bates**, Associate of Arts, Honors; **Julia Berscheit**, Associate of Science, Nursing, Honors; **Brandon Bertek**, Associate of Applied Science, Criminal Justice; **Michael Brown**, Diploma of Occupational Proficiency, Robotics/Automated Systems Technology; **Jack Carlson**, Associate of Arts, Honors; **Erica Cooper**, Diploma of Occupational Proficiency, Practical Nursing; **Israel Ervasti**, Associate of Applied Science, Robot-

ics/Automated Systems Technology, High Honors; **Keegan Harvey**, Associate of Applied Science, CNC Technologies, Honors; **Marissa Heifort**, Associate of Arts; **Laken Hines**, Associate of Arts, High Honors; **Zackery Hruza**, Associate of Arts; **Anna Janssen**, Associate of Science, Nursing, Honors; **Dylan Jasmer**, Diploma of Occupational Proficiency, Welding & Fabrication; **Grant Johnson**, Diploma of Occupational Proficiency, Heavy Equipment Operation & Maintenance; **Dylan Lawrence**, Associate of Arts, Honors; **Jessica Lundquist**, Associate of Arts, High Honors; **Landon Mertens**, Associate of Applied Science, Business Management, and Diploma of Occupational Proficiency, Precision Food Production, High Honors in both; **David Ness**, Associate of Arts; **Olivia Opheim**, Associate of Arts, Honors; **Steven Petrich**, Associate of Arts, Honors; **Dillan Robben**, Associate of Arts; **Logan Robben**, Associate of Arts, Honors; **Benet Robinson**, Associate of Arts, High Honors; **Dalas Rogers**, Diploma of Occupational Proficiency, Practical Nursing, Honors; **Haiden Rychner**, Diploma of Occupational Proficiency, Heavy Equipment Operation & Maintenance; **Miranda Schotzko**, Associate of Arts, High Honors; **Alex Schultz**, Associate of Arts, Honors; **Jade Storry**, Associate of Arts, High Honors.

Todd County Board of Commissioners

MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE TODD
COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS HELD
JUNE 3, 2025

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 3rd day of June, 2025 at 9:00 AM. The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairperson Denny. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present except Commissioner Byers. Approval of Agenda

On motion by Noska and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the agenda as presented with the addition of item 4.8 Authorization to Hire Public Works Summer Help - Chet Hudalla, 4.9 Hiring of Jessica Moore - Resource Conservationist and 9.1 Discussion in regards to Sanctuary County status. Consent Agenda

On motion by Becker and second by Neumann, the following motions and resolution were introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for May 20, 21 and 28, 2025 as presented.

GAMBLING PERMIT – NWTFT
STRUTTIN BLACKBEARDS

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for the NWTFT Struttin Blackbeards through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a Gambling Permit for the NWTFT Struttin Blackbeards to hold a raffle event at The Charlotte Tavern in Long Prairie Township at the address 22056 US 71, Long Prairie, MN on August 15th, 2025. Approve hire of Eli Johnson as Clerical/Records Intern at \$15 per hour for up to 640 hours not to exceed 16 weeks, which is funded through Sourcewell Grant. Hire Ross Bollin for the part time Jailer position on a rate of pay of Grade 6 step 2 \$23.24 per hour start date TBD. Hire Chad Lenk for the part time Deputy position on a rate of pay of Grade 10 step 1 \$28.48 per hour start date TBD. Hire Colton Gutonkauf for the full time Deputy position on a rate of pay of Grade 10 step 1 \$28.48 per hour start date TBD.

To approve the hiring of Nathan Ruda, Seasonal Solid Waste Help at a rate of \$21.83/hour.

Approve hiring Chet Hudalla to fill the Public Works Summer Help Position with a start date to be determined.

To approve the hire of Jessica

Moore, Resource Conservationist, start date TBD. Auditor-Treasurer On motion by Noska and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the May 2025 Auditor Warrants number (ACH) 905043 through 905153 in the amount of \$12,830,883.55 (Manual) 1079 through 1088 in the amount of \$960,840.56 and (Regular) 244400 through 244572 in the amount of \$1,140,944.17 for a total of \$14,932,668.28.

On motion by Becker and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 403901 through 403928 in the amount of \$11,932.33 and (Regular) 58966 through 58987 in the amount of \$24,475.14 for a total of \$36,407.47. On motion by Neumann and second by Becker, the following motion as introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 806507 through 806532 and (Regular) 713088 through 713117 for a total of \$79,286.35. On motion by Noska and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 601687 through 601697 and (Regular) 518434 through 518453 for a total amount of \$125,677.38. Ditch/Ag Inspector On motion by Noska and second by Becker, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT – DITCH MAINTENANCE – COUNTY DITCH 32

WHEREAS, Caroline Beckman & Alison McGinnity are requesting to maintain approximately 3,440 feet of Lateral #3 on CD32 that is located on their parcels 24-0016000, 24-0016300 & 24-0016400. A Hold Harmless Agreement has been signed and submitted to the Ditch Authority, and;

WHEREAS, an onsite inspection has been done, and; WHEREAS, the landowners are allowed to maintain the drainage ditch to the original width, depth and grade. An improvement by lowering or widening the ditch bottom is not allowed. Sediment and vegetation can only be removed to the extent of the original ditch bottom elevation. Spoil must be side cast and leveled, staying within 16.5 feet of the ditch.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Todd County Ditch Authority gives permission to Caroline Beckman & Alison McGinnity to maintain approximately 3,440 feet of Lateral #3 on CD32 that is located on parcels 24-0016000, 24-0016300

& 24-0016400, Turtle Creek Twp section 17. This maintenance will be done on their own property and at their own expense. On motion by Neumann and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Acting as Ditch Authority, approves Central Applicators Estimate of \$2,499.16 for brush spraying of Lateral 2 on County Ditch 40. Planning & Zoning On motion by Noska and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the Crow Wing River Watershed Implementation Fiscal Agent Agreement Solid Waste On motion by Neumann and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To eliminate the Lead Equipment Operator position. On motion by Neumann and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To allow the department to hire one FTE Truck Driver position. On motion by Noska and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To award the bid to Jenkins Iron in the amount of \$35,680.00. On motion by Neumann and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Wasteworks software upgrade in the amount of \$31,592.29. Administration Discussion was held by the County Board in regards to Todd County's name listed as a Sanctuary County on a federal report. Coordinator Bauer will work with County Attorney Lindemann to draft a resolution for the board's review at the next board meeting.

County Auditor-Treasurer's Report The County Auditor-Treasurer reported the tax settlement processes have been completed. Finance Committee meetings will begin this week. County Attorney's Report The County Attorney reported that they are awaiting the start of an intern in the office and staying afloat with current workload and staffing. County Coordinator's Report

The County Coordinator reported attending the personnel, mediation, applied for a technology grant, US solar information meeting, safety and facilities meetings and also assisting with interviews. County Commissioner's Report

The Commissioners reported on meetings and events attended.

Commissioner Becker attended the union mediation, facility, safety, and Central EMS meetings. Commissioner Neumann attended the SRWD, 1W1P SR and union mediation meetings. Sympathy was extended to Commissioner Byers and his family on their recent loss. Commissioner Noska attended the regular sched-

uled meetings including union mediation.

Commissioner Denny attended the union mediation, Personnel and regular scheduled meetings. Recess

On motion by Noska and second by Becker, the meeting was recessed until June 17, 2025

AUDITOR WARRANTS	
VENDOR NAME	\$ AMOUNT
ARC ELECTRIC SERVICE	3,314.25
COBORNS INCORPORATED	2,200.00
FAMILY DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES INC.	\$2,186.96
KUPERUS/TERRY AND GLORIA	20,952.59
LONG PRAIRIE SANITATION INC	6,196.53
PETERS LAW OFFICE, P.A.	7,775.00
PRAIRIE LAKES MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE AUTH	93,473.61
STEP 31 PAYMENTS LESS	11,432.93
THAN \$2,000	9,548.12
ANOKA CO GOVERNMENT CENTER	8,375.00
ARNZEN CONSTRUCTION INC	12,729.00
BOULDER CREEK, INC.	136,827.08
BROWERVILLE TRUCKWASH/ BIG BOYZ	3,232.93
CARD SERVICES COBORNS	3,307.01
CARGILL SALT DIVISION	9,671.49
CENTRA CARE	12,714.58
COBORNS INCORPORATED	2,046.00
DOHERTY STAFFING SOLUTIONS	2,156.95
FARM-RITE EQUIPMENT, INC	3,176.28
FLEET SERVICES/WEX BANK	7,791.37
G S EQUIPMENT INC	8,625.00
INNOVATIVE OFFICE SOLUTIONS, LLC	28,122.14
ITEN FUNERAL HOME	2,000.00
JOHNSON CONTROLS	2,464.89
KEYL KXDL HOTROD RADIO	2,000.00
MADDEN GALANTER HANSEN, LLP	4,058.40
MILLER EQUIPMENT & MANUFACTURING INC	16,500.00
MINNESOTA POWER	4,196.40
MN DEPT OF FINANCE	\$ 7,903.50
MORRISON COUNTY	47,847.88
POPE DOUGLAS SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT	10,839.34
SCHUMACHER'S NURSERY & BERRY FARM	17,714.00
VERIZON	6,999.83
WINNING EDGE GRAPHICS INC	2,326.50
WONDERLICH/SCOTT	9,450.00
73 PAYMENTS LESS	28,554.58
THAN \$2,000	3,544.91
CLETON LARSON ALLEN, LLP	46,121.25
ERBSO INC.	\$965,184.59
GALLAGHER BENEFIT SERVICES INC	2,000.00
MINNESOTA POWER	11,587.78
MINNESOTA UI	10,310.87
NORTHERN STAR COOP	2,678.80
STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES INC	6,230.32
TODD CO AUD-TREAS	8,852.00

TODD COUNTY VETERAN'S SERVICE	
43 PAYMENTS LESS	7,433.42
THAN \$2,000	19,998.81
CENTERPOINT ENERGY	6,700.00
COLLINS BROTHERS TOWING OF ST CLOUD	2,831.00
COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY	8,785.00
DOHERTY STAFFING SOLUTIONS	2,273.30
ESRI	16,879.00
MARK SAND & GRAVEL CO	1,970,497.60
POPE DOUGLAS SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT	7,427.07
SIGN SOLUTIONS USA	2,291.78
27 PAYMENTS LESS	15,123.94
THAN \$2,000	8,450.92
BIG SWAN LAKE IMPROVEMENT DIST.	145,734.19
CITY OF BERTHA	139,084.73
CITY OF BROWERVILLE	10,416.60
CITY OF BURTRUM	98,004.73
CITY OF CLARISSA	157,284.22
CITY OF EAGLE BEND	75,768.71
CITY OF GREY EAGLE	7,776.49
CITY OF HEWITT	792,418.95
CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE	131,771.56
CITY OF OSAKIS	481,869.49
CITY OF STAPLES	7,775.58
CITY OF WEST UNION	17,325.86
REGION V DEVELOPMT COMMISSION	69,653.01
SAINT PAUL PORT AUTHORITY	52,516.81
SAUK RIVER WATER SHED DISTRICT	3,333.28
SCHOOL DISTRICT 2155	938,327.25
SCHOOL DISTRICT 2170	1,552,228.13
SCHOOL DISTRICT 2753	356,739.98
SCHOOL DISTRICT 486	59,593.77
SCHOOL DISTRICT 487	61,989.13
SCHOOL DISTRICT 740	51,078.10
SCHOOL DISTRICT 743	201,604.36
	126,840.80
	46,691.18
	108,341.10
	69,593.77
	98,514.12
	52,087.34
	126,107.14
	138,452.34
	113,030.84
	61,783.43
	57,316.59
	99,302.86
	51,208.62
	96,399.85
	101,093.46
	59,239.27
	66,552.04
	125,920.76
	99,565.12

TOWN OF STOWE PRAIRIE	
TOWN OF TURTLE CREEK	44,198.38
TOWN OF VILLARD	89,925.72
TOWN OF WARD	84,286.46
TOWN OF WEST UNION	70,706.63
TOWN OF WYKEHAM	70,745.89
4 PAYMENTS LESS	2,329.92
THAN \$2,000	3,010.00
MN DEPT OF REVENUE	54,430.34
MN DEPT OF REVENUE	19,488.57
	878,019.78
7 WARRANTS LESS	5,891.87
THAN \$2,000	\$14,932,668.28
TOTAL:	

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS	
VENDOR NAME	\$ AMOUNT
EAGLE BEND WELDING	6,180.10
NORTHSTAR PLUMBING, HEATING AND AIR	4,776.38
STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES INC	11,430.58
47 PAYMENTS LESS	14,020.41
THAN \$2,000	\$36,407.47
Total:	

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS	
VENDOR NAME	\$ AMOUNT
5 PAYMENTS LESS	2,574.71
THAN \$2,000	21,266.47
DHS - SWIFT	18,329.00
FRESHWATER EDUCATION DISTRICT 6004	15,096.10
TODD COUNTY AUDITOR	\$2,740.00
TREASURER	19,280.07
47 PAYMENTS LESS	\$79,286.35
THAN \$2,000	
Total:	

VENDOR NAME	
# 16095	3,160.19
GERARD TREATMENT PROGRAMS	9,169.80
GREATER MN FAMILY SRVS INC	43,044.85
# 17892	3,113.99
NORTH HOMES CHILDREN & FAMILY SRVS	50,572.42
TRI-COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS	5,354.15
25 PAYMENTS LESS	11,261.98
THAN \$2,000	\$125,677.38
Total:	

On a motion by Neumann and second by Denny, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held June 3, 2025 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on June 17, 2025..

Witness my hand and seal:
/s/ on file
Bob Byers,
County Board Chairperson
/s/ on file
Denise Gaida,
Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

29pnc



Firefighters at work

Firefighters climbed the long ladder while working to put out a fire at Williams Floral & Nursery in Staples July 6. Staples, Motley and Verndale fire departments responded to the fire. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Williams Floral owner Kripa Reese, right, consults with firefighters about the fire in the store. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Getting bandaged

A firefighter receives first aid from a Lakewood Health System EMT, after working to help put out the fire at Williams Floral & Nursery July 6. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Beautiful evening for Music in the Park

Tony Cuchetti and Blair Krivanek played country and folk songs with perfect weather for the first Music in the Park event on July 6. Around 125 people brought their chairs to enjoy the concert. The summer concert series will continue with the River Rats on July 20, at 7 p.m. at Northern Pacific Park in Staples. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Observing firefighters in action

Many observers stopped to watch the fire departments working at the Williams Floral fire on July 6. Drivers on the busy 2nd. Ave. NE had to find an alternate route, some of them stopped to watch. People eating at DQ across the street were also watching the firefighters work. Above and at right, Aimee Jasmer and her husband Rob Jasmer, who live across the street from the nursery, took photos of the action. (Submitted photos)



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