

Inside this issue:

Baseball, Softball teams win with big scores
Nimrod Easter Party
Speech team at sub-section
SMBP offers help for clean-up day



Wednesday, April 16, 2025

StaplesWorld

Staples, Minnesota

\$1.25

Easter season fun Dozens of children enjoyed the Easter Eggstravaganza at the Staples Community Center April 12. The annual event is hosted by the Staples '93 Lions. (Photo by Dawn Timbs)

City electric, wastewater departments commended

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

At the April 8 Staples City Council meeting, Public Works Director Scott Grabe noted two of the city's departments that had been recognized by outside entities for their good work. He said the city's light department has been recognized for the short duration of power outages in the city. He said the average customer in Staples has power outages last a little over one minute, while nationwide, the average is 149 minutes for every power outage. "Our crews are recognizing problems before they develop," said Grabe.

The city's wastewater department was commended by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for "exceptional compli-

ance" in learning and operating the new wastewater plant, said Grabe.

The council also approved new water service policies to update language in the city cod and get the ordinance ready for when the city moves to automatic meter reader infrastructure. Grabe said there are some residents who don't want automatic meter readers.

In other news, the council

- Heard from one resident who complained about a home site on Wisconsin Ave. that has a camper parked in the yard and garbage piling up on the lot. City Administrator Jerel Nelsen said the city is aware of the issue and is working to remove the problem using the city's nuisance ordinance and

See **STAPLES** on page 3a



Glow fun for school fundraiser

Staples-Motley preschool students hang out with glowing animals, staff and parent volunteers at the Glow Run held by the school on April 4. The event was a fundraiser to build an outdoor basketball court at the school.

Principal Ryan Koenigs agreed to dress up as a shark or unicorn if the students raised \$3,000. The students voted for unicorn but kept raising money, bringing in a shark, zebra and frog to the party. See photos, page 12a.

Weather

2025			
This Week's Forecast			
	High	Low	Cond.
Apr. 16	63	42	P. Cloudy
Apr. 17	65	37	Rain
Apr. 18	54	28	Cloudy
Apr. 19	54	34	M. Sunny
Apr. 20	64	39	M. Sunny
Apr. 21	62	41	Showers
Apr. 22	61	41	Cloudy
Last Year, 2024			
	High	Low	Cond.
Apr. 16	52°	41	Rain
Apr. 17	50	39	Cloudy
Apr. 18	40	33	M. Cloudy
Apr. 19	35	27	Cloudy
Apr. 20	46	28	M. Sunny
Apr. 21	60	37	M. Sunny
Apr. 22	68	44	Sunny

Average Temps:
H = 57° Low = 34°
Have a great Easter!

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Bullard 9A
City of Staples 9A
Meadowbrook 9A
Staples Township 9A
Thomastown 9A
Todd BOA 9A
Todd HRA 9A
Freshwater 10A

Record run

Right, Audrey Brownell leads after the first lap of the 3,200 meter run at Pillager on April 10. She set a new school record of 10:51 in the race. Below, Blaine Plattner races in the 1,600. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)





Dustin Converse



Naila Mikhaeil



Josiah Critten in the long jump, above, and splash-down in the sand, below



Israel Ritter

Staples-Motley track and field athletes



Luke Bjerga



Kana Reese gets the baton from Sophia Luna

THANK YOU for making a difference!

Congratulations to these 5-Star employees



**Jeanie Troy, Oncology Services
Financial Navigator**
*Nominated by Jennifer Kane-McDonald,
LSW, Social Services*

"Two patients have shared several stories and situations with me in which Jeanie was able to assist them with patient assistance programs and prescription coverage plans. One patient shared, "I really don't know what I would do without her, and all that she has done to help with medications." The other patient agreed and added, "She has done so much for me as well. She has been a real lifesaver". Her integrity, compassion, quality service, innovation and accountability is evidenced in the way she meets their needs without ever meeting them in person. Thank you, Jeanie, for being such an invaluable resource to Lakewood and our patients."



**Sydney Martin, Patient Access &
Training Specialist**
*Nominated by Shelby Gawarecki, PA-C,
Family Medicine,
and Veronica Engst, CMA, Clinic*

"Sydney has been a joy to work with since I have been at Lakewood. She is always going above and beyond what is expected of her. I had a patient in clinic who she was going to take to lab. She noticed that they did not look well and immediately got help. This patient ended up going to the ER due to her diligence to get the right person to help. I can tell that she loves her job, and she is a leader in her position. Our clinic day would not be the same without her."



Karen Walgren, LPN, Clinic
*Nominated by Amy Widmark, RN, BSN,
Clinic Supervisor;
and patient, Sandy Koehnen*

"In the Quarter 3 Press Ganey survey scores for clinic, there were five separate patients that commented on Karen's excellence, compassion, and superb ability to do her job above expectations. When patients go out of their way to not only complete a survey, but to specifically call out a staff member with this frequency, that person deserves to be recognized. Thank you, Karen, for living out Lakewood's Mission, Vision and Core Values."



**Melissa Pape, RN,
Medical Home Care Coordinator**
*Nominated by Chelsey Olander,
CNP, Hospitalist*

"Melissa has been so incredibly helpful in helping manage the care of a family member. She gets the labs and keeps nephrology, cardiology, and the primary care physician all updated and on the same page. She has called to check up on how he is doing multiple times a week. She keeps all of the family informed on his care and treatment. She always has time for phone calls and follow ups, even when I know that she has a busy day. I can't thank her enough for her care and helping coordinate everything."



**Sara Wegscheid, RN, Home Health /
Hospice Case Manager**
*Nominated by Debbie Toth, RN, Home Based
Services Director*

"Sara started working for the home-based services department earlier this year, bringing with her years of previous home health experience. Since starting with us, Sara has shown great attention to detail, a sincere level of compassion and a strong skill set. Most recently, Sara was shadowed by the state surveyor who praised her for her exceptional care and detailed follow-through. Sara continually keeps her patient's best interests in mind and will often bring in all members of the interdisciplinary team to ensure that high quality care is offered throughout. It is because of her strong desire to provide great care that her home care patients continue to request her to be their nurse"



Food shelf donation

Lisa Kajer (above right) delivered a check for \$4,261.05 from Faith Lutheran Church in Staples to Frank Leidenfrost, chair of the Staples Area Food Shelf. The Motley Area Food Shelf received \$751.95 from Faith. (Submitted photo)

STAPLES continued from page 1a

Housing study denied, other partners possible

camper ordinance.

“I like living in this town, everybody’s nice,” the resident said.

- Approved vacating alley north of Pleasant Ave. NE, between 3rd and 2nd Street NE.
- Approved applications to the clean water revolving fund and drinking water revolving fund.
- Approved ordinance regarding sale of property on Second Street SE, that the city received through tax forfeiture and had to wait to be able to sell it.
- Heard from Economic Development Director

Lucas Wakefield, who said Todd and Wadena Counties applied for a housing study grant but did not receive the grant. He said there still may be a possibility of working with Wadena County for a new housing study.

- Heard from Nelsen about a price bump in the Dower Lake storm shelter project. He said FEMA has checked off on the price bump.
- Heard from Nelsen that groundwork is starting for the new airport hangar to be built this year.



Clearing barriers

Above, Carson Dewald leaps over the high jump bar. Below, Abby Brichacek soars over a hurdle. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



75 YEARS Ago - 1950

- April 20, 1950 - The senior class play at Motley high school, “Quit Your Kid-ding,” by Felicia Metcalfe, is a three act comedy, produced by special arrangement with the Heuer Publishing Co., of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The play is directed by Mrs. Gordon Olson (Jean Omtvedt), and the student director is Orrin Bombarger.
- April 20, 1950 - Headline - “24,590 Pies Is Record of Mrs. S. Mertens; Retires”

How would you like to

- O -
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
- O -

make 24,590 pies in seven years? That’s the record of Mrs. Sadie Mertens, when she took her last pie out of the oven Saturday morning at Booner’s Soda Bar.

Sadie, who has been cooking in restaurants in Staples since 1944, when she first went to work in the Olympia Cafe here, has retired from the pie-baking business, and is now taking a much needed vacation at home.

The most pies Sadie has baked in a day was 28, when she was putting out almost that many every day for the Olympia during the war.

- April 20, 1950 - Dick Read, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Read, Sr., of Staples, was presented with one of the highest Scout awards at the Methodist church Sunday morning, April 16, when Dr. J. Enos Windsor, district superintendent of the Fergus Falls district gave him the “God and Country award for his services to the Methodist church in Staples. Dick is working on his Eagle rank in Scout work of Staples

troop 61.

- April 20, 1050 - Under the direction of Miss Mary Forsan, dramatic coach of the Staples high school, the cast of the senior class play entitled, “The Fighting Littles,” will present their play at the Staples Auditorium on Friday evening, April 28, with the curtain raising at 8:15 o’clock.

The play is a three act comedy with two scenes in the first act, and has a cast of 15 members of the senior class.

- April 20, 1950 - Speaking of floods, the Staples area also has them, but, as one person stated, “thank goodness there is no danger of any loss of livestock or great damage to buildings.”

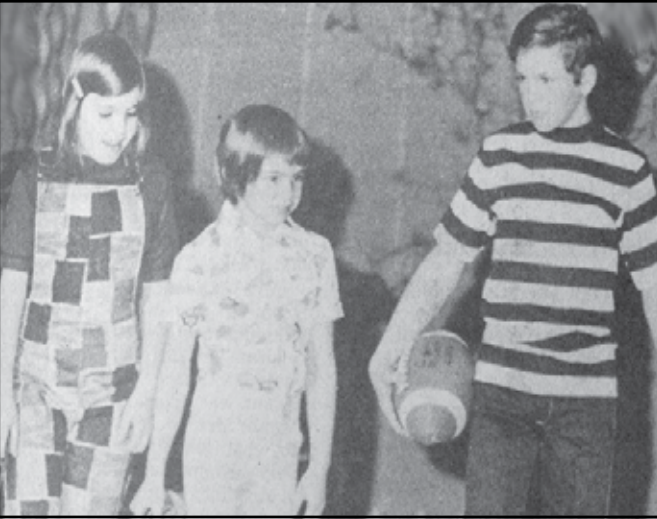
The Crow Wing river near the Terrace Golf Course again went over its banks and has flooded acres of the course. The road is impassable from the Williams corner on past fairway No. 4 and people who have been out that way state that it is “just like a lake” in that section.

50 YEARS Ago - 1975

- April 17, 1975 - The District 24 Speech Contest at Brainerd High School on April 5, was attended by 11 schools, 246 participants. The Motley Speech team and their coach, June E. Doty, were among the participants with seven finalists in five categories. Gary Blake and Randy Rittenhouse in Creative Expression, Brett Bacon in Discussion, Julie Ackerson in Storytelling, Jean Moon in non-original Oratory, Lesley Jones and Coleen Swecker in Serious Prose.

Two of these will be advancing to regional competition - Brett Bacon and Lesley Jones. Coleen Swecker is 1st alternate and Gary Blake is 2nd alternate.

- April 17, 1975 - Dave



Mystery solved

Last week’s mystery photo published in the April 3, 1975 edition of the Staples World featured, from left, Heidi Muus, Darcy Peterson and Jon Miller, who participated in the Staples Lionelles’ “Spring Fling” fashion show held in the cafeteria of the North Campus vocational school in Staples. Businesses that participated in furnishing clothes for the showing were dj’s Men’s Wear, Stern’s Fair Lady, and Children’s World. Attendance was reported in excess of 250. Lionelles said proceeds from the fashion show would be used for community projects.

Court report April 9

Long Prairie Police Department

Melissa Renae Gall, Long Prairie. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Lizardo Anibal Oviedo, Long Prairie. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Edgar Rafeael Paulino Paredes, Long Prairie. Careless Driving. Unsupervised probation, 6 mo. Fine \$100. Fee \$75.

Stephanie Nicole Robles Montanez, Sauk Centre. Fail to Yield Right of way. Fine \$50. Fee \$75.

MN State Patrol

James Nelson Knudsen, Cheyenne Wells, Co. Falsified entries in log book. Fine \$300. Fee \$85.

Gerald Robert Anderson, Minneapolis. Speed 99/70. Fine \$100. Fee \$185.

Morgan Christine Anderson, Underwood. Speed 84/70.

John Mario Bolsinger, Grayslake, IL. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Alexis Danielle Friedrichs, Grey Eagle. Speed 82/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Eli Parker Hallwood, Bismarck, ND. Hand free law. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Phoebe Campbell Kans, Victoria. Speed 75/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Avery Rochelle Keldman, Wadena. Speed 74/55. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Colton Raymond Clark Kosman, Wyoming. Speed 80/70. Fine 440. Fee \$85.

Michael Edward Loyland, Thompson, ND. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

John Edward Murphy, St. Paul. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50 Fee \$85.

William Joseph Ob restad, Fridley. Speed 92/70. Fine \$70. Fine \$155.

Jerry Pabon Padin, Long Prairie. Speed 72/60. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Colleen Jane Parrill, Washburn, ND. Speed 79/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Emma Faith Reeder, Brainerd. Fail to Yield Right of Way. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Shawn Davis Rousseau, French Settlement, LA. Speed 68/55. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Jackson Malloy Schutz, Monticello. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Dylan Jay Schwinghammer, St. Cloud. Speed 93/70. Fine \$70. Fee \$155.

Nathan Arthur Smith, Oklahoma City, OK. Seatbelt required. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.

Debra Lynn Stulz, Moorhead. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Fangning Lu, Chicago, IL. Speed 81/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Todd County Sheriff

Kyle William Ahrens, Sauk Centre. Expired registration. \$30. Fine \$85.

Trenton Darrick Becker, Clarissa. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Derek Frances Moats, Hewitt.

Meghan Nicole Ridenour, Sauk Centre. Driving after revocation.

Looking back



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.

Blanchard, a junior on Coach Tom Wolhowe’s Cardinal Basketball team, was honored last week by his selection to the Mid-State Conference All-Star Basketball Team for 1974-75.

Blanchard was the top scorer on the Cardinal team. Although he missed the final three games of the regular season, the 5’8” guard tallied 185 points for a 10.9 average per game.

- April 17, 1975 - The 12th annual Rotary Art Show will be opened to the public Saturday, April 19, and Sunday, April 20, in the high school cafeteria.

The exhibits will be open to the public from 1 - 9 p.m. Saturday and 1 - 5 p.m. Sunday. There is no admission charge.

25 YEARS Ago - 2000

- April 20, 2000 - Michele Baptiste of Motley and Brady Tepley of Staples were among 35 Central Lakes College students who attained eligibility for induction into the national two year college honor society, Phi Theta Kappa. Inductees in the ceremony held on the Brainerd campus met academic requirements of at least a 3.5 grade point average.
- April 20, 2000 - Naomi Sveom, senior co-captain of the Staples Motley High School Speech Team, finished the season by winning the second place medal in Extemporaneous Reading (Poetry) at the Class A State Speech Tournament at Park High School in Cottage Grove on Friday, April 14.

Matt Shaffer won the fourth place medal in Extemporaneous Speaking and Jennie Roth won the eighth place medal in Discussion.

- April 20, 2000 - Easter Sunday Buffet at Ted & Gen’s in Aldrich April 23, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. The All You Can Eat buffet includes 7 meat entrees, along with mashed potatoes & gravy, salads, bread, desserts. \$6.50 for adults; \$3.95 for children 12

and under. For reservations, call 445-8190.

- April 20, 2000 - Building tours and a ribbon cutting were the highlights of a Grand Opening celebration April 13, at the Staples CLC West Campus of Central Lakes College. Students in the CLC Heavy Equipment program cut the ribbon officially opening the \$1.6 million building that has been in use most of this school year.

10 YEARS Ago - 2015

- April 16, 2015 - What started out as a mission trip for a few Staples area Christians turned into a project embraced by dozens more back home...all of whom joined forces to offer ‘Real Hope for Haiti.’

The experience has been life-changing, say Corey and Alina Robinson of Staples, who took their first trip to Haiti in June of 2013. Since that time, they’ve spread the word about Real Hope For Haiti (RHFH) and recruited several others to serve at the mission.

“There has been a huge community effort for this project,” Alina said, mentioning that support for Haiti (including monetary donations, as well as prayers) has come from people of all ages and denominations.

All of these efforts have been appreciated by RHFH.

“There are so many needs,” Corey said, mentioning that the country (one of the poorest in the world) is still reeling from the catastrophic earthquake in 2010 that killed and injured thousands of people and destroyed many buildings.

- April 16, 2015 - Sarah Koopmann of Motley was named his year’s ‘Fiddler of the Year’ at the 31st annual Fiddler’s Contest in Pillager April 11.

Koopmann, a senior at Staples Motley High School, also took first place in her age group. She played “Ashokan Farewell” and “Old Joe Clark.”

Staples Police report

Recent reports taken by the Staples Police Dept:

April 1, Staples Police were called to assist with a party who had driven a semi truck to Bricks in Motley and was acting erratic. The individual was transported to LHS emergency room by Motley Police for evaluation. Party was determined to be under the influence of meth.

April 4, Staples Police

were was contacted by Holiday Gas station regarding an individual who didn’t pay for gas. The individual stated she would return to pay and never returned. Holiday made several attempts to contact by phone and was unable to reach her. Police made contact with the female party, she advised that she will make the payment this evening.

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PILT: a little known acronym that has a big impact

We live in a time of code and shorthand, of expressions and messages conveyed in an abbreviated manner that saves us words, or keystrokes, and—perhaps—some increment of time. People sending text message or emails will use the letters OMG to say “Oh my gosh!” LOL for “laugh out loud.” Or IMHO to say “in my humble opinion.”

True acronyms, transforming a title or official name into a pronounceable word, have been with us seemingly forever. We say NATO instead of North Atlantic Treaty Organization when speaking of the group of European nations with whom we have a mutual defense treaty. Or, we say NASA when communicating about the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Then there's UFO, for unidentified flying object. And the list goes on.

One that you may not have heard of is PILT, an acronym that stands for “payment-in-lieu-of-taxes.” PILT is a transfer of cash from the state's general fund to local units of government, typically counties.

It is intended to replace tax monies that the local unit of government will not get from revenues on lands within their borders or jurisdiction; taxes they will not get because the land in question has a recreational or natural resource status that will prevent it from being developed. Among these lands are state wildlife management areas, state parks, some lands within state forests, scientific and natural areas, aquatic management areas, and the like.

The concept when the state Legislature passed the enabling legislation in 1979 was to recognize the value of retaining wild and natural areas for recreational, conservation, and tourism purposes. Hopefully it would give local units of government reason to be supportive of these uses, rather than have local officials encourage hell-bent land development to generate tax revenues, while obstructing the sale of private land by willing sellers that transfers it to protected public ownership, or ownership by conservation-oriented groups, such as the Nature Conservancy.

Why PILT is in the news just now is because the Governor's proposed budget for the biennium following the current one would cut these PILT payments by just over one-third, at a time when there is already sentiment among local government leaders that they would like to see these payments in-

creased, not decreased.

The Governor's proposed budget has a number of pain points as his administration attempts to plan for a huge anticipated revenue shortfall expected to hit after the next two years. This, after a recent record budget surplus. The reasons given for this impending fiscal shock vary depending on which political party you ask. But beyond the facts or fictions of the blame game currently in progress, the bottom line is that funding of something—some things—will likely have to be reduced. And the most recent budget proposal says that local units of government will be getting less from PILT than they have been expecting.

What they do about that is likely to differ from county to county. Some may attempt to raise taxes on their residents to fund the expenditures that they must make, or wish to make. Some may put a planned expenditure on hold, and hope that better fiscal times—and restored PILT payments—lie ahead.

Apart from how local units of government deal with a proposed reduction in PILT payments is an upsetting of the delicate balance that now exists between those who want to enhance or expand conservation and recreation lands, and those who say “there's enough already,” and vehemently oppose adding more.

County Boards have a lot to say about transactions

that take tax-paying lands off the tax rolls. We have seen proposals at this level of government for “no net gain” in public lands or foundation-owned conservation lands. At one time or other, more than a dozen Minnesota counties have passed such resolutions, one element of which is that if new lands are to be sold for conservation and recreation purposes and leave the tax rolls, then other lands now in public ownership must replace them. Counties do not always have the last word in such disputes. When a county board fails to approve a sale, there is an appeals process by which state officials have the capacity to overrule a rejection. Sometimes, but not always.

But a cut such as is proposed by the Walz administration—some \$17 million, or 34%—will certainly lend credibility to those who want to limit the transfer of private land to protected conservation or recreation status. Their argument that state payments-in-lieu-of-taxes cannot be counted on would have new credence and validity. Hopefully the Walz administration's budget gurus can sharpen their pencils and find a way to deliver these payments that local units of government are expecting, and thereby help maintain the sometimes uneasy peace between public land advocates and opponents.

Quote of the week

“No matter what people tell you, words and ideas can change the world.”
— Robin Williams

Teacher pension bill submitted at capitol

By Mike Wiener
State Representative

It's been another busy week at the capitol, and I wanted to take a moment to share an important update on an issue that affects our entire education system: teacher pensions.

On Tuesday, Rep. Danny Nadeau introduced two bills that offer real solutions for our educators—many of whom have spent their careers teaching the next generation.

House File 2318 would allow teachers to retire at age 62 with 30 years of service without facing a reduction in their benefits. The cost of this plan is about \$77 million per year and would be covered by a modest one percent increase in employer contributions.

House File 2329 expands the Special Early Retirement option, allowing teachers to retire at age 60 with 30 years of service. This bill would cost around \$33 million annually and includes

a three-year delay on cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) to help manage expenses responsibly.

Both proposals were laid over for further consideration, meaning they're still in the mix as we shape final pension legislation this session.

Let me be clear: House Republicans will not stand by and let teacher pensions be cut. We know how hard our educators work and how critical they are to the success of our communities. This is about keeping our promises, supporting our schools, and showing teachers the respect they deserve for a lifetime of service.

We're committed to finding fiscally responsible ways to support these changes, while making sure Minnesota remains a great place to live, work, and educate our children.

Next week is the legislative spring break, as always I appreciate being able to work for you and I will continue to work hard as session continues.

Privatizing Amtrak would have negative effects for passengers

By Jim Mathews
President & CEO
Rail Passengers Association

Dusty old arguments about privatizing Amtrak are resurfacing within the Trump Administration and making their way around social and mainstream media. Privatization advocates refuse to look evidence in the face that privatization fails most of the time. It fails railroads, it fails passengers, it fails governments, and it fails communities.

Amtrak is a prosperity engine in communities all across the United States, supporting local economies by bringing passengers who spend on tourism, shopping, restaurants, lodging, and myriad other categories. Those communities are recouping their “return on taxpayers’ equity” for decades of funding passenger rail. The money we spend to have an Amtrak generally produces three, four, or even five times what is invested in the form of gross domestic product. Privatization would degrade that return without any clear benefit; that is, if it could be done at all.

Let me tell you why privatization won't work.

1. No Form Of Transportation Makes Money Just Selling Tickets

There's not a single example anywhere in the world of an airline, a transit agency, or a railroad making enough money from tickets to pay for all the infrastructure it needs to run. High-speed lines in Japan, Spain, France, and Italy all enjoy govern-

ment-funded infrastructure. Brightline in Florida is using real-estate returns to power its development – a classic, and very smart, “transit-oriented development” technique that is tried and true. China has spent \$1.5 trillion in government money to build a 23,000-mile high-speed network that is the envy of the world. Just selling tickets doesn't get you there.

2. Private or Not, Heavy Infrastructure Subsidies Are Still Needed

We're facing nearly seven decades of neglect and underinvestment in track upgrades, station maintenance, rolling stock, bridges, and tunnels. A private operator would still have to rely on public subsidies to get everything built, which defeats the purpose of privatization and might actually reduce public accountability.

3. So-Called “Unprofitable” Long Distance Routes Generate GDP... Lots Of It

We pay about \$3 billion each year to operate Amtrak between big cities and small towns all across heartland America. And heartland America gets more than \$7 billion in economic benefits because it exists. That's people eating in restaurants, staying in hotels, buying in stores, traveling to and from job sites and schools. A “private” Amtrak would not operate those routes, dropping a \$7 billion bomb on heartland America's economies.

4. Only Wealthy Folks Would Have Safe, Reliable Rail

By necessity, private operators would have to cherry-pick high-ridership, high-revenue corridors (like

the Northeast Corridor). They'll still charge Philadelphia lawyers \$300 to take a fast express train to New York, but Grandma in Marks, Mississippi, will just have to stay home instead of seeing her grandkids in Memphis. Bad enough, but this cherry-picking would leave the government still responsible for the most expensive parts of the network — wiping out any illusion of “savings” from privatizing Amtrak.

5. History Shows It Already Failed

Amtrak was created in 1971 because private railroads couldn't make intercity passenger rail work financially. Passenger service was unprofitable and a burden on freight railroads. Re-privatizing would be repeating a failed model that led to Amtrak's creation in the first place. We're all for bringing more private operators into the mix. But none of them are doing, or will do, the job that Amtrak has done since 1971 – bringing regular passenger rail service to communities that need it and where private capital cannot profitably provide it.

There is no mode of transportation anywhere in the world that is not subsidized. Our job right now will be to make that plain to the members of Congress whose hometowns thrive because passenger rail exists. It's not about whether Amtrak makes a profit – that requirement was eliminated from law 47 years ago – but who Amtrak makes a profit FOR: the communities large and small, across Heartland America, who enjoy prosperity and freedom thanks to regular and accessible passenger-rail service.

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State legislature update

By Cora Hoffer
Senior Policy Associate
Center for Rural Affairs

Week 13 of Minnesota's legislative session ended, marking the third and final deadline for committees to take action on bills. Both chambers will recess for the Easter/Passover break, returning April 21.

House and Senate legislators released their budget targets for the next cycle. The targets outline how much general fund money committees can spend or, in some cases, how much must be cut. The targets follow Minnesota Management and Budget's February state budget and economic forecast, which projected a \$456 million surplus for 2026-2027 and a nearly \$6 billion deficit in 2028-2029.

The Senate's budget tar-

gets propose reducing state spending by \$754 million in the upcoming two-year budget from 2026-2027, and a reduction of \$1.7 billion in 2028-2029. The House proposed a spending reduction of \$1.2 billion for the upcoming budget cycle and a reduction of \$2.6 billion in 2028-2029.

Budget targets provide House and Senate committees with key pieces of budgeting information as they reconcile their respective budget bills for the biennium that begins July 1, 2025. Differences between the bodies over appropriations will be worked out in conference committees.

A special election for the Senate District 6 seat will take place on April 29 following the resignation of Sen. Justin Eichorn. Gov. Walz has scheduled the primary for April 15.

All adults needed for child abuse prevention

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Please join us at the Community Connection Night on Thursday April 3rd, 2025 4:30-7pm to support children in our area. This month and throughout the year, Todd County Health and Human Services encourages all individuals and organizations to play a role in making Todd County a healthy place for children and families. By ensuring that parents have the knowledge, skills, and resources they need to care for their children, we can help prevent child abuse and neglect by making meaningful connections with children, youth and families in our communities. We know child mal-

treatment is a preventable problem.

All adults play a role in building the safe, stable, nurturing homes and environments needed for the healthy development of our future generation of parents, leaders, and community members.

Report any child abuse, suspected child abuse or neglect if you believe that a child's health or safety is jeopardized due to abuse. Contact the child protective services agency in your county.

Types of Child Abuse:
Physical Abuse
Sexual Abuse
Emotional Abuse
Neglect



Enjoying a variety of activities

Dozens of children attended the Easter Eggstravaganza in Staples April 12, hosted by the Staples '93 Lions. Held at the Staples Community Center, the annual event included crafts, games, face painting a bounce house and more. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Meeting the Easter bunny

The Mudek siblings posed for a photo with the Easter bunny at the Staples Community Center April 12, part of the Easter Eggsravaganza hosted by the Staples '93 Lions. From left are Grayden, 10 mos.; Corvyn, 10; Cambree, eight; and the Easter bunny, aka Madison Perius, all of Staples. The children's parents are Joshua and Krista Mudek. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Family time

Ariel Praska and her daughter Harlyann, Motley, had a fun time at the Easter Eggstravaganza in Staples April 12. The event was sponsored by the Staples '93 Lions. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Mark Your Calendar

April 17

'WALK WITH A Doc' Thursdays at 5:15 p.m., at Lake-wood 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>

April 18

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.

April 20

CELEBRATE RECOVERY GROUP MEETINGS are held every

Sunday at 6 p.m., at Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood St. E., Motley.

April 22

WOMEN'S AA MTG Tuesdays, from 6 - 7 p.m., at Staples Church of Christ, on Hwy 210, south of Staples.

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.

WADENA COUNTY REPUBLICANS MTGS are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Wadena VFW at 7 p.m. If you wish to eat early you may order from the menu prior to meeting.

Free CARE Community Meal

--BREAKFAST--

Saturday, April 26

9 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Motley United Methodist Church

847 3rd Ave. S, Motley

Donation basket to support CARE Ministries



MOTLEY UMC

w15-16C

Easter Egg Hunt & SHOW

FREE!

SATURDAY, APRIL 19TH

9AM-10AM ACTIVITIES

10AM-10:30AM RANDY SHOW

10:30AM HUNT

STAPLES ALLIANCE CHURCH



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Easter Egg Hunt

w15-17c



Staples World

DEADLINES

Newspaper deadline for copy and advertising: 12 noon Fridays

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Easter church services listed

The following is a listing of Easter church services received:

Assembly of God, Staples

April 17: Hosting Maundy Thursday Communion Service, 7 p.m., *with Staples Church of Christ*

April 20: Easter Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.; Easter Service, 10 a.m.

Church of Christ, Staples

April 18: Hosting Good Friday Service, 7 p.m. *with Staples Assembly of God*

April 20: Resurrection Sunday - Easter breakfast, 8 a.m.; Easter service 9 a.m.

Motley Free Methodist

April 18: Good Friday Service with Communion, 6 p.m.

April 20: Easter Morning Services at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Breakfast served from 8 - 10 a.m.

Alliance Church, Staples

April 20: Easter Sunday Service, 9:30 a.m.

Faith Lutheran, Staples

April 17: Maundy Thursday Service, 6:30 p.m.

April 18: Good Friday Service, noon.

April 20: Easter Sunrise Service, 6:30 a.m.; Breakfast, 7:30 a.m.; Easter Celebration Service, 9 a.m.

Sacred Heart Catholic, Staples

April 17: Holy Thursday Mass, 7 p.m.

April 18: Good Friday Mass, 3 p.m.

April 20: Easter Sunday Mass, 8 a.m.

St. Michael Catholic, Motley

April 20: Easter Sunday Mass, 10:30 a.m.

St. Frederick Catholic, Verndale

April 18: Good Friday Mass, 7 p.m.

Thomastown Covenant, Staples

April 17: Maundy Thursday Communion Service, 6:30 p.m.

April 20: Easter Sunday- Sunrise Service, 7 a.m.; Breakfast, 7:30 a.m. (freewill offering for youth group); Children's Egg Hunt, 9 a.m.; Easter Worship, 9:30 a.m.

Trinity Lutheran, Staples

April 20: Easter Sunday Service, 9 a.m.

United Methodist, Staples

April 20: Easter Sunday Service, 10:30 a.m.

St. John's Lutheran, Motley

April 17: Maundy Thursday Service, 7 p.m., *with Trinity Lutheran.*

April 18: Good Friday Service, 7 p.m., *with Trinity Lutheran.*

April 20: Easter Sunday Service, 10:45 a.m.

United Methodist, Motley

April 17: Maundy Thursday Communion Service, 7 p.m.

April 18: Good Friday Service, 7 p.m.

April 20: Easter Sunday, 10 a.m.

Lincoln Evangelical Free Church

April 18: Good Friday - Pie Social, 6:30 p.m.; Service, 7 p.m.

April 20: Easter Morning - Fellowship, 9:15 a.m.; Easter Worship, 10 a.m.

Area churches, their addresses and contact information can be found on the weekly Church Directory in the Staples World. Check with your church listing for Easter service information.

CELEBRATE EASTER AT FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Join us for Easter Sunday Services

6:30 AM Sunrise Service

7:30 AM Breakfast

9 AM Easter Service

If you are unable to attend, please visit us on-line at faithlutheranstaples.org for all our Sunday Services.

430 12th St NE, Staples MN

218-894-1546



Spring Chicken Dinner

Weds., April 23

Serving: 4:00-6:30 p.m.

Fried chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, coleslaw and pie

Adults: \$15.

Children ages 6 -12: \$7.

Ages 5 and under FREE.

Motley United Methodist Church

847 3rd Ave. S Lane, Motley, Mn.



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Water hole gathering

Over three dozen swans gathered at a temporary watering hole in a field just outside of Staples. (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)



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 8:30 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. Gabriel Walz
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
Vermda;e.....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.

Hello World

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:

Born to Sophia and Adam Sutlief of Little Falls, a baby boy, Romaine David weighing eight pounds, five ounces on April 4, 2025.

Born to Olivia and Kyle Kastello of Pillager, a baby boy, Henry Harris weighing six pounds, six ounces on April 7, 2025.

Born to Joselin Sexton and Devon Quick of Backus,

a baby boy, Jackson John weighing eight pounds, 12 ounces on April 7, 2025.

Born to April and Adam Ellingsen of Baxter, a baby boy, Anders Stanley weighing seven pounds, 15 ounces on April 9, 2025.

Born to Abigail and Tim Yungbauer of Verndale, a baby girl, Sophia Ann weighing seven pounds, nine ounces on April 11, 2025.

Rosenmeier Forum to highlight past, present and future of Minnesota Courts

The community is welcome to attend the next Rosenmeier Forum titled “The Past, Present and Future of Minnesota Courts” with featured speakers retired Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Barry Anderson and Tad Jude, retired Tenth Judicial District Court judge.

The event will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 22 in the Chalberg Theatre, Central Lakes College Brainerd campus. The event is free and open to the public.

Steve Wenzel, Executive Director of the Gordon Rosenmeier Center for

State and Local Government said, “We are most pleased that the Rosenmeier Center will feature two outstanding jurists whose background and experience will provide for a most informative and interesting discussion about both the history and the future of Minnesota’s Judiciary and its court system. Justices Barry Anderson and Tad Jude were respected throughout the legal community for their integrity and expertise on the legal issues facing Minnesotans.”

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DEADLINE

for all classified ads and copy is 12 noon Friday

For the Staples World

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.

“Playing Make Believe”

From: God's Word For Today

Submitted by Pastor Roy Miles, Staples Assembly Of God

Children love to play make believe. Countless summer hours are spent playing cops and robbers or superheroes and bad guys while running through the backyard. But when the fun is over, the children know it was all pretend. No one really got shot; people still can't fly; and there are no starship battles in space.

People play make believe with God at times too. They make a big show of their spirituality on the outside, like putting on a costume, but deep inside their hearts they are far from God.

God pleaded with His people through the prophet Joel to stop pretending and turn their hearts back to Him.

“Don't tear your clothing in your grief, but tear your hearts instead.” [Joel 2:13]

The people were tearing their outer garments as a sign of repentance, but their hearts were not broken over their sin. They were only pretending. God calls us to truly turn our hearts to Him, not just make a show of it.

Prayer Suggestion: Lord, help my outward praise for You be a reflection of a heart filled with gratitude.

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

Staples World
Your community newspaper since 1890
224 4th St. NE, Staples, MN
218-894-1112

To become a Church Directory supporter, call 218-894-1112.

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

***To update your church information or to advertise on the Church Directory, email: jwinter@staplesworld.com. or call 218-894-1112. Continue to email your Ministerial pastoral message or advertisement to: jwinter@staplesworld.com

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Sawyer Ferdon



Logan Robben

Softball team scores eighteen runs in win

The Staples-Motley softball team opened their season with a 15-3 loss against Pierz on April 9, then came back strong the next day to beat Osakis 18-8. Both games were played at Northwestern in St. Paul.

Against Pierz, the Cardinals took an early 3-1 lead in the first inning, but were unable to score the rest of the way. Kate Kossan and Rachel Cossan each had two hits in the game, while Jade Storry, Oliviah Lorber and

Emersen Bettis all had one hit.

Against Osakis, the game was tied 4-4 after two innings when the Cardinals broke it open with seven runs in the third and for more in the fourth inning.

Osakis came back with four of their own, but the Cardinals got out of the inning and added three more in the sixth to end the game 10 runs ahead.

Addie Potter pitched five of the six innings and had

five strikeouts. Leighton Bettis pitched one inning.

Storry went five for five at the plate, with five RBI and three runs scored. The Kossan sisters each had four hits and scored four runs each. Kate had 3 RBI while Rachel had two. Lorber and Emerson Bettis each had two RBI. Clara Maros was three for three with two runs scored while Lilly Tyrrell was 2 for 3 and scored twice. Izzy Becker scored two runs and had one RBI.

Brownell breaks 11:00 in 3,200 meter run

The Staples-Motley track and field teams competed at the Houligan Extravaganza in Pillager on April 10.

Audrey Brownell lowered her school record in the 3,200 meter run, finishing in 10:51, her first time under 11:00.

The boys team had two field event winners, Sawyer Ferdon in the triple jump and Turner Beachy in the pole vault.

Girls results

100 - 3. Sophia Luna 13.85, 8. Corrine Olson 14.35, 27. Iva Hinson 15.88, 34. Arabella Moore 16.93

200 - 20. Hinson 33.20, 29. Moore 35.20

400 - 9. Naila Mikhaeil 1:13, 11. Aubrey Bogle 1:13, 25. Emilyn Sullivan 1:37

1,600 - 8. Elise Trif 6:37, 12. Madelyn Kist 6:55

3,200 - 1. Audrey Brownell 10:51.81, 5. Suhaila Mikhaeil 13:50

100 hurdles - 7. Abby Brichacek 21.79

300 hurdles - 13. Brichacek 1:02

4x100 - 5. SM 57.90

4x200 - 3. SM 2:01

4x400 - 7. SM 4:51

High jump - 10. Onna Schmitz 4'2", 15. Avery Japke 4'2", 17. Arianna Grant 4'0"

Long jump - 16. Schmitz 12'8", 20. Lily Davis 11'10", 30. Moore 8'3"

Triple jump - 6. Grant 30'2.5"

Discus - 7. Annie Schlosser 81'5", 16. Marissa Heifort 65'5", 20. Ronnie Noska 59'8", 28. Gamma Fairbanks 51'5"

Shot put - 13. Heifort 23'4", 25. Fairbanks 18'9", 34. Natalia Buciaga Perez 15'9"

Boys results

100 - 24. Turner Beachy 13.44, 27. Carson Dewald 13.73, 34. Carter Kist 14.89, 35. Jacob Faulkner 15.09



Elise Trif



Dillan Robben

Baseball team wins with a pair of 13-1 games

The Staples-Motley baseball team split a doubleheader with Park Rapids on April 9, winning 13-1 and falling in a close game 3-1. The next day, they beat Osakis 13-1. All three games were at Northwestern in St. Paul.

200 - 11. Jesus Gallardo 26.00

400 - 7. Dillan Robben 58.15, 14. Owen Frisk 1:06, 21. Faulkner 1:14

800 - 4. Logan Robben 2:16, 6. Blaine Plattner 2:23, 22. Alex Leach 2:52, 23. Spencer Olsen 2:53

1,600 - 2. L. Robben 5:04, 7. Plattner 5:15, 20. Israel Ritter 6:08

3,200 - 5. Ivan Lozano 12:19, 6. Andrew Dobson 12:22

110 hurdles - 2. Noah Larson 16.46

300 hurdles - 6. Larson 46.23

4x100 - 11. SM 1:00

4x200 - 3. SM 1:42

4x400 - 7. SM 4:34

High jump - 4. Larson 5'6", 9. Beachy 5'4", 19. Dewald 4'10"

Long jump - 5. Sawyer Ferdon 18'10.25", 8. Josiah Critten 17'7.5"

Triple jump - 1. Ferdon 42'1", 10. Alexander Helstrom 35'4", 12. Gallardo 34'10.5"

Pole vault - 1. Beachy 12'0", 3. Kuhns 11'0"

Discus - 26. Liam Jennissen 68'4", 33. Peter Oeltjenbruns 45'3"

Shot put - 4. Drake Dukowitz 38'1", 5. Dustin Converse 37'5", 6. Adrian Gomez 37'2", 20. Luke Bjerga 32'4"



Arabella Moore



Corrine Olson



Annie Schlosser



Jesus Gallardo

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ing). Antiques, clothing,
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el blankets. Friday
April 18, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.,
Sat., April 19, 9 a.m.-
noon. 22895 Cty Rd 2,
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nearby sale at 11601 Cty
Rd 26, Verndale. 17p

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NOTICE
STAPLES TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF APPEAL
AND EQUALIZATION
MEETING

The Board of Appeal and Equalization of Staples Township will meet on Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at the Town Hall. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether property in this jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor.

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

Bonnie Thoele, Clerk
Staples Township

16-17pnc

NOTICE
MEADOWBROOK
TOWNSHIP 2025
ANNUAL ROAD
REVIEW

Meadowbrook Township will hold its annual road review on Tuesday, April 22, 2025. The board will meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Leader Community Hall and proceed to drive and review all township roads from there, making note of road maintenance issues that must be corrected.

Ty Peterson, Clerk
Meadowbrook Township

17pnc

NOTICE
BULLARD TOWNSHIP
ASSESSMENT NOTICE
Important Information
Regarding Assessment
and Classification
of Property
This may affect your
2026 property
tax payments

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That the Board of Review - *Equalization of the Township of Bullard of Wadena County, Minnesota, will meet at the Bullard Township Hall in Section 27 of Bullard Township; at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 22, 2025. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor.

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

Janelle VanAlst, Clerk
Bullard Township

17pnc

NOTICE
(ABBREVIATED
ADVERTISEMENT)

TODD COUNTY
2025 BOX CULVERT
PROJECTS

Closing date: May 13, 2025

Sealed bids will be accepted until 10:00 a.m., May 13, 2025 by the Todd

County Public Works Director/Engineer and County Auditor/Treasurer at 44 Riverside Drive, Long Prairie, Minnesota 56347 for the following construction projects:

SAP 077-599-065
SAP 077-599-067

This is an abbreviated advertisement. A full advertisement can be viewed by going to the Public Works website at <https://egram.co.todd.mn.us/oneoffice/bidding>.

Loren Fellbaum,
Todd County Public Works
Director/Engineer

17-19pnc

NOTICE
THOMASTOWN
TOWNSHIP
ROADSIDE BRUSHING

Thomastown Residents please be aware we will be brushing roadside ditches the week of April 21, 2025. Contact Troy Barrett with any questions at 218-894-2136.

Sue Walsvik, Clerk
Thomastown Township

17pnc

NOTICE
THOMASTOWN
TOWNSHIP
REQUEST FOR BIDS

Thomastown Township is seeking bids for 4-5 miles Class #1, spread and packed, 1,000 yds./mile. Must meet Wadena County test specifications for Class #1.

Deadline for completion: August 15, 2025. Watering of roadbed required in event of drought.

Bids must be received before 7 p.m., May 5, 2025. Contact Troy Barrett, 218-894-2136.

Sue Walsvik, Clerk
Thomastown Township

17-19pnc

NOTICE
TODD COUNTY
HOUSING &
REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY MEETING

The Todd County HRA's annual meeting will be held Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. located at 300 Linden Ave S, Browerville MN.

Kim Wallace
Executive Director

17pnc

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on Thursday, April 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 March 27, 2025 Board of Adjustments meeting minutes
•The applicant is introduced

NOTICE OF
MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE SALE

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

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

DATE OF MORTGAGE: July 31, 2015

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$92,857.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Joel Ambriz Carrillo, a single person

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

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

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

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

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

COUNTY IN WHICH

•Staff report
•Applicant confirms if staff report accurately represents the request
•Site Visit Review
•Public comment
•Board review with applicant, staff, and public

1. **Brendan and Jackie Jay:** Section 22, Burnhamville Township, Moose Lake
Site Address: 33554 State Hwy 28, Burtrum, MN 56318
PID: 06-0032400

1. Request to decrease the OHW setback from 150' to 104' for placement of Camper and;

2. Request to reduce the State Hwy 28 ROW setback from 50' to 21.5' for placement of same Camper in Natural Environment Shoreland Zoning District.

2. **Jasen Braun and Dorothy Braun:** Sections 03 & 04, Burnhamville Township, Mons Lake
Site Address: 32085 Flicker Road, Burtrum, MN 56318

PID: 06-0062200

1. Request to decrease the OHW setback from 150' to 77' for proposed addition of a 10' X 30' screened in porch in Natural Environment Shoreland District.

3. **Kolin Knudson and Molly Brennan:** Section 05, Gordon Township, Osakis Lake
Site Address: Fable Drive, Osakis, 56360

PID: 10-0050800

1. Request to reduce the road right of way setback from 20' to 7' for the construction of a small four-season cabin with attached garage in General Development Shoreland District.

Adjournment.

Next meeting: May 22, 2025

All persons interested are invited to attend said hearing or submit a letter to be heard on these matters. All correspondence

PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Todd County, Minnesota.

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$78,100.83

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

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

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 36-0077000

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 100312-0001250034-1

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

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

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: June 12, 2025 at 10:00 AM.

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

to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said

must include name, mailing address and be received 48 hours before the date and time of the hearing.

Todd County Board of Adjustment
Russell Vandenheuvell,
Chair

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Freshwater
Education District

MINUTES
REGULAR
BOARD MEETING
FRESHWATER ED.
DISTRICT #6004
3/12/25
Wadena, MN

The regular meeting of the Freshwater Education District #6004 was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chair Huttunen.

Board Members present: C. Wolf - Long Prairie-Grey Eagle; B. Tumberg - Wadena-Deer Creek; S. Veronen - Verndale; J. Hillmer - Browerville; R. VanDenheuvell - Bertha-Hewitt; K. Howard - Menahga; R. Wright - Staples-Motley.

Supervising Superintendents: L. Westrum - Wadena-Deer Creek and S. Vedbraaten - Browerville.

Freshwater Administration: E. Weber, J. Wothe, J. Anderson and S. Thiel

Others: R. Bowman and S. Moe.

A motion was made by VanDenheuvell, seconded by Howard, to approve the modified agenda. Vote. U/C.

S. Moe and J. Wothe presented on options of SpEd Online Assessments.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Wright, seconded by Hillmer, to approve the following items:

1/22/25, Org. and Regular Board Mtg. Minutes; 2/12/25, Supt. Advisory Minutes; Renewal of Infinitec Agreement, 7/1/25 - 6/30/26; Personnel Items: Increase in hours for A. Zamzo, OT. Resignation of A. Montgomery, Behavior Specialist, effective 2/21/25. Hiring of C. D. St. Catherine, School Psych., effective 2/3/25. Advertising and Hiring N. Stout, School Chemical Dependency Counselor, effective the 25/26 SY. Hiring of H. Haase, Literacy Lead, effective 2/19/25. Advertising and Hiring of a Behavioral Interventionist and a Speech Language Pathologist. Voluntary Reduction of Hours for K. Becker, OT, effective 3/3/25. Resignation of A. Babler, ECSE Teacher, effective the end of

the 24/25 SY. VOTE: U/C
Informational Items

Supt. Report:
•**General Information:**
Teacher evaluation process discussed.

Attending Region 5 Day at the Capitol on March 19.

Negotiations have begun with Teacher/Itinerant Staff.

READ Act training is nearing completion, with 42 staff members participating.

Discussions are ongoing with Parkers Prairie School regarding services.

•**Facilities:**
Purchased a used Toro snow sweeper/mower from the City of NYM for \$8,618.

•**Area Learning Center/Targeted Services:**

Student enrollment has decreased, leading to budget reduction measures.

•**Technology Report:**
Transitioned to Google Education for Teachers and Itinerant staff.

Business office positions will continue using Microsoft.

•**Special Ed Director Report:**
Updates on SpEd Monitoring and upcoming trainings.

•**Finance Report:**
Budget increases for Menahga and Pillager ALCs.

Budget decreases for Staples, Wadena, and Long Prairie ALCs.

•**Business Items**
Resolution Reducing and Discontinuing Educational Programs and Positions~

Moved by Veronen and seconded by VanDenheuvell, the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

WHEREAS, the School Board of Freshwater Education District #6004 adopted a resolution on January 22, 2025, directing the Administration to make recommendations regarding the reduction and/or discontinuance of programs and positions, and

WHEREAS, said recommendations have been received and considered by the School Board,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Freshwater Education Dis-

trict School Board of Independent District #6004, as follows: That the following programs and positions, or portions thereof, be discontinued:

1. Nonrenewal of 0.28 FTE Assistant SpEd Director

2. Nonrenewal of 1.0 FTE ALC Teacher

3. ULA to 1.0 FTE Career Pathways/CTE Teacher

4. Reduction of 0.5 FTE School Social Worker in the ALC

5. Reassignment of 0.56 FTE ALC Program Assistant to District-wide Program Assistant

6. Reduction of .5 FTE ALC Program Specialist

Roll Call VOTE on the adoption of this Resolution was as follows: ABSTENTIONS: None. AYE: C. Wolf, B. Tumberg, S. Veronen, J. Hillmer, R. VanDenheuvell, K. Howard and R. Wright. NAY: None. ABSENT: R. Thalmann.

WHEREUPON, said the Resolution was declared Adopted.

A motion by Hillmer, seconded by Tumberg, to approve the Supervising School Social Workers Contracts as presented. VOTE: U/C

A motion by Tumberg and seconded by Wright to accept and approve the 25/26 SY Menu Options from the Districts of Bertha-Hewitt, Browerville, Frazee-Vergas, Menahga, Perham-Dent, Pillager, Sebeka, Staples-Motley, Wadena-Deer Creek and Verndale. VOTE: U/C

A motion by Veronen, seconded by Wolf, to approve the agreement with The Village Employee Assistant Program as presented. VOTE: U/C

A motion by Howard, seconded by VanDenheuvell, to approve the Academy's Pizza Fundraiser Event as presented. VOTE: U/C

A motion by Howard, seconded by Tumberg, to adjourn the meeting at 5:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Barb Tumberg, , Clerk

17pnc

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Separate sealed BIDS for the furnishing of all labor, materials, and equipment for the complete construction of the Todd County Courthouse Parking Lot Improvements Project will be received by the Owner at the Todd County Courthouse, Long Prairie, Minnesota, until the hour of 10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at which time they will be publicly opened in the Todd County Board Room, 215 1st Ave S, Long Prairie, MN

- 56347.
- The proposed work includes, but is not limited to, the following major quantities:
- 1 LS Clearing and Grubbing
 - 36 LF Remove Curb and Gutter
 - 220 SF Remove Concrete Walk
 - 1200 CY Common Excavation
 - 450 CY Aggregate Base
 - Class 5
 - 2250 SY Mill Bituminous Surface (2.0")
 - 460 TON Type SP 12.5 Wearing Course Mix
 - 210 TON Type SP 12.5 Non-Wearing Mix
 - 12 EA 6' Precast Concrete Wheel Stop
 - 2 CY Random Riprap

- Class II
- 767 SF 4" Concrete Walk
 - 36 LF Concrete Curb and Gutter
 - 370 LF Silt Fence, Type HI
 - 90 LF Sediment Control Log
 - 40 CY Common Topsoil Borrow
 - 1 LS Turf Establishment
 - 350 SY Rolled Erosion Prevention
 - 3160 LF 4" Solid Line Paint
 - 42 SF Pavement Message Paint
 - 1 LS Lighting System
 - 144 LF 8' Vinyl Fence
- The CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be examined at the office of Widseth Smith Nolting, 704 E Howard Street, Hibbing, MN 55746.
- Complete digital proj-

ect bidding documents are available at <https://widseth.com>. Click "Bid Documents" in the top right corner of your screen or go to www.questcdn.com and enter the Quest project #9610193 on the website's Project Search page. Please contact Quest-CDN.com at (952) 233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in free membership registration, downloading and working with this digital project information. You may download the digital plan documents electronically for \$30. An optional paper set of project documents is also available from CES Imaging for a non-refundable price of \$30 plus printing costs. If you choose a paper copy you will get all

addenda as paper copies and will be charged for the printing costs. Please make your check payable to CES Imaging and send it to 1701 James Circle N, Brooklyn Center, MN 55430. Please contact CES Imaging Repro Dept at (763) 560-9098 or (800) 831-8587 for pricing and if you have any questions.

The Owner reserves the right to waive any informality or to reject any or all bids.

No bidder may withdraw their bid within 60 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a Bid Bond in an amount equal to 5% of the total amount of the bid made payable without con-

dition to the Owner, as a guarantee that the Bidder, if awarded the Contract, will promptly execute the Agreement in accordance with the Bid and the other Contract Documents.

Dated this 27th day of March 2025.

Denise Gaida,
Todd County Auditor/
Treasurer

15-17pnc

**PUBLIC
NOTICES:
Your Right
to Know**

**MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE TODD
COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS HELD
ON MARCH 18, 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 18th day of March, 2025 at 9:00 AM. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Byers. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the agenda as presented.

Consent Agenda

On motion by Neumann and second by Noska, the following motions were introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for March 4th, 2025 as presented.

GAMBLING PERMIT – THE CHURCH OF ST. JOSEPH OF GREY EAGLE

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for The Church of St. Joseph of Grey Eagle through this resolution; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a Gambling Permit for The Church of St. Joseph of Grey Eagle to hold a raffle event at the Shattuck's Hub Supper Club in Burnhamville Township at the address 30905 County 13, Burtrum, MN on June 13th, 2025.

Approve the resignation of Social Worker Camryn Schaber, effective March 20th, 2025.

Approve the resignation of Administrative Assistant Victoria Hayes, effective February 18, 2025.

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Denny and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 403763 through 403795 in the amount of \$41,066.44 and (Regular) 58775 through 58807 in the amount of \$45,127.72 for a total of \$86,194.16.

On motion by Noska and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 806274 through 806328 and (Regular) 712866 through 712910 for a total of \$65,827.96.

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 601598 through 601616 and (Regular) 518306 through 518327 for a total amount of \$90,460.90.

Public Works

On motion by Noska and second by Becker, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR 2025 GRAVEL SURFACING PROJECTS

WHEREAS, sealed bids were received on March 11th, 2025 by the Todd County Public Works Director for CP 25:71, CP 25:85 and CP 25:86, said projects for gravel surfacing located on County Road 71, County Road 85 & County Road 86, and;

WHEREAS, the following sealed bids were received:

- Swenson Aggregate Construction, LLC, Pine River, Minnesota \$290,587.00
 - DLL Excavating, Inc., Little Falls, Minnesota \$311,270.00
 - Central Specialties, Inc., Alexandria, Minnesota \$318,165.00
 - Sanders Construction, Inc., Randall, Minnesota \$365,012.00
 - Mark Sand & Gravel, Fergus Falls, Minnesota \$461,540.00
- NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RE-

SOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners does hereby accept and award the contract for the above said construction projects to Swenson Aggregate Construction, LLC of Pine River, Minnesota based on their low bid of \$290,587.00.

On motion by Denny and second by Neumann, the following resolution as introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR 2025 DUST CONTROL PROJECT

WHEREAS, sealed bids were received on March 11th, 2025 by the Todd County Public Works Director for CP 77-25-08, said project for dust control located on various highways in Todd County, and;

WHEREAS, the following sealed bids were received:

- Knife River Corporation, Sauk Rapids, Minnesota, \$118,565.29
- All States Pavement Recycling & Stabilization Rogers, Minnesota, \$126,266.14
- EnviroTech Services, Greeley, Colorado, \$131,816.30
- Northern Salt, Inc., Saint Paul, Minnesota, \$133,203.84

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners does hereby accept and award the contract for the above said construction projects to Knife River Corporation of Sauk Rapids, Minnesota based on their low bid of \$118,565.29.

On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR 2025 PAVEMENT MARKING PROJECT

WHEREAS, sealed bids were received on March 11th, 2025 by the Todd County Public Works Director for CP 77-25-03, said project for pavement markings located on various highways in Todd County, and;

WHEREAS, the following sealed bids were received:

- Sir Lines-A-Lot, LLC, Edina, Minnesota, \$167,555.04
- Fahrner Asphalt Sealers, LLC, Eau Claire, Minnesota, \$184,474.98
- KAMCO Inc., Dassel, Minnesota, \$185,674.87

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners does hereby accept and award the contract for the above said construction projects to Sir Lines-A-Lot, LLC of Edina, Minnesota based on their low bid of \$167,555.04.

Ditch/Aq Inspector

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT – DITCH MAINTENANCE – COUNTY DITCH 27

WHEREAS, Bruce Zeidler is requesting to maintain approximately 3,826 feet of the Main Ditch of County Ditch 27 that is located on his parcels 28-0014100 & 28-0014400 and on Charles Dickey's parcel 28-0014601. A Hold Harmless Agreement has been signed and submitted to the Ditch Authority, and;

WHEREAS, an onsite inspection has been done, and;

WHEREAS, applicant is 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 or moved to an approved upland site.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Todd County Ditch Authority gives permission to Bruce Zeidler to maintain approximately 3,826 feet of the Main Ditch of CD27 that is located on parcels 28-0014100, 28-0014400 & 28-0014601, Wykeham Twp section 16. This maintenance will be done at his own expense.

Facilities

On motion by Becker and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve to go out

for bid on the Parking Lot project.

County Sheriff

On motion by Noska and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Open a FT temp Jailer position until the position is no longer needed.

Planning & Zoning

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

Final Plat Approval – "Taylors Woods Third Addition" Subdivision

WHEREAS, Applicant and property owners Dennis V. Taylor, Ronald W. Taylor, and Curtis A. Taylor applied to subdivide a property that is described as part of Section 30 of Grey Eagle Township with the plat to be known as "Taylors Woods Third Addition",

WHEREAS, Taylors Woods Third Addition consists of two lots and an outlot; Block One, Lot 1, 117,991 square feet; Block One, Lot 2, 440,797 square feet; Block One, Outlot A, 55,044 square feet, located in Shoreland Recreational Development Zoning District in Grey Eagle Township,

WHEREAS, On September 5th, 2024, the Todd County Planning Commission recommended the following property be considered for Subdivision pursuant to Todd County Subdivision Regulation and Ordinance:

Lot 2, Block 1, TAYLOR'S WOODS, according to the plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the Todd County Recorder.

WHEREAS, On September 17, 2024, the Todd County Board of Commissioners considered the Preliminary Plat for the above-described property and approved the Taylors Woods Third Addition preliminary plat with three conditions:

1. New accesses from the township road shall be approved by the local township prior to installation.
2. New access locations shall be approved by Todd County wetland staff to verify there are no impacts to wetlands.
3. Applicants abide by all other applicable federal, state, and local standards.

WHEREAS, the Planning & Zoning Department has completed the necessary final plat review and find that all items required for final plat approval have been completed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the final plat of "Taylors Woods Third Addition" be approved as presented.

On motion by Neumann and second by Denny, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

Final Plat Approval – "Hinrichs Acres" Subdivision

WHEREAS, Applicant Thomas R. Hinrichs applied to subdivide a property owned by Thomas R. Hinrichs and Valerie J. Hoeschen that is described as part of Section 36 of Leslie Township with the plat to be known as "Hinrichs Acres",

WHEREAS, Hinrichs Acres consists of six lots; Block One, Lot 1, 2.00 acres; Block One, Lot 2, 2.00 acres; Block One, Lot 3, 2.00 acres; Block One, Lot 4, 2.00 acres; Block One, Lot 5, 2.00 acres; and Block One, Lot 6, 2.00 acres located in Agriculture/Forestry - 2 Zoning District in Leslie Township,

WHEREAS, On November 7, 2024, the Todd County Planning Commission recommended the following property be considered for Subdivision pursuant to Todd County Subdivision Regulation and Ordinance:

The North 448.87 feet of the East Half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 36, Township 129 North, Range 35 West, Todd County, Minnesota.

AND

That part of the West Half of the Northeast Quarter of Section 36, Township 129 North, Range 35 West, Todd County, Minnesota, described as follows:

Beginning at the northwest corner of said West Half of the Northeast Quarter; thence on an assumed bearing of South 0 degrees 35 min-

utes 16 seconds East along the west line of said West Half of the Northeast Quarter, a distance of 448.91 feet; thence South 89 degrees 46 minutes 38 seconds East 25.95 feet to the centerline of 161st Avenue; thence North 0 degrees 11 minutes 57 seconds West along said centerline, 448.81 feet to the north line of said West Half of the Northeast Quarter; thence North 89 degrees 38 minutes 52 seconds West along said north line, 29.00 feet to the point of beginning.

WHEREAS, On November 19, 2024, the Todd County Board of Commissioners considered the Preliminary Plat for the above-described property and approved the Hinrichs Acres preliminary plat with three conditions:

1. All new driveway accesses shall be approved by the local road authority prior to installation.
2. There shall be no dwelling sites allowed within the development area. Development shall be limited to accessory structures.
3. Abide by all other applicable Federal, State, and Local standards.

WHEREAS, the Planning & Zoning Department has completed the necessary final plat review and find that all items required for final plat approval have been completed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the final plat of "Hinrichs Acres" be approved as presented.

On motion by Denny and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the findings of the Planning Commission and grant the CUP to replace the existing CUP #2024-008 on parcel 07-0037500 with the following conditions:

1. Hours of operation for the sawmill operation shall be restricted to 6:30 AM to 7:00 PM CST, Monday through Saturday.
2. Operation of the sawmill shall be conducted within a permitted structure.
3. Outdoor storage of products shall be allowed but shall be conducted in compliance with Section 9.01B of the Todd County Planning and Zoning Ordinance.
4. Heavy-duty truck traffic shall access the site via County 84 from the south. North bound traffic from the site shall not be allowed for protection of the roadway.
5. Operation site shall meet all the setback requirements for the zoning district in which it's located.
6. There shall be no loading or unloading of materials within the road right of way.
7. Applicant shall establish a truck routes and signage with Eagle Valley Township.
8. Establishment of an exhaust system directed through the roof of the structure with inclusion of a muffler.
9. Applicant shall abide by all other applicable federal, state, and local standards.

On motion by Neumann and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the findings of the Planning Commission and grant the CUP on parcel 15-0012301 for temporary family housing with the following conditions:

1. Applicant shall abide by Section 9.17 of the Todd County Planning and Zoning Ordinance.

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the findings of the Planning Commission and grant the CUP on parcel 09-0009500 for installation of a ground mounted solar energy system in excess of 120% of the annual energy consumption with the following conditions:

1. Applicant must obtain permitting and/or licensing from additional governmental agencies as necessary.
- Administration
- On motion by Denny and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the rescinding of Board Action Tracking Number 20250218-48.

On motion by Noska and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by

unanimous vote: To authorize the adoption of the AFSCME – HHS Collective Bargaining Agreement for 2025-2027.

On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To authorize the adoption of the AFSCME – Public Works Collective Bargaining Agreement for 2025-2027.

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

2025 Non-Union Employees and Appointed Officials Salaries

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are responsible for setting the compensation of county employees and appointed officials, and;

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners desire to follow the same pattern bargained with unions for the non-union regular full-time employees and appointed officials, and;

WHEREAS, the implementation of the new 11-step salary schedule will take effect on the first day of the first full pay period in January 2025, pay date February 5, 2025 for regular full-time employees. Employees will be placed at the step within their respective grade that provides a salary increase, plus one additional step. Regular step increases will be granted starting the first day of the first full pay period worked in July, pay date August 6, 2025. Employees actively employed at the time this resolution is fully executed will receive retroactive wage increases dating back to the first full pay period in January 2025. Additionally, a 2.5 percent (%) general wage increase will take effect on the first day of the first full pay period in January 2025, applicable to all regular full-time employees whose salaries do not exceed the maximum of the salary schedule. Employees whose positions were changed as a result of a successful appeal due the performance of higher-level duties associated with a higher grade shall be placed on their step within the new higher grade under the 2024 Springsted salary grade before being placed on the 2025 Gallagher Classification Compensation salary grade as detailed above.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners authorize the implementation of the new 11-step salary schedule will take effect on the first day of the first full pay period in January 2025, pay date February 5, 2025 for regular full-time employees. Employees will be placed at the step within their respective grade that provides a salary increase plus one additional step. Regular step increases will be granted starting the first day of the first full pay period worked in July, pay date August 6, 2025. Employees actively employed at the time this resolution is fully executed will receive retroactive wage increases dating back to the first full pay period in January 2025. Additionally, a 2.5% general wage increase will take effect on the first day of the first full pay period in January 2025, applicable to all regular full-time employees whose salaries do not exceed the maximum of the salary schedule. Employees whose positions were changed as a result of a successful appeal due the performance of higher-level duties associated with a higher grade shall be placed on their step within the new higher grade under the 2024 Springsted salary grade before being placed on the 2025 Gallagher Classification Compensation salary grade as detailed above.

County Auditor-Treasurer's Report

The County Auditor-Treasurer reported that the March Township elections were held and absentee for upcoming Osakis School special election on April 8 is now open. Also, CLA is on site to commence their annual audit visit and fieldwork.

The 2025 Property Tax Statements are scheduled to begin releasing to mailboxes by the end of the week.

County Attorney's Report

The County Attorney had nothing to report.

County Coordinator's Report

The County Coordinator attended the wellness committee, lunch and learn prep, dept .head and training on our new website.

County Commissioner's Report

The Commissioners reported on meetings and events attended.

Commissioner Becker attended the Facilities, TWCC, Moran Twp annual meeting and Rainbow Rider meetings.

Commissioner Neumann attended the CPT, Park Board, Solid Waste and Rainbow Rider meetings.

Commissioner Noska attended regular meetings with notation of TWCC position now filled.

Commissioner Byers attended the Facilities, TCDC, Interviews for Road Deputy, Park Board, Personnel, Dept Head, Joint TWCC and SWCD Interview meetings.

Commissioner Denny attended the regular scheduled meetings including meeting with dept heads and extended thanks to Commissioner Noska for his efforts with the Fair Board

Adjourn

On motion by Denny and second by Neumann, the meeting was adjourned for the month of March 2025.

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS

VENDOR NAME	\$ AMOUNT
CARGILL SALT DIVISION	
.....	\$19,172.95
CENTRAL STATES WIRE	
PROD INC.....	2,820.00
CITY OF ST CLOUD.....	8,400.36
CUMMINS NPOWER	
LCC.....	2,062.10
HENNEN FLOOR	
COVERING INC	3,856.99
HILLARY.....	3,447.18
LONG PRAIRIE	
LEADER.....	5,539.50
MIDWEST LOCK & DOOR,	
INC	2,783.00
NORTHERN STAR	
COOP.....	6,579.12
VIKING GARAGE DOOR	
CO.....	2,144.00
ZIEGLER INC.....	2,710.00
55 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	26,678.96
Total:	\$86,194.16

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS

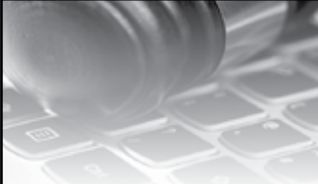
VENDOR NAME	\$ AMOUNT
RURAL MN CEP INC..	\$11,490.86
V#17772 - COST EFF HEALTH	
INS.....	2,682.92
USPS-POC.....	5,755.00
WILLIAMS DINGMAN FAMILY	
FUNERAL.....	3,500.00
82 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	37,489.75
14 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	4,909.43
Total:	\$65,827.96

VENDOR NAME	\$ AMOUNT
# 16704	\$6,333.60
# 17598	3,783.64
GREATER MN FAMILY	
SRVS INCS RANCH..	20,122.48
NORTHERN PINES MENTAL	
HLTH CTR INC	2,090.00
NORTHWOOD CHILDRENS	
SERVICES.....	3,500.00
STEP	8,938.08
# 17734	2,516.08
VILLAGE RANCH INC ..	10,372.98
WEST CENTRAL REG	
JUVENILE CTR.....	9,100.00
31 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	20,488.63
Total:	\$90,460.90

On a motion by Neumann and second by Noska, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held March 18, 2025 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on April 1, 2025.

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

17pnc



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Easter Party at Nimrod

The annual Easter Party for kids was held April 12 at the Nimrod Community Hall. This event is sponsored by the Nimrod Booster Club with funds generat-

ed from Nimrod Jubilee Days. There was 140 children in attendance. (Submitted photos)



Speech team second at Sub-Section 23A tourney

The Staples-Motley Speech team competed, April 5, in the Sub-section 23A tourney in Pequot Lakes, where the Cards placed second.

Individuals also had excellent showings, with most of the team placing and advancing to the Section 6A tournament. In Creative Expression, Walker Johnson, first and Joshua Cushing, second. Drama; Brynn Bestland first and

Meredith Hoemberg fifth. Alex Tkalcich and Caleb Bestland third in Duo. Great Speeches; Raina Mikhaeil first and Tristan Rendon second. Humor; Laken Hines first and Landon Zeigler, Adelaide Toepper and Jackson Alexander, fourth, fifth and sixth place respectively. Olivia Opheim second in Informative Speaking. Annabella Hurtig, fourth in Original Oratory; Sadye Anderson fifth in Poetry.

Lexi Ann third in Prose. Storytelling; Maddock Harvey first and Jackson Bitzer sixth place.

The Section 6A Speech Tournament was held this past weekend April 12, in Menahga where the SM Team placed second and five individuals took first, qualifying them for the state speech tournament April 25, at Shakopee High School.



Sub-Section 23A gold medal winners

First place winners at the Sub-Section 23A speech tournament, from left, Walker Johnson, Brynn Bestland, Laken

Hines, Raina Mikhaeil and Maddock Harvey. (Submitted photo)

SMBP offers help for cleanup day

Applications will be accepted until Monday, May 12, for the Staples Motley Beyond Poverty cleanup crew to come and help Staples residents with waste items.

SMBP will be facilitating a crew to help with

hauling items to the Staples City Wide Cleanup Day on Friday, May 30.

Residents who have large items that they can't lift or are otherwise unable to get rid of items for disposal are invited to pick up applications at Staples City

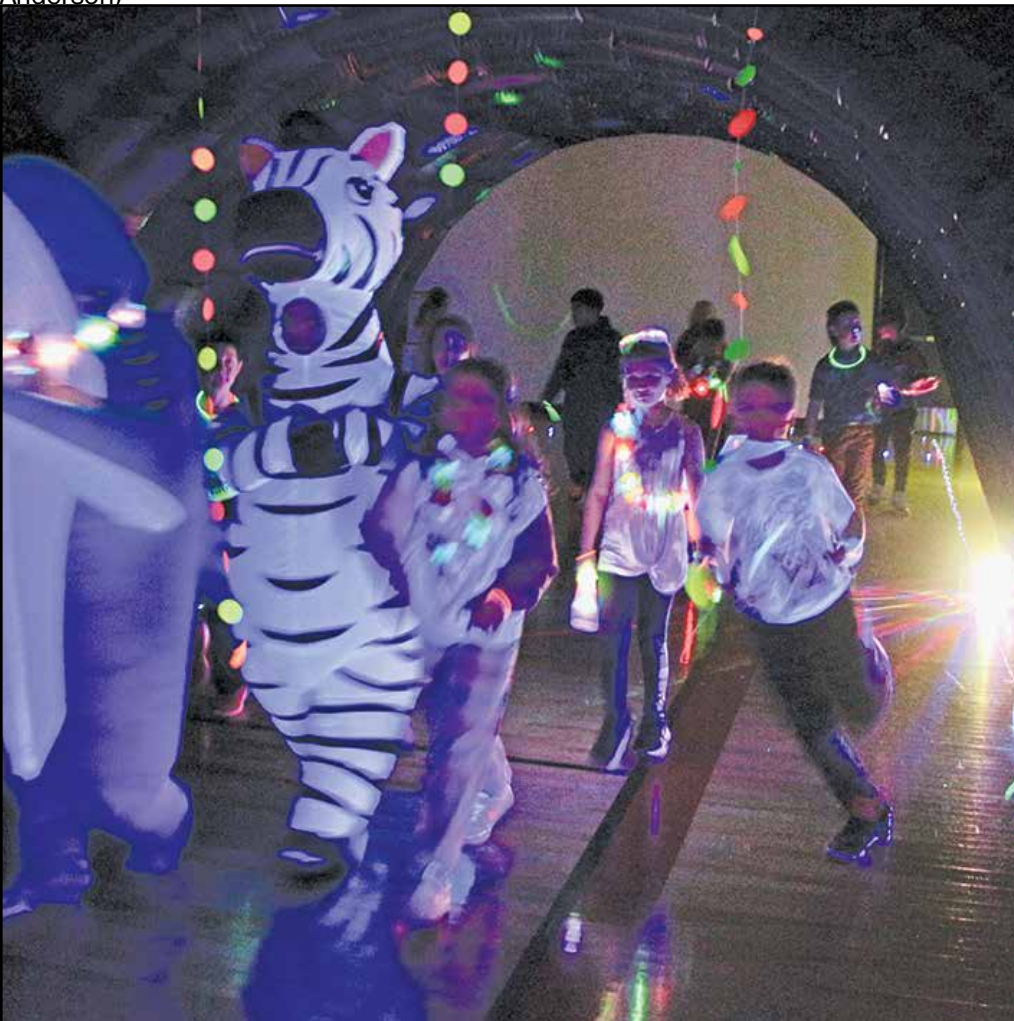
Hall, Staples Community Center or find an application on the City of Staples web site, staples.govoffice.com.

SMBP may also be able to assist with disposal fees for qualifying residents.



Sharks and minnows

Third graders race past the shark character during the Staples-Motley Elementary School Glow Run. Below, racing with the zebra. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Friendly cleanup helpers

Photo of last year's Staples Motley Beyond Poverty cleanup crew. (Submitted photo)

Minnesota DNR encourages off-highway vehicle riders to prioritize safety

MN DNR

website.

"Safety certification isn't just about checking a box - it provides riders the foundational knowledge and skills they need for a lifetime of safe off-highway vehicle riding," said Bruce Lawrence, DNR Enforcement recreational vehicle coordinator. "While it's not legally required for all riders, we highly recommend it for anyone who plans to ride. Without a doubt, it's the best way to ensure a safe ride."

Among the most common violations conservation officers continue to see is youth riders not wearing helmets. Riders under the age of 18 must wear a DOT-approved helmet and it's recommended for all riders to wear one. Other ways riders can help ensure a safe ride include:

- When they're open, ride only on designated trails. Stay to the right and travel

at a safe speed.

- Ride sober.

- Remember that riders under age 15 are not allowed to operate Class 2 ATVs.

- Wear protective gear including goggles, long sleeves, long pants, over-the-ankle boots, gloves and a DOT-approved helmet when riding all types of OHVs.

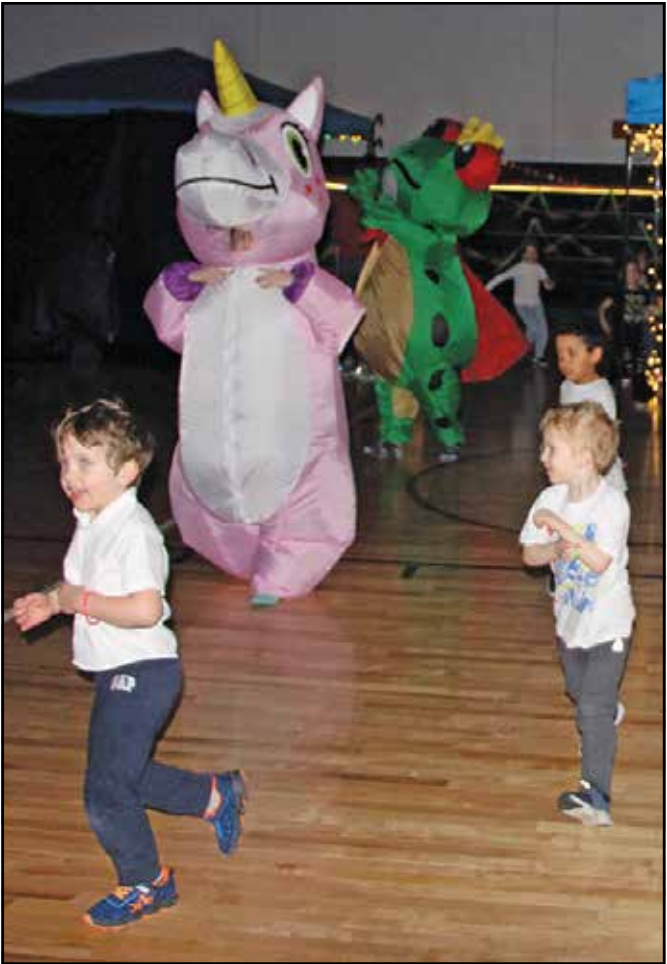
- If an OHV comes with factory installed seatbelts, wear them.

- Avoid riding on paved roads except to cross. Do it safely and ensure it's permitted by law.

- Actively supervise young riders as OHVs aren't toys.

- Complete a safety education course.

For more tips on safe riding, visit the ATV safety page of the DNR website ATV.safety page of the DNR website (/ohv/atv-afety.html).



Basking in the glow

At the Staples-Motley Elementary Glow Run on April 4, students were able to make laps around a track outlined on the gym floor, wearing bright clothing and adorned with glowing items. Above, third graders cruise the track with the creatures. For this event, students

raised over \$20,000 to build a full size basketball court for the school playground. The court is planned for the south side of the new gym. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



When Staples-Motley Superintendent Shane Tappe agreed to take a pie in the face from the top fundraiser, his daughter Cora made some calls and got \$730 donated to the fundraiser. Principal Ryan Koenigs oversaw the ceremony after the fundraising goals were met.



LAKEWOOD WELCOMES

Nathan Dewey, MD

INTERNIST AND PALLIATIVE MEDICINE PHYSICIAN

Lakewood is pleased to welcome the newest member of its oncology team, Doctor of Internal & Palliative Medicine, Nathan Dewey. As a palliative medicine physician, Dr. Dewey focuses on improving the quality of life for people with serious or life-limiting illnesses.

Dr. Dewey collaborates with a multidisciplinary team, including medical providers, nurses, social workers and chaplains, to address patients’ physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs. He can assist in creating advance care plans and guiding patients and their families through major decisions in care.



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