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Wednesday, June 18, 2025

Staples World

Staples, Minnesota

\$125



Two state champions for Staples-Motley track and field

Turner Beachy, left, clears the pole vault at 14 feet, six inches, the height that won the state title, although he went on to clear 15 feet. Right, Audrey Brownell races

her way to the 1,600 meter title. See story, page 7a. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Dragons in Motley Serenity Scharen and Mariana Mendoza, both of Staples, had a good time riding the Dragon Wagon June 14, one of several rides at the Motley Fair's Midway. More photos from the fair and Motley's June Fest will be featured next week. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Centennial Auditorium upgrade proposed

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

A drive to update Centennial Auditorium was presented to the Staples-Motley School Board at their June 9 meeting. Mike Gold, Tim Rice, Kevin Olsen and Renee Kroll talked about what it will take to upgrade the school's auditorium into a first class performing arts center.

Even though the auditorium is 34 years old, Gold said the facility was never completely finished in the first place, and now is outdated. The most outstanding deficiencies is the lack of acoustics, old and inadequate rigging and the wooden cover over an orchestra pit that may not be usable under current building codes.

A volunteer committee studied the needs of the auditorium and Gold said it could cost up to \$2 million to bring everything up to date. The committee is poised to start a fundraising campaign if the school board approves their proposal at the June 23 board meeting.

Gold said they will tackle the project in phases according to funds raised, and have identified some priorities that they would like to start with, based on many interviews with shareholders and studies done by professionals.

First is the orchestra pit, which is currently a portion dug out under the stage with a wooden cover that doubles as a stage extension. Gold said engineers are telling them it can't be upgraded because it won't meet building standards. The ceiling is too low and they can't dig down any farther because of the water table under the school. The plan would call to fill in the pit and move the concrete stage out farther.

They would also do the acoustics improvement and put money towards a new sound system. Phase two would include the sound system and rigging.

Rice said the committee also looked at how the auditorium is used from a community perspective. He said their meetings identified Staples as a possible arts destination because of the location in the center of the state. He pointed out the many area organizations that could collaborate to raise the profile of the auditorium as a performing arts center.

As a teacher and theatre director, Olsen talked about the impact of the theatre arts in the school and in the



Auditorium committee presentation

Mike Gold, standing, with Kevin Olsen and Tim Rice during their presentation to the Staples-Motley School Board. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

See **AUDITORIUM** on page 12a

Weather

2025 This Week's Forecast			
High	Low	Cond.	
June 18	80	58	P. Cloudy
June 19	78	59	M. Sunny
June 20	78	64	Showers
June 21	85	68	M. Sunny
June 22	85	61	Sunny
June 23	69	49	M. Cloudy
June 24	73	54	M. Sunny

Last Year, 2024			
High	Low	Cond.	
June 18	77°	67	Rain
June 19	66	54	M. Cloudy
June 20	68	56	Cloudy
June 21	70	60	Cloudy
June 22	67	63	Cloudy
June 23	80	61	Sunny
June 24	78	62	M. Cloudy

Average Temps:
H = 78° Low = 56°

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

ISD #2170 **9A**
Todd Cty
Courthouse bids **9A**
Region 5 **9A**
City of Staples **9A**

Obituaries

Dennis Rach
Richard Wise



Staples-Motley FFA at the State Convention

Several members of the Staples-Motley FFA Chapter attended the 2025 Minnesota State FFA Convention, held this past April, at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. Pictured from left: Molly Hoemberg, Piper Hanson, Angelina Paklonsky, Lily Brichacek, Grace Lamke, Jessie Lundquist. Middle: Natalie Miller, Landon Mo-

ench, Kiya Pope, Lydia Roelofs, Abby Brichacek, Heidi Zimmerman, Lexi Opelia, Ronnie Noska, Emma Lamke, Mabel Haehnel (tucked behind) Kat Beach. Back: Dan Rowe, FFA Advisor; Henry Zimmerman.

Staples-Motley FFA Chapter does well at state convention

Eighteen members of the Staples-Motley FFA Chapter attended the 2025 State FFA Convention this past April, held at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. “We had teams for Forestry, Nursery & Landscape, Best Informed Greenhand, and an individual for General Livestock Judging,” FFA member Heidi Zimmerman shared recently. Zimmerman noted that the Nursery & Landscape team (of which she was a part of) placed fourth at state. The other team members included Abby Brichacek, Lexi Opelia and Lydia Roelofs. Zimmerman also took home the individual championship award in this category; and during the weekend Zimmerman

received her FFA State degree, the highest honor that is given at the state level. She will be going on to pursue her American degree as well. This is the highest degree achievable in FFA and according to the National FFA Organization less than one percent of members nationwide go on to earn it. Katriane (Kat) Beach competed in Individual Livestock Evaluation at the convention; and there were two Staples-Motley delegates (Landon Moench and Mabel Haehnel) who voted on state level FFA constitutional changes. Natalie Miller, the chapter’s secretary this past school year, shared that it was her third year going to state. “It was a really

cool experience,” she said, going on to say that she was part of the Forestry team which placed 17th. In addition to Miller, the team included Ronnie Noska, Emma Lamke and Kiya Pope. Since the team was relatively new this year, Miller said, they were excited to have competed at the state level. Other Staples-Motley FFA Chapter members were part of the State FFA Band. They included Miller on alto sax; Jessica Lundquist, clarinet; Zimmerman, clarinet; and Roelofs, alto sax. Dan Rowe is the advisor for the Staples-Motley FFA Chapter. It was his first year at Staples-Motley and he said he was very proud of the students and their successes.



4th place Nursery & Landscape team

The Staples-Motley FFA Nursery & Landscape team took 4th place at the State FFA Convention April 27, at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Pictured above, from left, are Abby Brichacek, Heidi Zimmerman, Lexi Opelia, Lydia Roelofs. Each received gold rankings. At right: Zimmerman also received 1st place as an individual in this category.



Team participants

Above: Staples-Motley FFA members Landon Moench (left) and Mabel Haehnel attended the State FFA Convention this past April. They were the SM Chapter’s two delegates voting on state level FFA constitutional changes. At right: Staples-Motley FFA member Katriane Beach attended the State FFA Convention as well, competing in the Individual Livestock Evaluation. (Submitted photos)



Swimming pool fills just one of many items discussed by Motley City Council

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

The Motley Fire Department (MFD) will continue to offer the service of pool fills, but only if the pools are located in a seven mile radius, within the MFD’s fire territory. In addition, the fee will be raised from \$50 per tanker load (2,000 gallons) to \$200 per load. This decision was made at the Motley City Council’s regular meeting June 9. Motley Fire Chief Brad Olson was called out prior to the meeting, but had left his monthly report with City Clerk/Treasurer Tami Brotherton, who spoke on his behalf. In regard to pool fills, Olson had indicated that the MFD didn’t mind either way, but if they were to continue to offer this service, the fee should be raised. During their pre-vote discussion, it was noted that Bryan Stevens (MFD member and the city’s maintenance asst.) was the main person who did this job. Council member Dennis Erickson wondered if Stevens should be consulted. It was also noted that the Staples Fire Department no longer offered this service. Council member Steve Johnson said he thought that this was a nice service to offer, as it would be tough to fill up a swimming pool from a well. However, he suggested doubling the price and not accepting jobs

outside of the city’s fire territory. In the end, the motion to offer this service at the increased fee (\$200 per tanker load) in a seven mile radius within the city’s fire territory, passed with council members Erickson, Johnson and Mayor Pat O’Regan voting ‘aye.’ Council members Nikki Bjerga and April Skeesick-Larson both voted ‘no.’ This would have been Chief Olson’s last council meeting, Brotherton said, noting that he would be retiring on July 1. In other matters the council: •HEARD a summary of a closed meeting held regarding the performance review for Tami Brotherton, City Clerk/Treasurer. Brotherton received 53.2 out of 56 points possible, determined to be highly satisfactory. •HEARD request for funding for National Night Out (NNO), which is set for Tuesday, Aug. 5. Police Chief Al Yoder said he would like to have the Motley Police Department host something this year, however, he was not sure if there was funding available. Yoder explained that NNO is an annual event that helps promote positive relationships between law enforcement and the local community. It’s an opportunity for children to meet police officers, as well, and to promote safety in the community. During the subsequent

discussion, it was learned that the city’s 10-percent funds can’t be used for this. Yoder wondered if perhaps an outside organization would be willing to donate toward this. •APPROVED donating \$700 to the Sprinkle & Sprout Garden Club. The volunteer club plants and maintains flowers at Converse Park and Veterans Park, at the post office, as well as the barrels throughout town. Club member Fran Kokett noted that the club did not ask for funding last year. This year, so far, they have spent \$546, which included purchasing soil. Council member Steve Johnson, who made the motion to approve the donation, noted that the garden club works hard and all that they do makes the city look good. •APPROVED a motion to have Public Works Director Bruce Brotherton continue working on the splash pad at Converse Park according to the plans presented. It’s a project that has been in the works for 10 years and the goal is to have it finished by the end of this summer, Bruce Brotherton said. •APPROVED a resolution acknowledging the closure of three savings accounts at First International Bank & Trust (FIBT) and transfer of funds to an existing money market savings account at FIBT. •APPROVED a resolution acknowledging the transfer of \$4 million from

the city’s checking account at FIBT to the Minnesota Municipal MoneyMarket Fund (4M Fund). •HEARD from Johnson who praised City Clerk/Treasurer Tami Brotherton for going “above and beyond” with the money transfers, saving a lot of money for the city. Johnson said the city has been losing money for years and he felt this should have been caught by Brotherton’s predecessors. Brotherton later clarified that the transfer of funds into the money market savings and the 4M fund isn’t really saving the city money, but earning significantly more interest than the previous accounts were paying. •HEARD a report of water tampering at a residence in Motley. The city is not pressing charges because they are not positive the person acted with intent. Tami Brotherton said the person’s water meter froze and they had a friend fix it. Brotherton went on to stress that the person should have called the city when this happened and not a friend, as tampering with public utility equipment is a serious matter. Although no charges are being pressed, the person is being billed for a new replacement meter and their outstanding balance must be paid. •SET next regular council meeting for Monday, July 14, 4:30 p.m.



STEVENS COUNTY
DEPUTY SHERIFF
VACANCIES

Stevens County is looking to hire two full-time Deputy Sheriffs. Our schedule will be 5 on/5 off; 2 on/2 off, which provides every other weekend off as a 5-day weekend. Group health insurance w/ 100% single Employer paid and up to \$1500 per month toward family. There is also dental, vision, life, disability, critical illness, accident, hospital insurance and PERA.; two-week’s vacation, one personal day, two-week sick leave, and 12 paid public holidays annually. Stevens County also offers tuition reimbursement for credits earned beyond an associate degree.

Starting Salary: Successful candidates will be placed on to the pay scale based upon the number of years of law enforcement experience. 2025: \$27.97 - \$40.49 per hour. 2026: \$28.53 - \$42.13 per hour. Must have a minimum of an A.A. Degree in Criminal Justice or Law Enforcement; have a current P.O.S.T. License, or eligible to be licensed by time of appointment. Must possess a valid driver’s license. Must successfully complete a background investigation, physical examination, and psychological examination. Must have strong oral and written communication skills in English and the ability to act without direct supervision and exercise independent judgment in emergencies.

Duties and essential functions include patrol duties enforcing Minnesota criminal and traffic laws; protecting life and property, preventing and investigating crime, and apprehending criminals; testifying in court, responding to calls for service; civil process service; transport prisoners and providing security for courtrooms.

To apply visit www.co.stevens.mn.us under Employment Opportunities.

Upload a legible photocopy of your Minnesota P.O.S.T. License or eligibility letter from Minnesota P.O.S.T. Board and a resume and cover Letter by 4:00 p.m., Monday, June 30th, 2025.

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



Lions donate

The Staples Host Lions recently donated \$500 to the Staples Veterans Park. Pictured, from left, are Huck Holst, member of the Staples All Veterans Park Board; and Lion President Dan Shaw. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Received Lions donation

The Staples Host Lions recently donated \$200 to the City of Staples Parks and Recreation Department for their bike rodeo. Pictured, from left, are Lion President Dan Shaw; and Lacey Aguirre, Parks and Recreation Director. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Staples Police report

June 2, Staples Police investigated a fake check. June 3, another check just like the first one had attempted to be passed. June 2, Staples Police received a report of kids hitting a car with mallets near 4th Street NE. June 3, Staples Police investigated a complaint of a burn barrel near Garden Ave. in Staples. The barrel did contain prohibited material. Police put the fire out and attempted to make contact with the property owner. June 3, Staples Police received a report of an intoxicated intox male passed out on steps of apartments on Wisconsin Ave. SE. Party refused medical attention. June 4, Staples Police assisted a male party who got off the bus to see what kind of services Staples offers. Officers made contact with contact who can

provide services. June 4, Staples Police received a report of a bear struck by a vehicle on Highway 10. State Patrol requesting that police check to see if the bear needs to be dispatched or if it ran off. June 5, Staples Police received a report of an unoccupied storage building on fire on Wright Ave. NE. June 6, Staples Police received a report of a subject threatening Beck's Burgers staff to "shoot the place up." Police advised staff if he returns to trespass him and call law enforcement. June 7, Staples Police investigated a burning complaint of a large campfire on McKinley Street SW. Residents stated they had hosed the fire down. Fire was found to be in compliance with a fire ring within the limits of acceptable fires.

Looking back

75 YEARS Ago - 1950
• June 22, 1950 - Five Staples Boy Scouts are ready to leave for the national Scout Jamboree at Valley Forge, Pa., next week, where they will remain until July 6, when they will return to their homes in Staples.
The five Scouts making the trip include Eagle Scout Bob Perry, Billy Shelver, Robert Lindsay, Donald Gold and Charles Reichelderfer, Jr.
• June 22, 1950 - On Thursday afternoon of last week, members of the Motley Study Club motored to the cottage of Mrs. Lelyn Flora (Shirley Sampson) on Gilbert Lake, north of Brainerd, for their annual picnic. A most enjoyable afternoon was spent.
• June 22, 1950 - The Rev. K. H. Mueller, pastor of the Trinity Lutheran church of Staples, announces that a special confirmation service for both adults and juniors will be held at the church on Sunday morning, June 25.
Adult class - Marvin Joslin, Roy Haskin, Joe Nushwander, Mrs. Paul Schmidt, Miss Viola Anderson, Mrs. Arthur Sellnow and Mrs. Pearl Judd.
Junior class - Arthur Jasmer, Dale Sorensen, Audrey Baier, Alice Grenwald, Junett Hagenson, Donna Peterson and Mary Beth Schossow.
• June 22, 1950 - Peeping Toms seem to be having a good time on the south side of Staples, peeping in windows, and just what do they see?
For the past several weeks residents of the south side have been complaining about these peeping toms, and some have become very frightened by these "monsters" of the night.
Police have been called into action but so far they have not been able to make any arrests of these perverted people.
One of the residents of this section of the city stated Monday that he is ready and will surely blast the top, bottom, or middle out of any person he catches or is able to get close enough to.
He has a 12 gauge shotgun loaded with No. 4 shot, and states that he will take a blast at any person who is so low as to peek in windows at night. Don't blame him, do you?
• June 22, 1950 - According to the unofficial report issued by the Brainerd area office of the United States Census Bureau, Staples city population decreased 180 during the past 10 years.
The census listed in 1940 was 2,952 and the census as listed so far by the Brainerd bureau is 2,772.

50 YEARS Ago - 1975
• June 19, 1975 - Sunday, June 15, the people of Faith Lutheran Church in Staples voted to sponsor two Vietnamese refugee families in their efforts at resettlement in America. More than 100,000 persons from South Vietnam are presently living in four refugee camps throughout the United States, and they are awaiting assistance in obtaining

jobs and housing.
• June 19, 1975 - According to H. Michael Carr, Staples Police chief, two bicycles were stolen at the Dairy Dip last Tuesday night. Police are investigating, Carr said, but no leads have developed as of yet.
Monday night of this week, a car belonging to Gary Farber was stolen but later recovered a few blocks north on North Fifth Street. Farber had been having engine problems and it is surmised by police that the thief or thieves were unable to keep the car running and left it in the middle of the street.
• June 19, 1975 - Thirty-nine persons, including Gov. Wendell Anderson and Commissioner of Economic Development James Helitzer, are scheduled to visit Staples Thursday morning on a "Tour of Minnesota Progress." Stopping point in Staples will be the North Campus of the Staples Area Vocational-Technical Institute.
Only nine cities in Minnesota are to be visited on this two-day bus tour, and Staples is one of the designated stops.
• June 19, 1975 - Mrs. Bethel Peet of Poplar will be honored at an open house retirement party to be held Sunday, June 22, 2 p.m., at the Poplar-Leader Community Center.
Mrs. Peet, who is a graduate of both Staples High and Normal Schools, and of Bemidji State College, is retiring this year after having spent 33 years of dedicated service in the teaching profession.
• June 19, 1975 - Armand Faber from Motley, a prominent local swine breeder, will have his swine on display at New Ulm Swine Evaluation Station Tuesday, June 16.
About 90 pens of Minnesota's leading swine breeding stock will be exhibited for public appraisal.

25 YEARS Ago - 2000
• June 22, 2000 - It's a narrow street, but a traffic jam on First Avenue in a rare event. But one took place last Thursday, June 15. They were all squad cars.



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.

Police looking for 12 people suspected of making drug sales raided seven different homes in Staples, five of those houses on First Avenue last Thursday morning. Using three or four squad cars per house, police vehicles made the street look like a parking lot.
Following an investigation of the past three to four months, officers from area police agencies and three regional drug task forces arrested 12 people on suspicion of drug sales.
• June 22, 2000 - The peaceful, pastoral setting of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Motley will be bursting with joy as the church celebrates its 100th anniversary on Sunday, June 25.
• June 22, 2000 - Local actor, Tasa Anderson, will be touring theatre professionally this summer.
She has been chosen from hundreds of applicants to join the professional staff of Prairie Fire Children's Theatre in Barrett.
For the next three months Anderson will be traveling around the Midwest with Prairie Fire's residency program of Tom Sawyer as an actor/director. Not only will she be playing the role of Aunt Polly in the production, but also directing the community cast each week.
• June 22, 2000 - Lamp-lighter Community Theatre (LCT) will present its most ambitious production yet with the great musical "Oliver." The performances will be held at Centennial Auditorium in Staples July 1, 2, 6, 7 and 8.
Starring as the lead of "Oliver" is ten year old David Gast of Staples.

10 YEARS Ago - 2015
• June 18, 2015 - The Staples City Council approved hiring interim City Administrator at their June 9 meeting.
• June 18, 2015 - Levoy and Cleon Dewey, songwriters, musicians, parents of two and grandparents of five, will be ministering at the Staples Assembly of God Church Sunday, June 21 at 6:30 p.m. Their message, "Heaven's Sounding Sweeter All the Time" has been shared throughout the United States and other countries. Everyone welcome.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the Aug. 6, 1992 edition of the Staples World featured the Tower Pizza fourth place team in the Staples Little League playoffs. Front row, from left, Ryan Boyer, Robert Tulowetzke, Jeremy Michaels and Nathan Grandlund. Back row: Jill Mertens, A.J. Bienusa, Matt Schafer, Ron DesMarais and Chris Tornew.

MnCHOICES for elderly and people with disabilities

From Todd County Health and Human Services

MnCHOICES is a single, comprehensive assessment and support planning web-based application for long-term services and supports for people with disabilities and the elderly that may be eligible for services related to Developmental Disabilities, Community Alternatives for Disabled Individuals, Community Alternative Care, Brain Injury, Elderly Waiver, Alternative Care, and Community First Services and Supports (formally known as Personal Care Assistance). Services provided through one of these waivers and/or programs are designed to help people to live safely in their home and community and decrease nursing home placements.

MnCHOICES uses a person-centered approach that tailors services to an individual's strengths, preferences, and needs. It allows the individual to have an important and active role in the planning of their long-term services and supports. An individual can request a screening or have a screening and decide not to access waived services. Also, an individual who has a screening may not be eligible for waived services and/or may be referred for other appropriate services as determined by the MnCHOICES assessment.

To request a MnCHOICES assessment for long-term services and supports, call Todd County Health and Human Services at 320-732-4500.

Well sealing prevents groundwater pollution

From Todd County Soil and Water Conservation District

Wherever you live in Minnesota – northwoods, farm country, small town, or big city – you could have one or more wells on your property. Well sealing is permanently closing a well that is no longer used or is deemed unsafe. State law requires abandoned wells in Minnesota to be sealed. Well sealing involves clearing debris from the well and filling it with grout. This must be done by a licensed contractor.

An unused well can act as a drain, allowing surface runoff, polluted water and improperly disposed of solid or other waste to contaminate groundwater. Well sealing is crucial for protecting groundwater quality. It can also protect surface water quality in areas with spring fed streams.

Todd County Soil and Water Conservation District has cost share opportunities available to seal well (s) that are no longer in use on your property. Call Soil and Water office to inquire more information about funding opportunities. 320-732-2644.

No place for violence in politics

By Dr. Carl R. Moon
Minnesota American Legion
Commander

Our hearts go out to the families and friends of Past Speaker Melissa Hortman and her husband, Mark. Our sincere wishes for a full recovery go to Sen. John Hoffman and his wife, Yvette.

The American Legion Department of Minnesota unequivocally condemns political violence. There is no place in civil society for assassinations, violent acts or violent rhetoric. They run counter to the peaceful discourse required by the American form of government.

We are deeply saddened by the heinous actions of today, June 14, Flag Day, right here in our own state. This violence happened to our neighbors — our fellow Minnesotans — and no matter how many news reports we receive, it's hard to fathom.

Department Legislative

Chair Kristy Janigo, Past Legislative Chair Bob Hart, past department commanders, along with the Legion staff and other Legionnaires involved with our efforts to support veterans at the Capitol would encounter Hortman and Hoffman frequently in committee hearings, office visits and various events like the Legion Legislative Mixer. With their track records, both lawmakers can be considered to be friends of veterans in their communities and at the Capitol.

The American Legion Preamble promotes peace and goodwill, law and order, and the principles of justice, freedom and democracy. As an organization, we resoundingly hope the killer is apprehended with alacrity and justice prevails swiftly.

Going forward, let's work toward peaceful solutions through sound and logical dialogue.

Old Joe and the 12-foot rowboat

On Father's Day, during a brief period of patchy sunshine, my wife's younger brother and I stood on the deck that looks out over the lake where their family cabin has stood for roughly that biblical span of three-score-and-ten years. He gestured toward a boat that had just eased into a spot about 150 yards offshore, where the angler who was piloting it was about to deploy his anchor.

“He's right on Joe's spot,” my brother-in-law said. The “Joe” he was referring to was their former summer lake neighbor, a retired, self-taught veterinarian who had not only ministered to the health needs of horses and other domestic animals, but whose remedies of his own concocting were frequently relied on to aid in the healing of such inevitable rural emergencies as cuts, scrapes, burns, and the like for humans, too. More than once my wife and two brothers received treatment. Since practicing medicine without a license—or pharmacy, for that matter—is forbidden by law, no further identifiers beyond “Joe” will be provided here; especially since the departed are in no position to defend themselves.

Moored to Joe's dock those decades ago was a 12-foot Lund V-hull aluminum boat, factory painted olive drab. From time to time, when his family's menu

called for fish, he would descend the steps on the hill to his dock, carry aboard his tackle box, bait bucket, and his steel rod equipped with bait-cast reel. Then he'd throw off the boat's mooring lines, ship oars, and begin rowing to a spot where he would arrive solely by knowledge of the lake's visual landmarks and dead reckoning. Joe probably had a small outboard stored in his garage out back. But when he was heading out to this spot, the oars would suffice.

Based on the evidence, Joe was pretty good at catching fish in this simple way. Evidence of this included the fresh fish he would sometimes share with the resident chef in my wife's household, her mother. That, and the brag-worthy walleye he's holding in a faded black and white photograph, as my brother-in-law—at the time, less than belt buckle-high—stood holding his hand as they posed for the camera.

It's hard to imagine fishing today in Joe's manner, a manner that can only be called primitive when compared to contemporary angling methods. Even on lakes much smaller than the 2,900-acre lake on which Joe lived, the only watercraft not fuel-powered are canoes, kayaks, or sailboats. For the most part it is only in the wilderness and semi-wilderness border region of far northern Minnesota that “muscle power” is still a prevalent means of watercraft propulsion.

On Joe's lake, his old 12-foot aluminum Lund would today be dwarfed by most of the fishing craft, with only a few remnant exceptions. Many of these craft are bass boat style, others

are deep, wide, V-hull boats that would be seaworthy even on Lake Superior. It's not uncommon for one to be powered by an outboard with nearly twice the horsepower of some models of Cessna aircraft!

And the dead-reckoning by which Joe found his “honey hole,” time after time? Finding fish-holding structure, particularly away from shoreline emergent vegetation that bass anglers often target, is for most anglers today likely to be a matter of electronics. The technology ranges from basic depth-finding units, to advanced sonar that provides three-dimensional views of the underwater landscape, and actually pinpoints fish and even the lures being presented to them. While some anglers are publicly decrying the use of such game-changing technology—which has made some anglers screen-watchers, much like their teenage children with smartphones—the revolution seems to be moving forward with little serious pushback.

In the face of this, however, there are examples of minimalist approaches to angling taking place. Kayak fishing is one. Another cabin neighbor recently acquired a kayak specifically designed for fishing. Rather than being propelled by the arms and upper body with a two-bladed paddle in the traditional kayak manner, these kayaks are pedal-powered. Anglers use their feet in a manner similar to a paddle boat, or a bicycle, providing force to fins or to a propeller beneath the kayak to move it through the water. Some fishing kayaks are powered by an electric trolling motor, but still a

step back from the “arms race” that characterizes more typical high-powered angling.

There are limitations to the wave and wind conditions these kayaks are best suited for, not to mention high-traffic lakes with large numbers of pleasure craft, as well as supercharged fishing boats. Nevertheless, my neighbor felt perfectly comfortable using his on this relatively large lake. The same caution that should be observed by canoeists and recreational kayakers would make sense for anglers who dip their toes into this emerging style of angling.

Another departure from high-tech, high-powered forms of angling was featured in early May by an outdoors writer for the Minnesota Tribune, describing 330-acre Annie Battle Lake in Glendalough State Park, near Battle Lake, Minnesota. It's what is called a “heritage fishery” in DNR-speak, a lake on which neither motors nor fish-finding technology are permitted. It is entirely contained within the park, thus enabling these special regulations that not every angler would embrace, and which would likely encounter resistance on waters that are largely surrounded by private land.

This heritage fishery is a throwback to earlier, simpler angling times, one that in some ways is like many wilderness lakes and river systems in northern Minnesota where motors are prohibited, and paddle-powered canoes are the standard mode of angling and transportation. A place, too, where old Joe and his 12-foot rowboat would be right at home.

Get to know a scammer

Common scams used in Todd County

Scammers often target the elderly, but anyone who uses electronic devices, such as phones or computers, can be a target of scammers.

Be wary of a scam if they are contacting you out of the blue. Scammers often pretend to be from an organization you know. Before giving away information or money, contact a family member or a professional who you know you can trust.

Below are some of the scams that have been used in Todd County recently. Thanks to the Todd County Sheriff's Office for providing these examples of scams.

IRS scam

The scammer says they are from the IRS and you owe money or back taxes. They threaten if you do not pay, law enforcement will show up and arrest you. Typically, the IRS will send you a letter. If you get a letter from IRS, contact your tax advisor.

Family emergency

The scammer pretends to be a family member in trouble with law enforcement, they're in jail, need money for bail or need money for a lawyer. Call the family member in trouble or other family members to confirm.

Fake military veteran

The scammer pretends to be a military veteran stuck in another country or have property (gold) in another country and need assistance

getting them or their property home.

False tech problem

The scammer sends a pop-up box on a computer screen (anti-virus protection or some form of pornography). They prompt you to click a link or call a number on the screen to speak to someone to get the issue resolved. They also might request access to your computer. Then they find accounts on your computer. They claim your bank accounts are not secure and need you to move your money, close accounts and move your money elsewhere or send wire transfer. They could also ask you to send a check to an address within the United States.

Solution: Delete pop-up screens immediately.

Red flags

The scammer will make it seem as if they have your personal information such as your social security number, address and then they will request this information from you in an attempt to “verify” what information they claim to have.

Never do this

Never mobile deposit a check someone sends to you if you're not sure who it came from, not expecting it, and especially if they want you to send some or most of the money back to them. They will offer to have you keep some of the money for your trouble.

Medicaid and SNAP cuts create harm to our basic support systems

From Minnesota Housing Partnership, Second Harvest Heartland, and Minnesota Budget Project

More than 100 Minnesota-based organizations—including many of the state's largest healthcare providers and community nonprofits—sent the attached letter urging Minnesota's Congressional delegation to vote against the largest cuts to Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, and housing supports in history. These cuts appear in the “One Big Beautiful Bill Act,” which is advancing quickly through Congress, and in the President's proposed federal budget.

The proposals would dismantle basic support systems that millions rely on to stay healthy, housed, and nourished—undermining the stability of families and communities across Minnesota.

According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO), Medicaid cuts

included in the U.S. House's budget reconciliation package—now under Senate consideration—would cause more than 16 million Americans to lose health insurance, including 253,000 Minnesotans.

“Congress is going too far by cutting over \$790 billion from Medicaid and terminating healthcare for over 16 million people, including people fighting cancer, seniors in nursing homes, children, veterans, and people with disabilities,” said Laura Mortenson with the This Is Medicaid coalition. “Policymakers are pushing massive cuts to Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act to pay for tax cuts that only benefit the wealthy and big corporations. This bill raises healthcare costs for millions of people, while doing nothing to make healthcare more affordable or accessible.”

SNAP, the nation's most effective anti-hunger program, also faces deep reductions. The proposed cuts would eliminate benefits for

45,000 Minnesotans and reduce benefits for more than 100,000 others—at a time when grocery prices remain high and demand for food assistance is growing. Nationwide, the cuts would take 9.5 billion meals off the tables of families across the country.

“Last year in Minnesota we saw nearly nine million visits statewide to food shelves,” said Second Harvest Heartland Interim CEO Sarah Moberg. “That number has been steadily increasing, and dramatic cuts to SNAP like the ones in the budget reconciliation bill passed by the U.S. House will only serve to turn a hunger crisis into a catastrophe for our state. Food banks and food shelves alike are already stretched beyond our means, and cutting SNAP benefits will not only make an already unsustainable situation even worse, but it will also deprive local economies throughout Minnesota of tens of millions of dollars in SNAP spending. We urge our federal delegation to vote against these cuts, and instead work to pass a strong, bipartisan Farm Bill that strengthens SNAP and other federal nutrition programs.”

Housing leaders are also sounding the alarm on the President's proposed budget, which would slash HUD programs by 44%. The budget proposal includes a 43% cut to rental assistance—an action that could result in 34,000 Minnesota households losing their homes.

“These proposed cuts gut the very programs that keep our communities strong,” said Anne Mavity, Executive Director of Minnesota Housing Partnership. “Housing is deeply connected to health, hunger, and opportunity—it's the foundation for everything else. When families lose that foundation, they lose stability, security, and the chance to thrive. Slashing rental assistance while housing costs keep climbing will displace tens of thousands of Minnesotans. Congress must reject this harmful budget and protect the basic supports that help people live with dignity.”

The United States Senate has said they are working to pass a budget reconciliation package ahead of the 4th of July Congressional recess, with a goal of delivering a bill to the President for his signature by the end of July.

StaplesWorld

Established in 1890. USPS 518-760
©2025 RMM Publications
Published Wednesdays by RMM Publications
Office located at 224 4th Street NE
Periodicals postage paid at Staples, Minnesota 56479.

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

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

Publisher RMM Publications LLC
Owners Rick Gail, Mike Kremer, Mark Anderson
Managing Editor..... Mark Anderson editor@staplesworld.com
Advertising Rep..... editor@staplesworld.com
Photo Tech/production..... Janice Winter jwinter@staplesworld.com
Bookkeeping/Circulation.....
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Front Office..... office@staplesworld.com

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

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Member: Minnesota Newspaper Association, MCAN Advertising

Quote of the week

“Nationalism is an infantile disease. It is the measles of mankind.”
— Albert Einstein

Quote of the week

“The darkest places in hell are reserved for those who maintain their neutrality in times of moral crisis.”
— Dante Alighieri



Nominated by their teacher

Pictured, from left: Kim Lund, Physical Education teacher at Pillager School and Head Delegation for the Pillager Huskies Special Olympic team, nominated Earl Brown and Bryce Rowan for the Unity

Award they recently received. The national award is sponsored by PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center in Minneapolis. (Submitted photo)

Two Pillager School students are Unity Award recipients

Earl Brown, Bryce Rowan, honored

PACER'S National Bullying Prevention Center (NBPC), Minneapolis, recently announced that Pillager School students Earl Brown and Bryce Rowan, honored together, are among the six recipients of the 11th annual Unity Awards. The Unity Awards recognize individuals or groups that empower others to take action against bullying, advocate for those who need support, or share acts of kindness that cause a ripple effect in their communities. They will be celebrated on PACER's websites. "Earl and Bryce are students who help build bridges for students of all abilities, in sports and other activities in their community. They understand the role they have as leaders, coaches and mentors. As athletes themselves, they know how powerful it is to belong and receive positive encouragement," said Lisa Elm, Director of PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center. The nomination submitted by educator Kim Lund said: "Bryce and Earl are student leaders who will leave a long lasting,

positive impact on Pillager School. They are role models who changed the climate of the school by promoting inclusion, focusing on kindness, and bringing students together in and out of school, regardless of their ages or abilities. They truly shine as coaches for the Unified Special Olympics program where they assist students from ages eight to 18, always putting in extra effort with their leadership. Earl and Bryce have changed the dynamics of the school by breaking down barriers to support the true meaning of inclusion. They are leaders who will change the world." PACER provides information, training and support for families of children with disabilities. The NBPC was founded in 2006 to address bullying as a serious community issue that impacts education, physical and emotional health, and the safety and well-being of students. It actively leads social change to prevent childhood bullying so that all youth are safe and supported in their schools, communities and online.

Mark Your Calendar

June 19

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

June 20

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.

June 22

CELEBRATE RECOVERY GROUP MEETINGS are held every Sunday at 6 p.m., at Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood St. E., Motley.

June 24

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN MEETING FOR THE CITY OF MOTLEY

will be held Tuesday, June 24, 4:30 p.m., at Motley City Hall. 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 MONTHLY MEETING Tuesday, June 24, 7 p.m., Wadena VFW. Guest speaker is Philip Parrish.

Menu

Senior Nutrition Program

Call on mornings the Friday before to reserve next week's meal. Call for current suggested donation info. LSS Meal; traditional older adult menu. Menu is subject to change.

Staples 894-2556

Meals include bread (specific kinds noted), marg., and 1% milk.

June 16 - June 20

MONDAY - Rigatoni beef, green beans, Carlifornia veg, blend, wheat bread, chocolate chip cookie.

TUESDAY - BBQ chicken breast, scalloped potatoes, sliced carrots, wheat dinner roll, chocolate pudding.

WEDNESDAY 11 a.m. - BINGO at the Staples Community Center: Bring your pennies. Meal: Country pork tips, pork gravy, stamed rice, Capri veg blend, spiced peaches, dinner roll.

THURSDAY - CLOSED FOR JUNETEENTH HOLIDAY.

FRIDAY -Potato crunch fish fillet, mashed sweet potatoes, green beans, wheat dinner roll, tartar sauce, snickerdoodle cookie.

wk26

Todd County Historical Society Museum Open House Sat., June 28, 2025, 1:00 PM *Todd County Fair in the Museum Building* For Ray Gove, Orv Dahlen and the band members and helpers who made the Marching M'Bassadors the best of the best. Bring your stories and pictures to share. The Todd County Museum is proud to pay tribute to all of the members, family, friends and especially the amazing Band Directors, Ray Gove and Orv Dahlen, whose hard work and dedication made our Marching M'Bassadors so successful.

Todd County Fair June 26-29 GRANDSTAND EVENTS TRIPLE B RODEO Friday • 7 pm 2 DEMO DERBIES Saturday • 1 & 6:30 pm TRUCK/TRACTOR PULL-KIDS DAY Sunday • 1 pm GET YOUR TICKETS ARM BAND EVENTS Good for One Event Thurs. 6-10 pm • Fri. 1-5/6-10 pm Sat./Sun. 1-5 \$30 Advance • \$35 ea. at Fair

STAPLES ALLIANCE CHURCH CAMP "SUMMER BLAST" FREE Friday, June 27th 7 am - 9 am Breakfast 9 am - 5 pm Program 5 pm - Family Dinner Theme: Summer of Opposites Christmas in July 75 kid max Thursday July 24th 7 am - 9 am Breakfast 9 am - 5 pm Program 5 pm - Family Dinner REGISTER NOW Registration opens: April 20 - 75 Kid Max Staples Alliance Church 1512 8th St. NE Staples, 56479 www.staplesalliance.org 218-894-2891

OLD SCHOOL HEALTH Open Mon.-Fri.! Massage Bio Resonance Testing Rife Machine Sessions Ear Candling Essential Oils Living Water - Hydrogenated Water NASA Tech Air Purifiers with Ozone 121 4th St. NE Staples 218-895-8102 Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm or by Appointment

2nd Annual Staples 3M Club Charity --Golf Tournament-- SAT., SEPTEMBER 6 The Vintage Golf Course, Staples Registration: 9 - 9:45 a.m. (rules meeting) 10 a.m. Shotgun Start Entry Fee: \$110 per person includes: *Cart, 18 holes and meal *Team Mulligans (1 ea. player), Team String (36") *Entry into the longest drive closest to the pin and putting contest Register by August 29, 2025 Call Darrell Hoemberg at 218-895-1523 or 218-894-2831 Online registration: https://cutt.ly/GrzOYRyn ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE STAPLES AND MOTLEY FOOD SHELVES \$600 and custom golf putters for 1st place team \$300 and custom plaques for 2nd place team Custom golf putter for winner of the putting contest \$1,000 worth of 3M branded merchandise prizes to be drawn (must be present to win)

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STEVENS COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES SUPERVISOR STEVENS COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES SALARY RANGE: \$41.04 - \$55.15 DOQ Stevens County is looking for a visionary, fast-moving Social Services Supervisor to lead high-impact programs in mental health and developmental disabilities. If you're passionate about public service, eager to work across systems, and driven to build better outcomes for individuals and families, this is the role for you. WHAT YOU'LL DO: Lead a team of talented professionals delivering essential services across the community Align efforts with county leadership to support smart, responsive programs Think big, adapt fast, and problem-solve across systems and sectors Collaborate daily with law enforcement, schools, healthcare providers, and more Help shape policy, improve systems, and elevate the voices of those we serve WHAT YOU BRING: Bachelor's in Social Work (or equivalent field/training) 4+ years of hands-on experience in social work or human services Leadership potential, emotional intelligence, and the ability to pivot quickly Confidence using technology and a growth mindset when learning new tools A drive to listen deeply, act with compassion, and lead by example WHAT YOU GET: 100% employer-paid single health insurance; up to \$1,500/month toward family coverage 12 holidays + generous PTO: 12 vacation and 12 sick days annually Public Pension Plan with 7.5% employer match Remote work flexibility after one year (or earlier for highly experienced hires) Federal Student Loan Forgiveness Program Eligible. A chance to be part of something bigger—serving people, improving systems, and leading change in our community EMPLOYMENT VARIABLES: Applicants subject to criminal background check. The typical schedule is a 40-hour work week, Monday through Friday. Additional hours may be required but vary based upon workload demands. READY TO LEAD? For more information or to apply go to: http://www.co.stevens.mn.us. under Employment Opportunities by 4:00 p.m., June 23rd , 2025. ADA accommodations available. Stevens County is an EOE.

Hello World

ONLINE BIRTHS REMOVED AT THE REQUEST
OF LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM

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. Aaron Kuhn
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 Maltcore
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 Maltcore
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.

Obituaries

Richard Wise

Richard “Rick“ Lee Wise, 67, of Staples passed away June 7, 2025 at Lake-wood Health System Care Center, Staples.

A service of remem-brance and celebration will be held Tuesday, June 24 at 11:00 a.m. at the Motley Free Methodist Church. Visitation will be held at 10 a.m. at the church.

Richard was born December 4, 1957 to Floyd Leslie and Clarice Marlene Wise in Little Falls. He was one of five children, Brian, Linda, Rick, Natalie and Tim. Shortly after his birth, the family moved north to the Iron Range, first in Pengilly, then Nashwauk. At the age of four, the family moved to Staples. Rick graduated from Staples High School with the class of 1976, then attended Staples Vocational School studying graphic arts. He worked alongside his father and older brother, Brian, as a printer in the family owned business, “Temple Press” in Staples, concluding his working years as a convenience store night shift manager at the Staples Super America. Rick loved the outdoors, especially fishing, was a dog and cat lover, a bird expert and enjoyed socializing with his many friends. He was artistic, creative, had a love for words as a human dictionary when it came to definitions or spellings. He enjoyed crossword puzzles, sudokus, was the Wordle Master, Cribbage King, pool shark and always happy to play cards with friends and family. Rick had a bright mind and the ability to be a quiet and accepting presence with a dose of dry sense of humor mixed in. Rick never married but found the love of his life, Mary K. Wollenburg shar-



ing many years of happi-ness together before losing her in 2006.

In the last years of his life, Rick’s diagnosis of COPD/emphysema lim-ited his ability to do many things easily and he moved back home with his par-ents, deeply thankful for their love and care. He is free from a body that was no longer able to support him physically and is now safe in the arms of Jesus. He loved his friends and family dearly and will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

Rick is survived by his mother, Clarice Wise; two brothers, Brian (Diana) Wise and Timothy (Sonya) Wise; two sisters, Linda Gathright and Natalie (Steve) Olsen and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his significant other, Mary K. Wollen-burg; father, Floyd Wise; one brother-in-law, Gordon Gathright and one niece, Chelsea Marlene Olsen.

Special thanks to the Lakewood Care Center and Hospice team for their care during the last eight weeks of his life.

Arrangements are by the Taylor Funeral Home, Staples.

w26c A00006B2020JU18

Dennis Rach

Dennis “Denny“ George Rach, 71, of Aitkin died Monday, June 9, 2025.

A Celebration of Life will be held Friday, June 27 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the 40 Club Convention Center in Aitkin.

Denny was born August 29, 1953 the son of Alfred and Lorraine (Plautz) Rach in Long Prairie. He grew up in Long Prairie and graduated from high school in 1972. Denny was united in marriage to Anna Mae Kozitka on August 24, 1974 in Staples. He was the owner and CEO of Tee-Mark Manufacturing in Aitkin. Denny enjoyed the outdoors, hunting, fishing and riding four-wheeler.

Denny is survived by one daughter, Heidi (Jori) Packer; one son, Chad (Erin) Rach; three grand-children, Hunter and Alex-ander Packer and Madelyn Rach; one sister and broth-er-in-law, Cheryl (Gary)



Parish.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Anna Mae Rach in 2018; one sister, Nancy Holler in 2002 and his parents.

Arrangements are with Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home & Crema-tion Services, Aitkin. To leave a message of condo-lence go to www.srtfuneral.com.

w26c A00006B2020JU18

Student Achievements

MINNESOTA STATE COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE recently announced names of students who were named to its 2025 Spring Semester Honors List. Students on the President’s List earned a grade point average of 4.0; and students on the Dean’s List earned a grade point average of 3.5 to 3.99. Students on both lists also had to complete a min-

imum of six college-level credits and 75 percent of the courses in which they enrolled for the semes-ter. Local students named included:

- Cooper Baillif, Pillager, Dean’s List
- Tarissa Halvorson, Pil-lager, President’s List
- Zoey Marlette, Pillager, Dean’s List
- Luke Bates, Staples, Dean’s List
- Kathleen Connell, Sta-ples, Dean’s List
- Alexis Dahler, Staples, President’s List
- Aleeah Halverson, Sta-ples, Dean’s List
- Grace Jennissen, Sta-ples, President’s List
- Reid Michael, Staples, President’s List
- Eli Smith, Staples, Dean’s List
- Heidi Smith, Staples, President’s List
- Paige Woodwick, Sta-ples, President’s List

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Pastor Don Reigstad, Lincoln Free Evangelical Church, Cushing

Bible.

Is it the Word of God or does in contain the Word of God? That’s the question that divides the Christian world today.

If the Bible contains the Word of God, then the search is on. Which words are God’s and which words are merely men’s words? There’s no issue with many of the Bible’s words. John 3:16 is certainly God’s words. “For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son...” Or, “Love one another...” and many more like these. But what about more challenging words like, “Do not commit adultery...” and “God gave them up to...men committing shameless acts with men...” What about those verses? Are these the words of men or of God? Who

gets to decide this? Do each of us decide for ourselves?

On the other hand, if the Bible is the Word of God, then we do not judge the word but let the Word judge us. We simply seek the clear meaning of the words and accept them, whether we like them or not. There are many verses I may like to ignore or discredit as man’s words, not God’s. But is that my perogative? I think not. The Apostle Paul says, “All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof...” 2 Timothy 3:16.

Challenging to be sure. But who said it was supposed to be easy? Thanks for read-ing.

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Brownell, Beachy are state track and field champions

The Staples-Motley track and field team had two state champions and one other medal winner at the state track meet, held June 10-11 at St. Michael-Albertville High School.

Turner Beachy won the boys pole vault. Audrey Brownell won the 1,600 meter run and was second in the 3,200. Noah Larson was the other medal winner, getting ninth place in the 110 meter high hurdles.

Other competitors were Avandre Brandt in the 200 and high jump, Adrian Gomez in the shot put, and Sawyer Ferdon in the triple jump and long jump.

Audrey Brownell, 1,600, 3,200

Brownell's first race was the 3,200 meter run on the first day of competition. Even after competing in multiple state track and cross country races, this one played out with some surprising tactics by her competitors.

Her plan was to key off of one competitor, Margaret Duffy of St. John's Prep, the top seed who had the fastest race in Class A this year. Both of them started in the middle of the pack, but one unexpected runner took off at a super fast pace, and two others tried to follow her. Nobody else in the pack tried to cover the move.

"It was quite crazy, I was pretty surprised," said Brownell. "It's a lot to process in the middle of a race."

After three laps of that, Brownell decided it was time to make a move.

"We were getting gapped so much, I had to go," she said.

So she led the chase pack and the other favorite went with Brownell until they had almost caught the early leader. Then Duffy made her move, passing Brownell and creating a gap. Brownell made a hard charge on the last lap but ended up less than a second behind in second place.

Her time of 10:55 was close to her season best, but having to do a lot of the pacing work during the race showed she could have gone faster in a different type of race. After coming so close, Brownell was disappointed in second place.

"It's hard, it puts you in touch with reality," she said, "but I realized I had to get my head in the right space for the race the next day."

The next day, the 1,600 meter race went according to plan. Brownell started out in the middle of the pack again and moved close to the leaders after the first lap. The second lap was a little slower and the field started to bunch up as they came around the second turn. Brownell felt the pace slowing and made her move. She took the lead and 100 meters later the entire field went from a big bunch to a long line, as runners struggled to match her pace.

Over the next lap,

Brownell expanded the lead to four seconds and kept increasing it on the last lap, winning by five seconds in 5:02.

This was her fifth individual state title, including cross country and a track relay title.

Brownell said the second place finish will give her motivation to keep training hard for her senior year next year.

"It was a learning experience in all types of ways," she said.

Turner Beachy, pole vault

Beachy turned his fortunes around mid-week after a poor week of practice.

"It was my worst week of practice all year, I couldn't clear anything," said Beachy. "I had a mental breakdown, I didn't know what to do."

But more practice brought him out of his slump and got him to concentrate more. Beachy figured he was one of two favorites in the competition, with one vaulter having a higher season best, Trayson Gibson of Morris/Hancock/Chokio-Alberta.

"He's a wrestler, like me, we have a lot in common," said Beachy. They both placed third in their weight class at state wrestling this year, then here they were going for the state pole vault title.

Both vaulters were flawless for the first few heights, clearing easily. They both grazed the bar while clearing 14 feet and one other competitor cleared that height on his final attempt.

With three vaulters left, the bar went up three inches at a time instead of six. At 14'3", Beachy cleared and Gibson had one miss before making it on his second attempt. The third competitor missed all three tries and was out. But it was important because Beachy was now the leader with fewer misses.

That moved the bar up to 14'6". Both competitors missed their first try and Gibson missed his second.

"Since he had more misses, I knew this was my chance," said Beachy.

He changed to a bigger pole and cleared with a little room to spare. When Gibson missed his third, Beachy was alone as state champion. He subsequently raised the bar to 15 feet, his previous best, and cleared it on the third try, wrapping over the bar with a perfectly executed vault. He then missed three tries at 15'4" but walked back to get congratulations from all the other pole vaulters for his first state title.

Beachy joins his father, sister and uncle as state track champions. His father Arden won the state triple jump, sister Jaelin won the 100 hurdles and uncle Ryan Beachy won the pole vault. Turner's grandfather Ron Beachy was a long time



Adrian Gomez



Noah Larson

track and field coach who died a year ago and is in the Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame.

Noah Larson, 110 hurdles

In the hurdle prelims, Larson cracked off his best race ever, running 15.57 to advance to the finals.

Running the first race of day two, the rain had dissipated a little by the time his race started, but the track was still soaking wet when the gun went off. Larson was right up there with the top hurdlers but he started to fall back and clipped the ninth hurdle out of the 10 hurdles. He finished in ninth place at 15.63.

Adrian Gomez, shot put

Three good throws put Gomez close to his personal best in the shot put, tossing it 46 feet, 0.75 inches for his farthest. But with a large number of high level shot putters in the competition, that only put him in 21st place and he did not make the finals.

Sawyer Ferdon, triple jump, long jump

Ferdon performed well in both events. He soared 42'6.6" in the triple jump,

where he was a few inches out of qualifying for the finals and finished in 11th place.

The long jump started in a steady rain the next day, with Ferdon going 19'5.25" as his best jump on a soaked runway and wet sand. The rain subsided for future rounds and Ferdon ended up in 24th place.

As a senior, Ferdon finished his career with three state meets in the triple jump and this was his first for the long jump.

Avandre Brandt, 200, high jump

Coming off an injury, Brandt did not get back to his high point in either event, finishing in 15th place in the 200 meter dash on the first day of competition. His time of 22.74 was among his best races of the year, but was not enough to advance out of the prelims.

Rain on the second day moved the high jump competition indoors. Many athletes did not adjust to the different surface, including Brandt, who missed on three attempts at the opening height and did not place.



Long jump in the rain

Sawyer Ferdon reaches his apex during one of his long jumps at the state track meet. Ferdon's long jump flight was held during a steady rain. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Avandre Brandt in the 200 meter dash.



Winning move to the front

Audrey Brownell, right, runs to the front of the 1,600 meter race and stretches out





SERVICES &
EMPLOYMENT

205
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WADENA COUNTY
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Solid Waste Attendant
position:

Duties and Responsibilities: Performs solid waste program services including loading outbound trailers and checking inbound loads to transfer station and landfill for contaminants and unacceptable items. Assists public with garbage, recycling, or household hazardous waste needs; Cleans out pit area; Enters bins to unplug; Bales and sorts cardboard; Accepts and organizes E-Waste and appliances; Accepts and processes paint and chemical waste; Manages compost and brush piles; Maintains driveway and roads on premises; Maintains and repairs buildings; Performs grounds maintenance including lawn mowing, trimming, cleanup, snow shoveling, etc.; Operates a variety of tools, vehicles and equipment; Performs minor repairs, cleaning and lubing of equipment; Collects and transports recycling bins throughout the county; Accepts and records fees; Transports and provides work direction to Sentence to Service (STS) workers; Produces and maintains records; Performs computer data entry; Attends training, educational and staff meetings as assigned.

While these are the primary focus of the position, we believe strongly in teamwork and employees will be called upon to perform a variety of duties as part of their role with the County.

Position Requirements: Knowledge of proper and safe operation, servicing and maintenance of tools and equipment; Knowledge of local and state laws and regulations regarding solid waste programs; of safety procedures and OSHA regulations; Good verbal and written communication skills; Knowledge and ability to use computer and IT software; Ability to interpret a variety of instructions furnished in written, oral, diagram, or schedule form; Ability to handle a variety of typical tasks and problems under moderate supervision within standard operating procedures; Ability to perform fairly standard procedures and tasks where basic analytical ability is required; Ability to communicate and maintain relationships with department staff, other departments, the general public etc. to relay basic information or facts.

Education and Experience: Requires a high school degree or equivalent; and one year relevant experience or training.

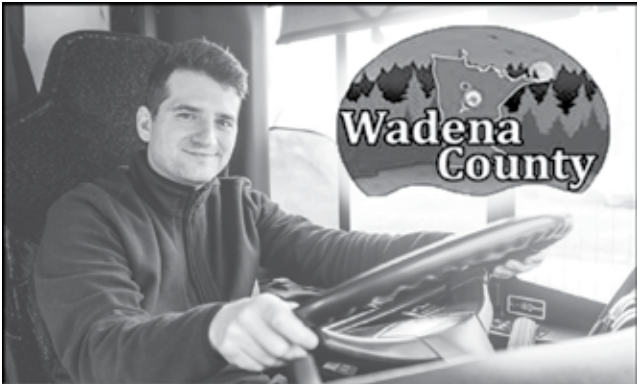
Licenses/Certifications: This position will require the acquisition and maintenance of the following additional certificates/licenses. Minnesota CDL Driver's License; Type III Landfill; Class A license; Household Hazardous Waste; Skid Loader and Pay Loader Certification

Equipment and Tools: Chainsaw; Tractor mowers; Utility vehicles; Skid steer; Front end loaders; Air compressors; Pickup truck with snow; plow; Hand tools; Cardboard Baler; Computer and IT software.

Physical and Mental Requirements: See online application

Working Conditions: See online application

Salary: Wage range is \$18.56 to \$25.32 hourly.
HOW TO APPLY: Required application materials and job description are available at: www.co.wadena.mn.us, the Wadena County Human Resources Office at the courthouse (hr@wcmn.us) and in person. Applications can be mailed or delivered to the Human Resources Office, Wadena County Courthouse, 415 Jefferson Street S, Wadena, MN 56482 no later than **4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 24, 2025**
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Minimum qualifications include a high school diploma, plus skills in data entry, database management, business English, customer service, word processing, typing/keyboard and experience with Microsoft Office Products. Preferred qualifications include an associate degree or vocational/technical diploma in relevant field, experience entering data into information tracking systems and experience working in a correctional setting or office setting. Home office for this position is Wadena, MN. Travel between counties and office locations is required as determined by agency needs.

Salary range \$20.54 - \$27.21 per hour. Benefits-eligible positions include: paid time off for earned sick and vacation; paid holidays; excellent insurance plans (health, dental, vision, life, and short and long-term disability); pre-tax accounts for medical, dental, vision and daycare expenses; PERA pension plan; and 457(b) retirement options. Normal working hours are M-F, 8:00am-4:30pm. Some non-traditional hours may apply. Must have valid MN driver's license and auto insurance, and reliable transportation. Must pass agency background check requirements prior to employment. Convictions, continuances or stays for crimes other than minor traffic offenses may disqualify the applicant from being hired.

Contact Katherine Langer, Director, at 320-732-6165 or kathy.langer@co.todd.mn.us for an application packet and/or to request a reasonable accommodation.

Veteran's preference applies. Submit cover letter, résumé and completed application to Todd-Wadena Community Corrections, 221 First Avenue South, Suite 200, Long Prairie, MN 56347. Position will remain open until filled.

"AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER"

GARAGE SALES

701

HUGE SALE - RUM-MAGE IN THE BARN: Thurs., June 19, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Fri., June 20, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. 50385 County 83, Staples (1/2 mi. north of Lakewood Health System Hospital). Clothing (all sizes), baby clothes, furniture, toys, games, housewares, canning jars, bedding, décor, a lot of furniture, much more. Proceeds going to Sacred Heart Church. 26p

GARAGE SALE: Weds., June 18, Thurs., June 19, Fri., June 20, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. 987 Pleasant Ave. NE, Staples. 26p

TWO GARAGE SALES (next to each other) PHILBROOK: Thurs., June 19 - Sun., June 22, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. every day. From Motley: South on Hwy. 10 to Todd Cty 28, west. From Staples: South on Hwy. 210 to Cty Rd 7, to Cty 28. SIGNS. 26p

LARGE 4-PARTY IN-DOOR GARAGE/ SHED SALE: Thurs, June 19 - Sat., June 21, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. One mi. south of Staples on Hwy. 210, east on Cty 7 for 3.7 mi. Horse saddles, harnesses and much more. 26p

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FOR BID

HISTORIC
COURTHOUSE
EXTERIOR REPAIRS

Contractor's sealed proposals for the construction of Historic Courthouse Exterior Repairs will be received by the Owner in accordance with the plans and specifications prepared by:

ARCHITECT

WIDSETH
7804 Industrial Park Road
Baxter, MN 56425

SITE VISIT INFORMATION

Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting: 06-24-2025, at 10:00 A.M. (CST)

BID DATE INFORMATION: 07-08-2025

Bid Time: 2:00 P.M. (CST)
Location: Todd County Historic Courthouse, Board Room

Attn: Mitch Johnson, Facility Manager
212 2nd Ave. S,
Long Prairie, MN 56347

at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud for the construction of the above named project. Envelopes containing bids must be sealed, clearly marked on the lower left-hand corner "Bid Enclosed for Historic Courthouse Exterior Repairs" and with the name and address of the bidder and the date and hour of the opening.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project will consist of the removing and replacement of the existing exterior trim and the removal, repair and reinstallation of the historic windows.

Each bid must be accompanied with a cashier's check, bid bond, U.S. Government Bonds (at par value) or certified check equal to five percent (5%) of the amount of the proposal. Security is payable to the Owner as a

guarantee of prompt execution of the contract in accordance with the proposal and Contract documents, along with furnishing Payment and Performance Bonds of One Hundred percent (100%) of the bid amount acceptable to the Owner.

Bids received after the deadline will be returned unopened. Bids are to be submitted on the Bid Form provided in the project manual. Bids not received on the Bid Form will be cause for rejection.

Complete digital project 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 No. 9726984 on the website's Project Search page. Please contact QuestCDN.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 successful bidder must be a "responsible contractor." The term "responsible contractor" means a contractor as defined in Minnesota Statutes Section 16C.285, subdivision 3. Any prime contractor, subcontractor, or motor carrier that does not meet the minimum criteria or fails to comply with the verification requirements is not a

responsible contractor and is not eligible to be awarded a construction contract for the project or to perform work on the project. A prime contractor, subcontractor, or motor carrier that makes a false statement under oath verifying compliance with the minimum criteria will be ineligible to be awarded a construction contract on the project and the submission of a false statement may result in termination of a contract awarded to a prime contractor, subcontractor, or motor carrier that submits the false statement. A prime contractor shall include in its verification of compliance a list of all of its first-tier subcontractors that it intends to retain for work on the project. Before execution of a construction contract, a prime contractor shall submit a supplemental verification under oath confirming that all subcontractors and motor carriers that the prime contractor intends to use to perform project work have verified to the prime contractor, through a signed statement under oath by an owner or officer, that they meet the minimum criteria for a responsible contractor.

Bids may not be withdrawn within forty-five (45) days after the scheduled closing time for receiving bids without consent of the Owner. The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids and rebid the project until a satisfactory bid is received.

No bid will be read or considered if the bid does not fully comply with the requirements of this invitation and/or other bidding and contract documents. Any deficient bid submitted will be resealed and returned to the bidder immediately.

By: Mitch Johnson,
Facility Manager
Todd County

26-28pnc

NOTICE
CITY OF STAPLES
ORDINANCE NO. 557
AN ORDINANCE
REGARDING THE
SALE OF PROPERTY

Sec. 1: The City of Staples is hereby empowered to sell the following real estate located in the City of Staples, County of Todd, State of Minnesota in accordance with the sale price to be authorized by the City Council:

Lot 2, Block 11, Searles Addition to Staples, Todd County, Minnesota; and

Lots 3, 7, 8, 9 and 10, Block 11, Searles First Addition to Staples, Todd County, Minnesota.

Sec. 2: The net proceeds from the sale shall be used pursuant to Section 11.05 of the Staples City Charter.

Sec.3: The Mayor and City Administrator are authorized to execute any documents to complete the sale.

Sec. 4: This ordinance shall take effect from and after its passage and publication in accordance with law.

Adopted this
10th day of June, 2025.

Tara Greer, Clerk
City of Staples

26pnc

NOTICE
REGION FIVE
DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF REGION 5: There will be a public hearing Thursday, June 26, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at Sourcewell, 202 12th Street NE, Staples, MN 56479.

Public comment and review of FISCAL YEAR 2026 WORK PLAN AND BUDGET.

Savannah Winkler,
Regional Development
Planner

26pnc

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: January 6, 2006

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$195,000.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Kevin J. Bednar, and Penny K. Bednar, husband and wife

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for MILA, Inc.

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on August 9, 2006 as Document Number 443619 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for the Specialty Underwriting and Residential Finance Trust Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates Series 2006-BC2 by assignment recorded on January 6, 2010 as Document Number 466298 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to Bank of America, N.A. by assignment recorded on September 5, 2023 as Document Number A537950 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to Nationstar Mortgage, LLC by assignment recorded on November 12, 2013 as Document Number 487120 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to U.S. Bank, National Association, as Trustee for the Holders of the Specialty Underwriting and Residential Finance Trust, Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-BC2 by assignment recorded on October 29, 2014 as Document Number A491803 in the Office of the

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), Budgett's First Addition to the Village of Long Prairie, Todd County, Minnesota.

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

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED:

County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The North 436.14 feet of the South 1183.43 Feet of the West 547 feet thereof of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 17, Township 133, Range 33 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, Todd County, Minnesota.

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 48218 COUNTY 9, STAPLES, MN 56479

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

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$275,844.71

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: MILA, Inc.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Nationstar Mortgage LLC

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 22-0017500

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1001752-0000289060-9

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: August 07, 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 mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on February 9, 2026.

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

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

Dated: June 02, 2025

U.S. BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE HOLDERS OF THE SPECIALTY UNDERWRITING AND RESIDENTIAL FINANCE TRUST, MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-BC2 Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.

By: /s/
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Alexa Marsh, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(24-0766-FC05)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

25-30pnc

TODD COUNTY
PLANNING
COMMISSION

215 First Ave. South
Suite 103
Long Prairie,
Minnesota 56347
320-732-4420
toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Todd County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, July 3, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Commissioners meeting room, Historic Courthouse, 215 First Ave. South, Long Prairie, MN to consider the following applications.

NOTE: This meeting is again being held in-person and the public is encouraged to attend, and 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? Phone 320-732-4420 or Email toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us Agenda

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Introduction of Planning Committee Members and process review
- Approval of agenda
- Approval of June 5, 2025 Planning Commission meeting minutes
- The applicant is introduced
- Staff report
- Applicant confirms if staff report accurately represents the request
- Correspondence
- Site Visit Review
- Public Comment
- Board review with applicant, staff, and public

1. **Mark Johnson:** Section 06, Round Prairie Township Site Address: 23576 200th Street, Long Prairie, MN 56347
PID: 21-0007700 and 21-0007702

1. Request for CUP to berm and operate a functional shooting range in Commercial Zoning District.

2. **William and Dawn Vowles:** Section 20, Grey Eagle Township, Big Birch Lake

Site Address: 11734 Co. Rd. 47, Grey Eagle, MN 56336 PID: 11-0027400

1. Request for Seasonal Campground with hook-ups, 40' X 40' office Building and 17 sites in Recreational Development Shoreland Zoning District.

3. **Jodi Marohn:** Section 25, Hartford Township Site Address: 28333 284th St., Long Prairie, MN 56347 PID: 12-0030200

1. Request to open an indoor riding arena with up to four RV campsites in AF-1 Zoning District.

4. **Eli J. Shrock:** Section 31, Germania Township Site Address: 16612 County 22, Eagle Bend, MN 56446 PID: 09-0025700

1. Request for CUP for Temporary Family Housing in AF-1 Zoning District.

5. **Jason Coblentz:** Section 34, Ward Township Site Address: 25992 County 18, Browerville, MN 56438 PID: 26-0034300

1. Request to expand their existing greenhouse operation to four additional structures in R-10 Zoning District.

6. **New Heights Dairy:** Section 10, Eagle Valley Township Site Address: 37674 Co Hwy 11, Clarissa, MN 56440 PID: 07-0008801

1. Request to expand their existing facility by adding a 132' x 118' addition, expand from 1752 AU to 1997.4

AU. Final head count will be 502 dairy calves and 1,355 dairy cows > 1,000 pounds and adding a sand separation lane and stockpile area in AF-1 Zoning District.
Adjournment.

Next meeting:
August 7, 2025

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

Todd County Planning
Commission
Jim Pratt, Chair

26pnc

Public Notice
Advertising Protects
Your Right To Know

Welcome back, Heftes

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The ancestors of Ragnhild and Botolf Hefte are planning a reunion this week, which will incorporate the early settlers of Byron Township and the Leader area.

The Heftes settled in the area in 1904, and now their relatives are scattered all over the country.

Dale Williams, a 1969 Staples High School graduate, is a great-grandson of Botolf and Ragnhild. He is helping plan the reunion which he said will include a tour of the old family farm site. They will touch on the history of the former towns of Esterdy and Ellis, the first hospital in the Staples area and other early settlers in the Leader area.

Family history

Ragnhild was born in Norway in 1882, Botolf was born in 1869. They were married in 1900 in Iowa and moved to a farm near Staples in 1904.

They had seven children, Arthur, Olaf, Thilda, Clara, Alvin, Olga and Bergliot.

Ragnhild died a year after she gave birth to their youngest child. A history by her daughter Clara Schmidt stated “I remember my mother picking berries, going to church, to Ladies Aid. She was always busy in the evening with knitting, crocheting and such.”

Daughter Thilda Hildahl said they were one of the first families that joined the Swan Valley Lutheran Church at the town of Ellis the first year it was started in 1904. She remembered the church meeting at private homes and then at the Hazel Dell Schoolhouse in Ellis.

She also recalled the Axtell School with teachers Edna Volner and Rita Durbin.

The Esterdy Hospital is considered the first hospital in the Staples area. Hildahl said it was known as “The Doctor’s House.”

“It was a very nice, very large, two-story house with about eight rooms, siding beautiful windows, varnished floors, and an open staircase with a banister,” she said.

Hildahl remembered Botolf’s farm operation: “Dad milked 10-12 cows and hauled the cream to Staples. He raised pigs and chickens and usually had three horses. He raised rye and corn



Hefte forebearers

Ragnhild and Botolf Hefte in an early photo. They moved from Iowa to a farm north of Staples in 1904.



Hefte family elders

The children of Ragnhild nad Botolf Hefte in a photo from 1982. Front row, Clara, Alvin and Thilda; back row, Arthur, Berliot, Olga and Olaf. With their families spread around the country, thier descendents are invited back to see the family farm site during the last weekend of June.

and made hay for the animals. He cut and split wood and hauled it to Staples to sell.”

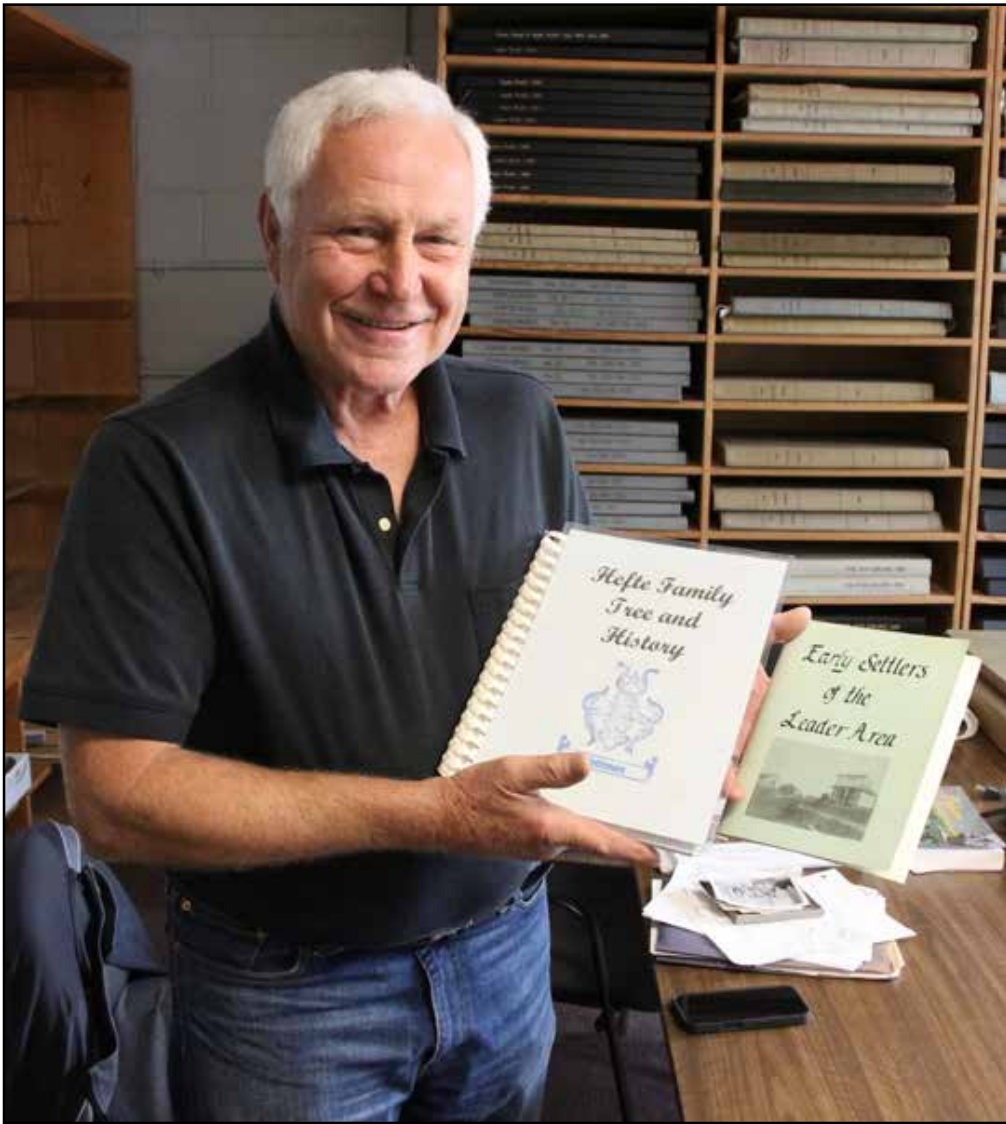
Family reunion

Williams said the family plans to tour the Leader area and the family farm on Friday, June 27, and will be in the Lake Shamineau area on Saturday, June 28, with the option of going to the pig races in Leader that evening.

Williams has recently

visited the old farm site and has uncovered and rebuilt some rock walls that may have been part of the cheese factory on the farm. He said stonecutting and cheese making were two of the specialized crafts of residents in the area.

As part of the area history, Williams has an old plat map of Byron Township with the names of all landowners hand-written onto their section that they owned.



Immersed in history

Dale Williams with a book of the Hefte family genealogy and a history book compiled by his aunt, Virginia Williams, titled “Early Settlers of the Leader

Area.” He will have many stories to share at the Hefte family reunion during the last weekend in June. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



The Doctor’s House

The first hospital in the Staples area was the Esterdy Hospital, a few miles north of the city of Staples. This hospital

was crucial to the communities of Esterdy, Ellis, Staples and Leader. (Submitted photo)



Lasagna Dinner at the Staples Community Center

More than 36 people attended the free lasagna dinner held for seniors June 11 at the Staples Community Center. Funding for the meal was provided by the Blandin Boost Grant of Todd County Community Action (TCCA) in support of the Hilltop Square project.

Above: Verna Toenyan, Todd County Aging Coordinator, explains the importance of senior support within Todd County and the impact of the Hilltop Square project for senior living apartments. (Staples World photos by Janice Winter)



Guests enjoyed lasagna, fresh greens, bread, coffee and water. The meal was made by Dayna Mertens. Fresh mixed greens were from Russell Kleinschmidt.



Live music was by the Tim Cline band.



God Bless America

After a storm passed through Staples on May 15, Veterans Park Board President Bob Hamann took a photo of the rainbow that formed over the park. (Submitted photo)



Staples gets a splash of color

Kristy Hanson (left) and Kripa Reese planted a variety of colorful flowers in the 24 large pots in Downtown Staples June 14, a project funded through the city's Parks & Rec Dept. Reese is the new owner of Williams Floral Shop and Nursery in Staples, and Hanson has offered assistance on occasion. The flower pots were placed downtown by the city's Streets Department. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



SMBP organizes crew for cleanup day

On May 30th, Staples Motley Beyond Poverty (SMBP) served 11 families and hauled away and disposed of over \$1000 worth of debris and garbage. Families applied for garbage loading and hauling and/or paying for unloading during the city wide cleanup. The SMBP group has received donations from the Staples Motley Community Foundation, Staples Assembly of God Church, Penny and Kevin Olsen, Staples United Methodist Church (Ruby's Pantry), the Ives family, and the Staples Host Lions. The full list of volunteers, not all were

present for the above photo, included Assembly of God volunteers: Cameron Carlen, Teneesa Mum, Josiah Mum, Levi Mum, Ernest Kleinschmidt, Kathy and Roy Miles, Norman Drove, Ethan Hon-eymann, North Wiebesick and Les Kil-lian; Rotary volunteers: Kurt Wilson, Marv Rothstein and Lucas Wakefield; Lions vol-unteers: Mike Gold, Kerry Lindgren, Me-gan Lindgren, Bob Schafer, Tom Honek and Gail Honek; other volunteers: Greg and Nancy Robinson, Gina Schafer, Glen Bramstedt, Penny Olsen and Reggie Ol-sen. (Submitted photo)

AUDITORIUM continued from page 1a

New nonprofit to be created for project

community. He said it helps students become more well-rounded, fostering skills like teamwork, reliability, improvisation and working with tools. He also pointed out that it builds confidence and innate creativity. Olsen told the board

about the rigging and fly system that changes scenery for productions. He said modern stages use 20 to 50 flies for productions while Centennial Auditorium has one. He said a modern rig-ging system could enhance musical productions as well

as theatre plays. "We've had some very good productions and we made it work out, but we need some help sometimes," said Olsen. "This facility needs some help to make it comparable and competi-tive with other facilities.

Kroll told the board about the fundraising plans the committee is making. She said they are able to receive funds through LEAP right now, but they would like to create a separate nonprofit in order to apply for larger sized grants and donations. They are building a web site and will be promoting the project at local events.

Staples-Motley Superin-tendent Shane Tappe said the committee's work took a lot of time and effort and they are using data to back up their proposals.

"There is a lot of passion, purpose and energy," said Tappe, "I can't commend them enough for taking on this challenge."

The school board appeared to be open to approving the project. Board Chair Mary Freeman said there were many per-formances when the auditor-ium first opened and they enhanced the community. Board member Chandler Trout pointed out that the current state of the audi-torium limits the number of outside acts who will want to come and perform in Staples. He said if the facility doesn't fit one per-former, they will share that with other performers so they will also be unlikely to come.

"You have to make your-selves competitive," said Trout.

The committee said when the upgrades are com-pleted, they would like to rename the auditorium to the Cardinal Performing Arts Center.

In other news, the board

- Approved resignation of Christopher Scharen, custodian
- Approved hire of Troy Brandsma, custodian.
- Approved coopera-tive sponsorship for boys hockey.



Auditorium before and after

Above, the a drawing of the current setup of Centennial Auditorium at the Staples-Motley High School building. Below a drawing of proposed changes, which includes covering up the orchestra pit by extending the concrete stage. Other

changes will be made to acoustics and sound system. Phase two will update the curtains, rigging and backdrops. Also note the name change from Centennial Auditorium to Cardinal Performing Arts Center.

Phone and Internet Discounts Available to CenturyLink Customers

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission designated CenturyLink as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier within its service area for universal service purposes. CenturyLink's basic local service rates for residential voice lines are \$16.32-\$33.50 per month and business services are \$34.61-\$60.89 per month. Specific rates will be provided upon request.

CenturyLink participates in the Lifeline program, which makes residential telephone or qualifying broadband service more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Eligible customers may qualify for Lifeline discounts of \$5.25/month for voice or bundled voice service or \$9.25/month for qualifying broadband or broadband bundles. Residents who live on federally recognized Tribal Lands may qualify for additional Tribal benefits if they participate in certain additional federal eligibility programs. The Lifeline discount is available for only one telephone or qualifying broadband service per household, which can be either a wireline or wireless service. Broadband speeds must be at least 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload to qualify.

A household is defined as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Services are not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in these programs. Consumers who willfully make false statements to obtain these discounts can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from these programs.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, visit <https://www.centurylink.com/aboutus/community/community-development/lifeline.html> for additional information about applying for these programs or call 1-800-201-4099 with questions.

