

Inside this issue:

Noah Coughlan's Run Across America
Rajala to speak about women in the fur trade
Lunch and learn to prevent fraud
Polar Plunge raises funds for Special Olympics



Wednesday, March 25, 2026

Staples World

Staples, Minnesota

\$125



Matside Minnesota podcast studio

Pictured above, Matside Minnesota hosts Chris Etzler and Derek Holst interview Staples-Motley wrestler Turner Beachy, right. The broadcast studio includes Staples-Motley wrestling mem-

orabilia and Cardinal wrestling singlets to go along with the podcast technology and lighting. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Podcast focuses on northern MN wrestling

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Coinciding with the Staples-Motley wrestling team winning a state title, a new podcast made a successful debut this winter, Matside Minnesota, which follows all of northern Minnesota

wrestling, not just Staples-Motley. Hosts Chris Etzler and Derek Holst are former Cardinal wrestlers who have stayed in the sport over the years, Etzler as a referee and Holst as a coach. They

both announce wrestling matches during the season as well.

The idea for the show came together when Holst and Etzler were talking about a couple of podcasts that focus on southeastern Minnesota, and they felt that northern Minnesota had a void to fill.

Etzler is more of the technician, setting up the cameras and sound, while Holst set up a studio in his shop at Holst Acres. They found software that broadcasts the program to multiple sites. Matside Minnesota podcasts can be found in multiple locations, including BuzzSprout.com, youtube, Apple Podcasts and other podcast sites.

Their very first podcast explored the new wrestling team in Pillager, who had previously been paired with Brainerd for wrestling. They did another show on a new team starting in Ely. They interviewed several area coaches and spotlighted some of the top girls wrestlers in the area.

The show sometimes looks at wrestling results, but mostly it is about how the sport is advancing across northern Minnesota.

As the Staples-Motley team started asserting itself as one of the top teams in the state, Matside Minnesota made several special Cardinal editions of the show, recapping the

See **MATSIDE** on page 12a

Women's Chorus performance

The Staples Area Women's Chorus, joined by students from area school choirs, debuted an original piece, "I am Dance, I am Song," at their choral festival in Staples Feb. 28. (Submitted photo)

A legacy for Joyce

Daughter's poem becomes lyrics for commissioned song

By Shannon Geisen
Park Rapids Enterprise
Reprinted with permission

Music and dance were really important to Joyce Anderson, even as she progressed through Alzheimer's.

"She was one of the busiest people I know, and almost everything she did was in service to others," recalled daughter Jodi Schultz of Park Rapids. "The two things that she set aside for herself were community band and women's chorus."

Up until a year before her death, Anderson continued to play euphonium in the band and sang with the Staples Area Women's Chorus (SAWC).

"All the people around

her were so kind and supportive and said, 'Bring her when she wants to come.' Then there got to be a point where she couldn't get air through her horn," Schultz said.

The choir recognized Joyce's love of singing and that Jodi's dad, David, would need that hour of respite as caregiver.

Schultz remembers her mom calling her and her four siblings, telling them the chorus was singing "Can't Help Loving That Man."

"She'd laugh and say, 'Dad's that man.'"

When the chorus sang ABBA's "Dancing Queen," "she'd say, 'Your dad says I'm the dancing queen,'" added Schultz.

While experiencing

Alzheimer's, "a horrible disease," Schultz said her mom was "sweet, funny and delightful the whole time and so in love with my dad."

They were married for 56 years. Joyce died on Jan. 12, 2023.

The family asked the SAWC, of which she had been a member for more than 30 years, to sing at her funeral. Thanks to generous donations from family and friends, David gave a contribution to the chorus.

In November 2025, the SAWC decided to commission an original musical piece "to create a legacy for Joyce," said SAWC president Amanda Mithun, and worked with an inde-

See **ANDERSON** on page 12a



Loving family

Joyce Anderson's family rallied around her throughout her journey with Alzheimer's, supporting her with music, laughter and love until the end of her life on Jan. 12, 2023. Pictured, front row from left: daughter Becky (Anderson)

Brown; Joyce and her husband of 56 years, Dave. Back: son Rick Anderson, daughter Jodi (Anderson) Schultz, son Mark Anderson, daughter Kristi (Anderson) Abbott. (Submitted photo)



Polar Plunge jumpers show their costumes before the leap. See page 10a.

Weather

2026			
This Week's Forecast			
	High	Low	Cond.
Mar. 25	62	36	M. Cloudy
Mar. 26	39	16	Showers
Mar. 27	35	24	Sunny
Mar. 28	52	32	Sunny
Mar. 29	59	33	M. Sunny
Mar. 30	57	38	P. Cloudy
Mar. 31	61	40	P. Sunny

Last Year, 2025			
	High	Low	Cond.
Mar. 25	45°	25	M. Sunny
Mar. 26	42	28	M. Cloudy
Mar. 27	47	31	Sunny
Mar. 28	48	36	Cloudy
Mar. 29	33	30	Cloudy
Mar. 30	34	26	Cloudy
Mar. 31	42	27	Sunny

Average Temps:
H = 45° Low = 25°

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

ISD #2170
sample ballot **9A**
May Township **9A**
Moose Lake
Township **9A**
Moran Township **9A**
Meadowbrook
Township **9A**

Obituaries

Carol Cross
Elizabeth Hildahl
Robert Jensen
Luann McGrane
Nancy Zimmer

Noah Coughlan stops in Motley and Staples on historic Run Across America

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Noah Coughlan is on his way to becoming just the third person ever to cross all 50 states on foot, an historic journey that included a stretch along Hwy 10 in Minnesota recently, with stops in Motley and Staples. It's his fifth and final Run Across America, Coughlan shared over a quick breakfast at Timberlake Hotel in Staples March 19, where he'd rested up after logging 40 miles the previous day. Entitled, 'Run For America,' Coughlan's journey began Oct. 18, 2025 in Kansas and will end in Hawaii on July 4, 2026, the 250th anniversary of the United States. In addition to making history, Coughlan's desire is to spread the message of unity as he travels across the country. The 42-year-old travels solo, with his jogging stroller that houses his few belongings. An American flag is attached to the stroller, which is more for safety than to make a statement. "This isn't political," Coughlan stressed. No, it's a tribute to the American people. As noted on his website, www.runforusa.com and on his social media pages,

Coughlan's "engaging big cities and small towns, honoring everyday Americans and veterans, encouraging unity while highlighting the enduring spirit of our Nation." A native of Vacaville, Calif., most recently Coughlan has called Nashville, Tenn., home, where he's made a living bartending. Will he head back there after he reaches his goal in Hawaii? "I'm not sure," Coughlan says. "I'll see where God leads me." At the moment, Coughlan is confident he's where he should be, meeting with a variety of people on his 5,500 mile journey, documenting stories of Americans that show "we have a lot more in common with each other than what keeps us apart." He's especially appreciative of the opportunity to meet up with law enforcement and veterans along the way. Coughlan has interviewed a number of WWII veterans, with videos available at his website. Coughlan keeps a Facebook journal of his trip, documenting the people and places he encounters along the way. On March 18, he wrote, "A powerful and fun finish to a 40 mile day. The Minnesotans have



Nearing Motley

Noah Coughlan of Vacaville, Calif., walked north along Hwy 10 outside of Motley March 18, day 152 of his 260 day 'Run For America.' The Motley Police and

shown up very strong. The town of Motley especially. Many families and children, four fire departments, deputies and police, military veterans, and the American people. A sunset finish (in Staples) about 8 p.m. Thank you all. The Tribute to the American People continues

ones." Coughlan went on to note that he'd spend the evening in Staples, where he was "recovering, eating and planning tomorrow. I'm still deciding on a 26 or 42 mile day. Onward." Coughlan logs his miles each day, noting that Day 152 of 260 was from Little Falls to Staples, Minn. Total miles: 2,995 of 5,500. He crossed the 3,000 mile of his journey March 19, as he headed west on Hwy 10 from Staples to Wadena. "I'm on my eighth pair of tennis shoes," he shared on his way out of Staples. His journal entry that evening noted he'd had a "lighter 19 mile day after three tough

Fire Departments provided a safety escort for approximately 10 miles. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

ones. Weather has turned a bit warmer in the 50s. Feeling pretty strong overall. Over 3,000 miles down, fit as ever, sets the stage for high mileage days through North Dakota, Montana and Idaho soon." He went on to thank those who'd provided safety escort that day, including the Staples and Wadena Police and Fire Departments, Verndale Fire Department, Wadena County Sheriff Mike Carr, along with the county deputies. "I'm enjoying meeting the Minnesotans," Coughlan wrote. He anticipated reaching Fargo on March 23, where his coast to coast

trek would continue across North Dakota, Montana, Idaho and Oregon. From there, Coughlan plans to walk/run 900 miles across Alaska, then fly to Hawaii where he'll end his journey in Honolulu on July 4. There may be a documentary of Coughlan's 'Run For America' available in 2027, but in the meantime, join the nearly 30,000 followers who are keeping up with, and being inspired by Coughlan's posts on social media. You may even see some familiar faces from Coughlan's stops in Motley and Staples.



Grateful for their support

Noah Coughlan said he is grateful for the support of police officers and firefighters who've provided safety escorts at no charge during his Run across America. Above, Coughlan shakes the hand of Staples Police Officer Martin (Marty) Penner, who gifted Coughlan with a Sta-

ples PD badge. Below, Coughlan stops to rest for the night at Timberlake Hotel in Staples March 18. At right is Staples firefighter Brandon Brusewitz who provided a safety escort along Hwy 10 from Lakewood Health System Hospital three miles east of Staples, to the hotel.



Meeting fans along the way

California native Noah Coughlan has enjoyed meeting up with a variety of people during his 5,500 mile Run For America, a tribute to the American people. Above, Coughlan greets Betty Starke of Motley prior to heading back out on the road March 19. At right, Desiree Fuecker of Sauk Rapids (an employee at Lakewood Health System, Staples) stops by Timberlake Hotel in Staples March 18, for an opportunity to meet Coughlan at the end of day 152 of his journey.





Authorized Retailer

2-Year TV Price Guarantee

Get the Lowest Price in Satellite TV.

As low as \$89.99/mo

Free Premium Movie Channels for 3 Months

Hopper 3 DVR Included

Free Professional Installation \$199 Value

CALL US NOW!

1-855-562-4309

Offer for new and qualifying former customers only. Important Terms and Conditions: Qualification: Requires credit qualification and 2-year commitment. Lifetime activation and/or receiver upgrade fees may apply based on credit qualification. Offer ends 4/30/2026. 2-year commitment: Early termination fee of \$20/mo. remaining applies if you cancel early. Included in 2-Year Price Guarantee is \$49.99 advertised price America's Top 120 programming package, local channels, HD service fees, and Hopper Duo Smart DVR for TV included in 2-Year Price Guarantee for additional cost. Programming package upgrades (\$11.99 for AT120, \$16.99 for AT200, \$25.99 for AT250, monthly fees for upgrades or additional receivers \$5-\$7 per additional TV receiver with additional functionality may be \$10-\$15. NOT included in 2-Year Price Guarantee or advertised price (and subject to change): taxes & surcharges, add-on programming (including premium channels), Dish Protect, and transactional fees. Remote: The Dish Voice Remote requires internet-connected Hopper, Joey or Wally device. Customer must press the Voice Remote button to activate the feature. Dish Anywhere - Watching live and recorded TV anywhere requires an internet-connected Hopper, Joey or Hopper 3 and compatible mobile device. Installation restrictions apply. Free standard professional installation only. Availability of On Demand titles will be based on your programming subscription. Gift card courtesy of iGite with activation, certain conditions apply.

Fueling up

Noah Coughlan enjoyed a hearty breakfast at the Timberlake Hotel in Staples March 19, just prior to heading back out on the road for day 153 of his Run Across America.

Leaving Staples

With Staples Police providing a safety escort, Noah Coughlan headed west out of Staples March 19, on Day 153 of his 260 day/5,500 mile Run Across

America. He planned to travel 19 miles that day to Wadena, crossing the 3,000 mile mark of his journey.

Todd Cty. court report March 18

MARCH 18
Long Prairie Police
Altigracia Ferreras Santana, Long Prairie. Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Bryan Fulgencio Rosario, Long Prairie. Driver must carry proof of insurance when operating vehicle. Fine \$200. Fee \$85. Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. Fine \$100. Window restrictions, Fine \$50.

Wilton Ramon Gonzalez Tellez, Long Prairie. Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. Fine \$100. Fee \$85. Driver must carry proof of insurance when operating vehicle. Fine \$200.

Perla Lemus Bautista, Long Prairie. Speed 69/60, Fine \$40. Fee \$85. Passing-overtaking vehicle fails to pass to left/safely clear, Fine \$50.

MN Dept. Natural Resources
Tyler Jay Paul, Holdingford. Fishing-extra line. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Ronald Dean Twardowski, Long Prairie. Loaded firearm. Fine \$100. Fee \$75.

David Francis Wheeler, Lindstrom. Fish house or shelter on ice without license. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

MN State Patrol
James Douglas Criss, Bertha. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85. Fail to yield right of way stop signs/blinking. Fine \$50.

Andrew Wallace Peterson, Eagle Bend. Expired registration. Fine \$30. Fee \$85.

Dixit Bhanwala, Regina, SN. Unsafe lane usage on laned highway. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Susan Ann Blank, Sauk Centre. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85. Cristian Crispin Bautista, Long Prairie. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Christopher Ray Dean, Alexandria. Window tint. Fine \$50. Fee \$85. Juanito Deaza-Santos, Long Prairie. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Cody James Dixon, Albertville. Window restrictions. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Jaiden Joy Fontaine, Monticello. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Lorelei Faye French, Alexandria. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Zachary Aaron Hulsebus, St. Paul. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Shaun David Johnson, Melrose. Speed 99/70. Fine \$100. Fee \$185.

James Robert Leon, Willmar. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Bryan Jesus Manuel Marrero Class, Long Prairie. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85. Instruction permit violation (18 years or older). Fine \$50.

Lyle Martin, Long Prairie. CMV-cargo securement violations-logs. Fine \$300. Fee \$85.

Hector Junior Mendez Peguero, Long Prairie. No MN Drivers license. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Amy Sue Moldenhauer, Sauk Centre. Hands free law. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Elias Moreno, Litchfield. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Miguel Nicolas Gomez, Melrose. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Armando Jose Perez, Long Prairie. No proof of insurance. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Teferi Zaza Reeves, Warroad. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Nehemiah Javon Richardson, Minneapolis. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85. Window tint. Fine \$50. No proof of insurance. \$200.

Patrick John Schoolmeesters, Albany. Speed 85/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$75.

Levi Chen Stearns, Clarissa. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Austin Anthony Thull, Sauk Centre. Following/close reasonable. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Mackey Tugba, Moorhead. Speed 89/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Todd County Sheriff
Jessica Windy Bethume, Motley. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Katherine Garcia Franco, Otter-tail. Liquor consumption by person under 21. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Jasper Pierre Hosey, Wadena. Liquor consumption by person under 21. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Ann Kern, Staples. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Luis Fernando Ledesma, Grey Eagle. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Diego Meza Herrera, Long Prairie. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Ellie Anna Nelson, Starbuck. Liquor-consumption by person under 21. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Oscar Yovany Parias Dominguez, Perham. Speed 78/60. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Frankeimy Pilier Sanchez, Park Rapids. Speed 79/60. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Ruben Leomar Ramirez Lugo, Clarissa. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85. Speed 75/60. Fine \$60.

Preston Arthur Sievert, Sauk Centre. Driver must carry proof of insurance when operating vehicle. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Dakota Steven Smieja, Long Prairie. Liquor-consumption by persons under 21. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

John Albert Soto Toledo, Long Prairie. Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. Fine \$100. Fee \$75.

Julian Michael Thomas Tompkins, Brainerd. Liquor consumption by person under 21. Fine \$100. Fee

\$85, Jenna Mary Volkmann, Henning. Liquor consumption by person under 21. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

The following cases were heard before Judge Heidi L. Hovis Seventh District Court in Todd County March 9, 2026.

Brayon Javier Cabrera Tavarez, Long Prairie. DWI-operate motor vehicle under influence of alcohol. Dismissed. DWI-operate motor vehicle-alcohol concentration .08 within 2 hours. Sentenced. Local confinement (364 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 361 days for 2 yr credit for time served: 3 days). Supervised probation, 2 yr. Fine \$450. Fee \$105.

Brian Hugo Massmann, Sauk Centre. Criminal sex conduct-5th degree-non Consensual sex contact. Stay of imposition pursuant to M.S. 609.135. Supervised probation, indeterminate. Fine \$50. Fee \$75.

Belen Jimenez, Long Prairie. 3rd degree-refusal to test. Sentenced. Local confinement (364 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 361 days for 2 yr credit for time served: 3 days). Supervised probation, 2 yr. Fine \$450. Fee \$180.4th degree driving while under influence of alcohol. Dismissed.

Steven Lee Ohland, Browerville. Interfere with 911 call. Dismissed. Domestic assault-commits act to cause fear of immediate bodily harm or death. Dismissed. Disorderly conduct. Unsupervised probation, 1 yr. Fine \$50.

Edward Francis Slack, Browerville. DWI-3-operate motor vehicle alcohol concentration 0.08 within 2 hours. Sentenced. Local confinement (364 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 334 days for 4 yr credit for time served: 3 days). Supervised probation, 4 yr. Fine \$400. Fee \$180. Driving after revocation. Dismissed.

The following cases were heard before Judge Heidi L. Hovis Seventh District Court in Todd County March 10, 2026.

Oscar Mejia Cedano, Nelson. Driving after suspension. Fine \$200. Fee \$75.

Nathan Lee Ostendorf, Sauk Centre. Carry/possess pistol w/out permit-public place. Dismissed. 4th degree DWI-operate motor vehicle under influence of alcohol. Dismissed. 4th degree DWI-operate motor vehicle-alcohol concentration 0.08 within 2 hours. Sentenced. Local confinement (90 days, stay 87 days for 2 yr credit for time served: 3 days. Supervised probation, 2 yr. Fine \$500. Fee \$100. Carrying pistol while under influence of alcohol/concentration less than 0.10, but more than 0.04. Continued. Supervised probation, 1 yr. Carrying pistol while under influence of alcohol. Dismissed,

The following cases were heard before Judge Heidi L. Hovis Seventh District Court in Todd County March 11, 2026.

Mason Louis Meyer, Clarissa. Driving after revocation. Sentenced. Local confinement (90 days, stay 90 days for 364 days). Supervised probation, 364 days. Fine \$200. Fee \$75. Following/close reasonable. Dismissed.

Ryan Francis Haus, Eagle Bend. Uninsured vehicle-driver violation, Dismissed. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Dan Talbott II Milam, Staples. 5th Degree-possess 1,2,3,4 or paraphernalia residual-not cannabis/hemp. Continued. Supervised probation, 5 yr. Fine \$50. Driving after cancellation-inimical to public safety. Sentenced. Local confinement (364 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 304 days for 364 days credit for time served: 60 days), Supervised probation, 364 days. Fine \$200, Fine \$75.

Noel Nancy Roden, Long Prairie. Drugs-5th degree-possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 or paraphernalia residual-not cannabis/hemp. Sentenced. Supervised probation, 4 yr. Fine \$50. Fee \$75. DWI-refuse to submit to chemical test; blood or urine as required by search warrant. Dismissed.

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

Warren Michael Mcardell, Long Prairie. 5th degree possession of a controlled substance. Sentenced. Commit to Commissioner of Corrections-adult (MN Correctional facility-St. Cloud, 15 mo). Fee \$200.

The following cases were heard before Judge Jade Rosenfeldt Seventh District Court in Todd County March 6, 2026.

James Edwin Cavanaugh, Long Prairie. 2nd degree-contact under 16-significant relationship. Dismissed.

2nd degree-contact under 16-multiple acts. Dismissed. 5th degree-mas-turbation/lewd exhibition-under 16 present. Dismissed. Criminal sexual conduct-5th degree-nonconsensual sexual contact. Continued. Local confinement (30 days credit for time served: 6 days). To serve 24 days on electronic home monitoring & start on or before March 5, 2026 at 7 pm. May have work release and treatment release while on EHM. Fine \$300.

The following cases were heard before Judge Gary R. Larson Seventh District Court in Todd County March 9, 2026.

James Louis Schnettler, Clarissa. DWI 3-refuse to submit to chemical test; breath or test refusal or failure. Sentenced. Local confinement (364 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 354 days for 3 yr credit for time served: 10 days). Supervised probation, 3 yr. Fine \$500. Fee \$105. Disorderly conduct. Dismissed.

75 YEARS Ago - 1951

• March 22, 1951 - Car thieves apparently picked the wrong auto at Motley last night, but that didn't seem to bother them. They just returned to the community and picked up another one.

At least that seems to be the case on primary investigation by the Crow Wing county and Cass county sheriff's office.

Marshall Bex of Pillager and Vern Jenkins of Motley, reported their autos missing last night, one shortly after the other. Bex's car was a 1941 Oldsmobile, license 164-364. The Jenkins' car was a 1939 Chevrolet, license 485-594. This morning, an auto answering the description of one of the cars was found abandoned and apparently broken down about four miles east of Motley. Investigators theorized that the auto had broken down, then the culprits had returned to find another.

The automobile belonging to Marshall Bex, stolen early Saturday morning from its parking place in Pillage, was found Sunday abandoned in West Brainerd. The car, Sheriff Roy Wickland said, had apparently been abandoned early Saturday.

• March 22, 1951 - Twenty from Todd County go into military service, including Donald W. Sellnow, Hewitt;

- O -
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
- O -

and Larry F. Pankratz, James F. Zeigan, Conrad A. Kaluzu, Arnold P. Feela and Joseph J. Wodash, all of Browerville.

• March 22, 1951 - The Rev. C. G. Zeek, pastor and evangelist of St. Paul, will be at the Staples Christian and Missionary Alliance Church for a series of meetings beginning March 27 through April 8.

On Friday evening, March 30, he will bring a message on "Russia in the light of Prophecy."

• March 22, 1951 - A new shortage of \$11,639.42 has been found by state public examiners in the office of



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the March 11, 1976 edition of the Staples World featured five speech students at Staples High school who received Awards of Excellence for their participation in the Walker Invitational Speech Tournament. Winning the Aawards of Excellence were, from left, front row: Nancy Sadusky in humor and Scott Grossman in prose. Back row: Jean Hassler in prose, John Uhrich in humor and Peggy Finn in humor.

Colleen (O'Keefe) Mayhew of Staples correctly identified all. Tammy (Wilson) Fritsche of Staples correctly identified all except for Jean Hassler, whom she thought was Debbie Schimpp, and John Uhrich, whom she mistook for his brother, Jim Uhrich. Judy Wolak of Staples recognized Scott Grossman, John Uhrich and Peggy Finn, and knew they were members of the Staples High School speech team. Thanks for participating in our mystery photo.

Staples World

Advertising

(classified and display),

copy, public notices,

letters to the editor, etc.:

DEADLINE

Friday noon

the Todd county treasurer for the year of 1950, and as a result, William L. Thompson, former treasurer faces trial in the spring term of court which opened Monday, March 19.

A warrant for Thompson's arrest was issued by County Attorney Frank L. King, and Sheriff Warren Galvin went to the Twin Cities where Thompson was reported to have been working, returning him to this county to face trial.

The warrant, according to reports, charges Thompson with "neglect, failure, and omission to turn over to his successor, George Lehner, the duly qualified, appointed and acting county treasurer, the sum of \$11,639.42."

50 YEARS Ago - 1976

• March 18, 1976 - The Staples Chapter of the Future Farmers of America will hold their annual coronation ceremonies for their FFA Sweetheart March 20, at the Staples Auditorium beginning at 8 p.m.

Six senior girls are seeking the honor of becoming the 1976 Sweetheart of the Staples FFA Chapter. Candidates are as follows: Sue Becker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Becker; Judy Salber, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Salber; Melanie Fuller, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Fuller; Rosalie Goeden, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Goeden; Jane Olander, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Helmer Olander; Nan Bendson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bendson.

• March 18, 1976 - Three members joined the Staples Lions Club at their meting Monday evening, march 15. The new members are David Carpenter, Dick Chenoweth and Rich Barrett.

• March 18, 1976 - The Staples area Christian Women's Club will hold its March luncheon march 25, at the north Campus Vocational School auditorium at 12 noon.

Speaking and presenting the Special Feature on Basic Dress and Accessories and Scarf Tricks, will be Judy Bourg of Minneapolis. Mrs. Bourg is a professional model and presently teaches charm and self-improvement with Wendy Ward, the personality development program through Montgomery Ward.



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from 1969. 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.

Bruce Tollefson and Ray Gildow of Staples will present several musical selections.

All women of the staples area are invited to attend this luncheon meeting. For reservations, call Judy Droubie or Betty Odden.

• March 18, 1976 - More than 300 persons attended an open house sponsored by the Bjerga Feed Stores Saturday at the cafeteria of the Motley High school. The hours of the open house were from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and visitors were customers from Bjerga's three stores at Motley, Brainerd and Vernadale. Lunch was served, as well as several trays of hors d'oeuvres. Winner of the door prize of a set of steel cutlery was Bud Swecker of Motley.

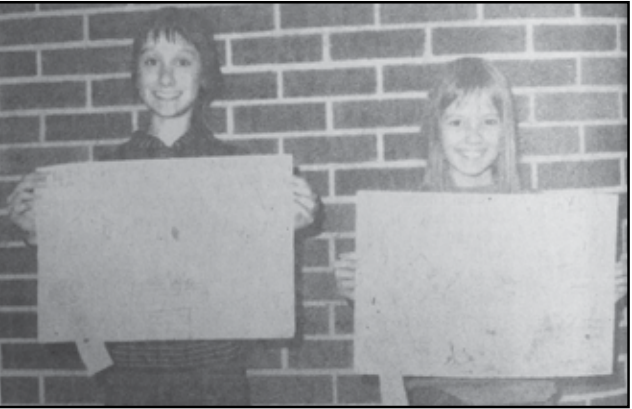
• March 18, 1976 - Len Thorsett has purchased Al's Bar from the Bob Deerings and took possession March 1. The Deerings bought the Valley Pub at Lincoln from Wally Kelberg.

25 YEARS Ago - 2001

• March 22, 2001 - Playing a virtually perfect ballgame, the Cardinal boys deflated the Long Prairie-Grey Eagle Thunder by a 65-48 score March 16, to win the Section 8AA title and the right to go onto the state Class AA tournament for the second year in a row.

Team members included Luis Cardenas, Jace Thompson, Gabe Anderson, Kyle Bendson, Landon Thompson, Aaron Kelly, Nathan Sather, Brad Moore, Jeff Brever, Dan Lund, Cole Buscho, Bobby Burton, Andy Schock, Nick Doll, Adam Barnett, Josh Winter, Mike Brenna. Head Coach was Lynn Peterson; with Asst. Coaches Ray Gildow, Ryan Beachy, Paul Mithun. Manager was Derek Prindle.

• March 22, 2001 - The winners of the annual Staples Rotary Club essay contest were honored at a



Correction

A recent mystery photo from the Nov. 11, 1976 edition of the Staples World featured winners in the Fire Prevention Week poster contest held at Motley School. Pictured, from left, Motley School fourth graders Susan Smith, second prize, and Terri Bartle, first prize. Unfortunately, the Staples World mixed up the names, and apologizes for the error.

Are You Getting Enough Fiber in Your Work Day?

Sign up today and get a \$100 gift card!*

*Terms and conditions apply

EarthLink®

Reliable Internet **NOW!** 844-453-6983



Rajala to speak at Old Wadena Society’s annual meeting Apr. 12

‘Women in the fur trade...’

Award winning author Nikki Rajala of Rockville will be the guest speaker at the Old Wadena Society’s Annual Meeting Sunday, April 12, at the Pirate’s Den in Verndale.

Lunch (on your own) will be served from 11 - noon. At 12:15, the ‘Friend of Old Wadena Award’ will be presented during a short meeting. This will be followed by Rajala’s presentation, ‘Women in the Fur Trade: (There Were Some??), with a Q and A session after.

A synopsis of Rajala’s presentation is included below:

Though Native American women were rarely shown in paintings or named in the journals, they



Nikki Rajala

were vital partners in the French-Canadian fur trade. Instead of paddling or portaging, women produced food (for an extra four - eight mouths at a local fur post, during the hungry season),

sewed clothing, processed pelts, healed with medicinal herbs, made birch bark canoes and more, making trade possible.

This presentation highlights the daily contributions of Native American women as well as a few who chose unique roles - as interpreters, guides for expeditions and fostering peace among tribes. One woman took over the trade when her husband was murdered. After a Métis colony was established and a second one by Lord Selkirk, a few European women began traveling west, including the Grey Nuns. Each group brings remarkable stories of grit and perseverance.

Lakewood Health System Foundation to hold ‘Give Orange’ Fundraiser and auction

The Lakewood Health System Foundation, Staples, will hold its annual ‘Give Orange’ Fundraiser and Auction on Friday, April 24, at Lakewood’s Main Campus in Staples (49725 Cty. 83). Proceeds from this year’s event will go toward the Lakewood Foundation fund of each attendee’s choosing. Attendees will have the opportunity to choose the area of impact that resonates with them, including:

- Lakewood Lift: Matching gift challenge
- General: Supports the most pressing needs of our patients and community as they arise.
- Oncology Support: Provides financial assistance for families undergoing cancer treatment.
- Orange Impact: Provides enhancements and support for Lakewood employees.

ployees.

- Parkinson’s: Supports group physical therapy classes not covered by insurance to help make them accessible for all patients with Parkinson’s.
- Pink Ribbon Cupboard: Provides breast cancer patients with financial assistance during treatment.
- Senior Care: Supports the Lakewood Care Center and Home-Based Services.

The evening’s event will include heavy appetizers, online and in-person silent auction, and a live auction. Raffle tickets can be purchased before or at the event for an opportunity to win \$10,000. Second prize is \$2,500 and third prize is \$500. Only three hundred raffle tickets will be sold and are currently available at First International Bank & Trust in Staples, Longbel-

la Drug by Lakewood – The Plaza, The Shoppe at Lakewood, or by contacting Sarah Winter at 218-894-8579 or sarahwinter@lakewood-healthsystem.com.

The event starts at 5 p.m. and seating is limited. Individual tickets are \$65, four seats at a table of eight are \$250, and tables of eight are \$500. VIP tickets are \$600 for a table of eight, which includes two drink tickets per person. Tax deductions apply to a portion of the table purchase. Visit <https://onecau.se/giveorange> to purchase tickets and register for the online silent auction. Online bidding for silent auction items begins on April 17. Call or email 218-894-8638 or alnytwardowski@lakewoodhealthsystem.com for sponsorship opportunities or additional event information.

LSS Meals Lunch & Learn on fraud prevention and scams

A Lunch & Learn event on “Fraud Prevention and Scam Detection” will be held Mon., March 30, 11:30 a.m. at the Staples High Rise, 615 4th St. NE, Staples.

Lutheran Social Services (LSS) Meals will sponsor the community dining and learning event. Enjoy a meal while gaining valuable

tools to protect yourself and others.

To register for Lunch & Learn, call Rhonda, 218-979-4118.

For questions contact Michelle Kern, Program Manager LSS Meals, 218-539-5095, michelle.kern@lssmn.org.

Habitat for Humanity to build homes in area

Applications available soon

The Lakes Area Habitat for Humanity will be accepting applications soon for home builds in Staples, Brainerd, Baxter and Crosby.

To learn more about this opportunity, attend a meeting at Lakes Area Habitat for Humanity, 415 8th Ave NE, Brainerd. Meetings will be held on the following dates:

- Tuesday, April 7, 5:30 p.m.
 - Wednesday, April 8, 3 p.m.
 - Friday, April 10, 10 a.m.
 - Saturday, April 11, 10 a.m.
- If you are unable to attend one of these meetings, or if you have questions, call the Lakes Area Habitat for Humanity office at 218-828-8517.

Menu

Senior Nutrition Program

Call mornings (218-979-4118) the Thursday before to reserve next week’s meal(s) and current suggested donation info. LSS Meals - traditional older adult menu. Menu is subject to change.

LOCATED AT: Staples High Rise, 615 4th St. NE, Staples. Seniors welcome to dine-in at 11:00 a.m., with meal reservations.

Staples 218-979-4118 March 30 - 31

MONDAY - Country fried chicken, cream gravy, mashed potatoes, green peas, wheat bread, marg., sugar cookie, 1% milk.

TUESDAY - Beef stew, sliced carrots, apple dump cake, marg., biscuit, 1% milk.

wk14

Mark Your Calendar

Mar. 26

‘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://walk-withadoc.org/join-a-walk/locations/staples-minnesota>

Mar. 27

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

Mar. 29

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

Mar. 31

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

Looking for a gift idea?
Consider a Gift Subscription to the Staples World newspaper.
*Gift cards available. 207 4th St NE Staples, MN
Staples World

Motley area law enforcement

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

March 17 - Motley Police assisted the state patrol with a wrong way driver on Hwy 10 and 330th St., Motley. Motley Police patrolled from Motley to 330th St and did not find the vehicle.

March 17 - Motley Police responded to a two vehicle crash on Hwys 10 and 210 in Motley. No reported injuries; drivers exchanged information for insurance purposes.

March 16 - Motley Police responded to a request from Pillager Police to unlock a vehicle with an infant in it at the 700 block of Pillsbury St N., Pillager.

March 13 - Motley Police

arrested Shantel Pint, 44, for driving after cancellation-inimical to public safety.

March 16 - Morrison County deputies arrested Mark Anthony Klein, 64, during a traffic stop at 320th St and Azure Rd in Cush- ing, for multiple charges.

March 15 - Assault at the 33000 block of Cherry Ln, Motley, led to the arrests of Christian Ray Denio, 23; Deanna Marie Denio, 44; Michael Anthony Sedlacek, 47; and Ina Jade Denio, 18. Per the MCSO report, Sedlacek had wanted law enforcement escort to the above residence to get some medication. Deputies advised him, per the homeowner, that he was not welcome there and not to go there.

March 13 - A Morrison County deputy responded to a report of a vehicle on fire at Hwy 10 and 330th St, Motley. He spoke with the subject who stated that her son was on the way with a car trailer to tow the vehicle back to town. The vehicle was parked safely off the roadway and the fire department had put the fire out already, so the deputy gave the subject a ride to Lincoln Gas & Bait.

March 12 - The MCSO paged Motley and Fire and Rescue, per the request of Cass County, for a vehicle accident at State Hwy 64 and 88th St SW, Motley.

March 11 - Morrison County deputies arrested Wayne Edwin Lee Berndt, 45, for driving under the influence.

Colgrove to perform at BSU Opera Night Gala

Hailee Colgrove, a senior vocal performance major at Bemidji State University from Motley, will perform as part of Bemidji State University’s annual Opera Night Gala, April 11 at Bemidji’s Sanford Center.

Colgrove will be performing “Ah! Je veux vivre” from Roméo et Juliette by Charles Gounod.

Students will be joined by BSU faculty and guest artist Dr. Nathan Herfindahl, an operatic baritone who is director of choirs at Brainerd High School. Herfindahl has performed with The Metropolitan Opera, The Washington National Opera, Opera de Monte Carlo, the Martha Graham Dance Company, Minnesota Concert Opera and The National Symphony Orchestra, among others.

The event begins at 7 p.m. with doors opening for cocktails at 6 p.m.

Staples Police report

Recent items from the Staples Police report include:

March 9, Staples Police assisted with a deceased person found by a home health nurse.

March 9, Staples Police received a call from a person speaking Spanish. The call was transferred to Language Line but the caller hung up.

March 9, Staples Police investigated an incident when a person was delivering mattresses and the receiving party questioned the cost. The seller reportedly punched the person and threatened his family.

March 9, Staples Police investigated a report of a person in a vehicle parked in front of a house on 6th Street NE. Police talked to the person in the vehicle and they were uncooperative. The person asked if they were being detained and were advised no. They then left the scene. Police

believe the subject was the registered owner of the vehicle.

March 11, Staples Police were requested to assist with a violent patient at Lakewood Health System.

March 11, Staples Police were asked to locate a male with dementia. Phone pings tracked the subject from Baxter to Pillager. New pings were located along Wisconsin Ave. SE.

March 12, Staples Police investigated a student expelled from school for using a school computer to research guns and shooting.

March 12, Staples Police investigated a scam. A subject was asked to cut down a tree at a residence in town. An individual sent a check for \$7,650 with instructions to send \$7,000 back and keep the \$650. The reporting party suspected it was a scam and police confirmed that it is a scam.

March 13, Staples Police investigated a suicide

threat. A male reportedly put a gun to his head while at a house, then got into a car, leaving the gun in the house.

March 14, Staples Police were called for railroad stop arms being down for more than 10 minutes. People were getting out of their cars, trying to lift the stop arms. Staples Police contacted BNSF. Police were called again 45 minutes later with the stop arms back down again. Police advised BNSF again.

March 14, Staples Police investigated reports of gun shots west of Staples, with shots going past their house and near family members. Officer responded to a residence where a party admitted to shooting at a shooting range. Police determined the shooting range appeared to have a safe backstop and advised the person to shoot in a different direction.

Thank You

2026 THE STAPLES SPORTSMANS CLUB

wants to thank all the businesses and individuals that donated to our banquet and all the people that participated. Because of your generosity, we can also contribute to organizations and perform service work within our community.

Mary, Mother of the Church Area Catholic Community

EASTER SCHEDULE

HOLY THURSDAY APRIL 02	7 PM Sacred Heart, Staples 7 PM St. Ann, Wadena
GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 03	3 PM Sacred Heart, Staples 3 PM St. Ann, Wadena 6 PM St. Hubert, Bluegrass*
HOLY SATURDAY APRIL 04	9 PM St. Hubert, Bluegrass* 9 PM Sacred Heart, Staples 9 PM St. Ann, Wadena
EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 05	8 AM St. Joseph, Bertha 8 AM St. Hubert, Bluegrass* 8 AM St. Frederick, Verndale* 8:30 AM Sacred Heart, Staples 10 AM St. John the Baptist, Bluffton 10 AM St. Ann, Wadena 10:30 AM Assumption of Our Lady, Menahga* 10:30 AM St. Michael, Motley* *No incense

Easter Egg Hunt

AT STAPLES ALLIANCE CHURCH

Saturday, April 5th 9-11 AM

Family Fun Event for All Ages
Bounce house, Face Painting, Crafts, Food, Program

1512 8th St. NE, Staples



Looking for a gift idea? Consider a Gift Subscription to the Staples World newspaper. *Gift cards available. 207 4th St NE Staples, MN



ONLINE BIRTHS REMOVED AT THE REQUEST OF LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM.

Hello World

Obituaries

Carol Cross

Carol Pauline (Anderson) Cross, 82, Wichita Falls, Texas, passed away peacefully at home February 19, 2026.

Memorial services were held March 7 at Faith Lutheran Church, Wichita Falls, TX with Pastor Ernie Barr presiding.

Interment will be held at Evergreen Hill Cemetery in Staples this summer.

Carol was born February 26, 1944 to Albin and Tilda (Dahlvang) Anderson in Wadena. Her father was a dairy farmer and entrepreneur. Her grandparents were immigrants from Sweden and Norway respectively.

She began her schooling in a one-room country school, which she was proud to have attended, then went to Staples, where she graduated. She graduated from St. Cloud State University and began her teaching career. In 1972 she married Thomas Cross (son of Robert and Theo Margaret Cross), also from Staples and followed and supported him through out his USAF career, living in Cheyenne, WY, Omaha, NE, Bossier City, LA, where their two sons, Robert and William were born; who brought them immense pride, joy and restlessness. They moved to RAF Lakenheath, United Kingdom and finally to Wichita Falls, TX where Tom retired and they resided.

After an 11-year break when their sons were young, Carol reentered teaching full time at John Tower Elementary School, where she remained until retirement. She had 40+ years of full time teaching, which was her passion. Following retirement she tutored for a



few years.

Wherever they lived Carol was always active in their church, teaching Sunday school, making billboards, a member of church councils or call committes. She was also involved in her professional education organizations. This continued until her death, at which time she was vice president of and coordinated the monthly speakers for the Burkburnett Retired Teachers Association.

She enthusiastically supported and followed her sons in their education, sporting endeavors and careers. Including her grandson, she survived 28 years of youth and collegiate tennis and soccer.

Carol is survived by her husband of 53 years, Tom; one son, William (Amanda); two grandson, Cale and Lukas; two nephews, Craig Wilson and David Anderson; one niece, Kristy Wilson Jedinak and many great- and great-great-nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death were her parents; one son, Robert (1977-2021); one brother, Douglas and one sister, Louise.

w14p A00006B2026MA25

Nancy Zimmer

Nancy Lea Zimmer, 81, passed away March 14, 2026, after sustaining injuries from an electrical fire in her home in Breezy Point.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, March 28, at the Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood St, Motley. Visitation will be held at 10:00 a.m., with services at 11:00 a.m. A luncheon will follow the service.

A private burial at Motley Public Cemetery will take place at a later date. Flowers may be sent to Motley Free Methodist Church for the service.

Nancy was born January 13, 1945, in Staples, to Charles Frederick and Lorraine Regina (Leifermann) Zimmerman. Nancy grew up in Motley, where her roots and education were as a Motley Rocket, graduating from Motley High School with the Class of 1963.

Nancy had a lifelong passion for fashion, hairstyling and interior design. She owned and operated Nancy's Boutique, a women's clothing store, with her flagship location in Staples for 25 years. During that time, she served customers through satellite locations in Breezy Point, Wadena, Pequot Lakes and Brainerd. Through a family partnership, she also became a manager and part owner of Brothers Three Furniture, Staples.

Nancy was always eager to take on new projects, remodeling a home or giving friends and family a fresh hairstyle, perm or haircut. In retirement, she embraced a more flexible lifestyle, enjoying weekend flea markets in Monticello and Annandale, bartending,



refurbishing and reselling homes. Affectionately known by many as "Fancy Nancy," she brought creativity and style to everything she did.

Nancy is survived by her children from her marriage to William A. Collins: Billie Jo (Douglas) Rach of Breezy Point and Anthony Collins of Monticello.

She is also survived by her children from her marriage to John J. Sadusky: Scott S. (Sandy) Sadusky of Nisswa; Laura Sadusky-Smith of Merrifield; Robert (Shelby) Sadusky of Inglis, Florida; Terrie (Ole) Dalgard of Holte, Denmark; John J. (Jan) Sadusky, Jr. of Minneapolis; Carol (Garth) Hermanson of Chicago, Illinois; Nancy (Bryan) Krantz of Brainerd and Kim (Tom) Knudson of Grand Marais; one brother, Charles (Joyce) Zimmerman of Staples as well as many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Nancy was preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Mark Zimmerman; one sister, Ruth Sandberg; two nieces, Linda Sandberg and Lucy Kirscht and one great-grandson, Alan Dumpprope.

w14p A00006B2026MA25

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

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

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

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

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

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
310 4th St. NE, Staples
Church 218-631-1598
info@marysacc.org
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Rev. Rick Aubol, 218-632-7310
Rev. Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
Mass: Sunday 8:30 a.m.

Seventh Day Adventist
421 Dakota Ave. SE, Staples
Pastor Joshua Jersek
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

280 1st Ave S, Motley 218-631-1598
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Rev. Rick Aubol, 218-632-7310
Rev. Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
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
City. Rds. 7 and 9, Oylen
218-472-3440 or 218-472-3316
Pastor Neal Malcore
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

Pillager

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

Casino Assembly of God

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

First Baptist

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

Hewitt

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

Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS)

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

Hewitt Community Church

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

Verndale

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

Family Life Church

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

Hope Chapel Alliance

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

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Bartlett Township (LCMS)

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

Verndale United Methodist

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

Central Community Church

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

St. Frederick Catholic Church

20 Mason Avenue NW
Verndale 218-631-1598
info@marysacc.org
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Rev. Rick Aubol, 218-632-7310
Rev. Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319

MASS: Saturday

St. Hubert Catholic Church
Bluegrass 218-631-1598
info@marysacc.org
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Rev. Rick Aubol, 218-632-7310
Father Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
Sunday Service 10:30 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.

St. Ann's Catholic Church

514 1st Street SE, Wadena(218) 631-1593
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Rev. Rick Aubol, 218-632-7310
Father Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
Mass: Sunday 10 a.m.

"How is My Communication Going?"

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

A Webster's Unabridged Dictionary (1989) definition of "communication" is: "The imparting or exchange of thoughts, opinions or information by speech, writing or signs."

Am I alone in struggling to promote good communication by my own example? I think on our better days we would all agree that good, wholesome and truth-filled communication is needed and worthy of going after. But why can it at times be such a struggle?

Let's first begin with the foundation of communication and then move into applying that foundation to each one of our lives of communication.

Genesis 1:3 is where it really all starts. This third verse begins to explain how God spoke everything into existence. Folks, are you with me on how far beyond our comprehension that reality is that God's very word has crating power?! There's nothing this universe that isn't the direct result of God's speaking it into existence from what can be seen in the electron microscope to the outer space images from the Hubble Space Telescope and beyond. It's all here because God spoke it into existence. That alone should humbly motivate us to care about our communication quality but there's more...much more!

In a very much connected way, Genesis 1 and The Gospel of John 1, describe together, the *creating* Word of God and now the *saving* Word of God. John 1:1 (NIV) says, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God." We get a rich flavor of how One God is Father and Son (with other references to Holy Spirit as the True God that He is in His oneness. I know, that too is beyond my comprehension, but is yet true and life-giving!).

So, what is an application as we think about the foundation of communication? Among other things, communication is from God and belongs to God. God's ownership of communication is alone reason enough for you and me to care deeply about what, how and why we communicate anything. (And as in all good communication, listening precedes it all!)

So, on a practical level, the Bible in Proverbs 10:19, 13:3, 16:24, 18:21 and 21:23 along with James 3:3-12 are good places to start for our reflection on the power of the tongue for better or worse. Let Colossians 4:6 permeate our communication: "Let your conversation be always full of grace seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone."

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

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

Ernie's Food Market
Groceries - Gas - Convenience - more
Staples, MN 218-894-1072

Staples Veterinary Clinic
"Complete Animal Care"
Staples, MN 218-894-1775

Tower Pizza
Pizza, Pasta, Salads, Sandwiches
Staples, MN 218-894-3299

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

Staples World
Your community newspaper since 1890
207 4th St. NE., Staples, MN
218-894-1112

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

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

See OBITUARIES on page 9a

Life Currents Policy

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

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

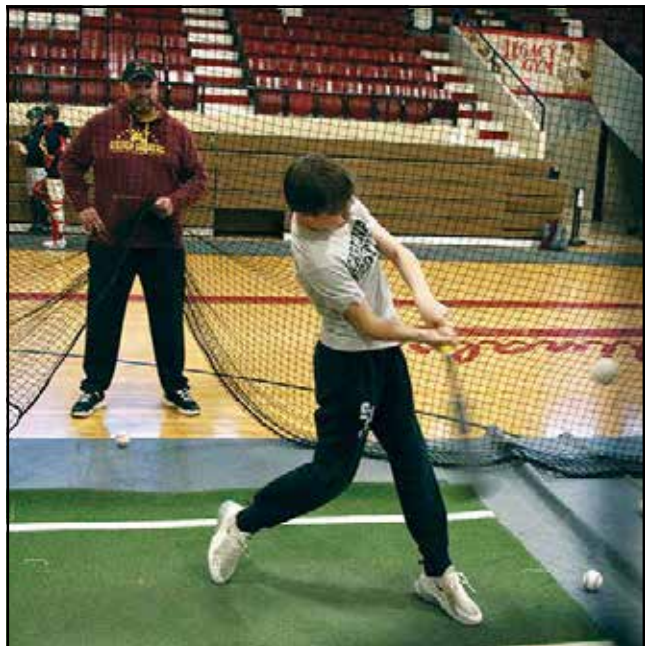
All obituaries are paid advertisements. Obituaries requested to be printed word for word will be charged regular advertising rates and marked as a Paid Advertisement- with a box around it.

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



Spring training begins for Staples-Motley spring sports teams

Baseball and softball practices began with Staples-Motley varsity teams practicing their fundamentals indoors. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Track and field begins

Staples-Motley boys and girls track and field athletes practiced mostly indoors their first two meets of the season, with a few warm days where they got outside. Above, dynamic exercises; below, a warm-up jog. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Basketball cheers

Staples-Motley youth got a front row seat at the Section 8AA boys basketball championship game. Below, Staples-Motley cheerleaders at the game. (Photos by Bill Johnson, Picture Day Pro)



Coaching moment

Assistant coaches Craig Wolhowe and Justin Thorne talk to the Staples-Motley

NOTICES

103

FOUND

IF YOU LOST something fairly expensive around March 8 between Motley and Staples, contact me and let me know what you lost so I know it's yours. Phone 218-352-9209. 14x

104

Give Away

TO A GOOD HOME: Smaller terrier mix dog and med. size bull dog mix, both around 2 yrs. old, vaccinated. 612-910-9645. tfc

107

SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT

205

Help Wanted

NOW HIRING: •CDL driver w/mechanical knowledge, FT, Motley location •Store Manager, FT, Brainerd location •Warehouse laborer, Brainerd location, Seasonal. Apply in Motley or call 800-982-5337. 12tfc

208

Storage

FOR RENT

Japke's North 8th Street Mini Storage, 894-1551 6x20, 10x12, 10x20, 10x24

209

Business Services

PAUL DRAKE TREE SERVICE, Staples, Since 1978: Snow Removal, Firewood Sales. 218-894-2871. 50tfc

GARAGE SALES

701

STAPLES ASSEMBLY OF GOD YOUTH: NOW accepting donations for upcoming missions garage sale. Call Kathy at 218-296-1647 for drop off or pick up. 8-16c

REAL ESTATE

602

Apartments for Rent

FRONTIER TOWNHOMES

FOR RENTAL INFO CALL 218-296-5031 Under new ownership

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

BRUTGER EQUITIES, INC. Income guidelines apply.

Sunny Pines Apts. in Motley

Tenant must be income eligible, 62 years or older, handicapped or disabled. Heat, water, sewer, electric provided. Call Rosie Talberg, Manager at: 320-468-2303

Prairie View Neighborhood

2 AND 3 BEDROOM HOMES FOR SALE IN STAPLES

2 NEW HOMES NOW AVAILABLE

- TWO STALL GARAGES
- LANDSCAPED YARDS
- COMPETITIVE PRICES

CALL MICHELLE 218-326-6098 MIKE IVES REALTY

www.prairieviewneighborhood.com

MCAN Minnesota Classified Advertising Network

Statewide Classifieds

STATEWIDE ADS ONLY \$279

Classified Advertising That is EASY

The Minnesota Classified Advertising Network

Make an impact with your advertising dollar with classified advertising that reaches over 1MILLION READERS

Statewide Classifieds

Your newspaper representative can provide complete details or you can call MNA: 612/332-8844

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED:

ALL 1970S MOTORCYCLES

Running or not. Titled or not. Will pick up. Cash in exchange. Sell now before prices fall. Call Dan at 612/720-2142

WE BUY HOUSES

for cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 844/978-0683

MISCELLANEOUS

SATELLITE TV + INTERNET!

Get Dish! Free install, free HD-DVR upgrade, 80,000 on-demand movies, plus limited time up to \$600 In gift cards. Call today! 855/562-4309

CHOOSE EARTHLINK FIBER

Internet for speeds up to 5 Gigs, no data caps, no throttling. Prices starting at \$54.95. Plus, a \$100 gift card when you make the switch. Call 844/453-6983

MISCELLANEOUS

SAFE STEP

North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1,600 off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 833/966-3882

GET A BREAK ON YOUR TAXES!

Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2025. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 844/220-9501 today!

DON'T LET THE STAIRS LIMIT YOUR MOBILITY!

Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call AmeriGlide today! 866/852-5506

Staples World

The Staples World office, 207 4th St. NE, Staples open every weekday, 8 a.m. - noon. •For afternoon availability, call 218-894-1112. Regular advertising and copy deadline is Friday, noon. The office closes at noon on Friday.



ONE

Order Bill Check

The MINNESOTA Display Ad Network

It's the no-stress way to place your newspaper ad in multiple publications. We can place it statewide or regionally. You'll place one order and because you only get one bill, you only write one check. Your newspaper representative can provide complete details. The 2x4 Network is a program of the MNA, phone 800-279-2979



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

SERVICE DIRECTORY

GIZA

EST 1934

PLUMBING & HEATING

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

MN LIC. #PC644417 218-894-2284 WWW.CALLGIZA.COM

Ultimate Septic Service LLC

David Odden - Owner/Operator

Services:

- Septic Pumping • Jetting
- Emergencies

Call USS for all your septic pumping needs! 218-296-1137 ultimatesepticservice@gmail.com

AE

ALBIE ELECTRIC LLC

CELL 218-838-0581

RESIDENTIAL AND LIGHT COMMERCIAL ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS

Altrichter

Excavation & Septic Service

218-575-2222

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



MN State Certified 6685 330th St., Cushing, MN. 56443

LPS Inc.

Long Prairie Sanitation

Long Prairie, MN

218-631-3101 888-878-5578

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

PROFESSIONAL

Mandi's Accounting Services

Tax Prep • Bookkeeping • Payroll • Financial Planning

Mandi Polito

Accountant 218-296-5006

mandipolito1384@gmail.com 138 4th St., Staples, MN 56479 PO Box 95, Staples, MN 56479

Sellnow Law Office, P.A.

Thomas H. Sellnow* sellnowt@sellnowlaw.com

Jason R. Sellnow sellnowj@sellnowlaw.com

218-894-4618 • 133 4th St. NE, Staples 229 Central Ave., Long Prairie 320-732-1919 • Toll free: 877-297-1125

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

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

www.sellnowlaw.com

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

CONSTRUCTION

PHB Excavating Inc.



Phil Bjerga 218-639-5007 Licensed / Bonded / Insured

- Septics • Waterlines • Trenching • Basements • Retaining Walls
- Landscaping & Site Preparation • Backhoe & Skid Loader Work
- Sewer Pipe Cleaning and Steaming • Custom Pressure Washing
- Equipment, Buildings, Driveways, etc. • Snow Plowing & Removal

IDEAL CONSTRUCTION LLC

PAYING THE WAY FOR YOU!

Staples, MN 56479 218-894-3105 SINCE 1958

Asphalt Paving • Seal Coating • Excavating • Driveways Roads • Parking Lots • Site Prep • Gravel • Rock • Black Dirt Fill • Peat • Ponds • Demolition • Hauling • Landscaping Recycled Concrete and Asphalt

Statema Backhoe Service, LLC

MPCA CERTIFIED SEPTIC SYSTEMS

- FREE ESTIMATE FROM DESIGN TO INSTALLATION
- COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS

Site Prep • Basements • Waterlines • Driveways • Landscaping • Black Dirt • Gravel • Construction & Abandonment of Manure Pits • Fill Dirt Clearing & Grading • Ditch Cleaning • Snow Plowing: Commercial & Residential Andy Statema • 320-594-2912 • 320-594-6347



LICENSED BONDED INSURED

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

SW 2024 changed wk #3

NOTICE
MAY TOWNSHIP
ASSESSMENT
MEETING

The Board of Appeal and Equalization for the Township of May, Cass County, Minnesota shall meet on Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at 12:00 noon at the May Town Hall. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether taxable property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor, and to determine whether corrections need to be made.

Bianca Wyffels, Clerk
May Township
13-14pnc

NOTICE
MORAN TOWNSHIP
MEETING

The Moran Township April meeting will be held Monday, April 6 at 7 p.m. at the town hall.

Diane Mack, Clerk
Moran Township
13-14pnc

PUBLIC
NOTICES:
Your Right
to Know

NOTICE
MEADOWBROOK
TOWNSHIP BOARD
OF APPEAL AND
EQUALIZATION

Important Information
Regarding Assessment and
Classification of Property.
This may affect your 2026
property tax payments.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That the Board of Appeal and Equalization for the Township of Meadowbrook, Cass County, Minnesota shall meet on Wednesday, April 8, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. This meeting is at the Leader Community Hall. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether taxable property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor, and to determine whether corrections need to be made.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, please contact your Assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you are still not satisfied with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization. The Board shall review the valuation, classification, or both if necessary, and shall correct it as needed. Generally, an appearance before your Local Board of Appeal and Equalization is required by law before an appeal can be taken to the County Board of Appeal and Equalization.

Ty Peterson, Clerk
Meadowbrook Township
14-15pnc

NOTICE: MOOSE LAKE TOWNSHIP
Important Information Regarding Assessment
and Classification of Property
This may affect your 2027 property tax payments

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That the **Board of Appeal and Equalization** for the **Township of Moose Lake**, Cass County, Minnesota shall meet on **Thursday, April 9, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.** This meeting is at the Leader Community Hall. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether taxable property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor, and to determine whether corrections need to be made.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, please contact your Assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you are still not satisfied with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization. The Board shall review the valuation, classification, or both if necessary, and shall correct it as needed. Generally, an appearance before your Local Board of Appeal and Equalization is required by law before an appeal can be taken to the County Board of Appeal and Equalization.

Karen Roubel, Clerk
Moose Lake Township
14-15pnc

Public notices are a community’s window into the government.
You look for those notices in your newspaper. From zoning regulations
to local budgets, governments have used local newspapers to inform
citizens of its actions as an essential part of your right to know.
Keep public notices in newspapers!

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2170
(STAPLES-MOTLEY)
STATE OF MINNESOTA

School District Question 1
Approval of School District Bond Issue

☐ Yes

☐ No

Shall the school board of Independent School District No. 2170 (Staples-Motley) be authorized to issue its general obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$42,500,000 to provide funds for the acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities, including the construction and equipping of a secure entry and career and technical education (CTE) addition to the High School/Middle School site; the construction and equipping of an addition to the Elementary School; the renovation and remodeling of classrooms and restrooms at school sites and facilities; upgrades to casework and finishes; the acquisition and installation of furniture, fixtures and equipment at school sites and facilities; the construction of athletic and activity field improvements, including track replacement and renovations and upgrades to the football field, bleachers, press box, scoreboard, concession stand and locker rooms; the construction of upgrades and improvements to the High School/Middle School building envelope; and the acquisition and installation of lighting, acoustic, sound and other enhancements to the High School/Middle School auditorium?

BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING FOR A
PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

The combined polling place for this election and the precincts served by the combined polling place are as follows:

COMBINED POLLING PLACE: Staples Community Center
425 4th Street NE
Staples, MN 56479

This combined polling place serves all territory located in the City of Staples in Todd and Wadena Counties; Villard, Bartlett, Staples, Germania, Moran, and Ward Townships in Todd County; and the City of Aldrich and Thomastown, Aldrich, Bullard and Lyons Townships in Wadena County, Minnesota; the City of Motley in Cass and Morrison Counties; May, Becker, Moose Lake, Byron, Meadowbrook and Poplar Townships in Cass County; and Motley Township in Morrison, Minnesota; the Townships of Scandia Valley and Cushing in Morrison County; and Fawn Lake and Turtle Creek in Todd County, Minnesota.

Any eligible voter residing in the School District may vote at said election at the combined polling place designated above for the precinct in which he or she resides. The polls for said election will be opened at 7:00 o'clock a.m. and will close at 8:00 o'clock p.m. on the date of said election.

A voter must be registered to vote to be eligible to vote in this election. An unregistered individual may register to vote at the combined polling place on election day.

Dated: March 19, 2026.

BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

/s/ Sherry L. Frisk
School District Clerk
Independent School District No. 2170
(Staples-Motley)
State of Minnesota

OBITUARIES continued from page 6a

Obituaries

Robert Jensen

Robert (Bob) Joseph Jensen, 69, of Staples, passed peacefully on March 17, 2026, right where he belonged - surrounded by the loving arms of his family on the same rural Minnesota farm that had shaped his earliest memories and held his final breath.

His life will be celebrated at Brenny Funeral Home in Staples on May 8 with a visitation from 3 to 5 p.m. followed by a time of remembrance gathering.

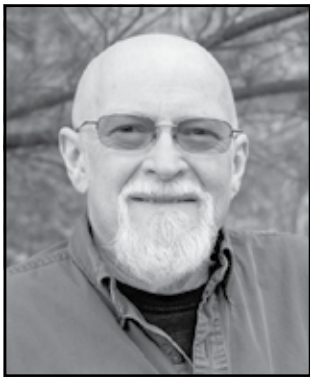
Born in Saint Paul, Nebraska, on April 29, 1956, to Kenneth and Helen Jensen, Bob grew up amid the wide-open fields and quiet rhythms of the woods in rural Staples. He graduated from Staples High School in 1974, carrying with him a strong work ethic and an unquenchable curiosity about how things worked. Adventure soon called him west to California, where he met the love of his life, Mary. Together they built a vibrant home and raised three children, Amy (Victor), Bonnie, and Bob, Jr. (Susannah), over 23 cherished years filled with laughter, lessons and the everyday miracles of family.

After Mary's passing, Bob felt the pull of his roots.

He returned to Minnesota, settling back on the family farm where the soil still remembered his footsteps from boyhood. There, in the place that had always felt like home, he spent his remaining years tending the land, fixing what was broken and savoring the simple joys that meant the most.

Bob was a man who thrived on hard work and the satisfaction of a job well done. As an industrial mechanic, he kept the gears turning at Kendall McGaw, Procter & Gamble and BNSF - his steady hands and sharp mind earning quiet respect in noisy shops across the years. Back on the farm, that same skill turned to keeping old tractors running, firewood neatly stacked, new building projects and crops coaxed from stubborn ground.

Bob's heart truly came alive outdoors. He loved the hum of the tractor engine beneath him, the whine of a chainsaw, the crackle of a campfire, the gentle tug of a fish on the line, the sharp report of a well-aimed shot in the crisp autumn air and, most of all, the sound of grandkids' voices echoing across the property. Bob found his deepest content-



ment in those moments.

He was known far and wide for his kindness - a friendly wave from the tractor seat, a helping hand offered without being asked, and a quiet patriotism that showed in the flag he flew proudly and the values he lived every day.

He leaves behind his three children, five granddaughters, one grandson, and two great-granddaughters, who will carry forward the stories, lessons and love he poured into them.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents; beloved wife, Mary; one brother, Kenneth and one grandson, Christian

Arrangements are by Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.
w14c A00006B2026MA25

Elizabeth Hildahl

Elizabeth Eileen "Betty" Hildahl, 93, of Staples, passed away March 19, 2026, at the Lakewood Health Care Center in Staples. She is now with her Lord Jesus.

A Memorial Service will be held Saturday, April 11 at 11:00 a.m. at Swan Valley Lutheran Church on Hwy. 64 in Leader. A luncheon will follow the service..

Elizabeth was born December 13, 1932, to Robert and Oakley Gilbertson in Fulda. She graduated from Fulda High School. After graduating, she worked as an administrative assistant in the Twin Cities. She married Kenneth Hildahl on May 2, 1960.

Elizabeth and Ken lived in Maplewood while raising their two children, David and Amy. Later in life, they moved to the Hildahl family farm near Staples, where they raised beef cattle.

Elizabeth was a wonderful wife, mother and grandmother. She enjoyed sewing, cooking, helping raise the beef cattle and spending time with family. She was an avid reader and enjoyed volunteering at various church events. She was known for being kind and loving to all those



she met. Elizabeth will be missed by many; the consolation of the family is that she is with Jesus.

Elizabeth is survived by one son, David (Donna) of Staples; one daughter, Amy (Stephen) Schumacher of Chicago; four grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ken; parents and all eight of her siblings, Marie, Robert, Helen, Gordon, Richard, Sally, Myron and Jim.

w14p A00006B2026MA26

Luann McGrane

The funeral service celebrating the life of Luann McGrane of Wadena, will be held at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 31, at the Motley Free Methodist Church in Motley with Pastor Jim Johnson presiding.

Visitation will be held March 30, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Johnson-Schuller Chapel in Wadena and will resume at the church in Motley on Tuesday from 9:30 a.m. until the time of the service.

Burial will be at 2:00 p.m. in Calvary Cemetery, Wadena.

Luann, 74, passed away on March 20, 2026, in rural Browerville.

Luann was born to Leonard and Luella (Korfe) Pankratz on July 17, 1951, in Bertha.

Remembering Luann will be her children, Roxann (Brent) Alt of Bertha, Kevin McGrane of Perham, Kerry (Scott Deadrick) McGrane of Wadena and Christine (Daniel Reyes) McGrane of Wolverton; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; two brothers, Roger (Lois) Pankratz and Don (Donna) Pankratz; one sister, Rosalie (Larry) Fearning and a host of extended family and friends.

Preceding Luann in death were her husband, Kenneth; parents; parents-in-law and other secondary family.

Arrangements are with the Schuller Family Funeral Homes & Cremation Services' Johnson-Schuller Chapel (www.SchullerFamilyFH.com).

w14c A00006B2026MA25

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

DEADLINE
for all classified ads and copy is 12 noon Friday
For the Staples World

Staples World
The Staples World office,
(location moved to 207 4th St. NE)
open every weekday, 8 a.m. - noon.
•For afternoon availability,
call 218-894-1112.
Regular advertising and copy
deadline is Friday, noon.
The office closes at noon on Friday.

Mailing address:
PO Box 100



Polar Plunge raises money for Special Olympics

Staples-Motley students raised \$12,934 by doing the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics on March 20. Above, the costume contest winners were the “Staples-Motley Ostrich Farm” players. Below, more cos-

tumes ready to jump. With temperatures reaching the low 60s during the day, the jumpers did not get as cold as in past years. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Willow Hines starts the event by tossing toy ducks into the cold water.



Lifeguard Xander Moench made sure everyone exited safely, including his basketball coach Zack Qual.



Jackson Vangsness, front, dressed as Bert from the Mary Poppins movie, was the top fundraiser, bringing in \$1,034 for Special Olympics.



Polar Plunge emcee Tristan Rendon enjoyed interviewing jumpers after they got out of the water.





★CONGRATULATIONS!★

Section 8AA Second Place

3rd place, Heart O Lakes Conference



Coach Zack Qual



Josiah Burton, Noah Larson



Eli Rutten

Photos by Bill Johnson,
Picture Day Pro



Avandre Brandt



Eli Rutten, Coach Tim Rutten



Conner Kuhns



Carter Sarbaum



Atreyu Eagle Tail

These area businesses support the Cardinal Basketball Team on their successful 2026 season.

Essentia Health, Staples Clinic
Jon's Family Foods
Giza Plumbing and Heating
Ideal Construction
Staples Ace Hardware
Todd-Wadena Electric
Cooperative
Lakewood Health System
Staples Auto License Bureau
National Insurance Brokers,
Veronen Agency
Brichacek Stone
Still Lefty's

Central Building Supply
Elite Title & Escrow
Edina Realty - Nikki Bjerga
First International Bank
and Trust
Simplicity Salon
Edina Realty - Sandy Knosalla
STEP
DQ Staples and Motley
State Farm Insurance -
Daniel Douts
Ernie's Food Market
Twin Cities Orthopedics

Stomping Grounds
Orth Insurance
Mandi's Accounting Services
Magic Forest Preschool
and Daycare
Spot Cafe
Unity Bank
Beck's Burger Co.
Old 10 Apparel
3M
Tower Pizza
Stern Rubber
Staples World

ANDERSON continued from page 1a

Ode to Joyce debuts at ‘Our Voice, Our Song’

pendent composer for the project.

Mithun asked the family to share stories, writings about Joyce.

Schultz wrote a poem. Those words became the lyrics for the piece.

On the third anniversary of Joyce’s death, the family learned the composition, entitled “I Am Dance, I Am Song,” was complete.

Composed by Mary-Anne Muglia, the song premiered on Feb. 28 at the SAWC’s annual “Our Voice, Our Song” concert. They were joined by students from Bertha-Hewitt, Menahga, Browerville, Pillager, Sebeka, Hancock, Staples-Motley and Long Prairie.

Schultz’s husband, Brad, is a special education teacher at Menahga.

Four Menahga High School choir students - seniors Mary Gail Schmitz, Melodie Dillon, Rylee Dooley, Lindsey Mayers - along with vocal teacher Logan Gerdes, participated in the concert.

The entire song can be heard on the Menahga Public School’s Facebook page.

Prior to the performance, David shared a few things about Joyce so students had some insight into who she was and better connect to the song.

Joyce and David grew up in Askov, Minn. They sat next to each other in high school band. Both played euphonium.

“She loved to dance, and she frequently asked if I would dance a polka with her,” David said. “Then she would sing 16 bars of ‘Roll Out the Barrel’ while we danced around the living room. She asked our kids, our grandkids, those who visited her during her decline and even total strangers. Nobody refused.”

Schultz said Muglia, who is based in Arizona, “captured my mom’s essence.” The composition includes a euphonium and “a fun alto part.”



Soulmates

Music was an important part of Dave and Joyce Anderson’s relationship. Natives of Askov, they sat next to each other in high school band, where both played euphonium. They later married, raised five children in Staples, and continued to dance, sing and play together in community bands throughout their marriage of 56 years. (Submitted photos)



MATSIDE continued from page 1a

Cardinal edition podcast features state wrestlers

rich history of the sport in the community. They went on to interview all of the Cardinal boys wrestling seniors and the first three girls wrestlers to go to state for the school.

The two podcasters said they have learned a lot by doing more than 20 podcasts this year. They both plan to continue the podcasts when wrestling season starts again next year.



Matside Minnesota on the road

Chris Etzler and Derek Holst do a mobile podcast during a Staples-Motley wrestling team fundraiser at Anchor North restaurant on Lake Alexander near

Cushing this year. They were able to do live broadcasts with this setup. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

R5DC announces Board of Directors

Region Five Development Commission (R5DC) recently announced 2026 Board of Directors and incoming members.

R5DC Directors include Chairperson Andrea Haverinen, Region 5 School Board Representative; Vice Chairperson Amy Sjoblad, Region 5 School Board Representative; Secretary Julie Polak, Todd County Town Boards; Treasurer Reno Wells, Cass County Town Boards; Directors: Greg Blaine, Morrison County Commissioner; Doug Kern, Crow Wing County Town Boards; David A. Anderson,

Wadena County Municipalities.

Tyler Gardner, Crow Wing County Municipalities; Chad Turner, Camp Ripley Representative; and Jonathan White, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Representative are welcomed as the cCommission’s newest representatives.

R5DC is grateful to Sally Fineday, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Representative, and Rian Hofstad, Camp Ripley Representative, for their dedication and service as commissioners.

Executive Director Cheryal Lee Hills shared,

“We’re honored to partner with elected officials and public leaders who are committed to advancing regional collaboration and improving quality of life across our rural communities.”

Region Five Development Commission’s work is guided by a governing commission comprising of 24 members representing a cross-section of constituents from the five-county region. For a full listing of commission representatives, visit regionfive.org/about.



Anderson wins photography award

Staples World managing editor Mark Anderson was awarded second place in the 2025 Minnesota Newspaper Association’s Better Newspaper Contest for photography feature photo for newspapers with up to 1,000 circulation. The

photo, “Searching for spring” appeared in the April 9, 2025 edition of the Staples World. It featured a mallard taking wing during snowfall April 1. One judge commented it was a “well-timed shot.” (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Food distribution for displaced families

The Seventh Day Adventist Church in Staples has been designated as the Red Cross food drop for the 14 to 16 families who lost their apartments in the Feb. 28, 2026 Staples Theatre building fire. Church members were contacted by the Red Cross to supply food for the displaced families for six weeks. Trident Seafood, Motley is donating rooms at the hotel in Motley.

Above church member Donna Schmidt among the many boxes of donated food supplies with two Red Cross workers at the church.

Right, center: Seventh Day Adventist Church Pastor Josh Jeresek with Schmidt and Red Cross members. (Submitted photos)



Growing Our Regional Food Leadership:

A Community Conversation on capacity and funding

PartnerSHIP 4 Health

Community members across the region are invited to attend Growing Our Regional Food Leadership: A Conversation on Community, Capacity and Funding, a hybrid event taking place Tuesday, April 7 from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

This gathering will be hosted simultaneously at five regional site locations:

- Morris Public Library, 102 E 6th St, Morris
- Family Service Center, Room 8, 715 11th St N, Moorhead
- Sourcewell Office, 202 12th St NE, Staples
- Stearns County Service Center, Room 1104C/D, 3301 County Road 138, Waite Park
- Otter Tail County Government Services Center, Dead Lake Room, 560 Fir Ave W, Fergus Falls

Participants are encouraged to attend the site near-

est to them to connect in person with others in their community. A virtual option will also be available. In the event of inclement weather, the event will transition to a fully virtual format.

The event is designed for farmers, nonprofit leaders, economic development professionals, educators, advocates and residents who care about strengthening the regional food system.

- Attendees will:
 - Learn about the Food Council’s role in advancing regional food system priorities
 - Explore how community members can shape future initiatives
 - Brainstorm ways that Climate Smart Food Systems funding could be used in our region
 - Receive a sneak preview of an upcoming capacity-building training series focused on using AI tools to identify funding oppor-

tunities and support grant writing

•Build connections with others committed to resilient local food systems

The session is interactive, accessible and designed for participants of all experience levels. No background in AI or grant writing is required.

The Food Council is currently welcoming new members and partners. This event offers an opportunity to learn more, ask questions and explore how to get involved.

Register for the event by March 31. If you register for one of the five in-person meeting locations, a complimentary light supper will be provided.

To register, visit the following link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/PWTfmYxUT-wCL6fhOV7FVjA#/registration> (701-306-5280),