

Inside this issue:

Faith Lutheran Bell Choir
Baseball wins doubleheader
SMHS Reality Store
Fourth Street construction begins in Staples



Wednesday, May 6, 2026

StaplesWorld

Staples, Minnesota

\$1.25

Middle School play set for May 15 and 16

The cast and crew of the Staples-Motley Middle School play are excited to perform, "The Somewhat True Tale of Robinhood" May 15 and 16, at Centennial Auditorium in Staples. Pictured, front row from left: Cadence Pruitt, Kai Bestland, Danielle Hanson, Landon Ziegler, Brooke Georges, Lilah Dottenwhy, Lydia

Tkalcich. Middle row, Jackson Vangness, Matthew Jewison, Jackson Bitzer, Caleb Bestland, Angelina Paklonsky, Annabella Hurtig, Kade Ingersoll. Back row, Alivia Bingham, Anna Zolotoryova, Talia Graves, Rose Roberts, Allison Hoppe, Corvyn Mudek, Ava Kroll. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Staples-Motley Middle School to perform "The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood"

The Staples-Motley Middle School will perform the comedy, "The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood" at Centennial Auditorium in Staples Friday, May 15, 7 p.m., and Saturday, May 16, 1 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door. According to a synopsis of the story, 'The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood' written by Mary Lynn Dobson, is a silly, fourth-wall breaking retelling of

the story with just a few liberties taken from the original...including an egocentric Robin Hood, a bowling sheriff of Nottingham and a little extra help from the play's production team. The show is directed by SM High School seniors Brynn Bestland and Cecily Moe, both of whom have a lot of experience in theater and performing arts. After learning there were no volunteers to direct the middle

school play this year, Bestland and Moe asked permission to take on this role, as they wanted to make sure this tradition continued. Aaron Carter, Staples-Motley math teacher, is helping with the show. He shared, "These students have put in an inspiring amount of effort putting this together and we're so glad to have such a talented group."

You will notice the delivery of your newspaper will be one to two days later due to new postal delivery regulations implemented by the federal government April 25, 2026 and made effective with the April 29, 2026 issue of the Staples World. You will receive your Staples World newspaper one to two days later than usual as only one postal truck will be available in Staples. The Staples World regular publication date will remain on Wednesdays.

Hanson's role as EDA Director starts by making connections

By Mark Anderson
Publisher

Jim Hanson became familiar with Staples and Motley while living in southern Minnesota. Now as the new Staples Economic Development Director, he is learning more about the history and the business landscape of Staples. For history, he has a copy of Margaret Anderson's Northside/Southside history book. For modern happenings, he is taking in a lot of information. "I'll talk to anybody, I want to get a feel for what's going on locally," said Hanson. At his first Staples City Council meeting, Hanson said "Staples is a unique community. I grew up in a town of similar size in Iowa that didn't have anything close to what Staples offers economically, educationally or health care wise. It's truly a gem up here." Hanson doesn't have plans for big changes yet as he is still learning about the See **HANSON** on page 12a



EDA starts at city hall

New Staples Economic Development Director Jim Hanson in front of Staples City Hall, where he has his office. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Machining program built industry in Staples, around the state

By Mark Anderson
Publisher

Our current civilization was made possible by the machines that built the framework of virtually everything we use in our modern world. In Staples, the machine trades expanded from an idea at the high school level to a college program that propelled manufacturing all over Minnesota. Sid Johnson and Stan Tyrrell were students at the beginning of this program in the 1960s, went out into the world and came back to teach others. They talked about the history of the machine tool trades in Staples, and how it has expanded into multiple industries around the state. Johnson said the Staples project started mainly with three people, Dr. Reicheldorfer, Mike Matanich and Duane Lund. "They are the ones who planted the seeds, there are now big flowers all over the place," said Johnson.

Johnson said originally, there was no vocational building at the high school, but there was a canning company across the street. Matanich was instrumental in turning that building into a vocational school, he said. Tyrrell said he remembers Dr. Reicheldorfer was a local physician who used to raise orchids and built a greenhouse for them that became part of the high school's programs. Duane Lund was the Staples School Superintendent who used his position as an economic development platform. He started many programs that brought industry to the area. As an instructor and leader in the community, Mike Matanich made the machine trades program happen. "Matanich was quite a promoter of everything," said Johnson. "Matanich was a pusher, he was a strong leader, he made things happen," said Tyrrell.



Machining memories

Sid Johnson and Stan Tyrrell on the streets of Staples, remembering what the machine trades program has done for the community. But what made him stand out and made the program flourish is that Matanich made sure they did things the right way. Johnson said he remembers See **MACHINES** on page 12a

Weather

2026			
This Week's Forecast			
	High	Low	Cond.
May 6	48	30	Cloudy
May 7	59	30	P. Cloudy
May 8	64	35	P. Cloudy
May 9	60	37	P. Cloudy
May 10	57	36	P. Cloudy
May 11	65	40	M. Sunny
May 12	70	45	Cloudy
Last Year, 2025			
	High	Low	Cond.
May 6	81°	50	Sunny
May 7	67	51	Sunny
May 8	73	36	Sunny
May 9	81	54	Sunny
May 10	75	46	M. Sunny
May 11	91	62	Sunny
May 12	90	64	Sunny

Average Temps:
H = 64° Low = 42°

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Leader Hall Board 9A
Cass County 9A
Todd Notice of Filing 9A
Freshwater minutes 9-10A

Obituaries

Dale Johnson
Rebecca Lindgren
Bonnie Meacham
June Winter

SBDC success story: Up North Social

By Katie Heppner
North Central Small
Business Development
Center at Central Lakes
College

Finding the Right Idea

When Saundra Krienke moved to Crosslake five years ago with her husband, she wasn't just looking for a change of scenery. She was looking for a place to put down roots and become part of a community. Like many entrepreneurs, the idea for her business came quietly, while sitting in a local coffee shop and noticing what the area had, and what it didn't. With a strong entrepreneurial background shaped by family businesses, she knew she wanted to build something of her own. But she also knew it had to be the right fit, not just another business for the sake of it.

After finding a space that immediately felt special, Saundra began working with the North Central Small Business Development Center at Central Lakes College to test her concept. Together, they walked through feasibility, costs, and what it would truly take to open the doors. This included a deep dive into expenses, from large equipment down to the smallest details, ensuring nothing was overlooked. With guidance from North Central SBDC consultant Pam Thomsen, Saundra refined her vision and gained confidence in the path forward. That early planning work laid a strong foundation and positioned her for funding conversations.

Building a Unique Experience

The concept for Up North Social took shape around something Saundra personally loved: gathering with friends over wine and thoughtfully prepared food. She leaned into the idea of a "grazing" experience, where customers could enjoy curated charcuterie paired with high-quality wine and beer. Through market research and conversations with industry professionals, she developed a model that felt both unique and right for the area. Her goal was to create a space that felt like home, where people could slow down and connect. That intentional approach became a defining feature of the business.

Fueling the Launch

As the business plan came together, securing the right financial support became the next step. Through connections in the community, Saundra

met the Brainerd Lakes Economic Development Corporation (BLAEDC) team and learned about the BLAEDC Unified Fund. With guidance from Executive Director Tyler Glynn, she navigated a straightforward application process and secured approximately \$30,000 in funding. These funds helped cover critical startup costs like furniture and equipment. Having access to flexible, local funding made a meaningful difference in getting the business of the ground.

Adapting and Growing

Since opening two years ago, Up North Social has continued to evolve alongside its customers. Saundra built strong relationships by focusing on exceptional service and creating a welcoming environment where people felt comfortable staying a while. When faced with a challenging winter season, she made a strategic pivot by learning into events and catering. This opened up new revenue streams and opportunities for the business. She also saw strong results from using tools like Google Ads to drive traffic and increase visibility. The willingness to adapt has been key to maintaining momentum and growth.

Saundra's advice to others looking to start a business is simple but powerful. Take the time to understand what your community truly needs and don't be afraid to ask questions along the way. Building relationships and collaborating with others can open doors you didn't even know existed. There is value in learning from those around you and leaning on available resources. With the right support and a clear vision, it is possible to build something that not only succeeds, but strengthens the community around it.

Entrepreneurs on Tap

If you want to hear directly from Saundra and learn what it really takes to run and grow a business in a seasonal market, there's an opportunity to do just that. Join the North Central SBDC on May 6, at 5:00 p.m. at Up North Social for the next Entrepreneurs on Tap, hosted in partnership with BLAEDC. Saundra and Squirrely Mama Boutique owner Jackie Wipper will be in the hot seat, sharing how they make the most out of the tourist season. It's a chance to learn from real experiences, ask questions, and walk away with ideas you can put to work right away.



Staples State Bank employees reunion

Some of the Staples State Bank tellers and book-keeping staff from the mid 1980s got together for a little reunion at the Spot Cafe April 16. Pictured, from left, Darla Peterson, Glennnda Kotula, Nancy (Hess) Resch,

LaDonna Peterson, Sonja Cowles, Bev Swenson, Sue Eddy, Lori Bates, Gloria Perfetti, Mazie Chapman. According to Bates, "Lots of laughs and memories were shared." (Submitted photo)



CARE Community breakfast enjoyed by many

The CARE Community Meal was held at Motley United Methodist Church April 25, with a pancake breakfast prepared and served by members of the church. BRICKS Restaurant in Motley donated the scrambled eggs.

Top photo, from left, Don Flynn, Karin Flynn and Marinell Philipp, all of Motley, were among the dozens who enjoyed the meal and visiting with others.

The free meals, sponsored by CARE Ministry, are held on a monthly basis to promote fellowship, connection and nourishment. The next free meal will be held Tuesday, May 26, 4:30 - 6 p.m., at St. Michael's Church in Motley. (Submitted photos by Dawn Timbs)



Motley area law enforcement

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

April 24 - Motley Police responded to a call from a Motley resident reporting a border collie dog that would not leave her property. The responding officer made sure the dog had water and then took it to the Staples Veterinarian.

April 22 - Motley Police received a report from a Motley resident of two nude photos she'd received from someone. Motley Police then contacted the

subject who stated he'd sent them by mistake - he had intended to send them to somebody else but accidentally sent them to her. The subject said he felt badly and would be sending the woman an apology letter.

April 16 - The MCSO received a request from Cass County that Motley Fire be paged regarding a fire at the 6400 block of 71st Ave. S, Motley, in Cass County.

April 15 - The MCSO received a request from Cass County to page Motley Fire regarding a fire at 10656 State 64, in Motley.



Faith Lutheran Bell Choir performs at the care center

Residents at Lakewood Health System Care Center in Staples enjoyed listening to the music of the Faith Lutheran Church (FLC) Bell Choir April 29, during the dinner hour. Under the direction of Brian Sterriker, the choir performed a variety of songs including some favorite hymns. The bell choir, from left, Sue Flaten, Lisa Fontaine, Amanda Triepke, Sue Storbakken, Mary Marquardt, Debbie Sterriker, Nancy Johnson, Wendy Sather, Carol Larson, Logan Triepke.

Brian Sterriker shared that the bell choir was started by longtime Staples resident and FLC member Mary

Sperley. They play from September through May on the first Sunday of the month at FLC and rehearse on Wednesdays at 5 p.m. "Anyone is welcome to come and play, whether or not they are a member of Faith," the director said. Brian Sterriker first joined the bell choir when he was in sixth grade and continued playing with the ensemble throughout his high school years. After earning his Master's Degree at the University of New Mexico, Sterriker is now a music teacher at Verndale Public School. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Steve's Auto Salvage
& G&L Service

•Tires (New & Used)
•Tubes •Belts
•AG Tires •Bulbs •Oil •Antifreeze
•Used Auto Parts

218-445-6885 • Located in Verndale at Steve's Auto



Steve Fields
Minnesota Attorney



DISABLED?
We've Helped Thousands
Get Benefits

Contact Us Today
For Free Advice

Long-Term Disability
Short-Term Disability
Social Security Disability

320-257-0231
www.GetFields.com

NCEDA corporation members announced

North Central Economic Development Association (NCEDA) announces its 2026 new full corporation members: Ryan Damlo, representing Wadena County, and Leah Wolkow and Candace Bruder, representing Todd County.

NCEDA full corporation members include the following loan board members: Carrie Reirson, chairperson, Crow Wing County; Allie Verchota, vice chair, Crow Wing County; Quinn Swanson, treasurer, Cass County; Sandy Voigt, secretary, Morrison County; Diane Herold, Morrison County; Allison Frederickson, Wadena County; Mike Paulus, alternate, Cass County; David Anderson, R5DC liaison, Wadena County; and Julie Anderholm, Crow Wing County, and Paula Kampa, Morrison County.

“Our NCEDA members don’t just understand finance, they understand our communities. Their experience helps ensure

we’re making smart investments that support local businesses and create lasting impact,” shared Stephanie Barney, NCEDA director.

NCEDA’s work is guided by a membership of representatives from local government, community organizations, private lending institutions, economic development, and business organizations. For a full listing of NCEDA representatives, visit northcentraleda.org/about.

North Central Economic Development Association (NCEDA) is a nonprofit affiliate of Region Five Development Commission that supports economic growth across central Minnesota. Through business financing and technical assistance, NCEDA expands entrepreneurial opportunities. NCEDA also administers low-interest homeowner loans to replace non-compliant well water and septic systems.

75 YEARS Ago - 1951

• May 3, 1951 - What will prove to be educational for the members of the high school senior class of Staples, was the election of Miss Helen Amundson as mayor of Staples, to officiate over the city of Staples on Tuesday, May 8. Miss Amundson, treasurer of the student council, was the successful candidate to win the election. Others in the race for the mayor’s seat were Dick Randgaard, Thomas Hahn, Elaine Thompson, Barbara Batchner and Joan Koval. Miss Amundson led the race in the election by a large majority. Her election to the office of Mayor gives her the power, with the sanction of the aldermen, or councilmen elected to make the appointments for the day, which she has

- O -
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
- O -

already done.

• May 3, 1951 - Duane Lund, vocational guidance instructor of the Staples high school was unanimously elected chairman of the Minnesota Young Republican League at the election held April 28, held in St. Paul Hotel.

Serving with Mr. Lund, as chair-woman of the YRL will be Miss Janice Streissguth, an attorney of New Ulm.

• May 3, 1951 - The final count on the nine-day crow shoot sponsored by the two teams of the Staples sportsmen’s club is not available at this time due to the fact that some of the hunters have not turned in their crow feet for credit at this time.

However, it is reported that more than 250 crows have been shot, so far as the count is available, but it is expected that this figure will be topped when all hunters have made their final returns.

The pancake breakfast sponsored by the club was successful, and a great deal of thanks goes to Ralph Martin who gave of his time and service to fry the pancakes for the large crowd at the breakfast last Sunday morning.

• May 3, 1951 - Mrs. J. E. Holmquist, who lives west of Staples, had a pleasant surprise Friday afternoon when Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Russell of Gretna, Louisiana arrived to spend the weekend with her and her husband.

The Russells were enroute to Canada, where he has a job with the R.E.A. and stopped off to visit Mrs. Holmquist, who until last weekend had only been a pen pal of Mrs. Russell’s.

The pen pal friendship started quite awhile ago when Mrs. Russell was attracted by an article in a Lutheran Magazine, which Mrs. Holmquist, a longtime correspondent for the Staples world, had written.

• May 3, 1951 - The District Prayer Conference held at the Oylen church last Monday was well attended by a large crowd. Almost a church full attended the Monday night service. Rev. Lloyd VanStone of Texas, was the main speaker for the evening. Mrs. Thomas Jones was at the piano.

50 YEARS Ago - 1976

• April 29, 1976 - On April 22, the Bicentennial

Guadalupe Castillo, Long Prairie. DWI-Fourth degree driving while impaired. Dismissed. Traffic-DWI-operate motor vehicle-alcohol concentration 0.08 within 2 hours. Sentenced. Local confinement (90 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 89 days for 1 yr credit for time served: 1 day). Supervised probation, 1 yr. Fine \$350. Fee \$75. DWI-operate motor vehicle under influence of alcohol. Dismissed.

Ronald Williams Jr. Wethington, Fergus Falls. Driving after cancellation-inimical to public safety. Sentenced. Local confinement (364 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 334 days for 2 yr credit for time served: 24 days. Supervised probation, 2 yr.

Ronald William Jr. Wethington, Fergus Falls. Driving after cancellation. Sentenced. Local confinement (32 days credit for time served: 32 days). Fine \$50. Fee \$75. Speed 73/55. Dismissed.

Wyatt Clarence Stevens, Deer

Looking back



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week’s archive photo is from 1980. 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.

says.

“These kids are my job. It’s my job to be there for kids, to be a child advocate. I will defend my kids to the end.”

The fourth grade teacher at Staples Elementary was named the 2001 Teacher of the Year last month for the Staples Motley School District. She is a 25-year veteran of teaching from Alaska to Minnesota and relies on her experience virtually every day as unique situations arise.

• May 3, 2001 - Two former Staples Motley golfers are leading the Central Lakes College women’s team to the National Community College golf Tournament in Oklahoma.

Tricia Jasmer and Becky Schornack, both of Staples, are members of the Raiders squad that qualified for the national tournament by success achieved during the regular collegiate golf season last fall.

Jasmer and Schornack are sisters. “They’re both fundamentally impressive golfers,” said Coach Jim Russell.

• May 3, 2001 - For the second year in a row, the Staples Motley High School baseball team claimed the title at the Park Rapids baseball tournament.

• May 3, 2001 - A Giovanni’s Pizza shop is coming to Staples, with the purchase of the former Cardinal Cafe

building by a Brainerd corporation.

Thor Thorson, one of the principal owners of Giovanni’s in Brainerd, said the new owner is Giovanni’s Pizza of Staples, a limited visibility partnership that includes himself, Tom Hofius and Shawn and Fran O’Rourke.

They hope to be open for business by mid-June, following some re-modeling. Shawn and Fran O’Rourke will be the managing partners of the Staples Giovanni’s. They are moving to Staples and buying a home.

10 YEARS Ago - 2016

• May 5, 2016 - Emily (Shake) Tholl and her mother, Shirley Shake, Leader area, are both thankful for the opportunity to be a mom, and for the lessons learned from their mothers when they were younger. They look forward to celebrating Mother’s Day May 8, as well as Shirley’s 93rd birthday May 6.

• 2016 - “Children don’t need to be told how to be creative, give them a crayon and some paper and they know what do do,” said Pam Collins, a Staples artist who will be the judge of the Freshwater Education District/National Joint Powers Alliance Art Show May 12-13 at Centennial Auditorium.

Todd Cty. court report

APRIL 29
Long Prairie Police
Moya Kerriomel Kent, 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.

MN State Patrol
Taylor Yvonne Esler, Staples. Speed 75/65. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Zachary Allen Lenz, Browerville. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Brooklyn Marie Meeks, Grand Rapids. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Mikah James Volkmuth, Garrison. Speed 69/55. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Noah Timothy Bearson, Osakis. Window restrictions, tint. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Mark D. Bjorklund, New Lenox, IL. Speed 82/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Yohelly Noemy Botello Rodriguez, Melrose. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Catherine Elizabeth Cavalier, Minneapolis, Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Oliver Chacon-Corona, Minneapolis. Speed 87/70. Fine 87/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.
Slewlou Nehemiah Deh, Houston, TX. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Anthony Dale Edland, Jamestown, ND. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Dylan Gene Smith Aurelius Fletcher, Sauk Centre. Fail to Yield upon entering roadway. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Rachel Lea Gebert, Brandon. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Randall Curtis Hobbs, St. Louis Park. Speed 90/70. Fine \$70. Fee \$145.
Christine Jules, Moorhead. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Reed Russell Larson, Alexandria. Speed 91/70. Fine \$70. Fee \$155.
Micah James Laska, Little Falls. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Jeffrey Donald Otte, Sauk Centre. Speed 78/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
August Sebastian Schroeder, Monticello. Speed 94/70. Fine \$70. Fee \$155.
Layna Jonathan Sieve, Alexandria. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Erin Gallagher Steinlage, Minneapolis. Speed 82/70. Fine \$50.

Fee \$85.
Mariah Mae Sturm, Fargo, ND. Speed 89/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.
Chad W. Thompson, Crystal Lake, IL. Speed 92/70. Fine \$70. Fee \$155.
Stephanie Marie Trejo, Alexandria. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Ronald Patrick Verant, Alexandria. Speed 74/60. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Rhonda Lee Weiland, Horace, ND. Hands free law. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Jeffrey Michael Wilkinson, Pinckney, MI. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Staples Police Dept.
Jasiah Jay Paskewitz, Staples. Driver must carry proof of insurance when operating vehicle. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.
Andrew Edward Schumacher, Randall. Duty to drive with due care-speed greater than reasonable. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Todd County Sheriffs Dept.
Dalton Alex Chance Butler, Browerville. Speed 64/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Brooks Jacobson Kaltenheuser, Bertha. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.
Wendy Kay Morgan, Andover. Speed 74/60. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Addison Mae Roering, Osakis. Duty to drive with due care-speed greater than reasonable. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Catherine Rose Schmiesing, Sauk Centre. Speed 81/55. Fine \$100. Fee \$185.
Terry Lee, Jr. Sletten, Long Prairie. Speed 85/60. Fine \$70. Fee \$155.
The following cases were heard before Judge Heidi L. Hovis Seventh District Court in Todd County April 22, 2026.
Rodney Michael Ortloff, Motley. Obstruct legal process-interfere w/ Peace Officer. Dismissed. Driving after cancellation. Dismissed. Traffic-DWI-refuse to submit to chemical test; breath or test refusal or failure. Sentenced. Local confinement (364 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 362 days for 2 yr credit for time served: 2 days). Supervised probation, 2 yr. Fine \$600. Fee \$180.
The following cases were heard before Judge Heidi L. Hovis Seventh District Court in Todd County April 21, 2026.



Mystery solved

Last week’s mystery photo published in the March 9, 1990 edition of the Staples World featured some Motley Elementary students in Kindergarten and first grade enjoying a visit from some

puppies to their school. From left, front, Travis DiGiovanni, Kyle Bendson. Middle, Josh Moon, Tim Thorsett, Jason Tholl, Shawn Reger, Nancy Lorber. Back, Michael Lubowitz, Holly Windschitl.

Staples World

The Staples World office, moved to 207 4th St. NE

open every weekday, 8 a.m. - noon.

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

Regular advertising and copy deadline is Friday, noon.

The office closes at noon on Friday.

Across from the old Staples Theatre marquee

Find Treasure Within

The Parable: An Epiphany Moment

By Frank Odell

There are moments in life that do not knock politely. They do not send a calendar invite or flash hazard lights. They simply arrive - quiet as a cat in socks - and rearrange the furniture of your mind. That moment is called an epiphany. And if you're anything like me, it usually shows up right after you have confidently done something spectacularly unwise.

A parable is a small story with a large mirror. It looks simple on the surface, like a children's book with oversized print. But lean closer, and suddenly it is reading you. Parables are sneaky that way. They slip past your defenses dressed like bedtime stories and leave you staring at yourself like, "Oh. Oh no. That's me."

My epiphany came not on a mountaintop, not in a chapel, not even during a motivational speech with dramatic background music. It came in my garage.

I had decided - boldly, heroically - that I would fix something myself. There is a particular confidence that overtakes a person when holding a wrench. You feel like a pioneer. A builder of civilizations. A conqueror of bolts. I had watched one instructional video. One. That was apparently enough to convince me I possessed mechanical wisdom passed down from ancient craftsmen.

The object of my ambition was a lawn mower. It had stopped working, which, in hindsight, was probably its way of setting boundaries. Instead of respecting those boundaries, I decided to "take a look." That phrase has led to more disasters than the invention of glitter.

I disassembled it with the enthusiasm of a raccoon opening a trash can. Screws rolled in every direction like they were auditioning for freedom. Springs sprang.

Parts detached with alarming ease. But I pressed on, confident that reassembly would be as simple as reversing the steps.

It was not.

At some point, standing over a metal carcass that once resembled a lawn mower, I experienced it: the epiphany. It hit me like a lightbulb flicking on in a dark attic. The problem was not the mower. The problem was me.

I had mistaken confidence for competence.

That realization was not loud. It was quiet, almost polite. It whispered, "You are not fixing this. You are dismantling your dignity." And like a parable told in grease-stained hands, the lesson unfolded: just because you can take something apart does not mean you understand how it works.

Life is often like that lawn mower. We approach situations - relationships, jobs, decisions - with the same bold ignorance. We assume that effort alone guarantees success. We confuse motion with progress. We pull on metaphorical wires and call it initiative.

In that garage, surrounded by parts that now looked like abstract art, I understood something about pride. Pride is like duct tape. It can hold things together for a while, but it is not a permanent solution. Eventually, reality peels it back.

The epiphany felt like stepping on a rake in a cartoon - sudden, sharp, and humiliating. Except instead of a bump on my head, I got clarity. I realized I had approached the task with arrogance disguised as enthusiasm. I had believed that wanting to succeed was the same as being prepared.

It isn't.

The parable in my garage was simple: wisdom begins where ego ends.

That mower, by the way, never fully recovered. I eventually carried the remains to someone who

actually knew what they were doing. Watching them repair it in fifteen calm minutes was like watching a master pianist after you have just pounded on the keys with oven mitts. Skill has a rhythm. It has humility built into it.

Epiphanies are rarely comfortable.

The next time I felt the urge to leap before looking, I remembered that garage. I remembered that pile of parts and the quiet voice of realization.

The beauty of an epiphany is that it rearranges you from the inside. It is like adjusting the lens on a camera - suddenly everything comes into focus. The world does not change, but your perspective does. And that shift can alter the trajectory of a life.

A parable is not just a story. It is a small lantern in a dark hallway. It does not illuminate everything at once, but it lights the next step. My garage epiphany may not have made headlines, but it made a mark. It taught me that humility is not weakness; it is wisdom with its sleeves rolled up.

And if you ever find yourself standing over a disassembled lawn mower - or a disassembled decision - remember this: sometimes the greatest repair is not to the machine in front of you, but to the mindset behind it.

That is the power of a parable. It turns an ordinary moment into a quiet revolution. And if you are paying attention, it just might save you from stepping on the same rake twice.

Frank Odell grew up in Willmar, MN with roots on a small farm not far from Svea, MN. Formal education includes Willmar Community College, MN-Morris, Master's in Education at Hamline University; Taught English, Theatre, and Speech for thirty years in Milan and Staples

Planting trees is an investment in land

From Todd Co. SWCD

The Todd Soil and Water Conservation District (Todd SWCD) offers a variety of programs designed to help property owners manage their land, protect water quality and improve wildlife habitats. Whether you are looking to plant trees or fix erosion issues, resources are available to help with your conservation project.

Tree Sales and Financial Assistance

The Todd SWCD tree and plant sale typically begins in late fall (around Thanksgiving) for spring pickup.

- **Get on the List:** To receive a 2027 order form or join our mailing list, call 320-732-2644.
- **Funding:** Todd SWCD offer cost-share funding for field windbreaks and reforestation.

3 Essential Steps for Tree Success

Once your trees are in the ground, follow these three steps for tree care to ensure they survive and grow strong.

1. **Water Consistently**
Newly planted trees require 15–25 gallons of water once a week for the first 3 to 5 years (while the ground is thawed).
 - **The 1-Inch Rule:** You can skip watering if it rains more than 1 inch that week.
 - **Cost:** Weekly watering is highly affordable, costing less than a single cup of coffee.
2. **Mulch for Protection**
Applying mulch over a tree's roots acts as a safety blanket.
 - **Temperature Control:** It keeps roots cool in summer and protects them from freezing in winter.
 - **Health:** Mulch adds organic nutrients to the soil and suppresses weed competition.
 - **Safety:** Mulch can keep weed whips and lawn mowers away from a tree trunk.
3. **Prune for Strength**
Pruning while a tree is young encourages strong branch attachments and better structure.
 - **Storm Prep:** Well-pruned trees suffer significantly less damage during heavy storms.

- **Healing:** Proper techniques speed up wound healing and prevent rot.
 - **Professional Help:** Consider hiring a trained tree care professional to ensure the job is done correctly.
- Source of information: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/treecare/caring-pruning.html>
- More Than Just Trees**
- Todd SWCD also provides cost-share funding and low-interest loans for a variety of conservation projects to improve ground and surface water quality.
- **Water Quality:** Sealing unused wells and closing manure pits.
 - **Infrastructure:** Cattle crossings, exclusion fencing, and shoreline erosion projects.
 - **Septic Systems:** Low-interest loans are available to replace failed septic systems.
- Questions? Contact the Todd SWCD office at 320-732-2644 to speak with a technician about your conservation goals for your property as your idea may qualify for funding.

Focus on collaboration leads to rural award

By Liz Stewart
Center For Rural Affairs

Sandro Lopes' motivation comes from the land, his children, and his ancestors. Growing up in Brazil, near the Amazon Rainforest, Sandro learned farming techniques passed down from generation to generation.

Several years ago, Sandro moved to the U.S. and brought Indigenous knowledge with him to start his own farm. Now, Sandro and his wife, Michelle, and their family, operate Huerto Regenerativo NaTerra, in David City, Nebraska.

"I grew up connected to the Amazon, and that memory of living soil travels with me," he said. "Farming is not just production—it is ceremony, responsibility, and hope."

Shortly after arriving in Nebraska, Sandro connected with the Center for Rural Affairs for help creating a business plan and technical assistance. He has been a participant in many of the Center's programs including the Latino Farming Program, the Beginning Farmer Conservation Fellowship, Sustaining Seeds cohort, the Center Local Foods Promotion Program, and the Organic Transition Academy. He's hosted field days on his farm to showcase production practices, presented at the Nebraska Sustainable Agriculture Society Conference during beginning farmer sessions, and more. Last year, he became a member of the Center's Advisory

Committee.

Sandro takes great pride in encouraging and amplifying the voices of Latino farmers in his area, and opens NaTerra Farms to people of all ages to educate and entertain, giving them the chance to connect with the earth and with each other while celebrating everything agriculture has to offer.

Because of Sandro's commitment to community and support of local businesses and farmers, he has been chosen to receive the Center's 2025 Rural Community Champion Award.

This award is bestowed upon a person or persons who work with the Center and make extraordinary contributions to building engagement within their own communities. People who receive this award provide a model for innovation, stewardship, or community development.

"Sandro's willingness to teach others about Indigenous farming practices and his care for the land have solidified him as an important leader in the regenerative farming movement in Nebraska," said Cait Caughey, senior project associate with the Center. "While building his specialty-crop farm business that includes vegetables, goats, chickens, and ducks, Sandro has also become a well-known community leader who collaborates and supports other growers."

He encourages women farmers, the Mayan community (Pixan Ixim), and provides land access for other beginning farmers. Sandro has also partnered with the Center in the past year on a video series featuring A Day in the Life of a Vegetable Producer.

"Sandro's dedication to both the land, his community, and sharing his knowledge is inspirational and so important during a time when beginning farmers and diverse farmers are facing multiple challenges," Cait said.

Receiving the Rural Community Champion Award has deeply humbled the farmer.

"It represents more than personal recognition—it honors my family, our community, and the many partners who believe in rural resilience," Sandro said. "For me, this award reflects the power of regenerative agriculture rooted in culture, stewardship, and collaboration. It reminds me that rural leadership can come from diverse voices, including Latino and immigrant farmers who are building bridges across traditions. It strengthens my respon-

sibility to continue serving rural America with integrity and hope."

Moving forward, Sandro has many plans for NaTerra Farms. This year marks an important transition for his family, as they are launching a pilot project called Agroforestry Peppers. They are integrating perennial systems, biodiversity, and soil regeneration into specialty crop production. This project blends agroecology with market viability and reflects Sandro's long-term commitment to regenerative design in the Midwest.

"This is a strategic and values-driven decision," Sandro said. "It strengthens soil health, transparency, and long-term resilience for our farm and community. We envision NaTerra Farms becoming a demonstration site for regenerative agroforestry systems in the Great Plains. We want to integrate education, youth training, and farmer-to-farmer learning into our model."

To others wanting to help build up their communities and make a meaningful impact, Sandro suggests starting small, but thinking long-term.

"Real change begins with relationships—with soil, with neighbors, with institutions, and with youth," he said. "Build trust before scale. Listen deeply. Learn continuously. Also, do not wait for perfect conditions. Begin with what you have. Seek partnerships, like we did through TOPP and the Center for Rural Affairs. Community change happens when collaboration replaces competition."

And any time he faces challenges or setbacks on his journey, Sandro returns to the basics: planting seeds, caring for animals, mentoring youth, and remembering that regeneration takes time.

"Community sustains me—organizations, neighbors, and fellow farmers who believe that rural life can thrive again through stewardship and innovation," he said. "Regenerative agriculture is not just a farming method—it is a community movement. Rural America has incredible potential when we center soil health, cultural heritage, and collaboration. We are grateful for the partnerships that make this journey possible. The future of agriculture depends on farmers who are willing to transition, experiment, and lead with courage. At NaTerra Farms, we are committed to that path—one seed, one chicken, one pepper plant at a time."

New SNAP rules vary by state

By Heather Close
The Rural Blog

States that no longer allow Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program money to pay for "junk food" have left retailers and SNAP recipients confused about which foods are allowed for purchase with SNAP dollars, reports Rachel Roubein of The Washington Post. The new rules may disproportionately impact rural residents, who are more likely to participate in SNAP than their urban counterparts.

Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and his supporters have led the charge to keep highly processed foods off of American tables, beginning with the

SNAP program. Roubein explains, "They argue federal dollars shouldn't help people buy products increasingly linked to poor health and obesity. Trump administration officials have pushed states to bar the use of food stamps for soda and candy."

In response, 10 states received federal waivers to restrict SNAP food choices and rolled out their own unique set of restrictions. "In Iowa, anti-hunger advocates recently sought to highlight how some cold sandwiches and granola bars may not qualify," Roubein reports. "In Idaho, legislators had attempted to clarify the state's candy ban, since it allows KitKats and Twix because they contain flour."

The fact that each state

has its own rules "has led to a complicated and at times counterintuitive maze of new restrictions, according to more than two dozen interviews with trade groups for independent grocers and convenience stores, store owners, anti-hunger advocates, SNAP participants and others," the Post reports.

Fearing the loss of their SNAP licenses, some grocers have banned additional products from SNAP purchases to ensure compliance, Roubein explains. But that change has left SNAP-spending customers not just trying to figure out what their state allows, but also what the store they are shopping in allows.

Staples World

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

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100
Telephone: 218-894-1112 - Fax: 218-894-3570
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



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.

Fairness: The Staples World tries conscientiously to report fairly and accurately. If you feel we fall short of this objective at any time, please direct your complaint to the manager whose name appears on this page.

Note to Advertisers: Advertisers should check their ad following first publication. This newspaper shall not be liable for failure to publish an ad or for the typographic error or errors in publication except to the extent of the cost of the ad for the first day's insertion. Adjustment for errors is limited to the cost of that portion of the ad wherein the error occurred. The publisher reserves the right to cancel any advertisement at any time.

Member: Minnesota Newspaper Association, MCAN Advertising



'Acting/ Performance Workshop' at Benson's Barn, May 16, Staples

A free Acting and Performance Workshop will be held Saturday, May 16, 4 - 8 p.m., at Benson's Barn in Staples. Located 0.8 miles north of Central Lakes College at 12077 Airport Rd., the Benson's red barn and house are on the left side of the road. Attendees are asked to park by the barn.

The workshop is facilitated by Staples native Matthew R. Olsen, an actor/director/fight choreographer based out of Minnesota where he is currently the Assistant Professor of Acting and Directing at the University of Minnesota-Duluth.

The workshop, sponsored by Lamplighter Community Theatre, is entitled, "Acting:

Creative Play: Introduction to the Technique of Acting. Acting for Any(body) and Every(body)"

- What is it?

This workshop is designed to give attendees the tools needed to explore, expand and refine their skills as an actor/theatre maker.

- How will it work?

Through various discussions, exercises and explorations, workshop attendees will receive foundational knowledge and skills that can be practically applied to auditioning for a play or performing a role. Each participant will work alongside fellow actors to strengthen their scene work, impulse and sense of creative play.

"No matter where you are in your journey we can all agree it is called a "play" for a reason," says Olsen.

- Do I need to be experienced to attend the workshop?

Are you interested in how a play is made? Have you ever wanted to be an actor? Are you an actor looking to add some new tools to your toolbox? "If so, then this workshop is for you."

Matthew R. Olsen's recent directing credits include, *The Women of Lock-eriebie*, *The Tempest* and *Dragons Love Tacos*. As an actor, Olsen has worked regionally primarily in Shakespeare and Children's Theatre. Some of his favorites include, *The Woodsman*,

A Walk in the Woods, *Every Brilliant Thing*, *Hamlet*, and recently a lottery style *Romeo and Juliet* with the Minnesota Fringe Festival. He will also be performing in an upcoming show at the Duluth Playhouse, *Comedy of Errors*.

Olsen said he is thrilled to be returning to the Staples community to share what he loves.

No pre-registration is required, just bring yourself and a friend.

The workshop, which includes pizza from Tower Pizza, is best served by a group of individuals (ages 16-plus) with varied levels of experience and skills.

Menu

Senior Nutrition Program, Staples
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 (subject to change).
LOCATED AT: Staples Hi-Rise, 615 4th St. NE, Staples. Seniors welcome to dine-in at 11:00 a.m., with meal reservations.

Staples 218-979-4118
May 11 - May 15
MONDAY - Tuna noodle casserole, green beans, hot spiced peaches, dinner roll, vanilla pudding/topping,

marg., 1% milk.
TUESDAY - CLOSED
WEDNESDAY - Salisbury steak, macsed potatoes, brown gravy, green beans, dinner roll, vanilla wafers, marg., 1% milk.
THURSDAY - Tater tot hot-dish, whole kernel corn, apple crisp, wheat bread, marg., 1% milk.
FRIDAY - Chicken Cordon Bleu, sliced carrots, rice pilaf, applesauce cup, wheat dinner roll, marg., 1% milk.
wk20

MidMinnesota Federal Credit Union groundbreaking May 18 in Staples

MidMinnesota Federal Credit Union (MMFCU) will hold a groundbreaking ceremony Monday, May 18, 2026 from 2 to 2:30 p.m. in Staples to celebrate the construction of the new MMFCU Office. The community is invited to join, located at the future site of the new office, 803 US Hwy 10, Staples.

Turn some dirt and enjoy refreshments with the community of Staples, our member owners and partners in this project.

MMFCU will be opening a full-service office near the end of 2026. MMFCU will continue to serve members from the office at 1220 4th St NE.

What sets MMFCU apart from other financial institutions is that members are owners and have a vested interest in the credit union success. Any profits are returned to membership in the form of higher dividend rates, lower interest rates on loans, additional technology and growth in services.

MMFCU is excited to have a larger

location with additional privacy and services to meet the needs of the community.

MidMinnesota Federal Credit Union is a member owned financial cooperative serving central Minnesota. MMFCU has 13 locations and participates in CO-OP Shared Branching offering an additional 5,900 locations nationwide. Deposits are federally insured by NCUA and is an Equal Housing Lender. Learn more at mmfcu.org.



Road construction begins on 4th Street NE

Cars traveling on 4th Street NE and students trying to get to school had to find another route on May 4, as a total reconstruction of the street started. This portion, next to Sacred Heart Catholic Church and continuing up to the Stapeles water tower, will be the first portion

constructed. Phase two will be from Warner Road south and phase three will be middle section. The project is expected to last all summer and into fall. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Mark Your Calendar

May 7
'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>

May 8
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.

May 10
CELEBRATE RECOVERY GROUP MEETINGS Sundays, 6 p.m.,

at Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood St. E., Motley.

May 12
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.

Needing/Wanting a Granite Memorial FOR YOUR FAMILY?

I can help!

Diane M. Hahn

32 years serving our area!

Rep. for Fergus Falls Monument Co.

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

DISABLED?
We've Helped Thousands Get Benefits

Contact Us Today For Free Advice

Long-Term Disability
Short-Term Disability
Social Security Disability

320-257-0231
www.GetFields.com

Basement and Crawl Space Problems Solved

Leaky basements made dry
Drain tile & baseboard systems
Buckling walls corrected
Foundation repair & wall crack repair
Egress window installation

Free Estimates

• Thousands of Satisfied Customers
• Transferable Warranty
• Licensed-Insured
• Providing Realistic Solutions

MN License BC542636
ND License #56638

320-654-9900
www.safedrybasement.com

NOW OFFERING FINANCING
Basement Water Controlled
Providing Service Since 1967

Safe Secure Dry
HOLD-RIGHT™ WALL ANCHORS
STABIL-LOC FOUNDATION PIERS

MCAN
Minnesota Classified Advertising Network

MINNESOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

Statewide Classifieds

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	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	MISCELLANEOUS 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
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	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	SERVICES REPAIRING OR REPLACING APPLIANCES and home systems like heating and cooling can be costly. A home warranty plan can help. Start saving and get 30% off any plan today. Workmanship Guarantee included. Terms apply. Call Cinch Home Services 855/887-4521
EMPLOYMENT FULL TIME NIGHT CUSTODIAN Night shift, 2:00-10:30 PM, M-F, during school year. Daytime hours in summer. Salary Range: \$15.51-\$21.72, additional \$0.75 shift differential on night shifts. Year round, 12-month position. Apply now: www.applitrack.com/isd876/onlineapp	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	Advertise here statewide in 200+ newspapers for only \$279 per week! Call 612-332-8844

STEVENS COUNTY

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES/ PLANNING & ZONING DIRECTOR

SALARY RANGE: \$41.86 - \$56.26 DOQ

Stevens County has an exciting opportunity as the head of the Environmental Services Department. This is a **full-time, exempt position** with supervisory and budgeting responsibilities along with administering and enforcing the County's Zoning, Land Use, Solid Waste, SSTS and County Feedlot Ordinances.

For more information go to: www.co.stevens.mn.us under Employment Opportunities or scan the QR Code

Stevens County is an EEO Employer

SCAN ME



HAPPY 80th Birthday!

Bill Bates

on May 12, 2026

Hello World

ONLINE BIRTHS REMOVED
AT THE REQUEST OF LAKEWOOD
HEALTH SYSTEM.

Obituaries

Rebecca Lindgren

Rebecca (Becky) Lindgren of Staples passed away Friday, May 1, 2026. A Celebration of Life will be held May 15 at noon at Faith Lutheran Church in Staples. Visitation will be held one hour prior to services at the church. *A full obituary will be printed in next week's Staples World.*

w20x A00006B2026MY06

June Winter

A Celebration of Life memorial service for June Kaye (Underhill) Winter of Pillager will be held Saturday, May 16, at 2 p.m. at the Motley Free Methodist Church, with Pastor Jim Johnson officiating. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the services at the church. June, 68, passed away February 16, 2026 at Essentia Health-St. Mary's Medical Center in Duluth.

w20x A00006B2026MY06

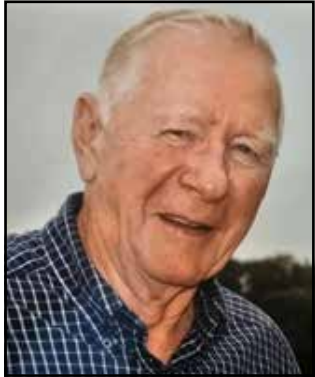
Brian Wise

In last week's edition of the Staples World the obituary for Brian Wise incorrectly spelled the name of his surviving sister. The name should have read Linda Gathright

w20x A00006B2026MY06

Dale Johnson

Dale Arthur Johnson, 86, of Pillager, passed away peacefully May 2, 2026 at Highland Senior Living in Little Falls, surrounded by family. Mass of Christian burial will be held Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at noon at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Staples, with visitation one hour prior. Interment will follow at Evergreen Hill Cemetery.



Dale was born on July 11, 1939, to Lyle and Sarah (Schmidt) Johnson in Staples, the second of seven children. He grew up in Staples and attended Sacred Heart Catholic School and Staples High School. On July 5, 1958, he married Bonnie (Leslie) Johnson at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Together, they spent most of their years in Anoka, where they raised their four children. For many years, Dale worked as a mechanic for the City of Anoka Parks & Golf Course Dept. He was truly a master mechanic who could fix anything. After retirement, he and Bonnie moved full-time to their vacation home on the Crow Wing River in Pillager. Dale was a devout Catholic who was a longtime member of St. Stephen's Catholic Church in Anoka and later St. Francis Catholic Church in Brainerd.

Never afraid to try something new, Dale was a man of many skills who enjoyed a wide range of interesting hobbies. His love for aviation led him to two of his most unique pursuits: radio control model airplanes and gyrocopters. He spent many years carefully building an impressive collection of radio control model airplanes and flying them. He built his own full-sized gyrocopter which he taught himself to fly. Both aviation hobbies became family affairs. If a model airplane crashed, all four children helped search for it. He initially learned to fly the gyrocopter by having Bonnie pull him behind the car on a long rope, while the children watched through the back window and gave cues to their mother. This was often a stressful event, especially for Bonnie. Dale loved snowmobiling,

4-wheeling and often rode a motorcycle for transportation. Retired life on the river brought new adventures including airboats, a jet ski, fishing, paddle boats and pontoon. He enjoyed various sports as well, with a lifelong love of basketball - whether watching or playing casually with family in the driveway. Dale lived life to the fullest and loved bringing his family along for every adventure. Dale loved his family and lives in the memory of many loved ones. He is survived by four children, Linda (David) Markovich, of Colgate, WI; Kristi Johnson of Anoka; Steve (Kathy) Johnson of Little Falls and Rodney (Dawn) Johnson of Fort Myers, FL; three sisters, Pat Myers of Staples, Kay (David) Jessop of Staples and Cindy (Jason) Morales of Huntsville, AL; brother-in-law, Gene Leslie; sister-in-law, Marge Leslie; five grandchildren Heather (Josh) McGee, Janaya (Keith) Fugleberg, Brian (Lynnea) Markovich, Rachel (Rob) Mehrwerth and Alyssa (Joe) Czech; eight great-grandchildren as well as many nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. Dale was preceded in death by his loving wife of 45 years Bonnie (Leslie) Johnson; father, Lyle; mother, Sarah; father-in-law, Walter Leslie; mother-in-law, Alice (Peterson) Leslie; two brothers, Gary and Allan; one sister, Charlotte and numerous other cherished brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, as well as nieces and nephews. Arrangements are by the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel in Staples.

w20c A00006B2026MY06

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.....218-631-1593
parishsecretary@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 Jeresek
218-894-0033
Saturday Worship.....9:30 am.
Sabbath School.....10:45 a.m.

Thomastown Covenant
15940 251st Ave., Staples.....218-894-3923
Sunday School.....9:15 a.m.
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.....218-631-1593
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Rev. Rick Aubol, 218-632-7310
Rev. Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
Mass: Sunday.....10:30 a.m.

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

Oylen

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

Pillager

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

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

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

Hewitt

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

Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS)
524 Front Street, PO Box 116, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Robin Fish
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.

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

Verndale

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

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

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

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Bartlett Township (LCMS)
17097 460th St., PO Box 37, Verndale
Pastor Robin Fish
Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.

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

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

St. Frederick Catholic Church
20 Mason Avenue NW
Verndale.....218-631-1593
parishsecretary@marysacc.org
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314 Rev. Rick Aubol, 218-632-7310 Rev. Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
MASS: Saturday.....6:00 p.m.

St. Hubert Catholic Church
Bluegrass.....218-631-1593
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314 Rev. Rick Aubol, 218-632-7310 Father Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
parishsecretary@marysacc.org
Mass: Saturday.....4:00 p.m.

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
parishsecretary@marysacc.org
Mass: Sunday (livestream).....10 a.m.

"Honoring Our Parents"

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

There it is in Exodus 20:12 as the fifth of ten commandments by God. It's quoted again in Matthew 15:4 and Ephesians 6:2. Someone once said, "If God says something once, you better stop to listen. If He says it twice, you better stand up and take notice. If He says it three times, you better already be about it."

But there's not a 'one size fits all' to this command. The relationship that we have with our parents, either living or gone, comes in many different packages. If, like me, we're entrusted with loving, Christian parents (and even a stay-at-home Mom), we find the words of the fifth command not only understandable, but very welcomed. (You would've thought with parents like that, that they would've received more honor than I gave them! I have since repented).

But then there's the hard world of parents, for whatever their reasons, who didn't parent you well. I grieve for that and I've only heard the tip of the iceberg in those stories. What does a child (young or old) do with the command then? Some of the stories are horrific.

Although it may need to come in the midst of long intervention and healing, the command from God comes from the One Who sees and knows all. God didn't put an exception clause in the command. So, is God lack-

ing understanding? Is He unfeeling? Even cruel to call for honoring unworthy parents? No to each of those questions. Here's why.

Without minimizing a broken world, the honoring of parent (living or deceased) continues to be important for all of us. Bitterness and unforgiveness only kills all who are involved. Where forgiveness is needed, draw from Jesus who was the most unreservedly punished Person in history. Draw from the forgiveness that we desperately need from Him. Draw from His immense Love.

Folks, family pain can be among the most difficult pain and betrayal. But staying stuck doesn't help anyone, perpetrator or victim. Jesus, the Ultimate Sufferer, wants to (and does) come alongside of the heartache, the abuse and disappointments in order to heal and free us. He literally paves the way and pays the price for reconciliation on many levels.

So how do we honor our parents, deserving or not? One counselor said, "you can start by thanking God and them for giving you life." If living, pray for your parents. Send them cards. If it's possible, hug them. Living or not, speak well of them. Forgive them. Bless them.

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





Golfers move from 7th to 2nd in HOL meets

The Staples-Motley girls golf team shot up five places in two golf meets between the same teams. They were seventh at the Perham Heart O Lakes Conference meet on April 30, then the very next day they placed 2nd at the HOL meet at Barnesville.

At Perham, Katelyn Schotzko placed 6th, getting stronger as the round went on. She parred three holes in a row in her back nine. She avoided major trouble and didn't have any hole over a double bogey.

Brooklyn Winter was the third Cardinal scorer, placing 25th with the help of a birdie on the par 4, 290 yard 8th hole.

At Barnesville, Mara Uselman had her best round of the year. She started six

over par in her first four holes, then a par started a string of good holes. On her last nine holes, she shot four pars and a birdie. She also stayed out of trouble to finish at 39 for her second nine holes and 85 overall, enough for seventh place individually.

The team's rise was helped by getting Sarah Kroll back with a score of 93. Kroll scored a birdie in her round, shooting a three on the 323 yard par-four first hole.

Schotzko was right behind at 94 with four pars and a birdie. Molly Hoemberg stepped up with a 99 to complete the team score and move the Cardinals up to second place. Hoemberg had two pars and a birdie on the 287 yard par 4 sixth hole.

Team results

HOL at Perham

Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton 384, Park Rapids 400, Perham 418, Barnesville 419, Pelican Rapids 422, Hawley 424, Staples-Motley 431, Breckenridge 451, Frazee 455, Wadena-Deer Creek inc.

6. Katelyn Schotzko 93, 22. Mara Uselman 111, 25. Brooklyn Winter 112, 32. Meredith Hoemberg 115, 37. Molly Hoemberg 117

HOL at Barnesville

Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton 361, Staples-Motley 371, Pelican Rapids 381, Perham 383, Barnesville 389, Park Rapids 391, Hawley 397, Frazee 443, Wadena-Deer Creek inc.

7. Uselman 85, 12. Sarah Kroll 93, 13. Schotzko 94, 16. Molly Hoemberg 99, 27. Brooklyn Winter 106, 40. Meredith Hoemberg 116



Jackson White

Cardinals place high in track and field meet

Staples-Motley track and field athletes had seven first place finishers at the Sebekka meet on April 28.

In field events, Adrian Gomez won both the boys shot put and discus and Turner Beachy won the pole vault. Annie Schlosser won the girls discus.

On the track, Angel Luna won the 400 and Andrew Dobson was first in the 3,200, while Noah Larson won the 110 meter hurdles.

At this smaller meet, the Cardinals had many athletes compete for a high spot. For the girls, Sophia Luna was second in the 100 meter dash and third in the 300. Lucille Maros was 3rd in the high jump and Abby Brichacek was 4th in the 100 hurdles. Boys top finishers included Jesus Gallardo, 2nd in the 100 and 4th in the long jump, and Spencer Olsen was 3rd in the 1,600 and 4th in the 800.

Two Cardinals also competed at the Howard Wood Relays, an all-star event at Sioux Falls, S.D., with top athletes from multiple states. Beachy was 8th in the pole vault at 13'9" and Larson was 25th in the 110 hurdles in 15.86.

Girls results

100 - 2. Sophia Luna 13.69, 5. Lucille Maros 13.86, 6. Chadia Schultz 13.93, 14. Iva Hinson 15.32

200 - 3. Luna 28.35, 7. Abigail Phillippi 30.28, 8. Mari'vel Duran 80.57, 11. Belle Mevissen 30.77

400 - 6. Piper Hanson 1:10, 10. Maros 1:12, 12. Mevissen 1:13, 21. Maci Mithun 1:29

800 - 8. Elizabeth Kroll 3:01, 9. Alexis Odden 3:07

1,600 - 5. Elise Trif 6:16, 9. Odden 6:32, 10. Kroll 6:40

100 hurdles - 4. Abby Brichacek 21.71

4x100 - 2. SM 54.76

High jump - 3. Maros 4'4", 5. Luna 4'2"

Long jump - 11. Lily Davis 12'7", 13. Duran 12'4.25"

Triple jump - 11. Brichacek 26'8", 13. Davis 25'11"

Discus - 1. Annie Schlosser 95'9", 15. Gemma Fairbanks 54'10", 19. Rita Oeltjenbruns 36'3", 20. Ashlynn Borntrager



Spencer Olsen

28'5"

Shot put - 7. Schlosser 29'4.5", 18. Fairbanks 18'1", 19. Borntrager 16'7.5", 20. Oeltjenbruns 15'11"

Boys results

100 - 2. Jesus Gallardo 11.83, 16. Michael Hinson 13.70, 19. Josiah Mumm 14.16

200 - 14. Carter Kist 26.87, 16. Hinson 27.99, 18. Aaron Oeltjenbruns 29.80

400 - 1. Angel Luna 56.12, 13. William Lange 1:06, 15. Ben Oeltjenbruns 1:19

800 - 4. Spencer Olsen 2:35, 5. Alex Leach 2:35, 8. Jackson Odden 2:47, 10. B. Oeltjenbruns 3:38

1,600 - 3. Olsen 5:47, 5. Odden 5:57, 6. Reed Leach 5:59, 7. Jacob Faulkner 5:59

3,200 - 1. Andrew Dobson

11:28, 3. R. Leach 12:49

110 hurdles - 1. Noah Larson 15.83, 5. Kaleb Harman 19.67

300 hurdles - 5. Harman 48.87

4x200 - 6. SM 1:47

4x400 - 3. SM 4:08

High jump - 5. Larson 5'2"

Long jump - 4. Gallardo 18'2.25", 15. Gauge Holst 15'7"

Triple jump - 2. Harman 37'11.5", 12. Liam Jennissen 30'8.5"

Pole vault - 1. Turner Beachy 14'0", 2. Conner Kuhns 11'6", 7. A. Oeltjenbruns 9'0", 8. Odden 7'0"

Discus - 1. Adrian Gomez 122'7", 4. Larson 109'5", 15. Jennissen 79'9"

Shot put - 1. Gomez 43'0", 5. Larson 36'8.25", 9. Michael Jewison 32'4.25", 14. Jennissen 29'1"

Baseball team wins HOL doubleheader

The Staples-Motley baseball team lost a close game against Wadena-Deer Creek on April 29, then won a double-header at Breckenridge on April 30, with scores of 13-2 and 13-10. The team moved their record to 12-3 on the season.

Against Wadena-Deer Creek, Elijah Kossan pitched the entire game, only allowing three runs. The Cardinal hitters had trouble stringing hits together and left runners in scoring position several times.

In the first game against Breckenridge, Colbe Tappe pitched the first inning and Silas Claussen came on in relief to shut them down for a 13-2 win.

Cooper Tappe started on the mound. The back and forth game saw the Cardinals go up 2-1 in the first after

Elijah Kossan walked and scored on a double by Colbe Tappe. John Schotzko knocked Tappe home for a 2-1 lead.

Breckenridge took a 5-2 lead in the third inning. Staples-Motley got one back when Cooper Tappe led off with a double and Silas Claussen knocked him in.

In the fourth inning, the Cardinals went back on top 7-5. Kossan hit a double, Cooper Tappe hit him home and Colbe Tappe hit a double. Claussen came through with another RBI on a sacrifice fly. Gabe

Tappe had an RBI hit.

Breckenridge got the lead back again in the sixth inning, going up 8-7. The Cardinals put the game away with six runs in the bottom of the sixth.

The rally started when Gabe Decker walked. With two outs, Ethan Bounds was hit by a pitch and Eli Bounds hit a double, scoring two runs to get the lead back. Kossan reached by getting hit by a pitch, then Cooper Tappe followed with an RBI single and Colbe Tappe had an RBI double. Claussen had an RBI single and Tappe scored the final run on a wild pitch.

Camrik Tappe came in to pitch when Cooper hit the pitch count limit and the Cardinals held them off for

White catches fire as golf team rises in rankings

The Staples-Motley boys golf team placed second at the Heart O Lakes Conference meet at Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton on March 27, then finished in fifth at a big meet at Park Rapids on May 1.

In both meets, Jackson White played excellent golf, winning the DGF meet with a three over par 75. He had two birdies, eleven pars and nothing over a double bogey. White was even better at Park Rapids, shooting one over par 73, with four birdies on the round.

Thomas Johnson continued his good play, placing 5th overall at the DGF meet with 14 pars. Oskar Doll stayed steady as the third scorer in both meets, including five pars on the back nine at the Park Rapids meet.

Evan Schultz stepped up as the fourth team scorer at DGF and Tyson Turner had his best round to become the fourth man at Park Rapids.

Team results

HOL at DGF

Hawley 318, Staples-Motley 334, Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton 335, Perham 341, Frazee 347, Breckenridge 358, Barnesville 360, Pelican Rapids 377, Wadena-Deer Creek 412

1. Jackson White 75, 5. Thomas Johnson 78, 19. Oskar Doll 87, 31. Evan Schultz 94, 40. Zachary Tabatt 102, 40. Tyson Turner 99

Park Rapids Invite

Bemidji 305, Walker-Hackensack-Akely 319, Perham 320, Pequot Lakes 320, Staples-Motley 329, East Grand Forks 335,



Evan Schultz

Frazee 336, Crosby-Ironton-Aitkin 344, Pine River-Backus 344, United North Central 348, Barnesville 354, Park Rapids 357, Crookston 359, Thief River Falls 359, Hawley 362, Nevis 380,

Blackduck 394, Wadena-Deer Creek 405

2. White 73, 18. Johnson 81, 36. Doll 86, 48. Turner 89, 59. Kaleb Harman 90, 72. Schultz 93

Big win, close loss for softball team

The Staples-Motley softball team had a big conference win at Barnesville on April 28, an 18-7 game that was their highest scoring of the season.

They then lost a conference doubleheader against Breckenridge, falling 12-0 and 7-6 on April 30. They finished their week with a 14-2 loss against Wadena-Deer Creek and a loss to Jamestown, N.D., who was visiting on a road trip.

The Cardinals are now 4-4 in the Heart O Lakes



Leighton Bettis pitches against WDC. (Staples

SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT

205

Help Wanted
BOOKKEEPER/CIRCULATION MANAGER/RECEPTIONIST+: Computer and literary skills required. Part-time, flexible hours. Submit resumé to: Staples World, PO Box 100, Staples, MN 56479 or email editor@staplesworld.com.

NEWSPAPER PRODUCTION /GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Computer and literary skills required. Typesetting, designing/scheduling ads, job work, legal copy, classifieds, submitting online newspaper copy. Submit resumé to Staples World, PO Box 100, Staples, MN 56479 or email editor@staplesworld.com.



DEADLINE
for all classified ads and copy is 12 noon Friday

For the Staples World

HELP WANTED

Seasonal Public Works - Parks Employees

The City of Staples is hiring seasonal Public Works - Parks employees. This is a great job for anyone who wants to spend their workday outdoors during the summer months. Most of the time spent will be mowing grass and trimming weeds on all City of Staples parks and properties. This position will be asked to do routine maintenance on the mowing equipment, and to assist with other Public Works and Park duties as needed. This position will work 40 hours most weeks, but that may be altered due to weather. Employment will begin after Memorial Day and end before Labor Day. Starting pay is \$15.45/hour.
Applications accepted until May 14, 2026



Apply at the City of Staples City Hall,
122 6th St. NE, Staples, MN 56479.
You may also find an application on our website at:
www.staples.govoffice.com
For questions, call Public Works Director -
Scott Grabe, 218-894-2550, Ext 6.
EOE

208

Storage

FOR RENT

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

WANTED TO BUY

501

Miscellaneous

FARMERS
Buying
Fieldstone
Boulders

Contact Chris At
320-630-4570



NOW
TAKING
APPLICATIONS



EEO/AA

MOTLEY, MINN.

209
Business
Services

PAUL DRAKE TREE SERVICE, SINCE 1978: General, lot clearing, storm damage clean-up, stump grinding, brushing, 55 ft. bucket truck. 218-894-2871, Staples. 20tfc

REAL ESTATE

602

Apartments
for Rent

FRONTIER
TOWNHOMES

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

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



Income guidelines apply.

GARAGE SALES

701

CHURCH GARAGE SALE: SWAN VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH, 13 mi. north of Motley on Hwy. 64. Thurs., May 7, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Fri., May 8, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat., May 9, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. (Also church garage sale in July). 19-20p

ESTATE SALE

Fri., May 8, Sat., May 9, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
409 5th St. NE, Staples

CASH ONLY - NO EARLY SALES

Use front entrance to house. Items in garage also..

Artwork by Redlin, Edin, Norberg; bedroom set, gun cabinet, vintage rocker, desk, sofa, 2 chairs, lamps, buffet, nightstands, sm. round table/chairs, dining table, clawfoot table, Redlin plates/mugs, vintage dish sets, many household items, two sm. dressers, Boyds Bears, Precious Moments, shelf units, camera equip. film/slide projector & screen, lg. nativity, silverware set, Christmas items, Hallmark ornaments, many vintage items, golf clubs, fish cleaning table, snowblower, mounted deer head, garage items, metal ladders, tools, etc.

219-20x

607

Houses for Sale

Prairie View Neighborhood

2 AND 3 BEDROOM HOMES
FOR SALE IN STAPLES



- TWO STALL GARAGES
- LANDSCAPED YARDS
- COMPETITIVE PRICES

CALL MICHELLE
218-326-6098
MIKE IVES REALTY



www.prairieviewneighborhood.com



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

SERVICE DIRECTORY

GIZA

EST 1934

PLUMBING & HEATING

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

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

Ultimate Septic Service LLC

David Odden - Owner/Operator

Services:

- Septic Pumping •Jetting
- Emergencies

Call USS for all your septic pumping needs!

218-296-1137

ultimatesepticservice@gmail.com



CELL 218-838-0581

RESIDENTIAL AND
LIGHT COMMERCIAL
ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS

Altrichter
Excavation & Septic Service
218-575-2222

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



MN State Certified

6685 330th St.,
Cushing, MN. 56443



218-631-3101 888-878-5578

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

PROFESSIONAL

*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



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



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



OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE
CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME
Minnesota Statutes Chapter 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable customers to be able to identify the true owner of a business..

ASSUMED NAME:
Cardinal Pines Apartments
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: **1720 AIRPORT RD STAPLES MN 56479 USA**
APPLICANT(S):
Name: **Cardinal Pines Apartments Staples LLC**
ADDRESS: **175 7TH AVE S WAITE PARK MN 56387 USA**

If you submit an attachment, it will be incorporated into this document. If the attachment conflicts with the information specifically set forth in this document, this document supersedes the data referenced in the attachment.

By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have com-

pleted all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

SIGNED BY:
Jaci Schindler

MAILING ADDRESS:
**175 7th Ave South
Waite Park Minnesota
56387**

EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES:
jaci@inhproperties.com

**Work Item
1644893000021
Original File Number
1644893000021**

STATE OF MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
FILED
04/23/2026 11:59 PM

Steve Simon
Secretary of State
19-20pnc

**NOTICE
LEADER COMMUNITY
HALL BOARD**

The Leader Community Hall Board will meet Thursday, May 14, 2026 at the hall at 7:00 p.m.

Mark Strom, Secretary
19-20pnc

Public Hearing Notice
Board of Commissioners
Cass County, Minnesota
For the Revocation of County Road status in May Township

Notice is hereby given that a hearing is to be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the May Town Hall, 5934 112th St SW, Pillager, MN 56473, to consider road revocations (County to Township) of the following:

CR 102 (TH 210 to CSAH 35)
A segment of roadway beginning at Trunk Highway No. 210 being the southwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 9, Township 133 N, Range 31 W (May Township South); thence northerly along the west line of said Section 9 and the west line of Section 4 to the northwest corner of said Section 4, Township 133 N, R 31 W and there terminating. Together with

A segment of roadway in beginning at the above described point of termination in Township 134 N, Range 31 W (May Twp North); thence northerly along the west line of Sections 33, 28, 21, 16, 9, and 4, Township 134 N, Range 31 W to the northwest corner of said Section 4; thence easterly along the north line of said Section 4 to the northeast corner thereof and at County State Aid Highway No. 35 and there terminating.

Length – Approximately 8.7 miles

CR 104 (CSAH 34 to NE Corner Sec 14)
Beginning at the southeast corner of Section 23, Township 134 N, Range 31 W at County State Aid Highway No. 34; thence northerly on the east line of said Section 23 and Section 14 to the northeast corner of said Section 14, Township 134 N, Range 31 W, and there terminating.

To submit written comments or obtain additional information, please contact the Cass County Administrator's Office at (218) 547-7271 or psh.stevenson@casscountymn.gov. Oral comments may be presented at this public hearing.

/s/ Joshua D. Stevenson, Cass County Administrator

20pnc

**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: Todd County, Minnesota.

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

TRANSACTION: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

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

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 36-0077000

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1000312-0001250034-1

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

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

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

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

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

of sale.

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

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

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

Dated: April 02, 2026

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
Mortgagee

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

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

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

16-21pnc

**Freshwater
Education District**

**FRESHWATER
EDUCATION
DISTRICT #6004
Board Meeting
March 25, 2026
Wadena, MN**

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chair Huttunen at 5 p.m.

Present: R. Huttunen-Sebeka, B. Tumberg-Wadena-Deer Creek; S. Veronen-Verndale; J. Hillmer-Browerville; R. VanDenheuvel-Bertha-Hewitt; R. Thalmann-Henning; K. Howard-Menahga; R. Wright-Staples-Motley.

Absent: C. Wolf-Long Prairie-Grey Eagle.

Supt: L. Westrum-Wadena-Deer Creek.

Admin: E. Weber, J. Wothe, J. Anderson, S. Thiel.

Others: A. Wahlin, R. Rothstein, J. Osberg, R. Bowman.

Agenda: MOTIONED BY Van Denheuvel and seconded by Tumberg to approve the agenda as presented. Vote: U/C

MOTIONED BY Tumberg and seconded by Wright to approve the consent agenda, which included: prior meeting minutes, policy updates, 26/27 SY agreements and menu option, and personnel actions presented. Vote: U/C

Reports Received:

Ex. Director: Board members were reminded to complete the Ex. Director survey. READ Act training is underway, with screenings planned this spring and additional ALC training to follow. The Adult Pathway grant ends FY26 and was not renewed; the Secondary Pathway continues through FY27, with reapplication planned. Negotiations remain ongoing. Van inspections are

complete with one pending reinspection. The LPALC site will be closed, with services continuing. Enrollment updates were shared. Security upgrades are being explored. Carl Perkins coordination work continues.

SpEd Director: Spring Fling and monitoring updates were shared. Academy enrollments are nearly full, with several students transitioning. Recent and upcoming trainings include principal and disability meetings in March.

Finance Manager: Updates were provided on PAWN, CESO consultation, LTFM levy planning and health insurance.

New Business

MOTION BY Hillmer and seconded by VanDenheuvel to approve the closure of the FED ALC physical site at 308 1st St S, Long Prairie, MN 56347 and discontinue seat-based programming at that location, and direct the Admin to continue providing education services through an online instruction model, effective for the 26/27 SY. Roll Call VOTE: ABSTENTIONS: None. AYE: Tumberg, Veronen, Hillmer, VanDenheuvel, Thalmann, Howard, Wright, Huttunen. NAY: None ABSENT: Wolf. Motion Carried.

MOTION BY Tumberg and seconded by Veronen to adopt the Cafeteria Plan Adoption Agmt. plan between Aviben and FED #6004 as presented. VOTE-U/C

MOTION BY Howard and seconded by Wright to approve the Mutual Termination and Release Agreement between LPGE ISD #2753 and FED #6004 for terminating the lease agreement for the LP ALC leased space. ROLL CALL

See **FRESHWATER** on page 10a



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: September 28, 2006

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$44,481.94

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

MORTGAGEE: CitiFinancial Services, Inc.

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

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC by assignment recorded on August 12, 2016 as Document Number A500326 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to Bayview Dispositions IVB, LLC by assignment recorded on February 26, 2019 as Document Number A513288 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to Greenwich Revolving Trust by assignment recorded on February 26, 2019 as Document Number A513289 in the

Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely in its capacity as Indenture Trustee of CIM Trust 2019-R5 by assignment recorded on March 18, 2026 as Document Number A550468 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

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

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 423 MINNESOTA AVE SW, 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: \$28,279.16

TRANSACTION AGENT: None

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: CitiFinancial Services, Inc.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Pay Servicing, LLC

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 38-0077300 and 38-0077400

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: None

THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt

then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.

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

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

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

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

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on June 25, 2027.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STAT-

UTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERLY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

MORTGAGOR(S) RE-LEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: April 16, 2026

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

TROTT LAW, P.C.

By: /s/

*N. Kibongni

Fondungallah, Esq.*

Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.

Alexa Marsh, Esq.

Attorneys for Mortgagee

25 Dale Street North

St. Paul, MN 55102

(651) 209-9760

(26-0067-FC01)

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

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

18-23pnc

FRESHWATER continued from page 9a

VOTE- ABSTENTIONS: None. AYE Tumberg, Veronen, Hillmer, VanDen-heuvel, Thalmann, Howard, Wright. NAY: None. ABSENT: Wolf. Motion Carried.

MOTION BY Veronen and seconded by Wright to approve the SpEd Finance consulting agreement with CEO. VOTE- U/C

MOTION BY Hillmer and seconded by Howard to approve the business service agreement with B-H ISD #786 as presented. VOTE-U/C

MOVED BY Tumberg and seconded by VanDen-heuvel that the School Board of FED #6004 gratefully accepts the following donations as identified below: Spring Fling: Anonymous - \$160; West Central Telephone, Sebeka - \$100; 1st National Bank of Henning - \$50; Todd Wadena Electric, Wadena - \$50; Wadena State Bank, Wadena - \$100; American Food Group, Green Bay, WI - \$150; Anderson Homes, Sebeka - \$50; VFW Post 6206, Menahga - \$250; Arvig, Perham - \$150; United Community Bank, Perham - \$100; Staples Lions Club, Staples - \$500; Super One, Wadena - \$100; Perham Area Community Lions Club, Dent - \$100; Veteran of Foreign Wars, Wadena - \$200; Menahga Gateway Lions, Menahga -

\$250; Knights of Columbus, Frazee - \$250; Reading for the Future: VFW Auxiliary No. 3922, Wadena - \$200; Staples Lions Club, Staples - \$250; Motley Lions Club, Motley - \$1,000; American Legion Post #12, Long Prairie - \$200; Mid-Minnesota Federal Credit Union, Brainerd - 100; Lincoln Area Business Association, Cushing - \$620; American Legion Post #124, Motley - \$200; Eagle Bend Lions, Eagle Bend - \$500; Staples Eye Clinic, Staples - \$50; National Insurance Brokers, Verndale - \$100; Long Prairie Dairy Queen, Long Prairie - \$100; Faith Lutheran Church, Staples - \$50; Benning Printing, Clarissa \$25; Tower Pizza, Staples - \$100.

VOTE on adoption of the Resolution was as follows: ABSTENTIONS: None. AYE: Tumberg, Veronen, Hillmer, VanDen-heuvel, Thalmann, Howard, Wright, Huttunen. NAY: None. ABSENT: Wolf. WHEREUPON, said Resolution was declared duly adopted.

MOTION BY Howard and seconded by Hillmer to adjourn the meeting at 5:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Scott Veronen, Board Clerk

20pnc

Todd County Board of Commissioners

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD MARCH 17, 2026

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 17th day of March, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Byers. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda

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

Consent Agenda

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

To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for March 3, 2026 as presented.

Hire Ross Bollin for the part time Correctional Officer position start date TBD at a pay rate of \$27.87 per hour Grade D/4, Step C

To approve the promotion of Dominik Estrella Becerra to fill the open Administrative Assistant II/Bilingual position. Grade D/4, Step A, \$22.60. Start date: TBD.

To approve an Off Sale and On Sale 3.2 Malt Liquor License for BDKMN Inc dba Head of the Lakes Resort at the address of 15080 Gardenia Drive, Osakis, MN in Leslie Township effective April 1, 2026 through March 31, 2027.

To approve an On Sale Wine License for BDKMN Inc dba Head of the Lakes Resort at the address of 15080 Gardenia Drive, Osakis, MN in Leslie Township effective April 1, 2026 through March 31, 2027.

To approve a Setup License for BDKMN Inc dba Head of the Lakes Resort at the address of 15080 Gardenia Drive, Osakis, MN in Leslie Township effective April 1, 2026 through March 31, 2027.

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the February 2026 Auditor Warrants number (ACH) 905801 through 905882 in the amount of \$885,412.90 (Manual) 1200 through 1234 in the amount of \$1,877,714.33 and (Regular) 245885 through 246035 in the amount of \$888,040.06 for a total of \$3,651,167.29.

On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 404398 through 404420 in the amount of \$10,784.01 and (Regular) 59647 through 59689 in the amount of \$39,445.67 for a total of \$50,229.68.

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 807350 through 807394 and (Regular) 713918 through 713963 for a total of \$89,823.61.

On motion by Neumann and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 601946 through 601965 and (Regular) 518856 through 518881 for a total amount of \$131,562.16.

Administration

Judge Heidi Hovis was introduced to the Board of Commissioners and an opportunity to discuss concerns and goals was held.

On motion by Denny and second by Neumann, the following resolution

was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PRAIRIE LAKES MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY CAPITAL PROJECT

WHEREAS, Todd County is a member of the Prairie Lakes Municipal Solid Waste Authority (PLMSWA), a five-member joint powers board comprised of Becker, Clay, Otter Tail, Todd, and Wadena Counties; and

WHEREAS, PLMSWA operates a regional waste management program that diverts approximately 54,000 tons per year of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) from landfilling through resource recovery operations; and

WHEREAS, PLMSWA currently landfills approximately 10,000 to 11,000 tons per year of waste combustor ash and has conducted thoughtful research, engineering review, and pilot testing to transition to a sustainable ash recycling and management program; and

WHEREAS, PLMSWA successfully demonstrated ash recycling through a pilot road construction project and is prepared to move toward full-scale implementation; and

WHEREAS, potential funding would provide \$7,267,000 through the Capital Assistance Program (CAP) to support construction of a permanent ash processing facility and modernization of Otter Tail County's solid waste transfer station; and

WHEREAS, PLMSWA and its member counties will provide at least a 50 percent local match (\$7,267,000) proportionate to the improvements they each receive, leveraging an additional \$1,177,000 recommended for funding by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) in 2026, pending legislative approval; and

WHEREAS, this project was submitted to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and ranked as the highest scoring application in the MPCA's 2026 Capital Assistance Program funding recommendations to the Governor; and

WHEREAS, Todd County recognizes the importance of strategic state investment in local infrastructure and strongly supports this project as a key regional bonding request for 2026.

County Ditch/Ag Inspector

On motion by Becker and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Acting as the Todd County Ditch Authority approves hiring Corbin Excavating for services detailed in his Estimate 1005, dated March 9, 2026, for Maintenance of approximately 1,330 feet of Lateral 6 on County Ditch 41, located on parcels 08-00172 & 08-0019401.

Planning & Zoning

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

RESOLUTION FOR A MINOR AMENDMENT TO THE SAUK RIVER WATERSHED 10-YEAR COMPREHENSIVE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN (CWMP)

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes §103B.801 establishes the Comprehensive Watershed Management Planning Program, also known as the One Watershed, One Plan program (1W1P) administered by the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), to align local water planning on major watershed boundaries with state strategies toward prioritized, targeted, and measurable implementation plans; and

WHEREAS, Todd County adopted the Sauk River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (CWMP) established through 1W1P for the area of the Collaborative Mem-

ber's jurisdiction identified within the Sauk River Watershed; and

WHEREAS, the Sauk River CWMP includes implementation tables in Chapter 6 for the Watershed-wide Data, Monitoring, and Planning Implementation Program to direct funding to targeted resource management and development of biennial work plans, to be reviewed by a Policy Committee established via the execution of a joint powers collaborative agreement amongst collaborative entities implementing the Sauk River CWMP.

WHEREAS, Todd County entered into a joint powers collaborative agreement with collaborating entities to implement the Sauk River CWMP, and under this agreement a Policy Committee was established to, amongst other duties, review and recommend approval of 10-year CWMP amendments to collaborative member's governing boards.

WHEREAS, Todd County has received notice from said Policy Committee that: 1) the Policy Committee has reviewed the proposed minor amendment to the CWMP Chapter 6, Page 6-7, the addition of the priority implementation action "assess the Cold Spring Dam for modification opportunities to improve ecological functions; fish passage; water quality and altered hydrology improvements;" (full language in Exhibit A), 2) the Policy Committee recommends approval of the same by each collaborative member's governing board and 3) the Policy Committee will upon receipt of support from all the collaborative member governing board, follow the required BWSR 1W1P Operating Procedures for a minor plan amendment which includes providing a 30-day comment for plan review authorities, holding a public hearing to respond to comments received, and then submitting the minor plan amendment to BWSR.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Todd County hereby approves of a minor amendment to the Sauk River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan Chapter 6, page 6-7, "assess the Cold Spring Dam for modification opportunities to improve ecological functions; fish passage; water quality and altered hydrology improvements." (full language in exhibit A) and direct the Policy Committee to fulfill the required BWSR 1W1P Operating Procedures for a minor plan amendment.

The March 2025 Planning Commission minutes in draft form and March staff report were provided for review.

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the findings of the Planning Commission and grant the CUP on parcel 07-0030100 to manufacture and repair wooden pallets with the following conditions:

1. Hours of operation shall be restricted to 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. CST, Monday through Saturday.

2. Operation of the sawmill shall be conducted within a permitted structure.

3. Outdoor storage of products shall be allowed but shall be conducted in compliance with Section 9.01B of the Todd County Planning and Zoning Ordinance. All outdoor storage must be placed on the west and north sides of the proposed structure.

4. There shall be no loading or unloading of materials within the road right of way.

5. Relocation of the existing driveway to a location approved by the road authority. Establishment of additional driveway accesses must be approved by the road authority.

6. Applicant shall abide by all other applicable federal, state, and local standards.

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the findings of the Planning Commission and grant the CUP on parcel 20-0040500 to establish a sawmill for wholesale and

retail sales with the following conditions:

1. Hours of operation shall be restricted to 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. CST, Monday through Saturday.

2. Operation of the sawmill shall be conducted within a permitted structure.

3. Outdoor storage of products shall be allowed but shall be conducted in compliance with Section 9.01B of the Todd County Planning and Zoning Ordinance.

4. There shall be no loading or unloading of materials within the road right of way.

5. Applicant shall abide by all other applicable federal, state, and local standards.

Health & Human Services

On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the elimination of one Administrative Assistant II position from the Financial Services Unit from the organizational chart.

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the elimination of one Paraprofessional Case Aide position from the Adult Services Unit from the organizational chart.

On motion by Becker and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve notification to the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Todd County's intent to administer and deliver the Energy Assistance Program for FFY 2027.

County Auditor-Treasurer's Report

The County Auditor-Treasurer reported that the county's annual audit is in progress. Property Tax statements will be releasing by March 31, 2026. Township elections were held on March 10 and absentee voting continues for the Little Falls & Staples Motley upcoming special elections.

County Coordinator's Report

The County Coordinator reported attending a CLA audit meeting, Keyl radio, IT, Paycom, Personnel, U of MN Intern, Arbitration prep and Child care workshop.

County Commissioner's Report

The Commissioners reported on meetings and events attended. Commissioner Becker attended meetings including the Planning Commission and TWCC.

Commissioner Denny has attended meetings including Planning Commission, Personnel, Solid Waste and Arbitration.

Commissioner Noska has attended meetings including TCDC Strategic Planning session.

Commissioner Byers attended meetings including Personnel, Park Board, TCDC, Long Prairie Airport, Planning Commission and Arbitration. Commissioner Neumann attended meetings including CPT Personnel, Park Board, Solid Waste, Rainbow Rider, JD2 Millers Bay and Long Prairie Airport meetings.

Adjourn

On motion by Becker and second by Neumann, the meeting was adjourned for the month of March 2026.

AUDITOR WARRANTS	
VENDOR NAME	\$ AMOUNT
DOUGLAS SWCD	\$23,225.24
LONG PRAIRIE	
SANITATION INC	4,673.25
MN TEAMSTERS NO 320	
	2,733.24
TWIN CITY SCALE CO	2,911.00
VERIZON	6,163.97
WADENA COUNTY SHERIFF	
	3,147.50
WEST CENTRAL TECH	
SERVICE AREA	9,494.58
WIDSETH SMITH NOLTING INC	3,246.25
25 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	11,882.60
ACTIVE911 INC	3,905.00
CARD SERVICES	
COBORNS	7,144.28
CENTRA CARE	13,350.31

CLIFTON LARSONALLEN, LLP	12,127.50
COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY	8,155.00
DOUGLAS SWCD	25,470.00
FLEET SERVICES/WEX BANK	6,896.53
LAW ENFORCEMENT LABOR SERV INC	2,498.24
LINCOLN FINANCIAL GROUP	6,975.88
METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	12,955.58
MINNESOTA POWER	2,051.47
MN DEPT OF FINANCE	6,954.00
MORRISON SWCD	2,945.16
PACIFIC LIFE INSURANCE CO	2,325.00
PETERS LAW OFFICE, P.A.	4,550.00
POPE DOUGLAS SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT	35,406.64
PRAIRIE LAKES MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE AUTH	98,136.20
STAPLES ADVANTAGE	3,393.64
STEP	11,097.50
TRIMIN SYSTEMS INC	22,001.00
VOYANT COMMUNICATIONS, LLC	3,348.03
39 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	19,862.33
ACCENT WIRE - TIE	2,282.25
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	
	4,242.93
CENTERPOINT ENERGY	2,401.69
CENTERPOINT ENERGY	6,324.96
GALLAGHER BENEFIT SERVICES INC	2,000.00
HOST CONSTRUCTION CO LLC	2,765.00
LAKES COMMUNITY COOPERATIVE	2,859.47
LONG PRAIRIE LEADER	2,560.00
LONG PRAIRIE OIL COMPANY	5,800.98
MINNESOTA POWER	20,504.53
MISSISSIPPI HEADWATERS BOARD	2,000.00
NORTHERN STAR COOP	6,062.42
PACIFIC LIFE INSURANCE CO	2,325.00

TODD SOIL & WATER CONS DIST	86,090.60
TOWN OF BARTLETT	25,140.93
TOWN OF BERTHA	28,104.64
TOWN OF BIRCHDALE	42,339.21
TOWN OF BRUCE	27,013.17
TOWN OF BURLEENE	25,196.39
TOWN OF BURNHAMVILLE	33,491.60
TOWN OF EAGLE VALLEY	37,875.91
TOWN OF FAWN LAKE	32,207.42
TOWN OF GERMANIA	31,796.52
TOWN OF GORDON	30,682.57
TOWN OF GREY EAGLE	26,209.10
TOWN OF HARTFORD	40,842.28
TOWN OF IONA	38,494.42
TOWN OF KANDOTA	25,065.06
TOWN OF LESLIE	27,742.22
TOWN OF LITTLE ELK	21,459.93
TOWN OF LITTLE SAUK	34,696.93
TOWN OF LONG PRAIRIE	32,855.31
TOWN OF MORAN	30,805.93
TOWN OF REYNOLDS	29,137.35
TOWN OF ROUND PRAIRIE	40,944.21
TOWN OF STAPLES	30,594.86
TOWN OF STOWE PRAIRIE	35,721.62
TOWN OF TURTLE CREEK	17,161.61
TOWN OF VILLARD	28,370.30
TOWN OF WARD	22,647.53
TOWN OF WEST UNION	22,321.02
TOWN OF WYKEHAM	36,627.36
47 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	19,954.56
3M	2,340.75
AFSCME COUNCIL 65	5,083.72
CENTERPOINT ENERGY	7,679.09
LAMUSGA/JASON	80,904.00

LARSON ABSTRACT COMPANY	2,374.50
LAW ENFORCEMENT LABOR SERV INC	2,385.98
MACO	2,190.00
MADDEN GALANTER HANSEN, LLP	2,566.52
NORTH COUNTRY CHEVROLET BUICK GMC	166,079.76
PETERS LAW OFFICE, P.A.	2,096.25
SHI CORP	8,632.63
TODD CO MIS DEPT	2,410.00
25 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	13,100.47

HUMANA INSURANCE COMPANY	7,555.97
PAYCOM PAYROLL, LLC	45,427.57
VOYA (MSRS)	2,049.86
WEX HEALTH INC - HSA	43,506.09
COUNTY OF TODD	3,245.84
VOYA (MSRS)	4,437.25
PAYCOM PAYROLL, LLC	619,345.07
PAYCOM PAYROLL, LLC	10,787.61
WEX HEALTH INC - HSA	16,198.59
COUNTY OF TODD	3,845.34
VOYA (MSRS)	3,730.72
PAYCOM PAYROLL, LLC	42,67

Students learn about money management at Reality Store

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Students at Staples-Motley High School had the opportunity to participate in the Reality Store April 22, an event held at the high school's Legacy Gym in Staples.

‘What’s the Reality Store?’ you might ask. According to online information, it’s an interactive financial simulation for high school students, acting as a “life-simulation game” that teaches money management. Students receive a mock salary, marital status, whether or not they have children, then visit booths to budget expenses.

This year’s Reality Store was planned by Staples-Motley staff members Melissa Jewison, paraprofessional; Deb Ferdon, principal; and Steve Jennissen, guidance counselor. Jewison also served as coordinator for the event.

“It’s a great way to help prepare students for life after graduation,” Jewison said.

Approximately 70 volunteers from the community participated, playing the roles of bankers, car dealers, law enforcement, medical workers, insurance brokers, daycare providers and a host of other entities students might encounter as they enter ‘the real world.’

After visiting the various booths, students made decisions for their household based on their budget, as

well as life circumstances assigned to them.

Hailey Richardt, a junior at SMHS, learned she worked as a Forensic Science Technician, with a monthly income of \$6,250. Her assigned sheet noted she was single, with no children.

Richardt said she participated at the Reality Store as a sophomore, as well, and found it to be very helpful. “Until last year, I didn’t know how to fill out a check-book,” she said.

Although she had a good salary, Richardt said she was going to have to look for a second job. She’d paid for necessary things like car and health insurance, but, “got hit by the dentist” and needed some extra cash.

“Wish me luck,” Richardt said, as she set off to make more monetary decisions.

Hunter Vogt, sophomore, had been assigned the career of hunting and fishing, which he said suited him just fine. His ‘character’ was married with no kids, and he brought in \$2,417 a month. Vogt said it was eye-opening, as he navigated monthly expenses, adding, “Life is kind of hard.”

Staples Police Marty Penner strolled the gymnasium, handing out tickets on occasion and accompanying students to see the judge as needed. Officer Penner said that most kids are shocked to learn about the cost of fines, and also what happens if you don’t carry liability insurance for

a motor vehicle.

Even though Lilly Czechowicz had been assigned a rather nice paying job as an interior designer, along with a husband who brought in an extra \$3,500 a month, she chose to buy a used vehicle over a new one. Buying things within your means was something she’d learned at the Reality Store event. She also learned that, “I don’t want kids...they’re too expensive.”

Molly Hoemberg, a sophomore, was also learning the importance of budgeting. She was assigned the job of a mechanic, bringing in \$4,083 a month. When she visited the car salesman’s booth, she chose to purchase two used vehicles. “I’ve learned you have to be spending your money on the right kinds of things.”

And, you’d better be saving for a rainy day, as many students discovered at the Reality Store. There might be a doctor’s visit you weren’t planning on, or you have a roof that needs repair. Every so often, you might bring home some surprise cash, like Hailey Richardt did when she spun the Wheel of Fate. “I helped someone get their cat out of the tree and received \$50,” she said.

Hmmm...should she put the money into her savings account, or treat herself to lunch with friends? Those are the sorts of questions students pondered while shopping at the Reality Store.



Spinning the ‘Wheel of Fate’

Hailey Richardt, a junior at Staples-Motley High School, spun the ‘Wheel of Fate’ during the recent Reality Store event. In back is Mythanne Thompson, volunteer at that booth. At right is

volunteer Russ Holland. Approximately 175 students participated at the April 22 event, learning about budgeting money in the ‘real world.’ (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Summoned to court

Bryson Dumpprope, sophomore, received a “ticket” from Police Officer Marty Penner during the Reality Store event at Staples-Motley High School for not hav-

ing proof of insurance. He stopped by to see “Judge” Tom Honek and was able to get his case dismissed.



Visiting the cashiers

From left, Staples-Motley High School students Ally Pesola and Jonathan Faulkner, 10th and 11th graders, respec-

tively, stopped by to visit cashiers Tammi Walz, far right, and her son, Jordan Walz.



Used car or new?

From left: Lilly Czechowicz and Molly Hoemberg, Staples-Motley High School students, stopped by the auto dealership booth during the Reality Store event April 22. Czechowicz, a junior, consulted with

Carl Larson, and Hoemberg, a sophomore, looked over her budget with Robert Drake. Both girls chose to purchase used vehicles to save money.



Making decisions about clothing

Hunter Vogt, Staples-Motley High School sophomore, gets some advice from Dianne Heldman about budgeting for clothing during the Reality Store. Heldman said she noticed that many of the

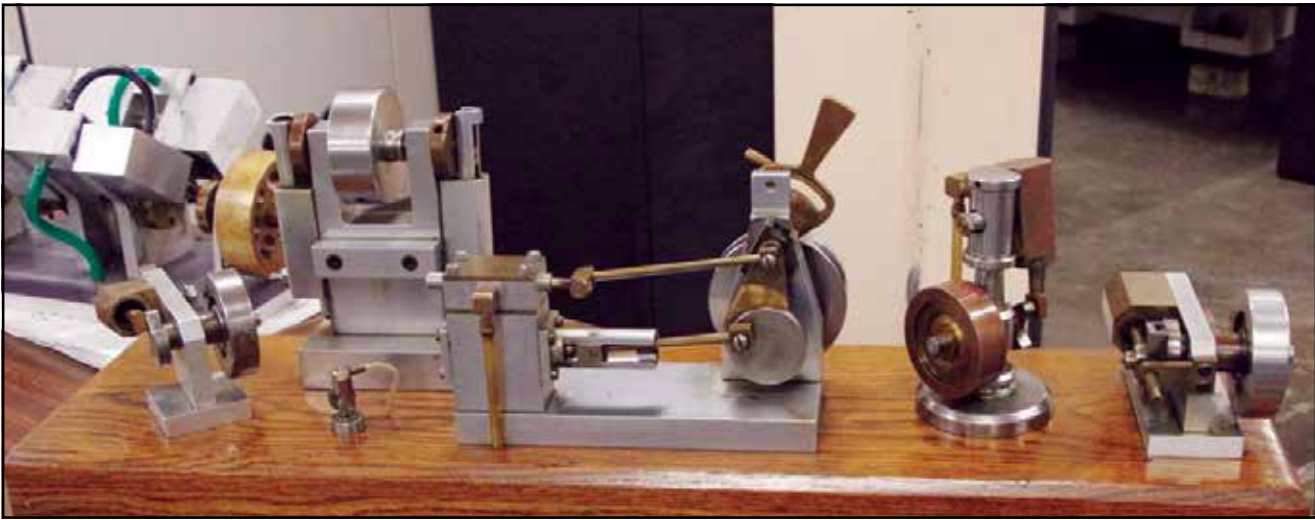
guys were choosing to buy more expensive clothes for their “wives” and thrift store items for themselves, which she thought was sweet. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Receiving tax help

Nathan Randolph, sophomore, gets some tax help from Mike Gold at the recent Realty Store at Staples-Motley High School. Mike and his wife, Cindy Gold, played the role of IRS/tax consultants,

helping students calculate how much of their income would be withdrawn to pay taxes. Randolph noted that he’d been assigned a monthly income of \$3,571 and a family with two children.



Machine trades display by Stan Tyrrell

When he was an instructor at Central Lakes College, Stan Tyrrell made this display of multiple machines with moving parts that are powered by air pressure being put into the device. This is the display they would take to high schools to get students interested in the program and to show that they can make anything they set their

mind to.

Now CLC has a large trailer filled with technology and automated machines to show students how the machining industry is different than the past. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

MACHINES continued from page 1a

High-level machine trades programs connected Staples students to manufacturing around the world, thanks to Mike Matanich

bers a shop class in high school where Matanich was heat treating a steel part to change its color.

“He asked me three times what color it was, and I kept saying purple. I finally learned on the fourth time that he wanted me to say a different color,” said Johnson.

With the help of those three leaders, the machine tool trades program advanced from the high school into a college program with the Staples Vocational Technical Institute, now Central Lakes College.

The program eventually became the Staples Area Vocational Technical Institute, and became a college program. Tyrrell and Johnson were both there when they moved out of the high school into a separate location.

“We had to move some big machinery and arrange it, the heavy equipment program was involved in that,” said Johnson.

In the early days, Tyrrell said the machines and tools came from government machines that were in storage after the war. He said Lund and Matanich had connections in the government so they would do a lot of negotiating to get the tools to Staples.

“We would clean them up and use them, we had to maintain them and keep them in working condition,” said Tyrrell.

Ford Foundation competition

For both Johnson and Tyrrell, the annual Ford Foundation machining competition was the biggest event of the year, and the Staples program was very successful in the competition.

“The first place winners got a free trip to Dearborn, Michigan, and \$100, which was a lot in those days,” said Johnson.

Out of 50,000 entries from around the country, Johnson said there was an unusual number of winners from Staples.

“We had at least three first place winners and a lot of other people who placed,” said Johnson. “We had 15 or 20 people recognized, and this was a national competition. I was the last one who got a first place award in the machine shop area.”

He still has his goblet, the trophy given to national winners.

It wasn’t just that one competition that they looked forward to, Matanich would take students to Chicago every year for the International Tool Show.

“They had tools from Japan and China, the whole manufacturing world was



Rise of the machines

Central Lakes College machine trades instructor Jim Tyrrell shows two of the items his students have made recently, a bench vice and a small grinder. Behind

him is the automated CNC machine at the college that can cut and carve materials to any shape programmed into it.

there,” said Tyrrell. “The whole world was connected to this town,” said Johnson.

Professional opportunities

With around 150 graduates per year at the height of the program, “We saturated the state of Minnesota,” said Tyrrell.

In the 1960s, many of the graduates of the Staples program were offered an immediate job by Northern Ordinance, a business in the Twin Cities that made MAC 5 guns for war.

Tyrrell said he went to work there starting June 3, a week after graduating from the program.

“We would start in an apprenticeship and move through every section of the plant, then we would be a journeyman,” said Tyrrell.

It was an honor to have one big company that wanted as many Staples graduates as they could get.

“That’s a tribute to our machining program,” said Johnson. “They used to call Staples the city with bootstraps, the machining program was a big part of that.”

Improving the community

The whole town was better because of the program, not just the machinists, said Johnson.

At one time there were 30 machine shops within a 30 mile radius of Staples. There are still close to that many, plus a number of people who support other industries with their machining skills.

Johnson said the 3M

plant came to Staples because of Matanich.

“He was from the Iron Range, so when a mine was closing down there, he got the heavy equipment program to bring their building to Staples. That was the first 3M building,” said Johnson.

Lund was a apart of that also. “They always worked together,” said Johnson.

Both Johnson and Tyrrell came back to Staples to teach the machine tool trades to local students.

“Matanich would call us up and ask when we wanted to come back, 10 to 15 of us came back to teach,” said Tyrrell.

Tyrrell said several of his sons and nine of his grandsons went through the program. His son, Jim, is currently the machine tool trades instructor at CLC in Staples. He said the same opportunities are still available today. Graduates of today’s program are still sought after in nearly every industry and in every part of the country.

Stan Tyrrell and Johnson can name many of the area businesses that were started by their students, including Diamond Tools in Bertha, plus local shops like JDM, Olander Tooling and D&D. Tyrrell said he has two grandsons running a shop in Aldrich, along with assisting other area businesses. They are also on advisory boards for machining businesses and participate in the USS Skills programs, which is similar to the Ford Foundation competition.

Modern machining

Modern shops use computer-based machining programs. Students still have to figure out how to build a product, but instead of doing everything by hand, they put the specs into the computer.

“They still have to use their imagination to build anything,” said Jim Tyrrell.

At the current CLC machine tool trades program, students learn the whole industry.

“We teach everything from drafting to design, computer and automated machines,” said Jim Tyrrell.

They can learn mold making, tool and die and are bringing metal stamping to the program next year. They also work with the robotics and diesel tech programs at the campus.

With an aging work force, he said Minnesota has around 5,000 machine workers close to retiring, with only 300 graduates coming in.

“They can get a job anywhere,” said Tyrrell.

Stan Tyrrell said he is still close to the industry, with so many of his family members a part of it and his career connections still close.

They still talk about all the thousands of products being made, with the common origin of the Staples machine tool trades program.

“There are so many stories out there, I can’t wait to see what will happen every day,” said Tyrrell.



Students at work

Central Lakes College students Archer Stangler, above, Caiden Davenport, below, and Brett Nelson, bottom photo, work on machining projects at the Staples campus. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



HANSON continued from page 1a

Economic development stems from industry, education

community, but he can see that the way forward for the Staples Economic Development Authority (SEDA) is to create more connections locally and reach out to the rest of the state.

“We can use current resources, highlight businesses, get more people to shop here, and build a cohesive network between the lot of them,” said Hanson.

Hanson moved to Staples from New Ulm, with a wide range of experience in agriculture business, education and economic development.

Working for Smithfield Foods, Hanson said he came to Minnesota for management training. He later worked for a community college where his work was essentially in economic development, coordinating with cities, counties and area businesses.

He kept going down the path of economic development while working in Janesville for the Community and Economic Development Associates (CEDA) organization, which provides economic development services for smaller towns that do not have a full time position.

“I found out I wanted to keep this rolling,” said Hanson.

When the Staples EDA Director position came up, Hanson was very familiar with the community. Working for Smithfield, he often used Staples and Motley as meeting places. He would send trucks to Brick’s in

Motley and he would meet people at the TimberLake Hotel in Staples. He also had been to the CLC campus and knew Keith Olander at AgCenter.

“I had spent some time here,” said Hanson.

What he remembered is that the community was very kind and welcoming.

“I kept coming back to the hotel, to the restaurant, to Ernies, everyone was really nice,” said Hanson.

As a representative of Smithfield Foods, when he tried to get their products into the grocery store, they kindly told him no.

“Even the rejection was nice,” said Hanson.

So he checked with his local contacts and his friends at Region 9 told him to talk to Region 5 in Staples. It all checked out as a positive community, so he applied for the job.

“It was a great location, and a great opportunity,” said Hanson.

Once he got to Staples, Hanson started learning more about the community.

“It’s a lot bigger than I thought,” he said. “There is a lot of recent development, the college (CLC), many businesses, manufacturing, non-profits, the school district...all the ingredients are here, but not everybody knows it yet.”

Hanson said he wants to help those ingredients come together to make things the whole community can benefit from.



You will notice the delivery of your newspaper will be one to two days later due to new postal delivery regulations implemented by the federal government April 25, 2026 and made effective with the April 29, 2026 issue of the Staples World. You will receive your Staples World newspaper one to two days later than usual as only one postal truck will be available in Staples. The Staples World regular publication date will remain on Wednesdays.