

Inside this issue:

Noska, Perius sisters, Hanson, Kroll qualify for state tennis
Motley sets hearing for street project
Open house planned for robotic-assisted surgery





Staples World

Wednesday, October 21, 2026

Staples, Minnesota

\$125

Hall of Fame class The eighth addition to the Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame was inducted on Oct. 10, at the Staples-Motley Centennial Auditorium. Athletes inducted were Mark Bendson, Darrell Card, Michelle (Honek) Linz, Jeff Marden, Derek Mattila and Kyra (Odden) Quast. Dr. Ted Lehwica was inducted as a community contributor and two teams were inducted, the 1970-70 Staples wrestling teams and 1996-97 Staples-Motley cross country teams. Above, the new inductees gathered for a photo after the ceremony. (Photo by Mark Anderson)

Bertha man charged with murder in connection with Iowa cold case

Kelly Grant, 59, of Bertha has been charged with felony first-degree murder in the death of Angela Renee Buck, 37, of Waterloo, Iowa.

Grant was arrested Oct. 16, 2026, by deputies and agents with the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation, with assistance from the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and the Todd County Sheriff's Office. Grant was charged with Murder in the First Degree in connection with Buck's death.

Thirty-one years ago, on August 11, 1995, Black Hawk County Sheriff's Office, Waterloo, Iowa, received a report that turtle hunters had discovered a body in rural Black Hawk County, east of Waterloo in the 900 block of Pilot Grove Road.

Deputies responded to the scene and located a deceased female lying along the creek bank on the east



Kelly Grant

side of the bridge. The woman was later identified as Angela Renee Buck, 37, of Waterloo.

An autopsy conducted by the Iowa State Medical Examiner's Office determined that Buck died from a gunshot wound. Her death was classified as a homicide.

Over the ensuing years, the Black Hawk County Sheriff's Office, along with assisting law enforcement agencies, including the Iowa Division of Criminal

See **GRANT** on page 3a



SM Athletic Hall of Fame wrestling teams, 1970-73

Inducted into the Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame, the 1970 to 1973 Staples wrestling teams who were the first to bring home state-level team trophies in the sport. They accumulated a dual meet record of 38-4 starting the high level team wrestling tradition at the school. Competing in a one-class system against big schools, they finished 3rd, 4th and 3rd at the state tournament.

Pictured front row from left, assistant coach Greg Leifermann, Chuck Huff, Jerry Stone, Mark Bendson, Charlie Sowers, Bill Bendson and Harry Goeden; standing from left, Dave Fuller, Wayne Shequen, Tom Goeden, Jim Nichols, Bob Miller, Tim Dumprope, Loren Bend-

son, Kevin Olsen, Mike Hajek, Don Neimi and assistant coach Norm Card.

Several varsity wrestlers were not able to attend the event, including from the 1970-71 team, Larry Kern, Bill Lenk, Blayne Kern, Gary Wert, Greg Reese and Tim Larson; from the 1972 team, Bob Sowers, Roger Madson, Ron Kern and John Perkins; from the 1973 team, Bob Sadlo, Denny Finn and Keith Card.

Other members of these teams have passed away, including Head Coach Don Dravis and wrestlers Gordy Thompson, John Ruble, Mike Roberts and Tim Roline. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Weather

2026

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Oct. 21	68	41	Sunny
Oct. 22	73	54	Sunny
Oct. 23	68	58	Cloudy
Oct. 24	68	42	Showers
Oct. 25	53	38	P. Sunny
Oct. 26	54	36	M. Sunny
Oct. 27	53	39	P. Cloudy

Last Year, 2025

	High	Low	Cond.
Oct. 21	41°	38	Cloudy
Oct. 22	46	32	Cloudy
Oct. 23	48	29	Sunny
Oct. 24	57	32	M. Sunny
Oct. 25	60	45	Cloudy
Oct. 26	61	47	M. Sunny
Oct. 27	47	36	P. Cloudy

Average Temps:
H = 50° Low = 33°

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

United Hospital District 9A

City of Staples 9A

ISD #2170 9A

Moran Township 9A

Thomastown Township 9A

Obituariy

Stella Hassinger



1996, 1997 CC state champs in SM Athletic Hall of Fame

Inducted into the Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame, the 1996 and 1997 cross country teams who were state champions each year, starting a run of four straight titles for the school. Seated from left, MaryAnn Riewer, presenter and wife of Coach Jerry Riewer, and

Coach Gene Mattila; back row, Derek Mattila, Kurt Detloff, Scott Brever, Eric Klingaman, Jeff Brever, Coach Jerry Reck and Joe Webster. Varsity runners who were unable to attend included Paul Mayavski and Cory Frisk. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Motley City Council sets public hearing for street/utility improvements project

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Plans are in the works for the City of Motley’s proposed 2027 Street and Utility Improvements Project, with construction set to begin next June, pending results of the Nov. 9 public hearing.

The preliminary engineering report was presented by Bryan Drown of Bolton & Menk, Baxter, at the Motley City Council’s regular meeting Oct. 12.

According to Drown’s report, the proposed project includes surface, drainage and utility improvements to the following nine blocks of city streets:

- Front Street, from U.S. Hwy 10 to 300 feet east of 1st Avenue
 - Main, Beaulieu, Ash and Cedar streets, from U.S. Hwy 10 to 1st Avenue
 - 1st Avenue from Ash Street to Front Street
- During his presentation, Drown noted that most of

the city’s streets were originally paved in the mid-1980s and have received a minimal amount of pavement maintenance since that time. A study began in 2014 to determine which city streets should be reconstructed and in late 2015, the city began to plan for future road improvements based on the conditions identified. In 2017, a draft preliminary engineering report was prepared, but did not move forward at that time.

Other existing conditions were highlighted in Drown’s recent report as well, including a large crack in the sanitary main at Front Street and 1st Avenue that needs replacing.

In addition to repairs to the sanitary sewer main, there are proposed water main improvements (including replacing existing 6-inch ductile iron pipe installed in 1962 with six (6) -inch PVC watermain); storm sewer improvements (including replacing existing drainage structures and



Hearing from the project engineer

Bryan Drown, standing, from Bolton & Menk of Baxter, presented a preliminary engineering report for the 2027 Street & Utility Project to the Motley City Council at their regular meeting Oct. 12. Seated, back row from left, council member April Skeesick-Larson; Mayor Pat O'Regan;

council members Elizabeth Blackburn, Steve Johnson. Council member Dennis Erickson was absent. Front, City Clerk/Treasurer Tami Brotherton; Public Works Director Bruce Brotherton. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

grates and extending storm sewer); and residential and commercial street improvements, both of which would receive bituminous paving and Class 5 aggregate base.

Drown noted that in 2027, Burlington Northern

Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad will be completing improvements to their crossing surface and gates. The City of Motley will be responsible for 50 percent of the crossing improvement costs and the cost to secure an 80 foot-wide easement over 1st Avenue through BNSF property.

The estimated total project cost is \$1,934,500, with financing recommended to come from General Obligation (GO) Bonds which would need to be repaid with either property taxes, special assessments or user charges (utility fees). The special assessments for the proposed project are estimated to total \$373,980.

After a short discussion, the council accepted the preliminary engineering report, as presented by Drown. They also approved a motion to set the public hearing for the 2027 Street and Utility Improvements Project for Monday, Nov. 9, 4:30 p.m., at city hall.

Should the project move forward after the public hearing, Drown said it would be good to bid for the project as soon as possible, so construction could begin in early summer.

In other matters the council:

- LEARNED that Fire Chief Todd Judd was absent, due to the department still fighting a fire since 4:30 a.m.
- APPROVED Chief Judd’s request to apply for a Firehouse Subs Grant.
- HEARD the monthly police report from Police Chief Al Yoder, learning there have been 425 calls for the year so far. There were 52 calls during September.
- HEARD the monthly public works report from

Public Works Director Bruce Brotherton. He noted that the solar array is up and running at the wastewater treatment plant. Brotherton also shared that the splash pad at Converse Park is “looking good,” noting that much of the work has been completed there. He also reported that the cement gutter in front of Motley Hardware Store (on Beaulieu Street) has been completed. The splash pad is off for the season.

• HEARD the monthly administration dept. report from City Clerk/Treasurer Tami Brotherton. She noted that the city had received a thank you card from the Motley Community Events Organization for their support of the recent Fall Fest. She also noted the city had received a Workers’ Compensation dividend in the amount of \$5,966. They suggested the money be used for employee safety.

• APPROVED Tami Brotherton attending the Finance Lab Nov. 18, in St. Cloud.

• APPROVED Tami Brotherton’s request to post ordinance reminders on the city’s Facebook page.

• APPROVED a security system proposal from Heartland Security. The city will purchase two Pro 6 panic button pendants at \$90 each for the administrative department. Prior to the vote it was noted that the previously approved security company, Familyr, fell through.

• APPROVED setting a special meeting for Monday, Oct. 26, regarding an ordinance amending the compensation of the mayor and city council members to reflect a 10 percent increase per month. Compensation for special meetings would remain unchanged. The ordinance needs to be passed before the next election.

• ACCEPTED a \$20 donation from St. Michael Catholic Church. The church had initially designated these monies to pay for a bingo gambling fee for their Nov. 2 event. But, upon learning there was no fee for this, they opted to donate the funds.

• SET next planning and zoning commission meeting for Monday, Nov. 2, 5 p.m., at city hall.

• NOTED that general elections will be held Tuesday, Nov. 3, at city hall.

• SET next regular council meeting and public hearing for the 2027 Street Project for Monday, Nov. 9, 4:30 p.m., at city hall.



Motley American Legion Post #124 gathering

The Motley American Legion held their monthly meeting at Beck’s Burger Company in Staples Oct. 15. Pictured above, from left, are officers Kraig Cantwell (vice commander), Frank Vasecka (treasurer/member-ship director), Tom Ladwig (adjutant), Dale Mueller (com-

mander), Ron Hanson (sergeant of arms), Ron Starke (chaplain). Below, members enjoyed visiting prior to their meeting at Beck’s. Once a year they hold their monthly meeting at an area restaurant and share a meal together. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)





WHERE THE FOREST MEETS THE PRAIRIE
Todd County
MINNESOTA • EST. 1855 •

**HOW TO VOTE ABSENTEE
FOR STATE GENERAL ELECTION
NOVEMBER 3, 2026**

Absentee voting is currently available for all eligible Todd County Voters at the Todd County Auditor-Treasurer's office for the upcoming State General Election on November 3, 2026.

Regular office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the address of 215 1st Avenue S, Suite 201, Long Prairie, MN.

There will be **additional** hours available on:

Saturday, October 24	9 AM to 3 PM
Tuesday, October 27	8 AM to 7 PM
Saturday, October 31	9 AM to 3 PM
Sunday, November 1	9 AM to 3 PM
Monday, November 2	8 AM to 5 PM

If visiting us in-person, parking is recommended on the courthouse hill lot and entry through the north door (nearest the statue and flag) of the Historic Courthouse building. Curbside service is available by calling 320-732-4469 when you arrive.

To absentee vote by mail, persons are welcome to mail, fax, or e-mail us a signed image of their Absentee Ballot Application form and our office will mail the absentee ballot materials as promptly as possible.

An Online Absentee Ballot Application Portal &/or printable Absentee Ballot Application forms can be found at <http://www.mnvotes.gov>

Note: If you are currently a member of the Uniformed Services (or spouse/dependent) or temporarily or indefinitely overseas please use the website named above for alternate UOCAVA Application procedures.

Completed Absentee Ballot Envelopes can be returned by in-person delivery or mail delivery to the Todd County Auditor-Treasurer's Office at 215 1st Avenue S #201, Long Prairie, MN 56347 located in the Todd County Historic Courthouse.

Please contact the County Auditor's Office at 320-732-4469 or elections@toddcountymn.gov with any questions.

Hello, I'm Tom Bisek.
I'm running for
**May Township
Supervisor**
and would like your vote.



I'm currently serving on the Cass County Planning & Zoning Board of Adjustment.

I'm a good listener and want to help the township service the residents. I'd appreciate your vote.

Prepared and paid for by Tom Bisek.

**VOTE MAGGIE
EVERS**
DFL · NOV. 3



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LOCAL JOBS.**

Clinical social worker. Burtrum neighbor. Maggie Evers has spent her life showing up for the community.

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CHILDCARE AND GOOD JOBS
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MINNESOTA HOUSE 5B

Prepared and paid for by The Committee for Maggie Evers for 5B, PO Box 4, Grey Eagle, MN 56336



Steve Fields
Minnesota Attorney

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While we appreciate every donation, in some cases, we find that we are unable to accept certain vehicles, watercraft, and/or recreational vehicles due to the prohibitive costs of acquisition. If you have any questions, please give us a call at (833) 937-2593.

**Thank you for reading
the
Staples World**





Mystery solved

Last week’s mystery photo published in the Oct. 11, 2001 edition of the Staples World featured Staples ‘93 Lions members Mary Giza (left) and Bea Hoxter with one of the new fall decorations along 2nd Ave and 6th St. NE in Staples. The decorations were part of a new project spearheaded by the ‘93 Lions, with help from the Staples FFA group and their leader, Kerry Lindgren. The FFA students cut, gathered and delivered corn shocks which were part of the decorations, and the Lions members put them up around town.

Lisa Giza correctly identified Mary Giza (her mother-in-law) and Bea Hoxter and guessed that the photo had something to do with the ‘93 Lions. Tom Crawford also correctly identified both women. Judy Wolak of Staples correctly identified Mary Giza. Thanks for participating in our mystery photo.

GRANT continued from page 1a

Numerous leads led to arrest

Investigation, Black Hawk County Attorney’s Office and the Iowa Attorney General’s Office Cold Case Unit investigated numerous leads in an effort to identify the person responsible for Buck’s death.

The case remains an

ongoing criminal investigation. No further details are being released.

A criminal charge is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

Todd Cty. court

- OCT. 14, 2026**
Long Prairie Police
Omar Cruz, Sauk Centre. Motorcycle - Driving on street or highway without endorsement. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Jeison Jomar Fransua Marte, Long Prairie. Motorcycle - Driving on street or highway without endorsement. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
David Claus Holmgren, Swanville. Speed 39/30. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Ronald Alexander Silvestre Mojica, St. Cloud. Motorcycle - Driving on street or highway without endorsement. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Todd County Sheriff
Billy Joe Karwal, Grey Eagle. Driving without a valid license. \$100. Fee \$85.
Mason James Laforge, Long Prairie. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Staples Police
Lamesha Keneisha Spivey, Roseau. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.
Osakis Police
Eithen Harvey Hiebel, Nelson. Automobile Fenders. Fine \$50. Fee \$85. Windshield Tinted or Glazed. Fine \$50.
MN Dept. of Natural Resources
Timothy John Kapphanh, St. Cloud. Extra Line. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
MN State Patrol
Madison Mekayla Smith, Shell Lake, WI. No Proof Insurance. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.
Joseph Michael Zimmerann, Motley. Over legal tandem axle weight. Fine \$500. Fee \$85.
Anthony Eward Baumgartner, Osakis. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Chantris Diamondnique Deloach, Detroit. Speed 100/70. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.
Tracy Denise Dennis, Brooklyn Park. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Pedro Fabian De Jesus, Long Prairie. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
David Micheal Giarrizzo, Chargin Falls, OH. Speed 81/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Larry Le Gruetmacher, Benbrook, TX. Speed 89/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.
Deana Hernandez, Melrose. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Braxton Eugene Hopkins, Lamoure, ND. No Minnesota Driver’s License. Fine \$100. Fee \$85. Seat Belt Required. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.
Emmanuel Emeka Iwuoha, Winnipeg, MB. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Charles Anderson Jensen, Alexandria. Speed 81/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Abraham Narciso Jimenez, Brownsville, TX. Speed 71/60. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Tyler Dale Kuklok, Osakis. Speed 65/60. Fine 40. Fee \$85.
- Heidi Rose Lenz, Browerville. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Walter Edward McGowan, Ottertail. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. No Proof MV Insurance. Fee \$200. Expired Registration. Fee \$30
Cassandra Lynn Meneely, Staples. Speed 81/60. Fine \$70. Fee \$155.
Kylee Marie Miller, Fargo, ND. Speed 75/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Amani Wasangwambale Muta, Albertville. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Jose Ysaias Paulino Urena, Browerville. Speed 76/60. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.
Michele Louise Reece, East Gull Lake. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Brent Steven Rieland, Sauk Centre. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Andrew Frank Simon, Sartell. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Warner George Stuart, Hudson, WI. Seat Belt Required. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.
Lanna Jane Walter, Sauk Centre. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
The following cases were heard before Heidi L. Hovis, Seventh District Court in Todd County October 5, 2026.
Melissa Rae Wenzel, Long Prairie. DWI - Operate Motor Vehicle. Alcohol Concentration 0.08 Within 2 Hours. Local Confinement 364 Days, Stay 0 Yr 0 Mo 362 Days For 2 Yr Credit for time served: 2 Days. Supervised probation, 2 Yr. Sentenced. Fine \$400. Fee \$500.
Corey John Kraker, Swanville. 2nd Degree DWI - Operate Motor Vehicle. Alcohol Concentration 0.08 Within 2 Hours. Sentenced. Local Confinement 364 Days, Stay 0 Yr 0 Mo 334 Days For 4 Yr Credit for time served: 3 Days. Supervised probation, 4 Yr. Fine \$50. Fee \$555
Keaton Michael Pulliam, Browerville. Cannabis open package. Sentenced. Local Confinement 90 Days, Stay 0 Yr 0 Mo 89 Days For 1 Yr Credit for time served: 1 Days. Supervised probation, 1 Yr. Fine \$400. Fee \$475. Traffic - Open bottle law. Dismissed. DWI - Fourth-Degree Driving While Impaired. Dismissed.
The following cases were heard before Heidi L. Hovis, Seventh District Court in Todd County October 7, 2026.
Bridget Marie Costa, Brooklyn Centre. Operate Motor Vehicle Under Influence of Alcohol. Dismissed. Careless Driving - Operate any vehicle carelessly. Local Confinement 3 Days, Stay 0 Yr 0 Mo 0 Days Credit for time served: 3 Days. Sentenced. Fine \$50. Fee \$125
-Court reports are received from the Long Prairie Leader.

75 YEARS Ago - 1951

- Oct. 18, 1951 - Woodward’s Cold Weather Values: Storm Coats, \$47.50; Men’s Wool Jackets, \$15.50; Men’s Coat Sweaters, \$6.95; Cavalry Twill Work Pants, \$5.50; Boys’ Bomber Jack-ets, \$9.98.
- Oct. 18, 1951 - The Junior Class at Motley High School will present their three-act play entitled “Off The Track” to the public on the evenings of Nov. 1 and 2, at 8 p.m.

This riotous three-act farse written by Felicia Met-calf promises to be the most entertaining and laugh pro- voking drama that has been shown for years. The play is directed by F. A. Backen, with Asst. Director Miss M. Clarke.

- O -
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
- O -

- Oct. 18, 1951 - While saying “good-bye” to Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Pound Monday afternoon, Mrs. Martha Hunter was stand- ing beside her open screen door.

A gust of wind blew the door against Mrs. Hunter, throwing her off the cement step to the ground, breaking her wrist on the left hand.

Mrs. Ray Skeesick took her to Staples where her wrist was set and then brought her back home. This certainly was a most unusual accident.

- Oct. 18, 1951 - Two junior bowling leagues were organized at Hi-Way Lanes in Staples on Oct. 13.

A boys and girls team of sophomore, junior and senior students was started. The boys league will bowl at 12:30 each Saturday, and the girls league will bowl at 2 o’clock.

- Oct. 18, 1951 - Mrs. E. B. Gillespie of 507 Eighth St. N., Staples, sustained severe injuries when she fell down the stairs of her home about five o’clock in the morning.

Mrs. Gillespie had gotten up to adjust the thermostat downstairs. As she started down the stairs she slipped, falling to the bottom of the steps to the first floor of her home.

After some time she managed to crawl to the telephone and call her physi- cian who rushed her to the Staples Municipal hos- pital. X-rays revealed she is suffering with a fracture of the left wrist, and the socket of her left shoulder, besides multiple bruises about her body.

50 YEARS Ago - 1976

- Oct. 7, 1976 - Two novels written by Jon Hassler, English and humanities instructor at Brainerd Community College, have been accepted for publica-

Looking back

tion next year.

The novels are “Stagger- ford” and “Four Miles to Pinecone.” “Staggerford” will be published by Ath- eneum Publishers, New York. “Four Miles to Pine- cone” will be published by Frederick Warne and Com- pany, New York.

- Oct. 7, 1976 - On sale at Sunshine Warehouse Foods in Staples: Bananas, 19 cents/lb.; Onions, 2 lb. bag, 39 cents; Nestle’s Pure But- terscotch or Choc. Chips, 12 oz. pkg, 99 cents; Margarine, 1 lb. pkg, 39 cents; Butter- milk donuts, 1 doz., 79 cents; Gedney Pickles, 48 oz. jar, 79 cents; Star-Kist Tuna, 6 1/2 oz. tin, 55 cents; Wieners, 12 oz. pkg., 69 cents.
- Oct. 7, 1976 - The grand opening of Anderson Our Own Hardware under new management will take place this weekend, Oct. 7-9. New owners are J. R. McFadden and Bob Jensen. Accord- ing to an ad in this week’s edition of The World, free coffee and cookies will be available all three days of the grand opening. There will be drawings for many door prizes as well.
- Oct. 7, 1976 - Mike Has- sler of Staples is a member of the cast for the three act comedy, “The Secret Affairs of Mildred Wild,” according to Robert Dryden, Brainerd Community College theatre director. Hassler plays the role of The Man and Rex Bulby.
- Oct. 7, 1976 - Roberta Jane Horn of Route one, Verndale, has been accepted at the Lowthian Stevens Business School, 512 Nicol- let Mall, Minneapolis.

Miss Horn is enrolled in Fashion Merchandising and Retailing for the fall semester, starting Sept. 27. She is a 1974 graduate of Staples High School.

- Oct. 7, 1976 - Staples

DQ is offering a DQ Sundae for 5 cents on Friday, Oct. 8, when you buy another one at the regular price. Scrump dillyishus!

- Oct. 7, 1976 - The mem- bers of the Staples Fire Department had a busy time fighting a grass fire about one mile east of Aldrich late Sunday eve- ning and early Monday morning of this week.

It was reported that the Verndale Fire Department had also been called to the scene, along with the State Forestry Department. It was also reported that the fire spread over an area consisting of 130-150 acres. Verndale fire fighters.

- Oct. 7, 1976 - Revival services are continuing each evening at 7:30 p.m. through Sunday, Oct. 10, at the Staples Church of the Nazarene, located on Wis- consin Ave and Third St SW. Rev. F. J. Duke is the evan- gelist.

25 YEARS Ago - 2001

- Oct. 18, 2001 - Yard of the Month as selected by the Sprinkle and Sprout Garden Club was the home of Ron and Betty Starke, 316 4th Ave. S., Motley.
- Oct. 18, 2001 - The Sta- ples Motley girls tennis team brought home a big dual meet win and a South Sub-Section 8A team cham- pionship, as well as several individual wins last week.

Playing Long Prairie-GE on Monday and competing in Sub-Sections on Wednes- day, Thursday and Friday, the girls were undefeated at Long Prairie and downed New York Mills and Park Rapids for the Sub-Section championship. The girls will be competing at the Sec- tion 8A meet this Thursday and Friday, hoping to suc- cessfully defend their sec- tion title and earn a berth at

the state tennis meet.

- Oct. 18, 2001 - Three Staples Motley High School students, Ben Spar, Alicia Ulring and Jordan Olsen, have been selected to sing with the Minnesota State Anacrusis Honor’s Choir. They will perform at the Minnesota State Con- vention of the American Choral Directors in Novem- ber. This is Spar’s second appearance.
- Oct. 18, 2001 - Septem- ber Students of the Month at Staples Motley High School are Sarah Fellman, World History; Ashley Blake, Health; Crystal Hamling, Biology; Kelly Hove, Landscaping; Jacob Wagner, Algebra I; Sarah Line, Pre-School Center, Child Health and Safety; Anna Duberowski, Art Basics; Mary Shaffer, Span- ish II; Katie Bell, Yearbook; Jessica Beebe, Nursing Assist/Medical Tech; Chris- tina King, General Math; Troy Tyrrell, Symphonic Band; Jon Denery, English 12; Nicole Hoffmann, Crime and Justice.
- Oct. 18, 2001 - Quick thinking by the home- owner and a fast response by Staples Volunteer Fire Department probably saved a rural Staples home from destruction by fire Monday afternoon.

Orville and Joyce Ingeb- ritson returned home from a short trip to Staples to find their home full of smoke and fire in their kitchen. They grabbed the phone as they retreated out the door and called 911.

10 YEARS Ago - 2016

- Oct. 13, 2016 - The Sta- ples-Motley football team started slow but ended up rolling to a 36-6 Homecom- ing game win over Long Prairie-Grey Eagle on Oct. 7.



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week’s archive photo is from 1984. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the con- text 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 an- swers will be published in next week’s paper, as well as a new mystery photo.

Forestry plan comment period open

Committee chair. “The plan is most effective when it includes feedback from people who live and work in the landscape. The West Central Landscape Region encompasses three ecologi- cal sections (Prairie, Hard- woods, and Pine Moraines). Public input from all sec- tions of the region is vital to developing a well-rounded and multi-use plan.”

View the plan and instructions for submitting comments on the MFRC website at https://mn.gov/ frc/landscape/wc/. Down- load an image file of the West Central Landscape Region map at https://z. umn.edu/westcentral.

Informational Webinar Offered Nov. 3

The public is invited to a virtual information ses- sion on the updated West

Central Landscape Plan on Nov. 3, 2026, at 10 a.m. Central Time. The webinar is an opportunity to preview the updated plan, learn about region-specific forest man- agement goals, connect with contributors, and ask ques- tions. Learn more and reg- ister to attend on the MFRC website at https://mn.gov/ frc/landscape/wc/.



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

Located two doors south of Stomping Grounds Coffee Shop.

Regular advertising and copy deadline is Friday, noon.

The office closes at noon on Friday.

Across from the old Staples Theatre marquee



Our moonlight migrant

The American woodcock is known best to those who hunt the wooded uplands of the Great Lake states, and the states of New England and the Northeast. Most who encounter it are grouse hunters, who happen upon the bird from time to time when their path leads them to the margins where birch and aspen merge with alder, and approach the grassy, marshy edges of wetlands. A smaller number are actually dedicated to the hunting of woodcock, which—unlike the grouse—is a migrant, rather than a year-round resident. Its hunting season is therefore short, and the opportunity fleeting.

I'm not the first to describe the woodcock as a bird whose appearance suggests a creature assembled from "spare parts," so much does it differ from other birds with which we are familiar. William Tapply, in his book Upland Days, writes that the Seneca tribe of the Northeast United States attributed its features to the Maker, who—upon completing the work of creation—discovered an assortment of body parts left over. To avoid being wasteful, these parts were assembled by the Maker into the odd-looking bird we call the woodcock.

It is roughly quail-size, similar in general structure to snipe and other shorebirds, but more chunky and squat; anything but sleek and aerodynamic! Because of its ancestry and where it's usually found, some call it the "upland shorebird." A woodcock has a long, hinged bill with which it deeply probes moist earth to grasp earthworms. This is by far its primary food source, the remainder being insects, and a minor amount of plant material.

The woodcock's bill is, in fact, a feature used to tell males from females. According to those who most closely study woodcock, a specimen's bill 2.8 inches

or longer is invariably a female. A bill length less than 2.5 inches invariably belongs to a male. Bill lengths in between have a possibility of belonging to either sex. Another indicator is the maximum width of a woodcock's three outermost primary feathers, which are typically wider in females. Taken together, bill length and primary feather width can yield near certainty of a woodcock's sex. In general, woodcock males are slightly smaller than females as fully grown adults.

A woodcock's eyes are disproportionately large, able to gather limited light like a photographer's lens designed for low light conditions. Appropriate, for woodcock are one of the very few among all birds that are truly nocturnal. Many birds migrate at night, or are active at dawn and dusk, but few do most of their food gathering and moving about at night; the woodcock is one.

Another woodcock peculiarity is the orientation of its brain. In the course of evolution from its shorebird roots to upland resident, and its specialization as a sub-surface consumer of earthworms, the woodcock's eyes gradually moved to a position high and back on its skull. This gives the woodcock a nearly 360 degree field of vision when its long bill is plunged deep into the earth to extract an earthworm.

Because of this evolutionary turn of events, the woodcock's hearing apparatus—one can hardly call them ears!—are located below the eye, and above its bill. As a result of this rearrangement of body parts so important to its survival, the woodcock's brain is essentially upside-down when compared to other birds.

It's precisely because of its nocturnal habits, and the places where it's found, that so few who do not hunt are familiar with woodcock. It is most likely to be seen by non-hunters when a woodcock's dawn and dusk flights between feeding and resting areas take it over rural roads that are near low-lying woodlands, swamps, and marshes. At such times, perhaps seen only in silhouette—often in rapid, erratic flight—it might be mistaken for an oversize, over-stim-

ulated bat! At best, those unfamiliar are likely to ask "What just flew by us?"

One of the traits that makes woodcock appealing to hunters is its habit of relying on matchless camouflage plumage for concealment, rather than taking wing, or slinking off afoot, at the first hint of danger; something pheasants and ruffed grouse often do. This makes them ideal for hunters with pointing dogs, like a German shorthair, Brittany, or English setter, or a close-working Labrador or springer spaniel, the latter flushing rather than pointing game. Another flushing breed, the cocker spaniel, was generations ago actually named for its prowess in hunting woodcock, before show breeders ruined that trait in all but some remaining English cocker bloodlines.

Some of my most lasting memories in a long lifetime of hunting are of being in woodcock cover with Tess, our English setter, when October was nearing its end, and ground-stiffening temperatures were bringing in migrants from breeding grounds farther north. I have long since ceased measuring a hunt's success by whether I "limit out," as the expression goes. But I confess to having a special memory of a day long ago—the day before Halloween—with intermittent wet snowflakes, and the weatherman's promise of an overnight freeze. That day Tess found, pointed, and together we harvested a limit of five woodcock. She has long since gone the way of all beloved canine companions. But I have on an office wall a framed picture of her, posed—tastefully, I hope—with the fruits of our memorable day with woodcock.

Now, in the latter days of October, it's anyone's guess when temperatures will drop and remain low enough to congeal the soft, worm-rich earth in places where woodcock are fattening up for their southward journey to the Gulf States. It could happen at any time, prompting both local and migrant woodcock to make an overnight departure, to be absent until the warmth of March or April and the breeding urge lure them north again.

Find Treasure Within

Nothing good happens after 10 p.m.

By Frank Odell

There's an ancient piece of wisdom that has been passed down through generations of parents, grandparents, coaches, and suspiciously alert neighbors peeking through curtains. It goes something like this: "Nothing good happens after 10:00 p.m."

Now, is that statement scientifically verified? No. Has it been peer-reviewed by scholars in lab coats? Not exactly. But it has been tested in the real-world laboratory of poor decisions - and the results are overwhelming. After 10:00 p.m., common sense begins to clog out like an exhausted employee who has worked a double shift. Logic grabs its coat. Judgment says, "I'll see you tomorrow." And what's left in charge of the night shift is impulse, curiosity and That combination has never improved anyone's life. Before 10:00 p.m., people make reasonable decisions. They go to the grocery store. They call their mothers. They organize their sock drawers and maybe read a chapter of a respectable book. Civilization hums along nicely.

But something happens when the clock slides past 10:00 p.m. Suddenly, a person who earlier debated the health benefits of kale is now debating whether gas-station nachos are a "complete food group." A perfectly normal adult begins to consider sentences that start with, "You know what would be funny?" History proves that almost every regrettable story begins late at night. Nobody has ever said, "Let me tell you about the smartest thing I ever did at 11:47 p.m."

No, the stories sound more like this: "Okay...so it was around midnight..." And immediately everyone listening braces themselves. Because midnight stories never end with someone receiving a scholarship. They usually involve a ladder, a questionable decision, and someone saying, "I thought it would work." Nighttime has a strange power over the human brain. During daylight hours, a person can look at a ten-foot fence and say, "That fence exists for a reason." But at 11:30 p.m., that same fence becomes a challenge. The mind whispers dangerous encouragements: "You could totally climb that." And then someone tries. Gravity, however, does not operate on nighttime optimism.

Hyperbole aside, the late-night hours have a remarkable ability to inflate confidence while shrinking wisdom. People become philosophers, comedians, engineers, and stunt performers - all without training.

At 1:00 a.m. someone will confidently declare, "I bet we can fix that ourselves." By 2:00 a.m. the project involves duct tape, a flashlight held between someone's teeth, and instructions that begin with, "Don't tell anybody we tried this."

Even the food choices after 10:00 p.m. deserve their own warning label. During the day, a person carefully reads ingredients. After 10:00 p.m., a man will eat something glowing under a heat lamp that has been rotating since the Carter administration and say, "It'll probably be fine." Probably" is not a comforting culinary standard. Of course, the phrase "Nothing good happens after 10:00 p.m." is a bit of exaggeration. Babies are born after 10:00 p.m. Great novels have been written after 10:00 p.m. Some people even do their best thinking after 10:00 p.m. But for the average human being wandering around with friends, snacks and questionable ideas, the odds are not encouraging. Late night has a way of turning small decisions into legendary mistakes. You go out "for a minute," and suddenly it's 2:30 a.m. and someone is explaining to a police officer why there are three traffic cones in the back seat. You didn't plan to acquire traffic cones. It just...happened.

Morning, on the other hand, is where wisdom lives. Morning people drink coffee and say things like, "Let's think this through." Morning people rarely appear in viral videos involving trampolines, shopping carts and emergency rooms. Morning has clarity. Night has enthusiasm. And enthusiasm without wisdom is like giving a chainsaw to a squirrel - energetic, unpredictable and likely to end badly. So perhaps the old saying isn't a strict rule. It's more of a warning sign posted on the highway of life. After 10:00 p.m., the road gets darker, the guardrails get thinner and the passengers get louder.

That doesn't mean you can't travel it. It just means you might want to bring a little extra judgment along for the ride. Because if someone looks at you late at night and says, "Trust me, this will be fun," you might remember the ancient wisdom...and check the clock.

Frank Odell grew up in Willmar, MN with roots on a small farm not far from Svea, MN. His formal education includes Willmar Community College, MN-Morris, Master's in Education at Hamline University; he Taught English, Theatre and Speech for 30 years in Milan and Staples.

Quote of the week

“The rule of law is the foundation of freedom. When it is compromised, liberty itself is at risk.” — Sandra Day O'Connor

Minnesota should keep the point system for repeat offenders

From the Minnesota County Attorneys Association

When someone commits multiple felony offenses, those crimes should matter when determining the appropriate sentence. That principle seems straightforward. Yet the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission is considering changes to a longstanding sentencing practice known as "Hernandizing," which recognizes the cumulative seriousness of multiple felony convictions resolved at the same time.

In Minnesota, sentencing is based on a grid. Every offense is ranked by severity, and an offender is sentenced

based on the amount of criminal history points they acquire. Points are generally given if an offender has been convicted of a felony.

If an offender is convicted of multiple felonies, they will have more criminal history points.

For instance, if John Doe has four criminal history points and commits an armed robbery with John Smith who has zero criminal history points - John Doe would face a more severe sentence than would John Smith.

This practice comes from a 1981 Supreme Court case, State v. Hernandez, which allows a district court to sentence an offender for

multiple offenses at one time, accruing criminal history points for each offense, and sentencing each next offense with each new criminal history score. In essence, the court is allowed to sentence multiple crimes in one hearing instead of setting it for different hearings, and if an offender commits multiple felonies in a short amount of time, they will be facing more time.

If one of the Commission's most radical proposals is successful, Hernandizing would end. And in doing so, criminal history points would no longer accrue for each pending offense. Eliminating this practice would fundamentally change how

Minnesota courts account for multiple offenses at sentencing. It would risk treating defendants with multiple convictions more leniently simply because their cases happen to be resolved in a single proceeding. Without Hernandizing, an offender facing multiple unrelated charges - arising, for example, from a spree of burglaries, a pattern of domestic violence against different victims, or a series of drug transactions - would receive an artificial discount simply because the cases happened to be consolidated for sentencing on a single day. That is not a technicality. It is the difference between propor-

tional accountability and a loophole that rewards defendants who would arrange to have multiple cases resolved together.

For instance, and as an actual case example, a person sexually abused his daughter's 8-year-old and 10-year-old friends on several separate occasions over a fifteen-month period. This offender had hundreds of videos of the abuse that he filmed while he assaulted them. He was found guilty and received a 30-year prison sentence. However, under the new proposed policy he would only receive a 12-year prison sentence.

In another actual example, a person possessed child abuse material of five different girls under the age of 14 which he downloaded on separate occasions. He was found guilty and sentenced to a 102 month prison term. However, under the new proposed policy he would not go to prison but would, instead, be placed on probation and have a 24 month stayed sentence.

As County Attorneys, we believe this will be at odds with our pursuit of justice and the protection of public safety. Hernandizing is one of our best tools to prosecute repeat offenders of crimes such as domestic abuse, possession and manufacturing of child sexual abuse material, and dealing drugs. Our offices are swamped with repeat felony offenders whose consequences for their actions will go unpunished if the Commission goes forward with their changes. This change will frustrate victims, police, and the judiciary as it would allow repeat felony offenders to continue committing crimes with impunity while their cases are pending. It also takes away

one of the most important aspects of the criminal justice system: discretion.

Prosecutors have discretion to use Hernandizing as a method to get multiple cases resolved.

However, prosecutors do not have the final say.

A judge's discretion is a check on overaggressive prosecutions. The sentences of those judges are reviewed by the Court of Appeals. The Court of Appeals opinions are reviewed by the Supreme Court.

We ask you to reach out to the Sentencing Guidelines Commission to voice your opposition to this proposal. (sentencing.guidelines@state.mn.us)

It's rare that the Minnesota County Attorney's Association writes directly to the public to inform the public of an issue. However, on an issue which could negatively affect victims' rights, public safety, and the integrity of our justice system, we cannot stand silent. While reforms are sometimes necessary, they must make sense. And to us, reducing sentences for repeat felony offenders doesn't make any sense at all.

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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

Publisher RMM Publications LLC
Owner Mark Anderson editor@staplesworld.com
Advertising Rep..... editor@staplesworld.com
Reporter.....Dawn Timbs dtimbs@staplesworld.com
Photo Tech/production.....Janice Winter jwinter@staplesworld.com
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Bookkeeping/Circulation.....Kathy Odden kodden@staplesworld.com

Subscription Rates:

Local: (Todd, Wadena, Morrison, Cass Counties) \$53 per year

Website: \$50 per year

Minnesota: \$58 per year - Out of State: \$63 per year

Foreign: on-line only - Student Rate: (Sept. through Apr./in-state) \$43

There is a \$5 charge for address change from local to out-of-state.

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Cardinal Calendar
SM school events

October

◦ **HOME VOLLEYBALL Vs. PERHAM** Thursday, Oct. 22, 4:45 p.m., C team, The Nest; 6 p.m., jr. varisty, The Nest; 7:15 p.m., varsity, The Nest.
◦ **MS FALL DANCE** Friday, Oct. 23, 3:15 - 5 p.m., Legacy Gym.
◦ **FALL CONCERTS - BAND/ORCHESTRA/CHOIR** Friday, Oct. 23, MS, 6 p.m.; HS, 7:30 p.m., Centennial Auditorium, Staples.
◦ **HOME CROSS COUNTRY** Thursday, Oct. 29. Section 6A Meet, boys and girls, at The Vintage, Staples.

All Staples-Motley Upcoming Events are subject to change. Go to www.isd2170.k12.mn.us for up to the minute information.



The crew of Halloween past

A former crew of "Twisted Sisters" (now BECK's Burgers location) in Staples dressed up for some Halloween fun posing in front of the building approximately 17 years ago. Who are they for real? (Submitted photo)

Left to right: Rory Erickson, Cindy Blanchard, Kenny Zimmerman, Steve Wilkins, Greg (Des) Reese, Skye Reese (hidden), Varley 'Bucky' Blanchard, Sandi Aagron, Lisa (Meech) Wilkins.

LHS open house for da Vinci 5 robotic-assisted surgical system

Lakewood Health System, Staples, will host a public open house for its new da Vinci 5 surgical system on Monday, Nov. 9, from 4 to 7 p.m. near the fireplace on the lower level of Lakewood's Main Campus in Staples (49725 Cty 83). Enter through the Main Entrance.

During the event, representatives from Intuitive, the maker of the da Vinci system, will provide demonstrations, answer questions and give attendees an opportunity to try operating the technology themselves. Surgeons who use the da Vinci system will also be

available to discuss how robotic-assisted surgery is used and answer questions. The da Vinci 5 is the latest generation of robotic-assisted surgical technology. It's designed to give surgeons enhanced visualization, precision and control during mini-

mally invasive procedures. Throughout surgery, the surgeon remains in control, using the system to translate their hand movements into precise movements of specialized instruments. Lakewood is among a small number of health-care organizations in Minnesota with a da Vinci 5 system, providing local access to advanced robotic-assisted surgical technology. The open house is free and open to the public, no RSVP is required.



Photo: da Vinci robotic-assisted surgical system



Calm before the storm

Two young does graze in a yard west of Staples Oct. 18, apparently unaware that deer hunting season is around the corner. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

VOTE
NOVEMBER 3RD

MILO SCOTT
FOR
WADENA COUNTY SHERIFF

- ★ Over 22 Years Law Enforcement Experience
- ★ Fiscally Responsible
- ★ Proponent of the Constitution
- ★ Committed to our Community
- ★ Experienced Leadership

PAID FOR BY MILO SCOTT FOR WADENA COUNTY SHERIFF

Mark Your Calendar

October 22

'**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>

WADENA WHIRLAWAYS SQUARE DANCE GROUP DANCING Thursday, Oct. 22, 7 - 9:30 p.m., at Lakewood Health System Care Center, 401 Prairie Ave NE, Staples. Abe Maier, caller. For info., 612-743-3480.

October 23

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.

October 25

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

October 27

CARE MINISTRY FREE MEAL Tuesday, Oct. 27, 4:30 - 6 p.m., at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1000 4th St. NE, Staples. Scalloped potatoes and ham, beans, roll and desserts. The free meals are held on a monthly basis to promote fellowship, connection and nourishment.

GRIEF SHARE - WEEKLY SEMINAR AND SUPPORT GROUP Tuesdays, 6 - 8 p.m., at Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood Street E., Motley. Through Dec. 15. For info., call 218-352-6888, or visit www.griefshare.org.

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.

WADENA COUNTY REPUBLICANS MEETING Tuesday, Oct. 27, 7 p.m., at the Wadena VFW. Come early to eat and visit with like-minded people.

Ladies' Night Out

STAPLES ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH
914 3RD AVENUE NE, STAPLES, MN

Monday, October 26 | 5:30-7:30 PM

Join us for Movie Night: "A Great Awakening"

One Man's Faith Ignited A Revolution

Popcorn & movie treats provided!

Freewill offering to cover movie licensing

Also there will be goods to purchase for benefit of Betty Savage orphanage in Sierra Leone.

Thank you for your donations!

Trunk or Treat

CANDY - HOT DRINKS
S'MORES - COSTUMES

31 Oct

Saturday, 4:00-5:30pm
Staples Alliance Church
1512 8th St. NE

FREE FAMILY EVENT; ALL AGES WELCOME

Meatball SUPPER
Swan Valley
Lutheran Church,
Hwy 64, Leader, MN

Sat., Oct. 24

Meatballs, Mashed Potatoes,
Gravy, Squash, Coleslaw,
Dessert, Beverage

•Quilt Raffle

FREE WILL OFFERING
Serving 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

23rd Annual

STAPLES AREA Men's Chorus

Tenor/ Bass Choral Festival

Saturday, Oct. 24, 2026

Staples-Motley High School Legacy Gym

Workshops and rehearsals begin at noon

Concert at 7 p.m.
Doors open 6 p.m.

Tickets \$10
6 & under free
Family max. \$25

Sponsored by staplesmen.org

Purchase tickets online:
www.staplesmen.org
or at Ace Hardware and Hubbard Hardware, Staples

Guest Director
Dr. Michael J. Johnson
Director of Choral Activities and Vocal Music Education at Minnesota State Moorhead

Guest Director
Caleb Horn
General Music and Choral Director at Battle Lake

This activity is made possible, in part, by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Five Wings Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation, free Arts and Cultural heritage Fund.

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oHello Worldo

ONLINE BIRTHS REMOVED
AT THE REQUEST OF LAKEWOOD
HEALTH SYSTEM.

oObituaryo

Stella Hassinger

Staples

Staples Alliance
1512 8th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2891
Pastor John Pavlica, Lead Pastor
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 11:00 a.m.
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.
Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Children's Church (Kids start in main worship service) 11:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting 5:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Sonlight (Kids ages 4 yrs - 6th grade) After school to 4:30 p.m. 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 Robert Drake
Sunday Worship Service 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School and Coffee Fellowship 9:30 a.m.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
310 4th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2296
Church 218-894-2296
parishsecretary@marysacc.org
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Rev. Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
SUNDAY
Mass 8:30 a.m.

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

Thomastown Covenant
15940 251st Ave., Staples 218-894-3923
SUNDAY
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
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
Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.

Cushing
Bethany Lutheran
25430 Bison Rd., Cushing, MN
320-749-2140
www.bethanylutherancushing.com.
Pastor Robert Drake
SUNDAY
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m

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

Cushing Baptist
26298 Bear Rd., Cushing
www.cushingbaptistchurch.org
Pastor Dan Holmes
320-749-2583
SUNDAY
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, Syndically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament
SUNDAY
January - July 9 a.m.
August - December 11:00 a.m.

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

Motley
Motley Free Methodist
33 Wellwood St. NE, Motley 56466
218-352-6141
Jim Johnson, Senior Pastor
Casey Reynolds, Assistant Pastor
SUNDAY
Sunday Worship 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.
facebook live 9:00 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
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. Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
SUNDAY
Mass 10:30 a.m.

United Methodist
847 3rd Ave. S. Lane, Motley
218-352-6466
Pastor Jonathan Holland
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, 218-472-3316
Pastor Neal Malcore
SUNDAY
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

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

Casino Assembly of God
N. of Motley, Hwy. 64, E on Cty 34 to Cty. 104
218-746-3839
Pastor Dan Johnson
SUNDAY
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 S, Pillager
218-746-3768
Pastor Jake Anderson
curious@fbcpillager.com
SUNDAY
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 56453
218-924-2028
Jim and Linda McGaffey, Pastors
SUNDAY
Sunday School 9:30 a.m
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.
WEDNESDAY PRAYER 7:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS)
524 Front St, PO Box 116, Hewitt, MN 56453
Pastor Robin Fish
SUNDAY
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Hewitt Community Church
Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN 56453
Pastor Kenneth Uhren
SUNDAY
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Verndale
Verndale Alliance
109 Brown Street NW, Verndale 56481
218-445-5619
Senior Pastor, Tony Stanley
Youth Pastor, Joe Ward
SUNDAY
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Bible Fellowship Class 11:00-11:45 a.m.

Hope Chapel Alliance
18126 County Road 7, Verndale 56481
218-445-5643 or 218-472-3316
Pastor Neal Malcore
SUNDAY
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Weds. Family Night 5:30 p.m.

Family Life Church
402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale 56481
Pastor Amos Self 218-371-7189
Church 218-445-5568
Tahna Rurup, Connections & Media Pastor
Tilman Phagun, Kid's & Food Shelf Pastor
Ryan Wolfenden, Youth Pastor
SUNDAY
Youth Prayer 9:20 a.m.
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting 5:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Life Groups 6:30 p.m.

Hope Chapel Alliance
18126 County Road 7, Verndale 56481
218-445-5643 or 218-471-3316
Pastor Neal Malcor
SUNDAY
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 56481
Pastor Robin Fish
SUNDAY
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
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.

Central Community Church
5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar)
Hewitt, MN 56453
Pastor James Middendorf
320-260-4952
SUNDAY
Sunday Service 9:30 a.m.
Bible Study 8:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Seeds of Hope 6:00 p.m.

St. Hubert Catholic Church
Bluegrass 218-631-1593
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Father Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
parishsecretary@marysacc.org
SATURDAY
Mass 5:00 p.m.

Wadena
St. Helen's Episcopal Church
22 Dayton Ave. SW, Wadena, MN 56482
218-311-3928
SUNDAY
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

St. Ann's Catholic Church
514 1st Street SE, Wadena, MN 56482
218-631-1593
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Father Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
parish secretary@marysacc.org
SUNDAY
Mass (livestream) 10:00 a.m.



Stella Hassinger, 91, passed away October 16, 2026.

Memorial services will be held October 30, at 11 a.m. with visitation one hour prior, all at Gearty-Delmore Plymouth Chapel, 15800 37th Ave N, 55446.

She was born November 15, 1934 to Ralph and Lydia Longerbone in Minneapolis.

She married Earl Hassinger on September 16, 1989.

She is survived by one daughter, Debby Anderson; seven stepchildren; eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in

death by her husband, Earl; son, Eric Anderson; stepson, Mark Hassinger; parents; four brothers and three sisters.

A00006B2026OT21

Life Currents Policy

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

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

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

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

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“Who Owns October 31 ?”

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

Decorating for special occasions is enjoyable. Decorations enhance the atmosphere in festive ways for special days. We think of how the changing seasons bring out reasons to reflect the accompanying atmosphere in honoring ways.

Our current season of Autumn is possibly the greatest outdoor example of God’s own personal decorating from the colorful leaves to the golden browns of the fields being harvested and the colorful garden produce.

It’s good to remember from Whom “all blessings flow.” That last phrase is in the opening line of the “Doxology” which pens, “Praise God from Whom all blessings, flow!” This truth is declared in two Scriptures. Psalm 24:1 says, “The earth is the Lords and all that is in it; the world and all who live in it.” In question form, pointing to the Creator God, the apostle Paul asks in I Corinthians 4:7 (NIV) “What do you have that you did not receive” And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?”

So, how does all of this tie into October 31?

The apostle Paul in Romans 14:5-6b says, “One person considers one day more sacred than another; another considers every day alike. Each of them should be fully convinced in their own mind. Whoever regards one day as special does so to the Lord...” Like the other 364 days of the year, October 31 is among them. Truth be known, every day is to be a “God-day.”

We need to notice what the apostle Paul says about how each day is to be lived. Our engagement of every day, including October 31, is to be “to the Lord.” He is worthy of that, since each day unfolds from Him.

So, how are we doing when it comes to October 31? Are we getting ready for and then participating in ways that point to God or are we taking a “holiday” off from caring about that?

The Fall season, leading up to October 31 and beyond, has so many opportunities for us to take in the beauty and generosity of God with an accompanying gratitude to God. How will you live and celebrate October 31?

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Noska returns to state tennis, along with Perius sisters, Hanson and Kroll

Ronnie Noska only lost two games in four matches as she steamrolled through the Section 8A singles bracket and earned her fifth straight trip to the state tennis tournament.

Both Staples-Motley doubles teams reached the section finals, with Madison Perius and Kaylee Perius winning against Natalie Hanson and Sarah Kroll. Kroll and Hanson had already defeated the third place team in the semifinal, so no true second match was needed and all four Cardinals doubles players advanced to the state tennis tournament.

Lydia Roelofs was the other singles player for Staples-Motley, falling 6-3, 6-2 in the first round.

In contrast to the disappointment of falling one match short of going to state in the team tournament, this was a glorious way to finish the section tournament for the Cardinals.

Noska will play at 8 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 29 for

her first state match. Both doubles teams will open their state tournament at 10 a.m. on the same day. State tennis is at Inner City Tennis in Minneapolis, the same location as in the past, with a new name.

Noska is ranked fifth in the state at singles. She was barely touched as she rolled through the section tournament, but will find tougher competition at state. Noska has a lot of state experience, qualifying in both team and as an individual singles player as an eighth grader in 2022. She paired with Lauren Rutten as a state doubles team in 2023 and qualified in singles in 2024 and 2025.

Both doubles teams won their first match in straight sets, then both faced teams from Thief River Falls in the semifinal. Perius and Perius were up against the same doubles team that had defeated them the day before in the team tournament. This time they stepped up with a 6-3, 6-4 win to get to the final.

Meanwhile, Hanson and Kroll had a tight match against two of the singles players from TRF who entered as a doubles team. They won the first set 7-5, lost a tiebreaker to lose 6-7 in the second set, then made the section finals with a convincing 6-3 win in the third set.

The section final battle between the two Cardinal teams was won 6-1, 6-2 by Perius and Perius to earn the first spot at state. Hanson and Kroll also advanced because of their earlier win over the third place team.

This will be the first state tournament experience for three of the doubles players, while Madison Perius was on the 2022 team that went to state.

In a complete reversal of fortune from the team section, Staples-Motley now has five people going to the state individual tournament, while team champion Thief River Falls has none, the other singles spot going to a Crookston player.

son W 6-2, 6-1

Section semifinal Staples-Motley 5, East Grand Forks 2

Singles: R. Noska W 6-1, 6-0; K. Perius W 6-4, 6-3; Erickson L 7-5, 6-2; Dolezal L 6-0, 6-0

Doubles: M. Perius/Hanson W 6-7, 6-0, (10-2); Kroll/Roelofs W 7-5, 6-4; Pesta/C. Noska W 6-2, 6-2

Section championship Staples-Motley 3, Thief River Falls 4

Singles: Noska W 6-0, 6-0; Pesta L 6-2, 6-2; Erickson L 6-2, 6-2; Dolezal L 6-4, 6-2

Doubles: M. Perius/K. Perius L 6-2, 6-4; Hanson/Kroll W 6-2, 6-2; C. Noska/Roelofs W 6-2, 6-2

Cardinals fall one match short in section final

The Staples-Motley girls tennis team lost 4-3 in the section finals against Thief River Falls, getting within one match of a state tournament appearance.

After rolling fairly steadily in the first two rounds, the Cardinals mixed up their lineup to try and get the fourth team point in the finals against Thief River Falls. It worked in that they were able to win two of the three doubles matches, but three singles matches were lost in straight sets, after Ronnie Noska won 6-0, 6-0.

This was the fourth straight year the Cardinals have placed second in the section, and the second straight year of losing 4-3 in the section final.

Team results

Section 8A team tournament

Section quarterfinal Staples-Motley 6, Wadena-Deer Creek 1

Singles: Ronnie Noska W 6-4, 6-1; Kaylee Perius W 6-3, 6-1; Lydia Roelofs L 3-6, 6-4, 3-6; Charlie Noska W 7-5, 6-2

Doubles: Madison Perius/Natalie Hanson W 6-2, 6-0; Mia Pesta/Sarah Kroll W 6-3, 6-2; Alexa Dolezal/Katelyn Erick-

Fast races in cross country

The Staples-Motley cross country teams placed in the middle of the pack in a big meet, the Perham Invitational on Oct. 13. Eight team members ran personal best times on this traditionally fast course.

The Cardinal girls team had a spread of only one minute, 52 seconds between the first and fifth runner, one of the shortest gaps in the field. Elise Trif, Anna Warner, Elizabeth Kroll and Alexis Odden set personal best times while Suhaila Mikhaeil continued her strong season as the team's second runner.

In the boys race, Spencer Olsen, Reed Leach, Jackson Odden and Alex Leach all ran their personal fastest times, while Andrew Dobson had his fastest time of the season.

As they are rounding into their best

shape, the Cardinals will run the Heart O' Lakes Conference meet on Thursday, Oct. 22 at Hawley, then return home to host the Section 6A meet on Thursday, Oct. 29 at The Vintage golf course in Staples.

Girls results

Staples-Motley 13th of 22 teams
58. Elise Trif 21:07, 74. Suhaila Mikhaeil 21:36, 76. Anna Warner 21:37, Elizabeth Kroll 22:10, 100. Alexis Odden 22:59, 157. Cydney McGree-Schmidtbauer 29:20

Boys results

Staples-Motley 16th of 22 teams
54. Andrew Dobson 17:51, 88. Spencer Olsen 18:55, 96. Reed Leach 19:08, 105. Jackson Odden 19:25, 115. Alex Leach 20:13, 137. Brayden Moore 22:40, 146. Jackson Bitzer 25:12

Cardinals run wild in 57-34 win over Pillager

The Staples-Motley football team turned a close game into a high-scoring win with three straight touchdowns to open the second half and turned it into a 57-34 victory. The Cardinal offense never had to punt as they racked up 395 total yards gained, and held Pillager to 286 yards.

Cayden Niesen rushed for 211 yards and three touchdowns, while Beau Carlson had 107 yards on the ground and three more touchdowns. The other Cardinal touchdowns were scored by Adrian Caldwell on a defensive touchdown and Evan Schultz on a pass from Cooper Tappe.

Staples-Motley put themselves in a hole early in the game when they fumbled on their first drive. Pillager took it in for a score and a 6-0 lead. The Cardinals came back with first down runs by Niesen and Tristan Moore. Tappe hit Schultz with a touchdown pass and Niesen kicked the extra point for a 7-6 lead.

Owen Roline stopped the next Pillager drive with a sack on third down. The Cardinal running game got back to work, moving

down the field until Carlson scored to go up 14-6. The back-and-forth continued with Pillager tying the score and Niesen cracking off a long run to go up 21-14. Pillager scored towards the end of the half and Schultz broke up a pass on the extra point attempt to keep the Cardinals ahead 21-20 at halftime.

The second half started with Carlson falling on a fumble for a turnover. He finished the ensuing drive with a touchdown. Niesen kicked another extra point, one of seven in the game, to gain a two score lead at 29-20.

That seemed to push the game's momentum towards Staples-Motley, as they made a quick stop with Ryder Thompson and Roline plugging up the middle. Niesen scored on a 47 yard run to go up 36-20.

In the fourth quarter, on a fourth down play the Cardinals put pressure on the Pillager quarterback and forced a fumble that Caldwell picked up and ran 60 yards for the touchdown and a 43-20 lead.

But Pillager was not done, as they started pass-

ing successfully and cut it to 43-28 with a touchdown.

Niesen made a long kick-off return to the 9 yard line and scored on a run from there for a 50-28 lead. Pillager came right back to cut it to 50-34 with 5:15 left.

Niesen made another long run and finished the drive with the game's final score.

Pillager's last chance to tighten the score was stopped when Seth Cossentine made a tackle for a loss on fourth down. Another running first down by Carlson let the Cardinals run the clock out to win 57-34.

Team results

Staples-Motley 57, Pillager 34

Rushing: Cayden Niesen 12 carries, 211 yards, 3 TD; Beau Carlson 15-107, 3 TD; Cooper Tappe 7-35, Tristan Moore 3-29

Passing: Tappe 4-7, 13 yards, 1 TD

Receiving: Evan Schultz 2-19, 1 TD; Carlson 2-(6)

Tackles (solo-assists) Adrian Caldwell 4-7, Seth Cossentine 4-0, Schultz 3-0, Owen Roline 3-3, Ayden Hovland 3-1, Niesen 2-0, Carlson 2-0, Moore 1-4, Zach Tabatt 1-10, Chase Blue 0-1, Ryder Thompson 0-6, Ben Stevens 0-2, Jayden Rogers 0-1



Block celebration

The Staples-Motley volleyball team celebrates a block against Aitkin. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Cardinals take another game to the fifth set

The Staples-Motley volleyball team is making a habit of taking matches to a fifth set, showing how competitive they can be. The Cardinals played their fifth five-set match of the year, to go with three tournament matches that went to an extra set, in a 3-2 loss against Aitkin on Oct. 12. The Cardinals also lost 3-0 at Barnesville on Oct. 13.

Against Aitkin, the Cardinals took an early lead in the first set but started to lose their attack. They began setting the ball to Kylee Chenoweth, who came through with several hard spikes. That became a theme for the rest of the game for when they were lagging, to set Chenoweth and have her swing hard.

In the second set, Addison Potter started hitting well, with six kills. Jasmine Hove ended the set with a block.

The Cardinals won the third set with Potter and Hove blocking all of Aitkin's attacks. In the fourth set, Aitkin learned to hit off the block and the Cardinals were unable to mount their own attack. That continued in the fifth set, as Staples-Motley had very few hard spike attempts because they got out of rhythm.

Team results

Staples-Motley 2, Aitkin 3

23-25, 25-20, 25-18, 12-25, 10-15

Lucy Maros 5 assists, 4 digs
Katelyn Shotzko 3 aces, 15 assists, 1 kill, 6 digs



Chloe Trantina

Chloe Trantina 1 assist, 18 digs
Kylee Chenoweth 1 assist, 9 digs
Clara Maros 2 kills, 3 blocks, 2 digs
Hannah Cole 1 ace 3 assists, 4 blocks, 7 digs
Addison Potter 10 kills, 2 blocks
Jasmine Hove 3 kills, 4 blocks
Kyleena Rudlang 8 kills 4 digs
Jada Ellingson 1 kill, 2 digs
Taylee Reese 1 dig



Jada Ellingson

NOTICES

100

Events/
Announcements

AUCTION OF 2 STORAGE UNITS at EEEz Storage in Staples, MN, Via Online Auction at Storagetreasures.com, on behalf of Daniel Bible. Auction start 10/28/26 8:30 a.m. Belongings include household, bedroom and garage items.

43-44c

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208

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43-44c

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SW 2026 changed wk #35



Youth football action

Staples-Motley youth football players surround a Pequot Lakes runner during the youth football showcase on Oct. 1. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Public Notices

NOTICE LAKE SHORE AERATION WARNING LAKE SHAMINEAU

Open water along the shore with thin ice around the edge on the South shores of Lake Shamineau starting November 2026 and early months of 2027. For inquiries contact 320-309-3783.

43-45pnp

NOTICE LAKE SHORE AERATION WARNING LAKE SHAMINEAU

An aeration system will be operated in order to protect shoreline from ice expansion December 15, 2026 to May 1, 2027 on the south shore of Lake Shamineau located off shore of 2002 and 2014 Arras Lane, Motley MN 56466. Be aware of thin ice and open water.

DNR Permit 2025-3295. 42&44pnp

NOTICE MORAN TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING

The Moran Township November monthly meeting will be moved to Monday, November 2, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the town hall. General Elections will be held at the township hall from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, November 3, 2026.

Diane Mack, Clerk Moran Township

44-45pnc

NOTICE THOMASTOWN TOWNSHIP GENERAL ELECTION

Thomastown Township, Wadena County, will be open for General Elections on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at which time the polls will close.

Jon Hamberg, Clerk Thomastown Township

44-45pnc

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: May 8, 2020

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$263,532.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Jatty D. Zondo, married woman

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Guardian Mortgage, a division of Sunflower Bank, N.A.

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on May 13, 2020 as Document Number 519346 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Guardian Mortgage, a division of Sunflower Bank, N.A. by assignment recorded on October 6, 2023 as Document Number A538428 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, except the East

33 feet thereof, in Section 4, Township 132, Range 35, Todd County, Minnesota.

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 13134 COUNTY 24, BERTHA, MN 56437

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

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$235,754.97

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Guardian Mortgage, a division of Sunflower Bank, N.A.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Sunflower Bank, N.A.

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 02-0003900

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1005554-1200011864-0

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: December 10, 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 December 10, 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 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

Wadena County success story

The Vintage teeing up a new path to ownership

Press Release from the North Central SBDC

For Paul and Alison Augustinack, business ownership began with an unexpected opportunity. While working in real estate in the fall of 2024, Paul learned that the Vintage Golf Club in Staples was available for purchase. Within approximately eight weeks, the

couple moved from considering the idea to closing on the business. Rather than starting from scratch, they acquired an established operation with facilities, employees, members and a recognized role in the community. The Vintage is an 18-hole championship public golf course that follows the Crow Wing River through hardwood and pine forests, offering scenic river views, multiple practice areas and a full-sized driving range.

Purchasing an existing business gave Paul and Alison a strong foundation, but it still required them to learn quickly and make thoughtful decisions. Nearly the entire staff remained through the transition, providing valuable operational knowledge and continuity. Instead of immediately changing everything, the new owners focused on understanding the business, strengthening its operations and investing in improvements that would benefit customers. Those improvements have included an irrigation well, a new fleet of golf carts and expanded inventory for the pro shop.

The Next Generation

Paul and Alison are building on the course's existing strengths while creating new opportunities for growth. The Vintage has expanded its tournament activity, increased its focus on public play and begun developing weddings and other events as additional revenue streams. The club now promotes itself as a venue for banquets, birthday and graduation parties, charity fundraisers, group golf outings and weddings. Their vision is for the Vintage to become more than a golf course, serving as a gathering place where people can connect, celebrate and spend time together.

That commitment to community is especially meaningful when viewed through the course's nearly century-long history. The Vintage first opened as a 9-hole course in 1929 and was later redesigned and expanded into the 18-hole public course that exists today. Each generation has left its mark, from those who first established the course to the owners, employees, members and community supporters

who strengthened and preserved it over the decades. Now, Paul and Alison represent the next chapter: Gen Z ownership owners bringing fresh energy and new ideas while respecting the traditions and relationships that have made the Vintage a Staples institution.

A Strong Course for Business

Wadena County offers a strong environment for entrepreneurs like Paul and Alison: those who want to purchase and grow a business in a community where relationships matter. Small business owners benefit from a more manageable cost of entry, loyal local customers and community leaders who are willing to make connections and help solve problems. Organizations such as the Economic Alliance, the economic development corporation serving the county, provide hands-on support and local knowledge, helping entrepreneurs identify opportunities and navigate the realities of ownership. For Paul and Alison, Wadena County has provided the right setting to build on the history of the Vintage while creating new opportunities for the business and the Staples community.

The North Central Small Business Development Center supports Wadena County entrepreneurs through its satellite partnership with the Economic Alliance. That partnership is strengthened by the Economic Alliance's Executive Director Alison Medeck, who also serves as North Central SBDC consultant. Through this work, she helps connect local business owners with practical guidance, training and broader development resources.

Paul and Alison regularly participate in North Central SBDC events such as Entrepreneurs on Tap and Marketing Mornings, where they gain new ideas, build relationships with other business owners and stay connected to local resources. They have worked with consultants Tyler Wittwer and Pam Thomsen on Paid Leave requirements, financial management and cash-flow planning. Those conversations have provided practical guidance for navigating day-to-day challenges and making informed decisions as the business grows.

opment, Great River Energy.

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

Todd County Planning Commission Jim Pratt, Chair

44pnc

NOTICE OF UNITED HOSPITAL DISTRICT REGULAR ELECTION

Notice is hereby given, that the regular election of the Hospital District will be held Tuesday, November 3, 2026, at which time the polls will be open in the following voting precincts at the following polling places at the following times:

Becker Township: By mail

Byron Township: By mail

City of Staples: 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. (Staples Community Center)

Moran Township: 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Motley Township: By mail

Thomastown Township: 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

That at said Regular Hospital District election the following matters will be voted upon: The election of one member to the Hospital District Board for a term expiring December 31, 2030, representing and from each of the following cities and townships:

Becker Township

City of Staples

Byron Township

Motley Township

Moran Township

Thomastown Township By the order of the District Board of Directors United Hospital District, Staples, Minnesota.

Hospital District Clerk

44pnc



Local ownership

Alison and Paul Augustinack



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Staples World

DEADLINES

Newspaper deadline for copy and advertising: 12 noon Fridays

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

43-48pnc



Hall of Fame inductees greet the greats

Some of the greatest moments of the Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame ceremony are the mixing of athletes, coaches and fan before and after the event.

Above, this year's Hall of Fame class welcomes past inductees to the stage for a full group photo. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Hall of Fame Coach Tom Honek, right, looks over The Nest with family and friends of his daughter, Michelle (Honek) Linz, following the Hall of Fame event.



Possible future Hall of Famers run the track at The Nest after the AHOF induction ceremony.

Shop Local!

We have what you need right here
Check out these local businesses

Home, Hardware

Staples Ace Hardware	210 2nd Ave NE, Staples
Central Building Supply	820 2nd Ave. NW, Staples
Motley Hardware	117 Highway 10 S., Motley
The Great Indoors	877 2nd Ave. NW, Staples

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STAPLES, MN
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**Staples ACE HARDWARE**
Grills, Stihl, Fishing, paint
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**ERNIE'S**
GROCERY • CONVENIENCE • GAS • LIQUOR • TOBACCO
1230 HWY 10 EAST • STAPLES, MINNESOTA • 218-894-1072

Groceries & food

Ernie's Food Market	1425 Highway 10 E, Staples
Jon's Family Foods	203 Warner Road NE, Staples

Automobiles & vehicle repair

Nyhus Chevrolet	120 2nd Ave NE, Staples
Ken's Collision & Glass/Southside Mini-Mart/Soutside Suds Car Wash	219 6th St SE, Staples

**Like-Nu Gun & Pawn**
Guns • Jewelry • Coins
"CASH IN A FLASH"
Mon-Fri 10-5
STAPLES
214 2nd Ave.
218-894-3055

**Ray's TOBACCO**
E-cigs, cigars, tobacco,
vapes - and more.
215 2nd Ave NE, Staples, MN
218-541-5400

Retail, gift and thrift stores

Longbella Drug By Lakewood	1210 Highway 10, Staples
Old 10 Aparrel	508 2nd Ave NE, Staples
STEP On In	116 5th Street NE, Staples
Like-Nu Gun & Pawn	214 2nd Ave. NE, Staples
Ray's Tobacco	215 2nd Ave. NE, Staples

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Why shop local?

We care about your service

Local businesses have a deep understanding of the products and services we provide. We take time to get to know your needs and strive to make your shopping experience worthwhile.

We support community groups

We donate 250% more per sale to local nonprofits, events and youth activities than national chains.

We keep our community unique

One-of-a-kind businesses create the character for our community. We don't want to be like everywhere else.

We invest in our community

For every \$100 spent at a locally owned business, at least \$50 recirculates and remains in the local economy, compared to \$15 for national chains.

We cut your taxes

Your local business tax base pays city, county and school taxes at a higher rate, which translates to lower taxes for you. This gives us better schools, transportation and emergency response services in our community.

Local businesses provide job growth

Up to 90 percent of net new jobs are created by locally owned businesses

We spur innovation

Entrepreneurs and skilled workers are more likely to invest and settle in communities that promote their one-of-a-kind businesses and distinctive character.

We reduce driving time

Residents of neighborhoods with more local businesses drive 26 percent fewer miles.

Restaurants and bars

Tower Pizza	414 2nd Ave NE, Staples
Frosty's Spirits & Social Club	5th Street & 2nd Ave. NE
Spot Cafe	116 2nd Ave NW, Staples
Beck's Burger Co.	119 3rd St NE, Staples
The Boxcar	102 4th St NE, Staples
Still Lefty's	423 2nd Ave NE, Staples
DQ Staples and DQ Motley	Highway 10 in Staples and Motley
B&B Sports Bar & Grill	115 2nd Ave. NE, Staples
Stomping Grounds	213 4th St NE, Staples
Bremer's Booze Bank	48 Main Street W, Motley

**TOWER PIZZA**
218-894-3299
414 2nd Ave NE, Staples
Monday-Thursday: 11:00-7:30
Friday-Saturday: 11:00-8:30
Sunday: 4:00-7:30

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The Honek family was there for the induction of Michelle (Honek) Linz into the Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame. From left, Tom and Gail Honek, Luke, Lainie and Liam Linz, Michelle Linz and presenter Nicole Barnett.



Family and friends shared Kyra (Odden) Quast's induction into the Hall of Fame. From left, Kathy Odden, Keller Anderson, Kyra, Bobbe (Odden) Anderson, Emily Wick and presenter Kari (Wolhowe) Hartley.



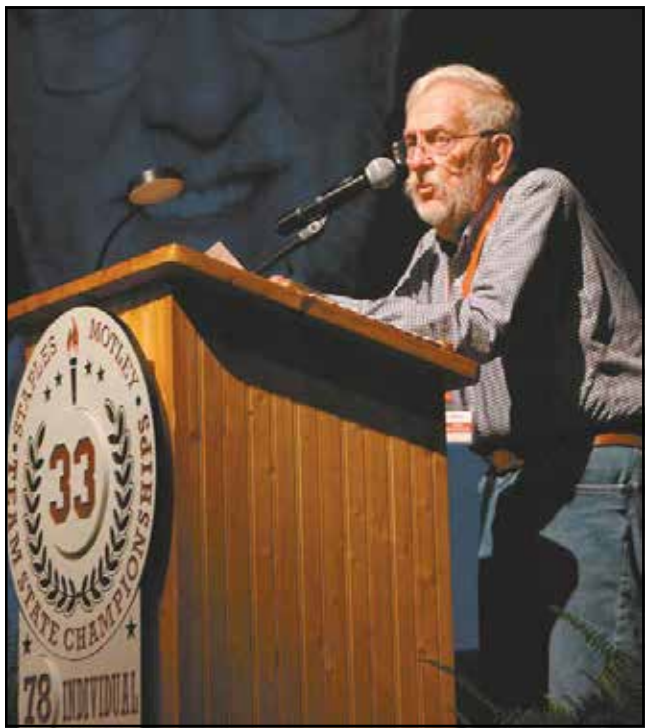
Mark Bendson, with plaque was inducted into the Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame by coaches Greg Leifermann, left, coach Norm Card, and teammate Mike Hajek.



Hall of Fame inductee Darrell Card, with reader Garry Grewe, left, and his parents, presenters Kathy and Norm Card.



Jeff Marden, center, was inducted into the Hall of Fame by Pat Goff, left, and Butch Pavlacky, right.



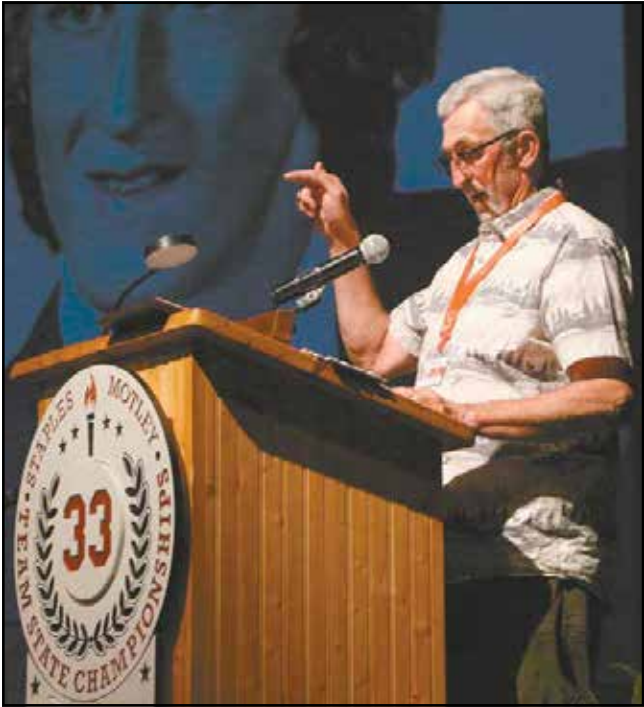
Dr. Ted Lelwica entered the Hall of Fame ceremony to a standing ovation by the crowd, appreciative of all the volunteer work he put into Staples-Motley athletics.



Mark Bendson



Derek Mattila



A state champion in the pole vault, Jeff Marden explains how to get over the bar.

Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame

The 2026 inductees are the eighth class inducted into the Staples Motley Athletic Hall of Fame.

The full Hall of Fame:

Athletes

2019 inductees

Bob Peterson (1956) baseball, track, football, basketball
Warren Mertens (1973) basketball, baseball
Del Cerney (1988) swimming
Arden Beachy (1989) football, basketball, track and field

2020 inductees

Jerry Cleveland (1967) wrestling
Randy Frisk (1973) football, basketball, track
Tony Spandl (1979) football, wrestling, track and field
Dave Joerger (1992) tennis, basketball

2022 inductees

Jeff Brever (2001) cross-country, basketball, track and field
Mark Carlson (1999) wrestling, football, baseball, track
Mark Redemske (1978) football, basketball, baseball
Chad Walthall (1987) football, basketball, baseball
Mark Lelwica (1989) swimming
Al Haugen (1957) football, basketball, baseball, track and field
2023 inductees
Collin Beachy (1989) cross country, basketball, track and field
Curtis Jenkins (1983) swimming
Blaine Joerger (1995) basketball, tennis
Erik Kelly (1997) basketball, track and field, football
Jody Wilson (1983) golf
2024 inductees
Jessica (Beachy) Rahman (1984) basketball, tennis, track and field

John Riewer (1982) basketball, baseball

Gordy Thompson Sr. (1972) wrestling, football

Curt Johnson (1969) basketball, track and field, baseball, football

Lyle Stevens (1960) football, wrestling, baseball, track and field

2025 inductees

Loren Bendson (wrestling)
Kristi (Wolhowe) Halverson (tennis, basketball)
Kevin Johnson (football, basketball, baseball)
Alex Griffith (football, basketball, baseball, track and field)

2026 inductees

Mark Bendson (wrestling)
Darrell Card (football, wrestling, baseball)
Michelle (Honek) Linz (volleyball, basketball, softball)
Jeff Marden (football, wrestling, track and field)
Derek Matilla (cross country, basketball, track and field)
Kyra (Odden) Quast (volleyball, basketball, golf)

Coaches

2019 inductees

Bill Finn, athletic director and coach
Jerry Riewer, cross country, baseball
Don Dravis, wrestling

2020 inductees

John Rengel, athletic director, coach
Ron Beachy, track, basketball
Tom Wolhowe, basketball, tennis
Mel Nefstead, swimming

2022 inductees

Rollie Penfield, golf, football, basketball
Gene Mattila, cross country, foot-

ball

Joe Joerger, tennis, basketball, baseball

2023 inductees

Glen Hasselberg, golf

2025 inductees

Norm Card, athletic director, coach
Tom Honek, football, basketball, softball

Teams

2019 inductees

1985 Staples girls basketball
1988 Staples Motley football

2020 inductees

1982, 1983 Staples boys cross country

1982 Staples wrestling

2022 inductees

1990 Staples Motley boys golf
1983 Staples baseball

2023 inductees

1995 Staples Motley boys basketball
1972 Motley football

2024 inductees

1978, 1979 Staples wrestling
1998, 1999 Staples Motley cross country

2025 inductees

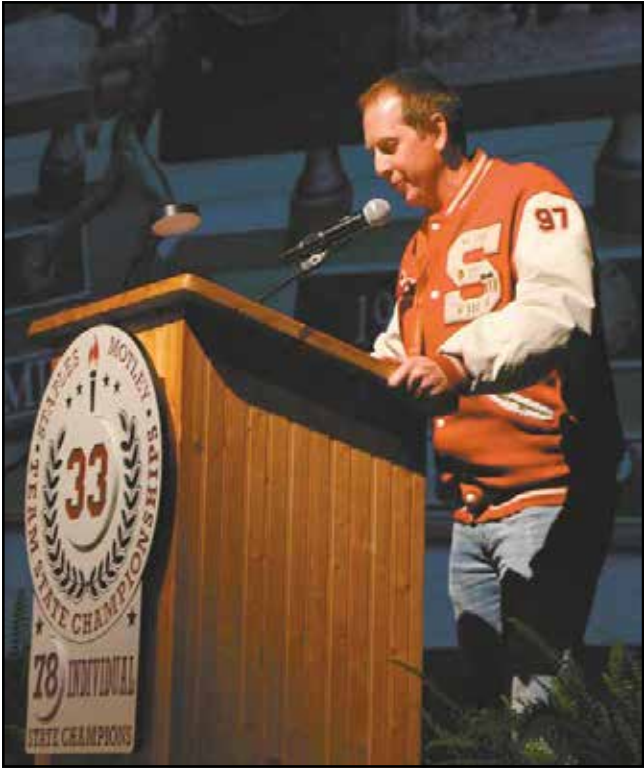
1981, 1982 Staples boys basketball
2002, 2003 Staples Motley girls cross country

2024 inductees

1970, 1971, 1972, 1973 Staples wrestling
1996, 1997 Staples Motley cross country

Community contributors

Derald and Juanita Miller
Rita Stone
Pamela Sachs
Huck and Marilyn Holst
Dick Bremer
Dr. Ted Lelwica



Scott Brever speaks for the 1996-97 cross country teams.



Old, new memories at the Hall of Fame

Above, the display tables for this year's Athletic Hall of Fame inductees were studied by young and old, to learn about the athletic legacy of the school. During the reception, different groups intermingled and had a chance to introduce the younger generation to the legacy. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



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