Staples World

Staples, Minnesota

Thursday, February 18, 2016

$1



Receiving their standing ovation

The Staples Motley High School Music Department takes a bow after performing at the MMEA (Minnesota Music Educators Association) Midwinter Clinic Feb. 11, at the Minneapolis Convention Center. The Staples Motley music groups auditioned as a department and were invited to perform. This was only the third time in 20 years that all three music groups from one school were asked to present at the clinic and the first time for a music department from a small town. Taking the stage in Ballroom A at the Convention Center were the SMHS Symphonic Band, A Cappella Choir, and Chamber Orchestra. The directors and other music instructors (pictured on the riser) include, from left, Steve Hoemberg (back to camera), choir director; Sandy Paskewitz, choir accompanist; Cindy Koopmann, orchestra accompanist; Jeff Iverson, band director; John Koopmann, orchestra director; Jeff Menten, adjunct string lessons. The three-day convention was attended by hundreds of music educators and musicians, many of whom attended the concert, along with several parents, SMHS music alumni, SMHS staff and school board members and others from the community. In addition, band director Jeff Iverson was recognized the next day at the clinic for being named MMEA's 'Educator of the Year' for 2016. See more photos on pages 11a and 12a. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

Larry Lundblad seeks Dist. 9A House seat

Rep. Mark Anderson chooses not to run again

Dr. Larry Lundblad, President of Central Lakes College, has announced that he will seek the Republican nomination for Minnesota House of Representatives seat 9A. Earlier this week, Rep. Mark Anderson (R-Lake Shore) announced he will not seek a third term in 2016.

Dr. Lundblad has been President of Central Lakes College in Brainerd and Staples since 2006 and is retiring June 30, 2016

"Rep. Anderson has been a strong voice for the Cass, Wadena and Todd counties and I want to wish him well with his future endeavors," said Lundblad. "As a lifelong educator, I've seen first-hand how decisions in St. Paul affect lives around the state. I've decided to run for office to further the economic growth of our area, eliminate wasteful spending, protect lives of the unborn and to be a strong advocate for rural Minnesota. I am asking delegates to support me at the upcoming GOP caucuses."



Larry Lundblad

Anderson has represented District 9A which includes portions of Wadena, Todd and Cass counties since being elected in 2012.

"I will have served four years in the House and it's time to move on and let someone else take the wheel," Anderson said. "This decision comes down to wanting to spend more time with family and giving more attention to the three companies I am running with my wife, Barb."

Anderson said he will remain active on the political scene even after leaving the House. He is a second-generation legislator, following his father, Don Anderson, who served in the Minnesota Senate from 1982-1990.

"It has been a true honor to represent the people of our area at the House," Anderson said. "The people I have met, the relationships I have established and the support I have received over the years, it all has been very humbling. If I've learned anything from my dad, it was to stay true to my principles and to the people who sent me to St. Paul. I can walk away with peace of mind knowing I did exactly that. I look forward to whatever it is the next chapter in life brings, not ruling out other future political aspirations."

Lundblad was born and raised on a farm near Slayton. He received his B.A. in History and Political Science from M State University Mankato in 1972. In 1994, he received his Ph.D. in Adult Education from the U of M.

He is an active member of the Brainerd Lakes area community and in involved with the following organizations: Lakewood Health System District Board Member; Brainerd Salvation Army, Advisory Board; Rural Minnesota Concentrated Employment Program board member; and Region 5 Resilient Region steering committee member. Lundblad and his wife Karen live in Sylvan Township. They have two daughters and three grandchildren.

Political parties set caucus sites Mar. 1

Democrats and Republicans will gather at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Mar. 1 for their parties' biennial caucuses. Registration opens at 6:30 p.m.

Those attending will vote in a presidential preference poll, debate resolutions that any caucus attendees may introduce for possible inclusion into their state platform, elect precinct chairs for the next two years and select delegates for the upcoming county conventions and district endorsing conventions.

Anyone who is eligible to vote in Minnesota by Nov. 8, 2016, is eligible to vote on resolutions, hold precinct office and be elected a delegate from their precinct. Anyone age 16 or over may participate in caucus business.

The Wadena County DFL convention will be Sunday, April 3, in the Sebeka High School media center.

The Todd County GOP convention will be Saturday, Mar. 12, at the Browerville Community Center.

The dates and sites of the Wadena County GOP and the Todd County DFL were not determined at press time but will be available at the caucuses.

The state Senate District 9 endorsing conventions will be:

- DFL - Browerville, May 22
- GOP - tentatively set for April 2, site to be determined.

The Congressional District 7 endorsing conventions will be:

- DFL - Moorhead, April 30.
- GOP - Alexandria, April 29-30.

The Congressional District 8 endorsing conventions will be:

- DFL - Duluth, May 7-8
- GOP - information unavailable at press time.

The state conventions will be:

- DFL - Minneapolis, June 4.
- GOP - Duluth, May 20-21.

Caucus sites are determined by the city or township of residence. The sites for this area are listed below followed by those cities and townships.

Wadena County-DFL

Wadena-Deer Creek High School commons for Wadena city Precincts 1, 2 and 3; Verndale, Staples and Aldrich cities; Wadena Township; Leaf River Township precincts 1 and 2; Wing River, Thomastown, Bullard and Aldrich townships.

Sebeka High School science rooms for Sebeka, Nimrod and Menahga cities; North Germany, Meadow, Rockwood, Red Eye, Lyons, Orton, Blueberry, Shell River and Huntersville townships.

Wadena County-GOP

Verndale School library for Aldrich city; Staples Annex; Verndale city; Aldrich, Bullard, Thomastown and Wing River townships.

Sebeka School media center for Sebeka, Nimrod cities; Lions, Meadow, North Germany, Orton, Red Eye and Rockwood townships.

Todd County-DFL

Bertha-Hewitt High School cafeteria for Bertha city; Bartlett, Bertha, Germania and Stowe Prairie townships.

Staples Motley High School cafeteria for Staples city; Fawn Lake, Moran, Staples and Villard townships.

Eagle Valley High School cafeteria for Clarissa and Eagle Bend cities; Eagle Valley and Wykeham townships.

Browerville Elementary School library for Browerville city; Hartford, Iona, Little Elk, Turtle Creek and Ward townships.

Todd County-GOP

Bertha-Hewitt High School library for Bertha and Hewitt cities; Bartlett, Bertha, Germania, Hewitt and Stowe Prairie townships.

Browerville High School library for

See **CAUCUSES** on page 3a

Quevedo arrested after break-in investigation

By Mark Anderson, News Editor



Juan Quevedo

Staples Police arrested Juan Quevedo, 32, of Staples, in connection with a series of break-ins at Staples businesses. Staples Police say they have recovered evidence tying Quevedo to burglaries at Staples City Hall, Olsons' Custom Farm Services, R Salon, State Farm Insurance and Twisted Sisters.

The Twisted Sisters burglary was discovered Feb. 1,while the others appear to have occured on the night of Feb. 14.

At the Staples City Hall break-in, a burglar was able to gain entry through a window and walked around in the city hall office area. Minimal damage was reported, as City Administrator Jerel Nelsen said the the subject appeared to be looking for cash and tried to force one desk drawer open.

At State Farm and R Salon, both businesses on 4th St NE, a burglar tried to gain entry but did not enter the buildings. At both places there was damage to window screens and R Salon's door was damaged.

Public invited to forum for CLC President search

Community members are invited to open forums with three candidates for president of Central Lakes College at both the Brainerd and Staples campuses.

Brainerd campus:

The open forums will run from 8-9 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 22; Tuesday, Feb. 23; and Wednesday, Feb. 24. They will be held in room C205 on the second floor.

Staples campus:

The open forums will run from 8-9 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 23; Wednesday, Feb. 24; and Thursday, Feb. 25, with one finalist at each meeting. They will be held in the Depot room at the Staples campus.

The names of the candidates will be released on Friday, Feb. 19.

Current CLC President Dr. Larry Lundblad will be retiring at the end of the academic year. The new president will take office July 1.

The search committee chair is Laura Urban, President of Alexandria Technical and Community College. Executive search manager is Vicki DeFord. Other members on the committee include:

Kari Christiansen, Administrative Services; Mary Sam, Diversity, Equity and Tribal Relations, Myron Stevens, Maintenance Coordinator; Erich Heppner, Student Life Director; Charles Black Lance, TRIO Support Services; John Maleski, Heavy Equipment Faculty; Steve Wenzel, Political Science Instructor; Natalie Berens, Staples campus student; Monty Pintok, Brainerd campus student; Barb Anderson, Foundation Board; Cheryal Lee Hills, Region 5 Development Commission; Stephen Jones, Superintendent, Little Falls Schools; Brian Bustin, RPA.

According to the search committee schedule, feedback from the meetings will be completed by Feb. 26. More interviews will be conducted March 3 and the college's Board of Trustees will meet March 16 to act on the committee's selection.

Hello, Readers,

On Feb. 21, 2005, three Minnesota National Guardsmen--David Day of St. Louis Park, Jesse Lhotka of Appleton, and Jason Timmerman of Tracy--are killed in Iraq, marking the deadliest day for Minnesota soldiers since Vietnam. Sergeant Lhotka is credited with saving a fellow guardsman's life and helping evacuate another soldier before being killed by the roadside blast.

Public Notices

Planning commission: **8A**

Obituaries

Lydia Graf
Ray Knosalla
Randy Skeesick
Lavern Wood

Thank you for subscribing!



Save it or shave it?

The Sing Off! will have a fun option to vote with cash if the men of the chorus should save their moustaches and beards or shave them for the cause. In front, from left, are Steve Sing, event fundraising committee in charge of tickets, and Jerry Reck, event chair. In back, from left, Cody Drone, Steve Fligge, Mike Gold and Tony Sanders all ponder whether anyone would vote to shave their beautiful beards. (Submitted photo)

Will Staples Area Men's Chorus shave on stage?

Dinner concert attendees will decide

The Staples Area Men's Chorus will take their show on the road traveling to the Clarissa Ballroom Feb. 27 for their fund raising dinner concert The Sing Off!

This year two teams made up of members from the Staples Area Men's Chorus will compete for bragging rights as the best singers with the audience voting with their donations.

Funds raised at The Sing Off! will help young men from area schools to participate at no charge in Real Men Sing, the choral festival hosted by the SAMC each fall.

The two teams will each perform competing selections including ballads, upbeat and one wild card favorite chosen by the teams. The concert will also feature some songs sung by the entire chours.

To make it easier to attend, this year the first 55 people to purchase tickets at the Kevin Nelson Insurance Agency in Staples can ask to ride a charter bus free from the Staples Community Center to the Clarissa Ballroom.

"Those dinner concert tickets must be purchased at Nelson Insurance as Kevin is compiling the list for the bus," said Steve Sing, event ticket coordinator.

"We have heard that some are thinking that a Ladies' Night group might enjoy taking the bus to the Clarissa Ballroom just in time to enjoy the happy hour before the concert. And they won't have to worry about driving back home, as the bus will bring them back to Staples," Sing added.

In another creative attempt to get more cash donations, there will be a "Save it or Shave It" donation bucket. Members of the SAMC have been growing their facial hair so that the audience and many of the members' wives can vote with their Washingtons, Lincolns, Hamiltons, and c'mon maybe even their Benjamins. If the Shave Bucket gets more dollars, the men will Shave It right there at the performance.

"I know my wife will be donating to the Shave Bucket," said Sing.

The Clarissa Ballroom, located at 19281 Kotter Rd, Clarissa. Social hour at 5 p.m. followed by the dinner concert at 6 p.m.

Tickets are available in Staples at the Nelson Insurance Agency, 218-895-5046; Stomping Grounds, 218-895-5750; or from any SAMC member. In Long Prairie, tickets can be purchased at the Long Prairie Chamber Office, 320-732-2514. Tickets can also be purchased online at www.staplesmen.org/samc/. Tickets are available in advance only and must be purchased by Feb. 20.

Council updated on continuing projects

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

The Staples City Council held a short meeting on Feb. 9, with two items to approve, the authorization of a MnDOT grant for airport maintenance and to approve a bingo request from Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

They also reviewed the minutes of the Staples Public Works Commission, which included a report on adjustments to the wastewater equipment and chemicals to control odors on 8th Street NE. It was noted that Delavan Cole has accepted an open position as a water/wastewater employee.

City Administrator Jerel Nelsen told the council that he is meeting with MnDOT to put up a sign directing traffic from Hwy 10 to Central Lakes College, the Staples Airport and the Staples Industrial Park. He said they are also looking at signage on the overpass sign for Long Prairie Rd.

Nelsen said developers are still pursuing housing along 6th St NE, north of the Freshwater Education District building. He said they may pursue tax increment financing or other financing options to get the housing project started.

Nelsen said he will meet with area townships to review the fire department contract the city has with them. The meeting is scheduled for Feb. 27.

RDO withdraws applications for irrigation permits

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) recently rejected a petition by Central Minnesota residents for an environmental assessment on RD Offutt's proposed expansion into the Pineland Sands Aquifer. The day before DNR issued its decision, RD Offutt (RDO) withdrew two of its remaining four applications for irrigation permits in the Pineland Sands, reducing the company's request for irrigation permits from 54 requests to three. (One permit has already been issued; two applications are still pending DNR approval.)

"This is definitely a victory," said Amy Mondloch, coordinator of Toxic Taters. "A year ago RDO was looking for 54 permits and an expansion of thousands of acres. Right now they've gotten one permit and are seeking two more. We've got more work to do. We still believe an environmental assessment is the right tool to use and we're concerned that RDO has been clearly working to avoid public oversight."

Lex Horan, organizer with Pesticide Action Network, said, "RDO seems to be doing everything in its power to avoid an environmental assessment of its expansion, even though the company claimed last year that it would be happy to cooperate in an environmental review. RDO celebrates its agricultural practices at every turn. Why are they so intent on dodging the public process?"

In the wake of DNR's decision, Toxic Taters and allied groups are considering all their options, including appealing the decision. RDO has reduced its permit requests, but because of the company's recent land acquisitions and the original 54 permits that the company requested, local residents remain concerned that RDO still intends to clearcut more pine forests in the Pineland Sands to plant potatoes. Petitioning organizations and local residents will continue to call for transparency and public accountability from RDO and its buyers, including McDonald's.

"Back in April, McDonald's, one of RDO's largest buyers, made a commitment to help stop deforestation worldwide. We're asking that they live up to that commitment here in Minnesota. We want to be clear, our forests are worth more than french fries," said Mondloch.



Music for Valentines



Love songs were the theme for the Valentine's Day concert with Brian & Sheralyn Barnes offered by the Staples Motley Area Arts Council Feb. 14 at the United Methodist Church, Motley. Over 70 people came out on a snowy afternoon to hear a variety of music styles, including jazz, swing, folk and even a country tune. The audience was also treated to entertaining stories about the writers and singers of the tunes, as well as personal anecdotes of how the songs came to be in the repertoire of the St. Paul-based musicians. The concert was also an opportunity for Dawn Timbs, Staples World reporter and arts council member, to reconnect with her former guitar teacher, Brian Barnes. From left are James Dungan-Seaver, Timbs, Sheralyn Barnes and Brian Barnes. (Staples World photo by Brenda Halvorson)

Welcome to the family



Kaley Gadbois, PA-C

Obstetrics and Gynecology

Essentia Health's
Baxter Specialty Clinic & St. Joseph's-
Good Beginnings OB Clinic

Physician Assistant Kaley Gadbois has joined the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department at the Essentia Health-Baxter Specialty Clinic and the Essentia Health St. Joseph's-Good Beginnings OB Clinic in Brainerd.

Kaley has worked in Urgent Care at the Baxter Clinic for the past three years. "During my time in Urgent Care, I cared for a lot of women with various health issues and I found that this area of medicine became a strength and interest of mine," she says.

Kaley earned a master's degree in physician assistant studies from Rocky Mountain College in Billings, MT. She is certified as a physician assistant by the National Commission on Certification of Physicians Assistants.

"I am excited to help women and their families navigate through their pregnancies. It is such an exciting time," says Kaley. "I look forward to providing education and, I hope, some peace of mind so my patients feel empowered to make well-informed decisions regarding their own health."

To schedule an appointment with Kaley, call the Baxter Specialty Clinic at 218.454.5935, or the Good Beginnings OB Clinic at 218.828.7688.

"My goal is to always help my patients be their healthiest selves, so that they can be at their best for themselves and their families."
- Kaley Gadbois, PA-C

To see her profile, go to EssentiaHealth.org and click on "Find a Medical Professional."

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Dr. Julie Benson earns trustee certification



Dr. Julie Benson

Dr. Julie Benson, Lakewood Health System family practice physician and board member, took part in a voluntary hospital board member certification program through the Minnesota Hospital Association (MHA). This program helps hospital trustees become more effective at meeting the growing demands of being a board member and becoming strong healthcare and community leaders.

"In Minnesota, more and more hospital trustees are formally preparing themselves to address the often complicated issues facing hospitals and health systems today," said Lawrence Massa, MHA president and CEO. "Our trustee certification program proactively ensures that hospital leaders are well-prepared to make good decisions. Earning this certification demonstrates a trustee's commitment to the patients and communities the hospital serves."

The training helps trustees brush up on leadership skills and governance best practice methods. It also verifies trustees' efforts to be informed about healthcare issues. As a participant, Benson completed 35 education units in topics such as ethics, government regulations, and patient safety and quality.

Benson has been a family practice physician at Lakewood since 1997. She has a special interest in obstetrics, and is the medical director for the hospice and palliative care programs at Lakewood. Benson has been a member of Lakewood's System Board since July 2003.



Freshwater District Science Fair Winners

The Freshwater District Science Fair contest was held Feb. 8 and 9 in Bertha with students from Motley Elementary School, Staples Elementary School and Staples Motley Middle School competing.

Placing at the district contest were, front, left to right: Conlan Jaeger - 1st, 5th grade Research; Breanna Jasmer - Honorable Mention 5th grade Experiment; Connor Judd - 3rd, 6th grade Experiment; Kailer Ecker - 3rd, 4th grade Research; James Hite - Grand Prize, 4th grade Research.

Back: Jayce Kobliska and Meghan VanAlst - Honorable Mention, 5th grade Experiment; Luke Bates - 1st, 5th grade Research; Bella Lane - 2nd, 6th grade Research; Calob Trantina - Honorable Mention, 6th grade Research; Sivert Klefsaas - Honorable Mention, 6th grade Experiment.

Not pictured: Caiden Neumann - 1st, 4th grade Experiment; Eli Carlson - Honorable Mention, 4th grade Experiment; Emery Lorber - 1st, 4th grade Research;; Isaac Moulton - 2nd, 5th grade Experiment; Topanga Braith - Honorable Mention, 5th grade Experiment; Hunter Miller and Jason Trantina - Honorable Mention, 5th grade Research; Malaya Reem and Addison Lorber - 1st, 6th grade Experiment; Madysen Hull - Honorable Mention, 6th grade Research (Submitted photo)



Police report fights, one accident

Feb. 8, Staples Police conducted a traffic stop on Hwy 10 and 243rd Ave. While speaking with the driver it was learned he was in possession of a handgun without a permit and also had a suspended Arizona drivers license. Police seized the firearm and the case will be forwarded to the Wadena County Attorney Office for review.

Feb. 8, Staples Police were dispatched to the Staples Community Center for a male subject who was getting disorderly. Police arrived a talked to the subject and later gave him a ride to the hospital for a mental health evaluation.

Feb. 8, Staples Police responded to the 300 block of 5th St SE for a report of a fight. Police later brought a juvenile into the emergency room to be evaluated.

Feb. 9, Staples Police responded to suspicious activity at a group home.

Feb. 9, Staples Police got a report of a counterfeit bill at Subway.

Feb. 10, Staples Police observed that the stop sign at 11th St. and 3rd Ave. NE had been damaged.

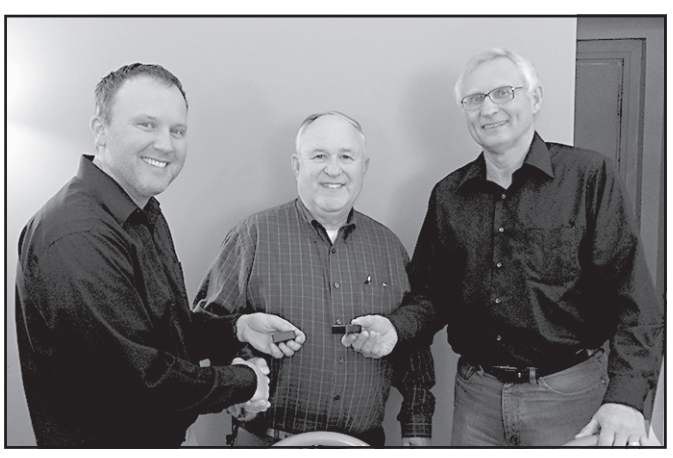
Feb. 11, Staples Police responded to a two vehicle crash with no injuries at the intersection of Hwy 10 and 12th St NE. One vehicle was totaled. Police were assisted by the Staples Fire Dept.

Feb. 12, Staples Police received a report of suspicious activity of vehicles coming and going from the 1400 block of 8th St. NE throughout the night.

Feb. 13, Staples Police were dispatched to the Local Legends bar for a report of a fight. Police learned that four subjects were involved in the altercation. The incident is under investigation.

Rotary recognition





At a recent social the Staples Rotary Club recognized eight members as becoming Paul Harris Fellows. The award honors donations to the Rotary Foundation to support programs such as PolioPlus, water quality, peacebuilding education and many other international and local projects. At center right, Rotary president Seth Dokken congratulates Marci Lord for completing her first Paul Harris Fellow. Above, from left, are John Kopp, completing his second; Wendy Schluender, completing her third; Marv Rothstein, completing his third; Ray Garland, completing his fifth; and president Seth Dokken. At bottom right, Dokken presents Jim Hofer, center, and Del Lecy with their pins at a club meeting, each for completing their second. Bob Reeck, completing his fifth, was unavailable for the photos. (Submitted photos)

CAUCUSES continued from page 1a

Public urged to get involved in the process

Browerville city; Hartford, Little Elk, Turtle Creek and Ward townships.

Staples City Hall meeting room/library for Staples city; Fawn Lake, Moran, Staples and Villard townships.

Eagle Bend City Hall for Eagle Bend and Clarissa cities; Burleene, Eagle Valley, Iona and Wykeham townships.

Morrison County-DFL

Little Falls Community Middle School for all cities and townships in the county.

Morrison County-GOP

Scandia Valley Town Hall for Motley and Randall cities; Cushing, Darling, Motley, Parker, Rosing and Scandia Valley townships.

Cass County-DFL

Backus City Hall for Backus city; Ponto, Deerfield, Powers and Bull Moose townships.

Pine River Backus School for Pine River city; Ansel, Barclay, Becker, Bungo, Byron, Chickamaw Beach, McKinley, Meadowbrook, Moose Lake, Pine River, Poplar and Wilson townships.

Loon Lake Town Hall for Homebrook, Loon Lake, Maple and Walden townships.

Pillager High School for Pillager and Motley cities; May and Sylvan townships.

Lake Shore City Hall for Lake Shore city; East Gull Lake andFairview townships.

A list of all caucus locations statewide is available at http://caucusfinder.sos.state.mn.us/



Hawley Art Show seeks artists

The 49th Annual Hawley Art Show will be held April 7-10 at the Hawley Community Center.

Entry days are April 2-3. Artists who have entered in the past will be sent entry information by mid-February.

Artists who have not previously entered may receive information by contacting Sandy Maydole at 218-483-3296 or Donna Noll at 218-483-4238.

Avoid Event Conflicts
Check the Events Calendar online at
www.staplesworld.com
Submit events to
dtimbs@staplesworld.com



Some people are old at 18 and some are young at 90...Time is a concept that humans created.
~ Yoko Ono

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What makes our small towns worth living in?

- o -
Small town diet



By Mark Anderson
Editor

- o -

The people are coming. There's a projection of hundreds of new jobs in Staples over the next few years. For small towns, sudden economic growth is like the goose that laid the golden egg: it is an enviable windfall, but major issues can develop along with it.

I attended two presentations of "Rewriting the Rural Narrative" recently, the program spurred by the University of Minnesota Morris' Center for Small Towns, one by Kelly Ashe and one by Merritt Bussiere. They both had good suggestions for how Staples can handle the upcoming growth.

Both presenters said that rural communities already are growing because they have what people are looking for, namely the small town lifestyle. People are moving from the Twin Cities and from Chicago to rural Minnesota, for cheap housing, social services or just a chance to live a more relaxed life. Jobs are not a deciding factor for most of them. So like I said, the people are coming.

This rural relocation doesn't necessarily mean it will help the people who are already living in Staples. With growth, your property taxes could decline slightly, but that won't be a big deal for most of us.

The real change could be with social opportunities, organizations and how we spend our time in the community. Both rural narrative presenters said new people are less likely to join traditional community organizations, but want special interest groups such as a writers club, shooting club or bicycle club. Those types of clubs tend to be regional, not local and are organized through social media.

Bussiere suggested hosting a newcomers supper or a nonprofit summit. Staples did have two newcomers events, but I think our biggest opportunity is hosting all kinds of special interest summits. I like the word "summit" because it implies just one meeting but if people are energized by it they can continue whatever grows out of it.

The concept is something I have been talking about in Staples for many years. Although we are doing some great things here, there still is a need to apply it to the community in a public forum. We have a great music tradition, we need to hold a music summit to make it even greater. With our college, K-12 schools and a need for community learning, we could easily hold an education summit. Lakewood Health System's new Choose Health program is a great opportunity for a healthy living summit. We don't have a movie theater, how about a film summit or festival?

Other ideas: a manufacturing summit, downtown summit, recreation summit, hunting summit, (fill in your own interest here) ... The point is to open up the things we already do to the community and give people an opportunity to connect.

Small towns are uniquely situated to be able to connect people in that manner, and that is part of what makes a small town worth living in.

Housing and business

Rewriting the Rural Narrative talks a lot about housing. There are two opposing predictions about housing in the next decade. Some people see the population rising and predict we will need to build more. The other prediction is that Baby Boomers will retire, move to smaller homes or to their lake homes and the housing issue will take care of itself.

What we do know from communities that do have jobs available, housing is a major issue. A few years ago, they started busing workers into Perham. One rumor at the rural narrative gathering is that Perham businesses are now hiring Ukrainian workers and other immigrants to meet their need.

I have lived in a community where immigrants came in to work and it caused some growing pains, but in less than one generation, they became a respected part of the community, their kids did well in school and they helped repopulate the downtown businesses. Staples has been isolated from diversity despite being a crossroads town. We don't have enough workers to meet the projection so we need to embrace the possiblity of our population changing.

Growth can also provide business opportunities that no one had thought of before. Ashe brought up a new business in Wilmar where they bought an old building and turned it into office spaces for rent. Their business model is some people come in for a day or a week or several months. or rent the meeting room for an hour.

New people, especially immigrants and the newly retired, tend to be much more entrepreneurial than people who have always lived and worked in an area. With growth, those new people could help fill some of the downtown buildings.

Those types of specialty businesses might not be able to make it in an urban area, but it is possible for small town people to work together and make it happen. That's another reason small towns are worth living in.

Change: Looking forward

- o -
Lakewood Health System



By Tim Rice
President and CEO

- o -

They say that the only constant in this world is change. The older I get the more I reflect on all of the great things from the past that I no longer see. However, we cannot go back and it is critical that we look forward, keeping in perspective what is best for everyone when it involves our families and communities.

The Staples Motley school system is proposing changes for the intended purpose of improving the education for our children. Like any changes, there are pros and cons, but it is important to focus on the intent of change. We may disagree during the process but at the end of the day it is critical we are all one team moving forward, focusing on our children, whatever the final decision.

Lakewood Health System, under healthcare reform, is going through a lot of changes. It has been very difficult for everyone on our health care team and for our patients and residents as well. New structures, new jobs, new positions, a new electronic health record and a lot of additional work and difficult decisions. Our key focus through this change, however, has been to increase the value of care to our patients and residents. This helps us get through these changes knowing that the outcomes at the end of the day are for a greater cause.

One of the most important elements in people making a choice about working at Lakewood are the local school systems. Having schools that are viewed as a destination is critical for our future success. Lakewood is a service industry and the inability to attract and retain talent will impact our future success. In our communities, we are all interconnected and depend on each other.

We ask that you study the new school proposals, be an active participant, be involved in the process and focus on the intent. We have a history of our communities doing great things and we want to continue to make a difference not only for our children but for the communities that we call home.

Many choices are available for our middle school students

Staples Motley Schools



By Tom Riitters
Middle School Principal

It is amazing that we are already staring down spring. It seems like only yesterday the school year was getting under way.There has been so much going on in and around our schools this year, it can be very hard to keep up! With the start of our second semester, we are in the homestretch of the school year. Winter activity seasons are winding down, spring activity seasons willsoon be getting underway. If you have not already done so, please take an opportunity to explore extra-curricular activities for your students. In the Staples Motley Schools, we have so many awesome opportunities for our students. Take advantage of them and contact your child's school to see what is available for them.

At the middle school, we are very proud of the electives and Career Tech Ed. classes that we offer our students. In my opinion, as a school administrator, you can never have too many opportunities for our students to choose from during their time at school. In fact, I am looking forward to the many possibilities the planned Re-Start Campaign would allow us to pursue in a focused middle school setting at the Motley School site.

Our students at the middle school have over 30 elective and CTE choices spread out over all three of the current grades. However, with a combined building, there are definite space and time constraints that hold us back from creating and implementing many more programs and opportunities for our students moving forward.

As a middle school principal, I am looking forward to the prospects of a true "Middle School" building. I am very confident that the staff will create programming and educational opportunities that honor our school community, appreciate the past, enjoy the present and prepare for the future.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to serve the students, families and community. It is a GREAT time to be a Cardinal!

Letters to the Editor

Plan has potential

Superintendent Klamm, with the support of her administrative team, has recommended that grades K-3 be in Staples in the current Staples Elementary School, grades 4-7 in the Motley School building and grades 8-12 in the current Staples Motley High School building. She outlined those possible changes to district residents at a school board meeting in Motley on Monday, Feb. 8.

I listened carefully, but didn't understand the rationale behind consolidating each of these grades at only one location. The current arrangement of having an elementary school in both towns was part of the consolidation agreement made in the early 1990s.

Such dramatic pooling of students in Staples initially appeared to be a Staples "take-over." Our 20 plus years of school consolidation has been one of distrust and power plays. This new plan also involves school busing changes which may pose difficulties for some rural families. We certainly don't want any of our school families to "open enroll" to another school district.

Fotunately, I had an opportunity to visit with Ms. Freeman who is the chairperson of the Staples Motley School Board. Ms. Freeman not only heads the school board, but she also is a former teacher. I asked her to explain the reasoning behind pooling entire grades in one location or the other.

She patiently explained it was an effort to better help students learn. Quite reasonably she pointed out all students don't learn at the same rate. Consequently, in any given class there are students who quickly grasp the information they are to learn, there are students who require more time to learn new information and there are others who seem to have a middle rate of acquiring new material.

Consequently the teacher usually presents course content at a rate and level best suited for middle rate learners and hopes the fast learners will be patient and students who need more time and information rehearsal will somehow get outside help to stay current. By having all or most of the students in a given grade at the same location, separate classes can be assembled according to students learning speed for each of these general groups.

Additionally, having all three groups in the same school will allow individual pupils periodic adjustment to classrooms that best fit their learning needs. It also allows the teachers who serve each of these grades to interact regarding what is best for individual students. I think this teaching system should have potential to upgrade the learning success of our students.

It is my impression careful busing plans need to be developed which will best serve individual families even if increased busing costs occur. It will require effort on the part of family adjustments, but it appears to have strong potential for increasing student learning.

Also know that I sincerely appreciate Ms. Freeman taking the time to help me understand this dramatic student reassignmnet plan. Several school board meetings are scheduled in the next two weeks. Possibly she or Superintenent Klamm will repeat that explanation to attending residents at the open school board meeting when the board is scheduled to vote on adoption of this reorganization plan.

Eldon Morey
Motley, Minn.

BRAVO!

Joyce and I were in Ballroom A at the Minneapolis Convention Center on Feb. 11, when Staples Motley music students performed. The huge open room was filled with music teachers and music appreciators who were on their feet expressing their amazment with a long and loud standing ovation.

My sister, who teaches music in another school district, stood beside me in the second row. She summarized what everyone else was feeling in three words: "This is unbelievable!"

I felt so many emotions right then...pride in our students, gratitude toward their teachers who brought them to this point, goosebumps from the quality of music and satisfaction knowing that our own five kids had once been a part of this incredible program, to name a few.

Somewhere in the mix was a tiny twinge of disappointment in the fact that some in our community don't understand or appreciate the quality of music education the Staples Motley students receive. Like every other area of the curriculum, music education has defined state standards.

Like no other area of the curriculum, the music students consistently graduate from high school with college level skills. That is amazing! We are not graduating students who are one dimensional. Unlike some of our grandkids in larger schools, Staples Motley students do not have to choose between arts or athletics.

Joyce and I have attended dozens of state athletic tournaments. A few years ago one of our sons was on the state championship wrestling team and one of our daughters on the state basketball team in the same year!

We also attended at least one tournament where our band students boarded the bus for home after the team lost a basketball game and were back on the bus at 4 a.m. the next morning to return for an early morning consolation game! That kind of support is one of the wonderful things about our school.

Music is a universal language that expresses love, peace and everything that is good and right in the world. It requires teamwork and cooperation in a way that few other activites do...and it lasts a lifetime!

Our son Mark lives in North Minneapolis. He and his wife are in the process of choosing a middle school for their daughter. With the educational programs being pretty much equal, music opportunities will be their deciding factor.

In 1965, I applied for a teaching position in Staples. Why? Because I knew that Staples had a good high school band and, to my way of thinking, a good band meant a good school system. When I learned that a new elementary school was being built I signed the contract and have never regretted it.

Congratulations to the Staples Motley Schools and bravo to the music students and teachers!

Dave and Joyce Anderson
Staples, Minn.

Staples World

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Advertising Representative .... Gary Mueller gmueller@staplesworld.com
Graphics/Photo Tech ..... Janice Winter jwinter@staplesworld.com
Bookkeeping/Circulation
Front Office/Proofreader ..... Kathy Odden kodden@staplesworld.com
CWC Reporter ..... Dawn Timbs dtimbs@staplesworld.com
Front Office ..... Launette Tisdale office@staplesworld.com
Courier ..... Robert McKimmy

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Staples City Council

Chris Etzler, Mayor	218-894-2894
Doug Case	218-296-1288
Mike Isenberg	218-330-3872
Kevin Jenkins	218-820-2081
Roy Miles	218-296-1047
Ron Murray	218-296-0910
Mary Theurer	218-894-3752
Jerel Nelsen, admin.	218-894-2550

☎ PHONE NUMBERS

SM School Board

Roy DiGiovanni	397-2399
Mary Freeman	575-2309
Dave Hoemberg	296-2545
Chad Longbella	894-1526
Bruce Lund	894-2202
Bryan Winkels	895-7189
Mary Klamm, Supt.	894-5409

What the Tech Expo' at M State Wadena campus

A $10,000 Broadband Innovation Grant rom the Blandin Foundation will help onnect Minnesota State Community and echnical College students and residents f west central Minnesota with the latest technology innovations.

The grant, part of the Blandin Foundaon's Community Broadband Program, ill support the planned "What the Tech xpo", with area business es and indusies invited to display and demonstrate echnology on M State's Wadena Campus.

The expo is a collaboration with local usinesses and area health organizations, long with broadband and energy service roviders will be held Friday Apr. 8, 10 .m.-2 p.m. Grant funding will allow stuents in M State's Network Administraon and Security program to build and upport a network connecting a variety f Internet-enabled devices and introduce he community to technologies that can nprove their lives.

"Attendees will have the opportunity talk with experts and gain hands-on xperience in how technology can be used help improve their daily lives, making hem more likely to adopt the technolo-ies," said Janet Johnson, instructor in I State's Network Administration and ecurity program.

She anticipates that the expo may spark nterest in information technology ca-eers.

"Rural Minnesota has struggled with nding sufficient employees in the Information Technology (IT) industry," Johnson said. "This event and equipment will help not only promote use of the latest technologies, but also promote IT careers and provide the latest equipment to a program that is helping address this workforce shortage."

"The expo includes 'how to' and 'what not to do' training on technologies designed to improve health, home and business," according to the Blandin grant application submitted by the Wadena Area College Foundation.

The foundation and college are partnering in the project with West Central Telephone Association.

The expo targets residents of Wadena, Todd, Morrison, Cass and Crow Wing counties and also is open to students at area high schools and Central Lakes College in Brainerd. Lunch will be provided.

The Blandin Community Broadband Innovation Grant Program provides matching funds to eligible applicants in rural Minnesota communities for projects that promote access, adoption and use of broadband technologies. The Blandin Foundation, based in Grand Rapids, is engaged in a range of programs designed to help strengthen rural Minnesota communities.

Anyone interested in exhibiting at the 'What the Tech Expo' can contact Johnson at janet.johnson@minnesota.edu or 218-631-7855.



Staples Lions speech tourney held Feb. 13

The Staples Host Lions speech tournament was held Feb. 13, at SMHS, the largest meet of the year with over 430 competitors attending from 19 schools.

Above: The Staples Motley speech team awards by category were: Creative - Grant Yungbauer, second; Drama - Rachel Fisher, seventh; Humor - Cael Sams, second; Prose - Samantha Mrazek, sixth. Honors finalists: Ex. Reading - Bryn Williams, third; Duo - Kallee Abbas and Andrew Bates, fourth; Prose - Olivia Klefsaas, fourth.

The SM Speech team's next meet will be held Feb. 20 at Eagle Valley High School. (Submitted photo)

Organic Workshop

The Fifth Annual Organic Management Workhop organized by the Staples Area Farmer's Market ssociation will be Saturay, Mar. 5, at the Verndale ommunity Center.

Registration will be egin at 8:30 a.m. and the orkshop will end at 4 p.m.

Topics for this year's orkshop include:

- Intensive market garening techniques
- Soil health
- Healthy plants and inividuals
- Irrigation/water qualy
- Insect control and habats
- Farmer's market pricg research
- Producers Grower anel sharing their experinces and answering questons

Throughout the years, his workshop has adressed local grower needs for organic production practice in Central Minnesota. This year, the focus is on gathering producers interested in learning and sharing their problems and successes with each other to improve their businesses.

Speakers will share their experiences and wisdom through the workshop. They will work with growers to improve their horticultural enterprises and to be able to fill the market needs of facilities in the region.

An early bird registration rate is available by Feb. 26, after which the price increases. The fee includes lunch, in-depth materials and interactive sessions.

Send registrations to Lois Detloff, 21390 County 24, Bertha, MN 56437 or call 218-924-2704 if you have questions.

Farm to Institution Networking' event

Getting Minnesota apples, tomatoes and other locally rown foods on the menus of schools and other instiutions such as hospitals, long term care facilities and hildcare centers requires cross-sector partnerships, ommunity support and relationship building. Central innesota is one of four regional Farm to Institution etworking events taking place across the state between ebruary and April. The aim is to attract buyers and rowers from across the central region to community ost St. Joseph, thanks to support from a number of egional partners. The Central MN event will be held arch 7, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at the College of St. Benedict nd is open for anyone interested in attending.

The workshops are designed to meet the needs of the egion and strengthen connections to advance partnerhips between local farmers and community institutions. arm to Institution builds strong communities, healthy eople and resilient local farms, creating a "win-win" for l parties. This year's gatherings build on earlier rounds f farmer-buyer networking events facilitated by Renewg the Countryside and the U of M Extension's Farm to afeteria workshops. Over the years, successful farmeruyer relationships developed at these events have led successful, ongoing Farm to Institution projects and ade accessible current information about local food urchasing regulations and good agricultural practices.

These events are coordinated by Renewing the Countryside in partnership with the Sustainable Farming ssociation of Minnesota, the Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships, Minnesota Institute for Sustainble Agriculture, the Minnesota Department of Health, any local partners and are funded, in part, by the Minesota Department of Agriculture.

For more information and to register, visit: http://ww.renewingthecountryside.org/farm_to_institution

Contact Grace at 612-520-1675 or grace@rtcinfo.org for ore information on this event.

Mark Your Calendar

February 23

CARE Community Meal Tues., Feb. 23, 4:30 - 6 p.m., Alliance Church, 1512 8th St. NE, Staples. Free. For info, 218-894-2891.

February 24

Free AARP Tax-Aide Wednesdays, noon - 3:30 p.m., through April 13, Staples Community Center. No appt. needed. For people 60 and older, low-moderate income. For info., 218-894-5772.

Medical Home Patient Advisory Council Mtg Wed., Feb. 24, 2 - 3 p.m., Lakewood Health System, main campus, lower level classrooms. All Lakewood patients welcome. For info., to RSVP by Feb. 23, call 218-894-8311, or email loiswalters@lakewoodhealthsystem.com.

February 25

Wadena Whirlaways Square Dance Thurs., Feb. 25, 7:30 - 10 p.m., Wadena VFW. Myron Hollatz, caller; Donna Stone, cuer. For info., 218-894-1542.

Educational Opportunities

March 3 - 10

55+Driver Improvement Courses offered by the Minnesota Highway Safety Center, will be held at the Staples Community Center (425 4th St. NE) at the following times:

- March 3, 5:30 - 9:30 p.m., four-hour refresher course.
- March 7 and 8, 5:30 - 9:30 p.m., eight-hour first time course.
- March 10, 1 - 5 p.m., four-hour refresher course.

For more info., to register, call 1-888-234-1294.

'Boot up!' Todd County annual feedlot meeting

The Todd County Soil and Water Conservation District's annual feedlot meeting will be Wednesday, March 16, at the Hub in Burtrum.

According to the SWCD, participation has grown steadily at the annual meeting with attendances of over 100 livestock producers.

The SWCD's goal is to provide quality education on current practices, trends, rules and news impacting the farming communities in Todd County.

In surveys taken, farmers requested to learn more on the topic of electric pollution. While the term "stray voltage" is a highly sensitive topic, the existence of electrical pollution around many farms cannot be debated.

Brant Groen, dairy management instructor at Ridgewater College for 34 years, Dairy Nutritionist and Director of Dairy Wellness at Form-a-Feed will present on animal comfort and wellness as itrelates to electrical pollution on farms.

Jodi DeJong Hughes, Regional Extension Educator with the U of M will present, "Don't Treat Your Soil Like Dirt,"a discussion on soil erosion (a feature of the Todd County landscape) and the impacts of soil health on producers' bottom lines.

Mike Starkey, Emergency Planning Director with the MN Dept. of Ag, will share his front line experiences with producers impacted by 2015 avian flu. His talk, entitled "Lessons Learned," will touch on the need for all livestock sites to implement biosecurity protocols.

How does the state legislature work?

The Minnesota House of Representatives Public Information Services has produced a video that explains how the Minnesota Legislature works.

It can be found at https://youtu.be/oe_DnIRf-PI.

The video, "The Legislature: The People and the Process," contains useful legislative information such as:

- a description of the three branches of state government,
- who makes up the House and Senate,
- how a committee and floor session work,
- and how much a member is paid.

The information is timely as the 2016 session opens March 8.

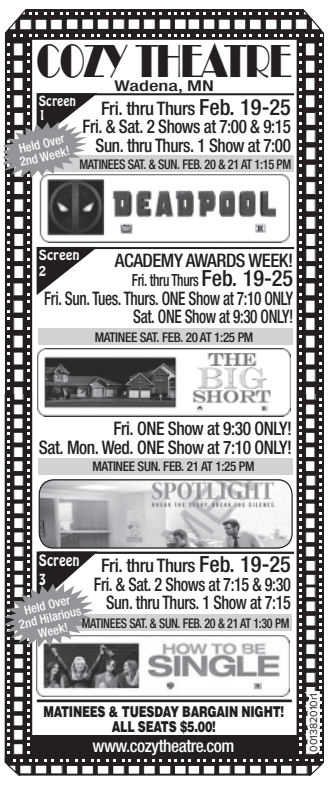
Staples City Council agenda

The Staples City Council will meet Tuesday, Feb. 23, at 7 p.m. at the Staples City Hall, 122 6th ST NE, Staples.

Preliminary agenda items include:

- Open forum;
- City administrator's report.











Plopper performs with Honors Orchestra Feb. 13

SMHS freshman Trenton Plopper, was selected to perform with this year's Honors Orchestra. Through an audition process held in November, Trenton along with 61 other 7 - 9 grade students in Minnesota were selected and came together Feb. 12, for rehearsals held at Northwestern College in St. Paul.

The Honors Orchestra performed a concert at the Minneapolis Convention Center on Feb. 13 as part of this year's Minnesota Music Educators' Association Mid-Winter Clinic.

Brad Lambrecht was the guest conductor of this year's Minnesota String & Orchestra Teachers' Association Mid-Level Honors Orchestra. He is the director of orchestras for the Alexandria Area High School.

Trenton is a member of the Staples Motley orchestra program under the direction of John Koopmann and studies viola privately with Jeffry Menten.



Guest conductor Brad Lambrecht and Trenton Plopper.

He is the son of Julie Plopper of Staples.



Students observe Ash Wednesday

Students at Sacred Heart Area School in Staples attended an Ash Wednesday service Feb. 10, at which they received a sign of the cross (made with ashes from last year's palms) on their foreheads. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent in the Christian tradition, a season of observance which lasts approximately six weeks, ending on Easter Sunday. Pictured above are third graders in Sheila McIlravy's class. Front row, from left, are Lilly Tyrrell, Sophie Albie, Jade Storry, Naila Mikhael. Back row, Axel Mertens, Bryan Burrows, Joe Zimmermann, Drake Dukowitz, Jacob Becker. The students shared some of the things they plan to do during Lent. "I want to read the Bible every night and pray more," Bryan Burrows said. "I want to stop being mean to my brother," Lilly Tyrrell said. "I'm going to give up chocolate and eat healthier," Sophie Albie said. "I want to be kinder to everyone and follow God's word," Jade Storry said. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Hello World

Births reported at Lakewood Health System Hospital included:

Born to Lena Youngberg and Jason Mattsen of Brainerd, a baby girl, Justice Ann, weighing four pounds, 14 ounces on February 9, 2016

Born to Alexandria Amling and Jacob Martin of Pillager, a baby boy, Owen Michael, weighing seven pounds, five ounces on February 10, 2016.

Born to Lewis and Amanda Bell of Pillager, a baby boy, Declan Jack Louis, weighing six pounds, 11 ounces on February 11, 2016.

Born to Anthony and Jennifer Grondahl of Brainerd, a baby boy, Colton Gregory, weighing six pounds, 11 ounces on February 11, 2016.

Born to Jessica Mertens of Staples, a baby girl, Kinsely Elaine, weighing six pounds, seven ounces on February 12, 2016.

* * * * *

Born to Cohl and Chastine Aschoff of Staples, a baby girl, Paisley Rose, weighing five pounds, 12 ounces on February 9, 2016 at Tri-County Health Care in Wadena.

Senior calendar

Staples Senior Citizen's schedule for March:

Tues., March 1, 12:15 p.m.- Whist

Weds., March 2, 11:45 a.m.- Meal & penny bingo

Thurs., March 3, 11:45 a.m. - Meal; 12 p.m. - 500 cards; 1:30-3 p.m. - free legal aid from St. Cloud Legal Services. Call 894-2553 to make an appointment.

Tues., March 8, 11:30 a.m. - Birthday/ Anniversary party

Weds., March 9, 11:45 a.m. - Meal & penny bingo

Thurs., March 10, 5 p.m. - Evening meal

Mon., March 14, 12 p.m. - Senior Citizen Board meeting

Tues., March 15, 12:15 p.m. - Whist

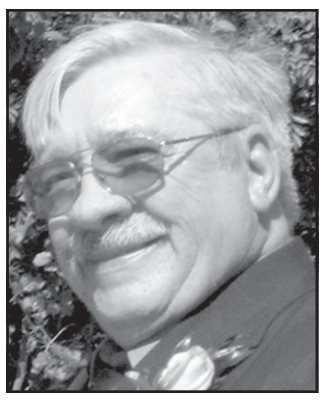
Weds., March 16, 11:45 a.m. - St. Patrick's Day party. Door prizes, free bingo

Thurs., March 17, 5 p.m. - Evening meal

Mon., March 21, 12 p.m. - 500 cards

Weds., March 23, 11:45 a.m. - Meal & penny bingo.

Obituaries



Raymond Knosalla

Raymond "Sonny" Knosalla, Jr., 78, of Motley, passed away February 13, 2016, at his home.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2016 at 11 a.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Staples, with Father Joe Korf officiating. Visitation will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 23 at Brenny Funeral Chapel, Staples and one hour prior to services at the church. Burial will be in the spring at Evergreen Hill Cemetery, Staples.

Arrangements are entrusted to Brenny Funeral Chapel, Staples.

Sonny was born September 18, 1937 in Moran Township, Todd County, to Raymond and Mabel (Mikish) Knosalla. His family moved to Staples when he was ten. Sonny attended school at Sacred Heart and Lincoln Model. He worked at Southside Garage and the railroad for a short time before moving to California to work.

Sonny married Wanda Rardin of Motley, in California on August 31, 1957. The couple owned a carpet store and he was also the captain of the Norco Mounted Police. They eventually returned to Minnesota in 1981 and built their home in Motley.

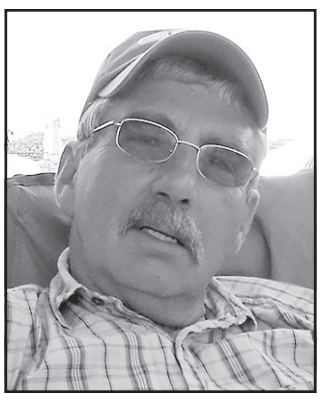
He enjoyed working with wood, building both a boat and a camper, square dancing, clogging, fishing, camping, hunting and telling jokes.

In the winter he was a snowbird, living in Bullhead City and Apache Junction, AZ.

Sonny is survived by one son, Mark Knosalla of Motley; two daughters, Linda (Matt) Beebe of Motley and Lori (Marc) Gabiger of Boise, ID; nine grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; one sister, Louise Wentworth of Fergus Falls and one brother, Gary (Sandy) Knosalla of Staples.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife.

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Randy Skeesick

Randy Skeesick, 65, of Motley, died February 9, 2016 at his home.

Funeral services were held Feb. 16 at the Motley Free Methodist Church, with Pastor Jim Johnson officiating. Burial was at the Motley Public Cemetery with Military Honors provided by Motley American Legion Post #124.

Arrangements were with Brenny Funeral Chapel, Staples.

Randy was born February 4, 1951, in Staples, to Raymond and Irene (Kominek) Skeesick.

He graduated from Motley High School in 1969. Randy married his high school sweetheart, Molly (Marlys) Engstrom on April 22, 1972 in Motley. He went on to serve in the U.S. Army. After his service, the couple moved back to Minnesota. He worked for the City of Staples for 33 years. He was also a volunteer fireman with the Motley Fire Department for 23 years. He was a member of the Motley American Legion Post #124.

Randy enjoyed watching his children and grandchildren play sports and his wife barrel race. He also enjoyed hunting, fishing, playing softball, camping, 4-wheeling and woodworking. He was a "master handyman".

Randy is survived by his wife; two sons, Trevor (Tammy) Skeesick of Little Falls and Travis (Trisha) Skeesick of Lincoln; four grandchildren, Trey, Connor, Ellie and Tytan; three brothers, Ronald (Jeannie) Skeesick of Hackensack, Gary (Cynthia) Skeesick of Texas, Keith (Debbie) Skeesick of Pillager; three sisters, Lois Frisk, Lana Hansen, LeAnn Larson all of Motley; his best friend, a chocolate Chesapeake named Tank and sidekick, Cody Mo, Molly's horse.

Randy was preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Byron; three sisters, Lorraine, Loretta and LaVaune.

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Student Achievement

Jamie Stultz, Staples, is a member of the forensics club at Southwest Minnesota State University for the 2015 - 2016 academic year.

THANK YOU
for making a difference!
Congratulations to these 5-Star employees



Pictured left to right: Butch Cleveland, Connie Rothstein, Greg Engen, Mark Goff, Lora Wutzke and Eric Adams

Butch Cleveland, Connie Rothstein, Greg Engen, Mark Goff, Lora Wutzke and Eric Adams, *Care Van Drivers*
Nominated by Amanda Mithun, Social Worker, Behavioral Health,
"As the coordinator and one of the therapists for the Intensive Outpatient Program, I work with people who are struggling with mental health issues, including anxiety and depression. Many of our patients receive transportation services through the Care Van. For most of them, when they begin the program, these drivers are strangers. This can be an anxiety-provoking experience for many of them. In a recent session group members were prompted to share examples of a time when they may have been anxious/nervous about an experience and later found it to be rewarding and positive. Many of the group members spoke about their positive experiences with Care Van drivers. They shared examples of feeling understood, validated, supported and respected by the drivers.
This was very powerful in session to hear how one of the services at LHS has helped them feel more comfortable and confident in their lives. Great job and thank you - keep up the good work! You are appreciated!"

Lakewood Health System's STAR Program recognizes employees for outstanding performance in the delivery of service and how they work as a team with other employees.

YOUR HOME FOR HEALTHCARE
Lakewood HEALTH SYSTEM
218-894-1515 • www.lakewoodhealthsystem.com
SSW7C

Lydia (Luithle) Graf



Angels took Lydia home on January 29, 2016, just one week short of her 102nd birthday. She left peacefully, from her own home, with family present.

Lydia's Celebration of Life will be held at the Verndale Methodist Church, at 2 p.m. on Saturday, February 13, 2016.

She was born and raised in Hebron, North Dakota, to Jacob and Margaret Luithle. Lydia enjoyed an interesting life, observing many lifestyle changes over that many years.

As a young woman she experienced a variety of employment, including working as a housekeeper and a check out clerk at Woolworths. Later on, in addition to being a wife, mother and homemaker, she rounded up cattle on the ranches that she and her husband owned. Lydia enjoyed working as a bank teller, one day a week for several years.

Lydia very much enjoyed her family. She was always busy with many favorite activities including cooking, baking for family and friends, gardening, quilting, reading and in her middle-age years, even fishing and snowmobiling!

Honorary Pallbearers will be her grandsons and great-grandsons.

Lydia was preceded in death by her husband John; one son, William; one daughter, Charmaine; one granddaughter, Geraldine; two brothers; five sisters and numerous cousins, nephews and nieces.

Survivors include one son, Gerald (Lois) Meidinger, one daughter, Lucy (Fred Tramm) Hanson; grandchildren, Jay Kopp, Wally (Cindy) Johnson, Dale Meidinger, Cindy Warmbold, Gerald, Jr. (Sandy) Meidinger, Rodney (Christine) Meidinger, Clinton Meidinger, Jacob (Rachel) Hanson, Chris (Lacey) Hanson, Christy Hanson; sixteen great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; many nephews, nieces and cousins. w7x

Thank you for reading the Staples World

Card of Thanks:

With a grateful heart I would like to extend a thank you to all of the family and friends who attended my 90th surprise birthday party. I feel incredibly blessed to have had all of you share my special day with me. I do not think of it as being another year older, I think of it as having enjoyed another year with friends and family. I would like to extend an extra "special" thank you to my daughter, Bev, for "ALL" the love and planning that she put into the party. Thank you to the rest of the family whether you cooked, cleaned or any other way you helped. I'd like to express my gratitude to the Motley Free Methodist Church for use of the church.

w7c

WITH ALL MY LOVE,
Mom Anderson

LaVern Wood

LaVern Wood, 84, of Wadena, passed away on February 14, 2016 at the Lakewood Health System Care Center, Staples.

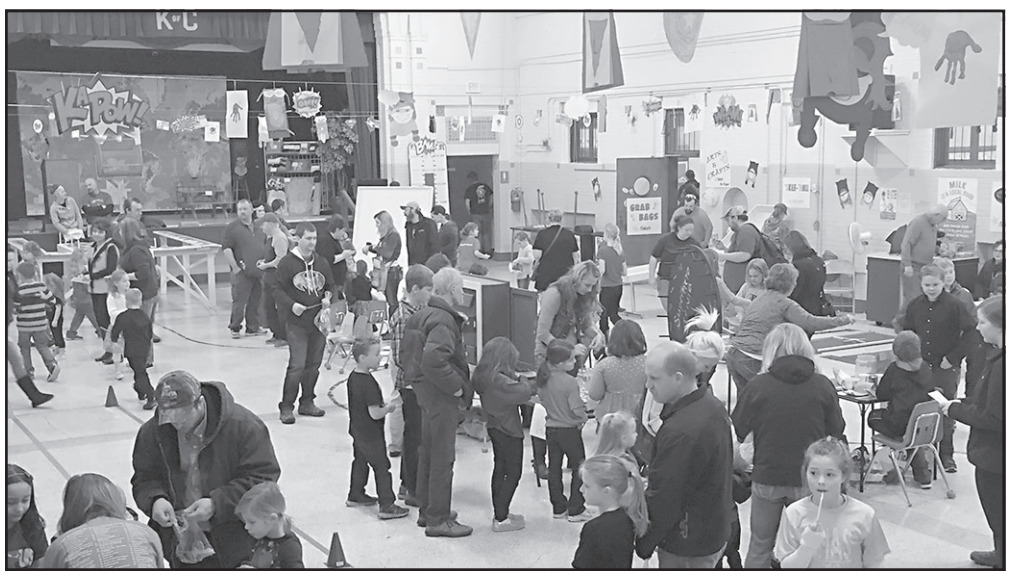
Funeral services will be held on Friday, February 19 at 11 a.m. at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Wadena with Pastor Nate Loer officiating. Visitation is Thursday, Feb. 18, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Schuller-Johnson Chapel in Wadena and Friday from 9:30 a.m. prior to the church services.

Arrangements are with the Schuller Family Funeral Homes, Wadena.

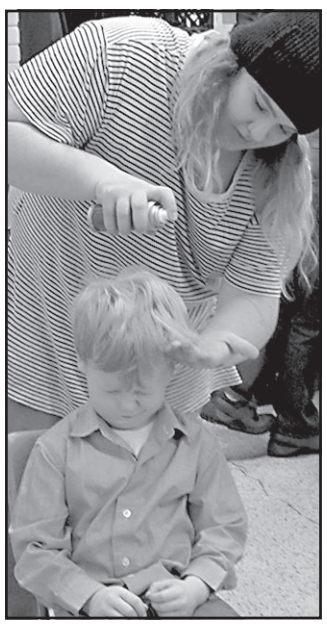
A full obituary will be included in next week's newspaper.

w7c A00006B2016FB18

FISH FRY FRIDAYS
Sacred Heart Area School
ALL YOU CAN EAT
Served 4:30 - 7 pm
At Sacred Heart Church, Staples
Adults $9, Seniors $8,
Children (4-12) $5, 3 & under FREE
Fish Fry Dates:
Feb. 12, 19, 26, Mar. 4, 11, 18



SHAS carnival held Feb. 7



The Sacred Heart Area School Carnival was held Feb. 7 with various booths, games, concessions, cake walk, pictures with super heros and more. The theme was "Jesus is My Super Hero". The annual carnival this year raised $20,000.

Left: Sophie Roberts gave "color" hair-dos at a booth that has been a family tradition for 15 years.

Right: Wonder Woman (aka Tina Maros) with daughter, Clara.





Senior's Valentine and birthday parties

Above: Some of the 25 people attending the Senior Valentine's Party Feb. 10 at the Staples Community Center were from left: Dolores Johnson, Harriet Dent, Jeanette Olsen, Doreen Scott and Martha Holsapple.



Above: Celebrating Feburary birthdays were, left to right: Erma Pavlacky, Dorothy Balken and Jean Medley. (Submitted photos)



Faithful subscriber

Marian Nelson (left) stopped by the Staples World recently to renew her subscription. Helping her with the order is Staples World employee Kathy Odden. Marian and her husband, Gary Nelson of Staples, have been subscribers since the early 1970s. The Staples World says, "Thank you," to all of our subscribers and advertisers who help ensure our community has a weekly newspaper. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Senior happenings

The Staples Senior Citizens were busy this past week, with their regular monthly board meeting on Feb. 8, the regular monthly birthday party on Feb. 9 and their Valentine's Day party held Feb. 10.

Celebrating their birthdays at the Feb. 9 party were members, Erma Pavlacky, Dorothy Balken and Jean Medley. A small decorated cake and card, along with the Happy Birthday song was enjoyed by the birthday gals. Special prize drawings were held, followed by the noon meal which was enjoyed by the 16 members that were present.

Twenty-five seniors enjoyed the special Valentine's Day party held Feb. 10. Tables were decorated with special centerpieces made by Kathy Crews. President Doreen Scott and other members assisted in the party preparations. Gift bags of decorated cookies and filled nut cups were given out to each person. Twelve free games of bingo were played, with winners receiving special prizes. The final game was 'blackout' with the winner receiving a special bag containing several items. Rose Hoemberg was the bingo caller, assisted by Joan Doll and Doreen Scott. A door prize drawing was held which was a basket of fruit won by Jeannie Huebner.

Life Currents Policy

To request that an obituary, anniversary, or other event be placed word for word, personalized, contain more than one photo, or to run for more than one week, consult our advertising department for display advertising options (rate is $9.60 /col. inch, Staples World only). The item will be placed in our newspaper with a border around it and paid for at the time of placement. Deadline for advertising copy is 5 p.m. Monday.

The Staples World publishes wedding and engagement notices as a courtesy. Submissions are edited and published for one week at no charge. A one column photograph may be included (word for word or personalized copy are ads). The deadline for copy is 5 p.m. Monday. The Life Currents section can also include, Student Achievements, births, obituaries etc. edited to our format at no charge.

The Staples World offers a Special Occasion Display ad, 1 col. X 3" for $25 (must be paid for at the time of placement; reg. $28.80). Regular ad rate is $9.60 per column inch for any size ad. **Benefit events are considered advertisements.**

An obituary (with photo) is $60. Obituary forms are available.

"RAM DAYS" ANNUAL SALES EVENT

FEB 25th-27th

SAVE $ NOW !!

OPEN HOUSE • WINSTED, MN
February 25th & 26th 10am-6pm
February 27th 8am-1pm
Discounted Pricing & Refreshments Provided
Drawing - Applebee's Gift Cards

Lock In Your Price Now!
Build at Your Convenience!

"RAM DAYS" Giveaway!

iPad2 or Cragun's Weekend for 2

Minimum purchase of $20,000 required.

RAM Buildings Inc. 800-710-4726 www.rambuildings.com

NFBA ACCREDITED POST-FRAME BUILDER · metal sales · MTS · RAM BUILDINGS

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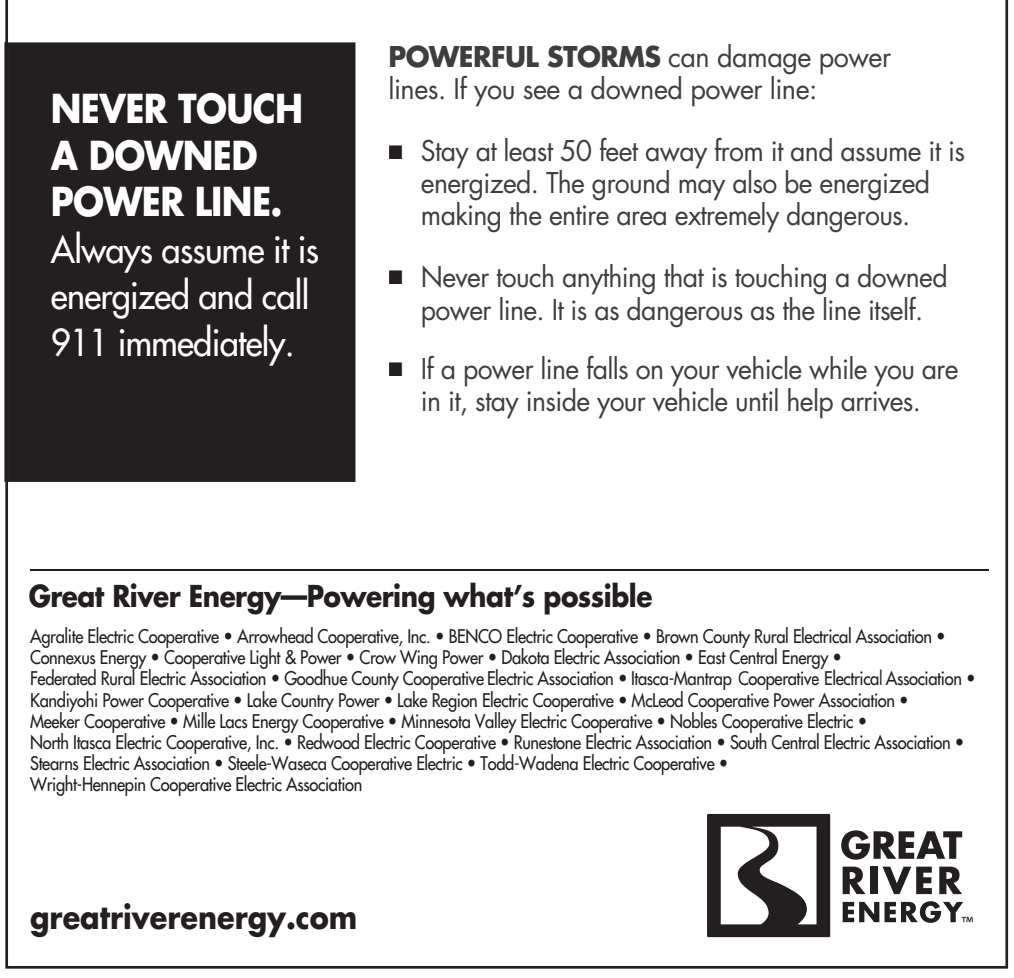
NORTHWEST CONSTRUCTION

HELP NEEDED MINNEAPOLIS METRO AREA

Northwest is a growing Union Company
With 3 Divisions: Sewer/Water • Excavating • Paving

Seeking to Hire Experienced:
Grading Superintendents, Pipe Foreman, Paving Foreman
Pipe Layers, Mechanics, Truck Drivers
Experienced Operators for all three divisions
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Equal Opportunity Employer

www.nwasphalt.net
1451 Stagecoach Rd., Shakopee, MN 55379
Call 952-445-1003



Be Safe

Stay clear of downed power lines

NEVER TOUCH A DOWNED POWER LINE. Always assume it is energized and call 911 immediately.

POWERFUL STORMS can damage power lines. If you see a downed power line:

- Stay at least 50 feet away from it and assume it is energized. The ground may also be energized making the entire area extremely dangerous.
- Never touch anything that is touching a downed power line. It is as dangerous as the line itself.
- If a power line falls on your vehicle while you are in it, stay inside your vehicle until help arrives.

Great River Energy—Powering what's possible

Agralite Electric Cooperative • Arrowhead Cooperative, Inc. • BENCO Electric Cooperative • Brown County Rural Electrical Association • Connexus Energy • Cooperative Light & Power • Crow Wing Power • Dakota Electric Association • East Central Energy • Federated Rural Electric Association • Goodhue County Cooperative Electric Association • Itasca-Mantrap Cooperative Electrical Association • Kandiyohi Power Cooperative • Lake Country Power • Lake Region Electric Cooperative • McLeod Cooperative Power Association • Meeker Cooperative • Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative • Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative • Nobles Cooperative Electric • North Itasca Electric Cooperative, Inc. • Redwood Electric Cooperative • Runestone Electric Association • South Central Electric Association • Stearns Electric Association • Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric • Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative • Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association

GREAT RIVER ENERGY™

greatriverenergy.com

2013 2014 WOMEN'S CHOICE AWARD® AMERICA'S BEST HOSPITALS OBSTETRICS

welcoming HOME

TO PILLAGER...

Faith
Beautiful daughter of Kelsi & Benjamin.
Born 12/2/15 in Staples.

TO STAPLES...



Alexander
Precious son of Megan & Nathan.
Born 12/2/15 in Staples.



Christopher
Precious son of Nicole & Christopher.
Born 12/7/15 in Staples.



Anna
Beautiful daughter of Sabrina & Sam
Born 12/16/15 in Staples.

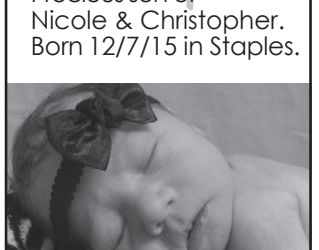
TO MOTLEY...



Dominik
Precious son of Kelsey & John.
Born 12/7/15 in Staples.



Elijah
Precious son of Samantha. Born 12/22/15 in Staples.



Brynlee
Beautiful daughter of Karen & Ryan.
Born 12/27/15 in Staples.

WE ARE SO HONORED TO BE A PART OF YOUR CHILD'S BIRTH.

Lakewood HEALTH SYSTEM
Your Choice. For a lifetime of care.
218-894-1515
www.lakewoodhealthsystem.com

**NOTICE
TODD COUNTY
PLANNING
COMMISSION
215 1st Ave. South,
Suite 103
Long Prairie,
Minnesota 56347
320-732-4420**

Notice is hereby given that on **Thursday, March 3, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.** the Todd County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing in the Commissioners Meeting Room, 215 First Ave. South, Long Prairie to consider the following applications.

•Derek Schumann: SE4 SW4, Section 25 of Eagle Valley Township.Address: 34195 County 89, Browerville. PIN: 07-0029800

Zoning Amendment request to change the zoning district of the SE4 of the SW4 of Section 25, Eagle Valley Township from AF-1 to AF-2 for the purpose of allowing the existing dwelling to be moved to another location on this property.

•Shawn Jordahl: W2 NW4, Section 13 of Villard Township, Address: 33249 Spruce Rd, Motley. PIN: 25-0013400

Zoning Amendment request to change the zoning district of the W2 of the NW4 of Section 13, Villard Township from R-2 to AF-2 for the purpose of operating a feedlot.

•Jack McCoy: Burnham, Smiths, Lockes. Addition to Burnhamville W 75ft Lot 1 Blk 2 and W75ft of Lot 2 Blk 2, Section 2 of Burnhamville Township, Address: 331st Ave, Swanville. PIN: 06-0051300, 06-0051500

Conditional Use Permit request for the use of a riding destination/watering station for his Circle R Ranch horses (Riding Stable)

•Justin and Steven Seidie: Part of Govt. Lot 2 W of Hway 27, Section 10, Gordon Township. Address: NA. PIN: 10-0015000

Preliminary Plat Subdivision request to create a 3 residential lot and 3 outlot plat named "SEIDE ADDITION" located along Lake Street E

•Darrell Bacon: Part of Govt. Lot 5 starting at the NE Cor of Brookside First addition, Section 20, Burnhamville Township. Address: Duckweed Dr. PIN: 06-0029200, 06-0029500

Preliminary Plat Subdivision request to create a 2 residential lot plat named "Maple Hill Subdivision" located along Duckweed Dr.

All persons interested are invited to attend said hearing and be heard on these matters.

Todd County Planning Commission
Mike Wiener, Chairperson
7pnc

**NOTICE
MEADOWBROOK
TOWNSHIP
MEETING DATES
AND ANNUAL
MEETING DATE**

Meadowbrook Township will hold their monthly meeting the first Tuesday of each month at the Leader Community Hall at 7:30 p.m.

The March 1, 2016 meeting will be at 3:00 p.m. due to the caucus. There will not be a January 2017 meeting.

The Meadowbrook Township Annual meeting will be held Tuesday March 8, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at the Leader Community Hall. If the weather is bad and the meeting needs to be postponed, it will be held the following Tuesday at the same time.

Darlene Rollins, Clerk
Meadowbrook Township
7-8pnc

**NOTICE
HEARING TO APPEAR
WADENA COUNTY
HUMAN SERVICES**

Michael T. Martin, you are hereby ordered by District Court Judge Sally Ireland Robertson, to personally appear for a hearing on March 17, 2016 at 9:20 a.m. at Courtroom #239, Wadena County Courthouse, 415 S Jefferson, Wadena MN, where a hearing will be held to address the issues in the paperwork mailed to you on February 2, 2016.
5-7pnc

Todd County Commissioners

**MINUTES
TODD COUNTY BOARD
OF COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 5, 2016**

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 5th day of January, 2016, 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kircher. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners present.

Board Organization

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve appointment of Commissioner Becker as the Chairperson of the Todd County Board of Commissioners for 2016.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Kircher the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve appointment of Commissioner Erickson as the Vice-Chairperson of the Todd County Board of Commissioners for 2016.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote. To approve the agenda with the following change:

• Remove - 9.3 Appoint Eligibility Worker

Todd-Wadena Community Corrections

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, The Todd County Board of Commissioners and the Wadena County Board of Commissioners, on November 5, 2014, reviewed the 2014-2015 Comprehensive Community Corrections Plan Updates and 2015 Budget for Todd and Wadena Community Corrections. BE IT FURTHER JOINTLY RESOLVED, the Todd and Wadena Counties Boards of Commissioners vest authority in the Executive Committee, by this resolution, to implement and maintain the Comprehensive Community Corrections Plan for Todd and Wadena Counties. (Full resolution on file in the Administration Office.)

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT ADISORY BOARD

WHEREAS, The Todd County Board of Commissioners and the Wadena County Board of Commissioners, on May 4, 1974, and on May 5, 1974, respectively, duly caused a resolution to be adopted wherein they declared it their intention to the State of Minnesota, pursuant to Minnesota Laws of 1973, Chapter 401, to participate in the Community Corrections Act subject to the preparation and approval of a comprehensive plan by the Counties of Todd and Wadena and the Commissioner of Corrections for the State of Minnesota. (Full resolution on file in the Administration Office).

Routine Business

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Auditor Warrants number 226473 through 226623 in the amount of $616,014.68.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve to continue the Todd County Board of Commissioners Meetings on the first and third Tuesday of every month at 9:00 a.m. in the Todd County Historic Courthouse and to schedule work sessions as needed.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AN OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER 2016

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 375.12 requires the annual letting of bids for publication of official proceedings of the County Board and similar statues require the publication of delinquent tax lists, County Financial Statements, and local transportation project bid advertisements, and;

WHEREAS, pursuant to advertisement bids were opened to be designated as the official newspaper for Todd County on January 5, 2016.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners accept the bid from Staples World, with a bid of $9.75 per column inch to be the Official Newspaper for the year 2016 and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Todd County website (www.co.todd.mn.us) be also designated as an official publication for all statutory requirements.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AN EXTRA PUBLICATION NEWSPAPER 2016

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 375.12 requires the annual letting of bids for publication of official proceedings of the County Board and similar statues require the publication of delinquent tax lists, County Financial Statements, and local transportation project bid advertisements, and;

WHEREAS, pursuant to advertisement bids were opened to be designated as the extra publication newspaper for Todd County on January 5, 2016.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners accept the bid from Long Prairie Leader with a bid of $7.80 per column inch to be the Extra Publication Newspaper for the year 2016.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2016

WHEREAS, County Commissioners have wide ranging and diverse responsibilities. RESOLVED, that the attached Committee Roster (Attachment A) is hereby adopted as the County Commissioners' Committee Roster for 2016. (Committee Roster on file in the Administration Office and on official County website.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve to the transfer of funds in the amount of $5,273.14 from the DARE program to the CAD Program from 2015 to 2016.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the contract with Peters and Churchwell for public defender services in Todd County for 2016.

Soil & Water & Conservation District

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve hire of Carol Wimmer to work on the buffer inventory project funded through SWCD grants at $12 per hour for up to 67 days or $3,000 expenditures whichever comes first starting January 11, 2016.

Health & Human Services

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve hiring Emily Steinert to work up to 4 hours per week to provide licensing supervision for $36.179/hour. The HHS will report back to the Commissioners for review in July, 2016.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was rescinded: The hire of Nicole Mansager to the position of Office Support Specialist.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To accept the resignation of Barb Graves as Support Enforcement Aide effective 12/24/2015.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve Health & Human Services to recruit and hire one Support Enforcement Aide to fill the vacant position.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the 2016 tobacco license applications from the Clarissa Municipal Liquor, Clarissa; Don and Dave's Store, Staples; Jon's Family Foods, Clarissa; The Hub Supper Club, Burtrum; Oscar Jacobson Post 417, Little Sauk; Seven Oaks Express, Bertha; Eagle Valley Express, Clarissa; and Sidewalk Bar, West Union, Roadhouse Restaurant, Hewitt.

Auditor Treasurer Report

Nothing at this time.

Commissioners' Report

The Commissioner reported on the meetings they had attended.

Adjourn

Commissioner Becker recessed the meeting until January 16, 2016.

AUDITOR WARRANTS

Vendor Name	$ Amount
AMERICAN HERITAGE	10,348.09
CENTERPOINT ENERGY	3,413.17
CHAFFIN CONSTRUCTION & REMODELING	3,675.00
HOST EXTERIOR INC	2,475.00
STAPLES ADVANTAGE	2,604.97
STOECKEL JAHNER INC	11,220.00
US POSTAL SERVICE	2,000.00
Payments less than $2,000	9,201.06
BERSCHEIT/MARK	67,944.88
CARD SERVICES COBORNS	2,769.53
GOULD/RHONDA M	2,412.00
HAUER/JOSH	7,710.63
MADDEN GALANTER HANSEN, LLP	6,182.79
MINNESOTA POWER & LIGHT	14,569.02
NORTHERN BUSINESS PRODUCTS	10,520.00
PETERS & CHURCHWELL	3,485.00
WONDERLICH/SCOTT	3,240.00
Payments less than $2,000	16,355.49
COMPASS MINERALS AMERICA	16,006.89
PHEASANTS FOREVER	10,728.48
RURAL MN CEP INC	21,753.19
TODD CO AG. SOC.	10,136.82
US POSTAL SERVICE	5,808.70
VERIZON	4,094.04
ZAYO ENTERPRISE NETWORKS	3,256.67
Payments less than $2,000	6,711.11
AMERICAN HERITAGE BANK	34,006.95
COMPUTER PROFESSIONALS	4,275.88
FLEET SERVICES/ WEX BANK	3,939.67
GENE-O'S COUNTRYSIDE REST LLC	6,819.38
LONG PRAIRIE SANITATION INC	3,182.15
MN DEPT OF FINANCE	5,091.50
MORRISON COUNTY	12,702.95
PRAIRIE LAKES MUN. SOLID WASTE AUTH.	58,502.64
RESOURCE TRAINING AND SOLUTIONS	202,438.50
TODD CO AUD-TREAS	11,076.00
TODD COUNTY DAC	4,797.00
Payments less than $2,000	10,559.53
Final Total	**$616,014.68**

On a motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held January 5, 2016 were duly approved by a unanimous vote of the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on February 2, 2016.

Witness my hand and seal:

Barb Becker, Todd County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer
7pnc

JANUARY 19, 2016

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 19th day of January 19, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Becker. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners present.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote. To approve the agenda as presented.

Closed Session

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the Todd County Commissioners' Meeting was recessed and went into Closed Session for negotiation strategy at 9:05 a.m.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the Todd County Commissioners' meeting was reopened at 9:38 a.m.

Routine Business

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve meeting minutes from December 22, 2015 Health & Human Services Meeting Minutes and December 29, 2015 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as read.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Actions of the HHS Committee Meeting held December 22, 2015 in accordance with the minutes on file in the Todd County Administration Office.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number 42490 through 42629 in the amount of $220,824.30 and HHS Warrants in the amount of $100,672.10.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by roll call vote: Erickson, yes; Neumann, yes; Kneisl, yes; Kircher, No; Becker, yes.

RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL FROM THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR THE SALE OF TAX FORFEITED LANDS

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners of the County of Todd, State of Minnesota, Desires to offer for sale certain parcels of land that have forfeited to the State of Minnesota for nonpayment of taxes, and. RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby request approval from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for the Sale of said lands.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the carryover of Contingency Funds from 2015 to 2016 in the amount of $5,664.10.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve purchase of two vehicles from the only bid received from Ranger - GM, Hibbing, MN in the amount of $38,934.22.

Attorneys' Office

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To grant Todd County Attorney Charles G. Rasmussen authority to sign the Master Subscriber Agreement for Minnesota Court Data Services for Governmental Agencies and bind the entity according to the rules and regulation of the system.

Planning & Zoning

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve Conditional Use Permit for Birchdale Pork, LLP. Site address: 13725 275th, Grey Eagle, MN. Parcel #03-0008002. Granted with the following conditions: 1.) The Todd County

See **TCC** on page 9a

Public Notices

**NOTICE
TODD COUNTY
BOARD OF
ADJUSTMENT
HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that on **Thursday February 25, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.** the Todd County Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing in the Commissioner's board room, 215 1st Ave. South, Long Prairie, Minnesota to consider the following Variance applications:

•Rene and LuAnn Hatton: 20-127-32 N 68.25ft of S 136.50ft of Govt Lot 4 Lying W of HWY ROW. Address: 11101 County 47, Grey Eagle MN 56336 PIN: 11-0030100.

Variance request to reduce the structural setback to the OHWL from 100ft to 54ft and exceed the allowed percent impervious for roofed structures by 2.15 percent for the construction of a home.

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

Steve Gjerstad, Chairman
Todd County Board of Adjustment
7pnc

**NOTICE
CENTRAL LAKES
COLLEGE
BID FOR USED
HYDRAULIC
EXCAVATOR**

Central Lakes College is soliciting bids for a 40,000 – 42,000 pound used Hydraulic Excavator with 500-600 hours on it. Detail specifications may be obtained by contacting John Maleski at 218-270-0283. Bids will be accepted at the Staples Campus until 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Faxed bids will be accepted provided hard copies are received within 48 hours of the bid time. All bids must be sealed and marked "BID FOR 40,000 – 42,000 pound used Hydraulic Excavator".

Submit bids to:
Central Lakes College
ATTN: Debbie Sterriker
1830 Airport Rd
Staples, MN 56479
Fax 218-894-5186.

The college reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive any information or irregularities in the bidding and to make the award serving the best interest of the college. Central Lakes College is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and educator. These materials are available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities upon request. If you use a TTY, call the Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529 and request to contact Central Lakes College.
6-7pnc

**NOTICE
BYRON TOWNSHIP
ANNUAL MEETING**

Byron Township will hold their Annual Meeting on March 8, 2016 at 3:30 p.m. at the Leader Community Hall. In case of bad weather the meeting will be postponed to March 15, at 3:30 p.m.

The Regular Board meeting will be held March 10, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Leader Community Hall.

Beverly Hoemberg, Clerk
Byron Township
7-8pnc

TCC continued from page 8a

Feedlot Officer must be contacted for an air quality exemption during manure application or hauling, and 2.) Owners work with the Todd County Feedlot Officer to address concerns about manure application locations listed on the Construction Short Form.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kircher, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve Cluster Development Subdivision request to create a subdivision in Section 07 of Round Prairie Township to be known as "Swartzentruber Ac." Plat to consist of Lot 1 of Block 1 (32.58 acres) zoned AF-1. Site address: 19969 241st Ave. Long Prairie, MN 56347. Parcel #21-0008003. Granted with no conditions.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve Subdivision request to create a subdivision in Section 32 of Little Sauk Township to be known as "Little Sauk Hill." Plat to consist of lots 1, 2, and 3 of Block 1 (25.34 acres) located on Little Sauk Lake, NE Shoreland Zoning District. Parcel #17-0035304. Granted with the following conditions: 1) Lots 1 and 2 shall share one driveway. 2) No structures shall be constructed on moderate steep slopes except access stairs. 3) Drainway easements shall be provided along each side of the centerline of the natural drainway running along the property lines shared between lots 1 and 2, and 2 and 3. The easement shall extend for no less than 10ft from center line of the drainway. No topographic or vegetative alterations (including mowing) shall be allowed within these areas other than those needed to correct erosion or to construct a driveway crossing.

Maintenance/ Custodial Department

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To accept the lowest bid received from Eco-water Systems for the water softener in the Justice Center in the amount of $6,243.00.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To accept the lowest bid received from No Name Construction for shingling the Justice Center in the amount of $45,800.00.

Assessor's Office

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve abatement as presented for Enos & Cora Borntreger in the amount of $644.

Sheriffs' Department

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the resignation of Andrew Brinkman as a full-time Jailor/Dispatcher and reassignment to part-time Deputy status effective February 6, 2016.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the resignation of Mary Littler as a full-time Jailor/Dispatcher effective January 7, 2016.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the In-House posting and advertisement for the position of full-time Jailor/Dispatcher (s).

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Kircher, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

ACCEPTANCE OF TECHNOLOGY GRANT

WHEREAS, Todd County Sheriff's Office and the Todd County Attorney's Office submitted a Technology Fund application to purchase E-Citation equipment and software. RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners accept the Technology Grant.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the carryover of Forfeited Funds from 2015 to 2016 in the amount of $2,034.02.

Health & Human Services

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the hire of Kathy Parteka to the position of Office Support Specialist at $19.831/hour contingent upon successful completion of required background checks and/or employee physical.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the hire of Kelly Bryniarski to the position of Eligibility Worker at $19.025/hour contingent upon successful completion of required background checks and/or employee physical.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the 2016 Delegation Agreement between South Country Health Alliance and Todd County. (Agreement on file in the Administration Office).

Auditor-Treasurer Report

Nothing at this time.

Commissioners' Report

The Commissioners reported on the meetings they had attended.

Adjourn

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl the meeting was adjourned for the month of January, 2016.

COMMISSIONERS WARRANTS

Vendor Name	$ Amount
#14080 Foster Care Provider	3549.65
#4453 Foster Care Provider	2635.00
GREATER MN FAMILY SRVS INC	11385.06
#878 Foster Care Provider	2435.98
KINDRED FAMILY FOCUS	11077.23
LIFE HOUSE INC	6100.00
#10746 Foster Care Provider	2323.76
NEXUS INC - MILLE LACS ACADEMY	4524.76
#14051 Foster Care Provider	2854.17
PATH INC	9021.96
PETRANGELO MS Ed. D/GEORGE	2950.00
PORT OF CROW WING BOYS HOME	2716.80
VILLAGE RANCH INC	8957.45
Payments Less than $2,000	30140.28
Final Total	**$100,672.10**

COMPASS MINERALS AMERICA	12,300.11
CORBIN PICKAR EXC INC	50,000.00
G S EQUIPMENT INC	2,268.00
INFORMATION SYSTEM CORP	19,818.00
LITTLE FALLS MACHINE INC	3,140.11
MCCC, MI33	15,463.12
MCIT	24,306.00
MN STATE AUDITOR	5,261.80
MN STATE SHERIFFS ASSOC	7,926.40
MORRISON CO PUBLIC HEALTH SERV	2,737.48
REGENTS OF THE UNIV OF MN	23,523.71
STAPLES WORLD	2,763.83
WIDSETH SMITH NOLTING INC	7,191.50
Payments less than $2,000	44,124.24
Final Total	**$220,824.30**

Witness my hand and seal:

Barb Becker,
Todd County Board
Chairperson

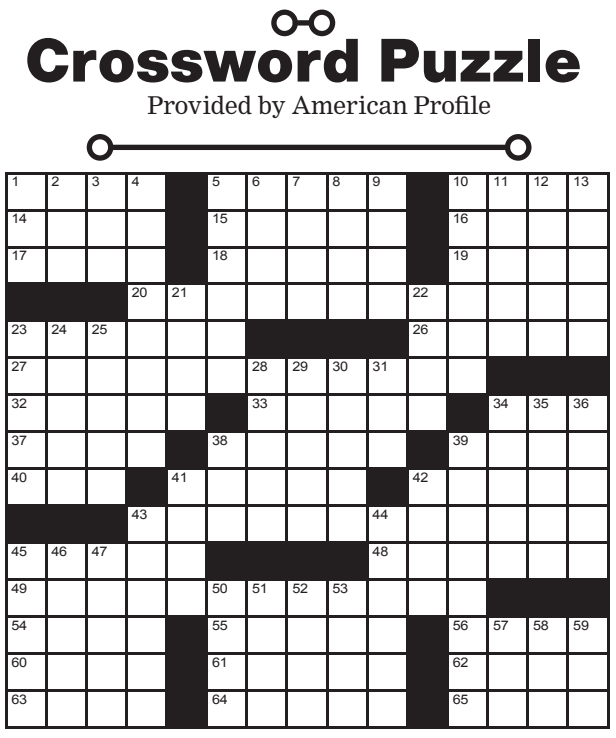
Denise Gaida, Todd
County Auditor-Treasurer

7pnc

Crossword Puzzle

Provided by American Profile

Week 7



"Four Months"

Across
1 Radiant look
5 Wrap
10 Junk E-mail
14 Gambling mecca
15 Annoyed
16 Daily riser
17 Start of some cloud names
18 Injured by a bull
19 Butts
20 "Mad Men" actress
23 Calf bone
26 Black
27 Aubrey Plaza's "Parks and Recreation" character
32 Morgan of "30 Rock"
33 Children's doctor?
34 Make sense, with "up"
37 Stir
38 Miles of jazz
39 "Night" author Wiesel
40 Affirmative vote
41 Set
42 Bagel choice
43 "Lassie" actress
45 Flower
48 Two-time U.S. Open champ
49 Pulitzer winner for "Fences" and "The Piano Lesson"
54 Window part
55 Capital of Vietnam
56 China problem
60 Words said with a nod
61 ___ Martin
62 French bread
63 Lacking
64 Flip-flop
65 Hard to comprehend

Down
1 Sports ___
2 Moray, e.g.
3 Orkin target
4 Milk, facetiously
5 Give an indication
6 Pants, in brief
7 Gumbo
8 Look like a wolf
9 Small whirlpool
10 Flash
11 Upright, e.g.
12 Commercial makers
13 Chaotic
21 Unite
22 Boeing products
23 Islamic decree
24 "Here's hoping..."
25 Slow down
28 Practice
29 Man with horns
30 Italian poet Cavalcanti
31 Balaam's mount
34 Cover
35 Some designer dresses
36 Prefix meaning "tooth"
38 Cacophony
39 Touched up
41 Jamaican exports
42 Chicago band who make one-take viral videos
43 Energy units
44 Outer cover
45 So-called "royal herb"
46 Actress Rainer
47 Longing looks
50 "Take ___!"
51 Shampoo
52 Liking
53 Wacko
57 Cast
58 Burn up
59 Music genre

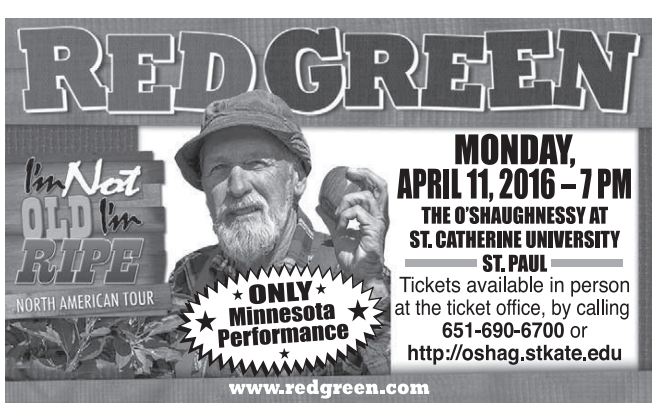
D	R	I	F	T	■	A	C	U	R	A	■	A	S	H
R	E	S	E	W	■	M	A	Z	E	R	■	L	E	I
A	M	A	Z	O	N	P	R	I	M	E	■	L	E	D
T	O	Y	■	O	I	L	S	■	■	A	S	P	I	E
■	■	■	O	N	C	E	■	M	A	C	D	U	F	F
D	R	A	W	E	E	■	S	A	V	O	I	R	■	■
E	A	R	N	■	■	S	H	R	E	D	■	P	H	O
A	R	M	■	A	T	P	E	A	C	E	■	O	A	F
N	E	O	■	D	E	A	L	T	■	■	A	S	I	F
■	■	■	R	E	M	A	I	L	■	P	L	I	E	R	S
H	O	P	K	I	L	N	■	L	E	E	R	■	■	■
I	D	L	E	R	■	■	O	U	T	S	■	D	A	B
M	I	A	■	A	I	R	P	R	E	S	S	U	R	E
O	U	T	■	L	O	O	I	E	■	E	L	E	N	A
M	M	E	■	S	N	E	E	R	■	N	Y	L	O	N

Last Week's Answers
"A.P. Test"

CONSTRUCTION SEWER & WATER/GRADING

We are looking for an experienced sewer and water foreman, grading foreman, operators, pipelayers, bottommen, topmen and laborers. We have lots of work, offer top wages, great benefits, and an awesome work environment. Twin Cities metro area and choice to work in Fargo. We don't work west of Fargo area. Experience and references required.

Applications available at ryancont.com
Ryan Contracting EOE



Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance
1512 8th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2891
Pastor Bob Hepokoski, Paul Johnson
Sunday Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School ..... 11:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
AWANA ..... 6:15 p.m.

Assembly of God
914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples 218-894-1081
Pastor Roy Miles
Youth Pastor Julie Boone
Discipleship Class ..... 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.
Evening Prayer ..... 6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Sonlight & Youth ..... 6:30 p.m.

Church of Christ
27343 490th St., Staples 218-894-2609
Pastor Barry Klein
Website: www.stapleschurchofchrist.org
Bible School (youth and adult) ..... 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY:
Teen Youth/Adults Bible Study ..... 6:30 p.m.

Congregational Church, UCC
204 5th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2571
Pastor Tony Romaine
Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.
Fellowship, refreshments following service

Faith Lutheran
430 12th Street. NE., Staples
218-894-1546
Pastor Stephen Sveom
Sunday Worship
First Service ..... 8:30 a.m.
Second Service ..... 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School ..... 9:35 a.m.
Coffee fellowship ..... 9:35 a.m.

Sacred Heart Church
310 4th St. NE, Staples
Church 218-894-2296
Pastor Fr. Joe Korf
Youth and Young Adult Ministry Coordinator:
Monica J. Simmons ..... 218-414-0081 cell/text
MASS:
Thursday and Friday ..... 8:30 a.m..
Saturday ..... 5:00 p.m.
Sunday ..... 8:30 a.m.

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

Thomastown Covenant
15940 251st Ave., Staples 218-894-3923
Pastor Nathan Hillman
Sunday School ..... 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship ..... 11:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY ..... 7:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran
1000 4th St., NE, Staples 218-894-2372
Rev. Robin Collins
Sunday Divine Service ..... 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Class ..... 10:15 a.m.

United Methodist
310 5th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2248
Pastor Greg Ciesluk
Sunday Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.
(Nursery Available for Sunday Worship)

Aldrich

Congregational, UCC
One block S. of Hwy. 10, Aldrich
Pastor Dave Seaton 218-445-5831
Sunday Worship, ... 9:30 a.m.
Communion ..... 1st Sunday of Month

Balsamlund Lutheran
19550 490th Street, Aldrich
Pastor Rachel Stout 218-640-5587
Sunday Worship ..... 8:15 a.m.
Sunday School ..... 8:30 a.m.

Cushing

Bethany Lutheran
25430 Bison Rd.Cushing, MN
320-749-2140
www.bethanylutherancushing.com.
Rev. Jean M. Megorden
Lay Pastor Bob Mueller
Sunday Worship ..... 9:00 a.m

Lincoln Evangelical Free
1354 320th St., Cushing 218-575-2449
www.lincolnefree.org Facebook Lincoln E Free
Senior Pastor: Pastor Dan Crocker
Visitation Pastor: Pastor Jim Brown
Youth Coordinator: Stacey Minion
Sunday School for all Ages ..... 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship ..... 10:45 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Kids' Club ..... 6:00 p.m.
Jr./Sr. Forge Youth Group ..... 6:30 p.m.
Men's Bible Study ..... 6:00 p.m.
Praise & Prayer ..... 4:30 p.m.

Cushing Baptist
26402 40th Ave., Cushing
www.cushingbaptistchurch.org
Pastor Dan Holmes 320-749-2583
Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.
Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible study ..... 7:00 p.m.

Leaf River Township

The Old Country Church
Leaf River Twp., Wadena County Rd. 6
Info. # 218-837-5690
Open by arrangement

Leader

Swan Valley Lutheran
Leader 218-397-2470
Pastor David Stevens
Sunday Worship ..... 11:00 a.m.

Maple Hill Lutheran
Pastor David Stevens
Leader ..... 218-397-2470 (Rural Pine River)
Worship and Sunday School ..... 9:00 a.m.

Motley

Motley Free Methodist
33 Wellwood St. E
Motley 56466 218-352-6888
Pastor Jim Johnson
Assistant Pastor Richard Broberg
Sunday Worship ..... 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School ..... 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Bible Study ..... 6 :00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
AWANA ..... 6:00 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran
497 3rd Ave. S, Motley 218-352-6399
Pastor Vicar Paul Koehler
Sunday School and Bible Class ..... 8:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.

St. Michael
1st St. and Birch, Motley 218-894-2296
Pastor Fr. Joe Korf
MASS:
Tuesday ..... 6:30 p.m,
Wednesday ..... 8:30 a.m..
Saturday ..... 7:00 p.m.
Sunday ..... 10:30 a.m.

United Methodist
847 3rd Ave. S. Lane, Motley 218-352-6466
Rev. Greg Ciesluk
www.motleyumc.org
Monday AA meeting ..... 8:00 p.m.
Sunday Worship Service ..... 9:00 a.m.

Oylen

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

Pillager

First Lutheran Church
717 River Street S, Pillager, MN
218-746-3775
Pastor Hector Merced
Sunday Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School ..... 8:30 a.m.

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

First Baptist
903 River Street South, Pillager
Pastor Paul Johnson
218-746-3768
Sunday School ..... 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.
TUESDAY
Bible Study/Prayer ..... 11:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
AWANA 2yrs-5th grade ..... 6:15 p.m.
Adult Classes ..... 6:15 p.m.

Hewitt

Church of the Nazarene
114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146
Hewitt, MN 56453
218-924-2028
Pastor Wayne Hoffert
Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m
Sunday Worship ..... 10:45 a.m./6 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Prayer ..... 7:00 p.m.

Verndale

Verndale Alliance
109 NW Brown Street, Verndale.
218-445-5619
Senior Pastor Tony Stanley
Associate Pastor Fred Hartley IV
Sunday Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Bible Fellowship Classses ..... 11-11:45 a.m.

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

Family Life Church
402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale
Church 218-445-5568
VerndaleFLC@gmail.com
Pastor Amos Self 218-371-7189
Childrens' Pastor Kenneth Kjeldergaard
Sunday School - Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship ..... 10:00 a.m.
Prayer & Praise ..... 6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
6:15 - 7:30 p.m. ..... Boys and Girls Ministry
6:15 - 7:30 p.m. ..... C.R.E.W. Youth Ministry
6:15 - 7:30 p.m. ..... Adult Bible Studies

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

Central United Methodist
5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar)
Pastor Chuck Horsager
218-639-4225
Sunday Worship ..... 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School ..... 10:30 a.m.

Does God Love You?

Reverend Paul Koehler, St. John's Lutheran Church, Motley

Once you've answered the question "Is there a God?" you want to know "Does He care about me?" and in particular, "Does He love me?" If you answer that question by saying "Yes!" then how did you come up with that answer?

Do you think that He loves you because you are so lovable? Is it because you deserve His love? Or maybe you think that it's God's job to love you. Some people think God has to love us because He made us. He can't disown us because we have been created in His image. The only problem with that is we no longer possess that image. We lost it in what we call "the fall."

We are fallen creatures who in our natural condition cannot even know God anymore. But God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, who was born without sin, to be our perfect substitute. "He who knew no sin was made to be sin for us" (2 Corinthians 5:21). The Scriptures tell us that through faith in this Christ, a beginning of the renewal of that image of God in us is taking place.

God no longer charges our sins against us. He does not keep score of all our misdeeds and mistakes. Here is the motive behind our love for Him, because He first loved us. To demonstrate that love, God sent His son to the cross on our behalf.

If we take our eyes off the cross of Christ and look for evidence of God's grace and love in ourselves, we will forever be disappointed. We need to look where God tells us to look - to His Son and to His cross! In Christ you know that God loves you.

wk7

The Staples Area Church Directory is sponsored by these area businesses:

Central Building Supply
Bob Reeck, Manager
Hwy. 10 West, Staples, MN

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

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

Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank
Fully Insured to $250,000
Staples, MN 218-894-3900

Longbella Drug Store
"The Prescription Store"
2nd Ave., Staples • 218-894-2242
Motley and Pillager

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

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

Staples True Value
"Just Ask Rental"
Open 7 days a week.
Staples, MN 218-894-3263

Student Recognition

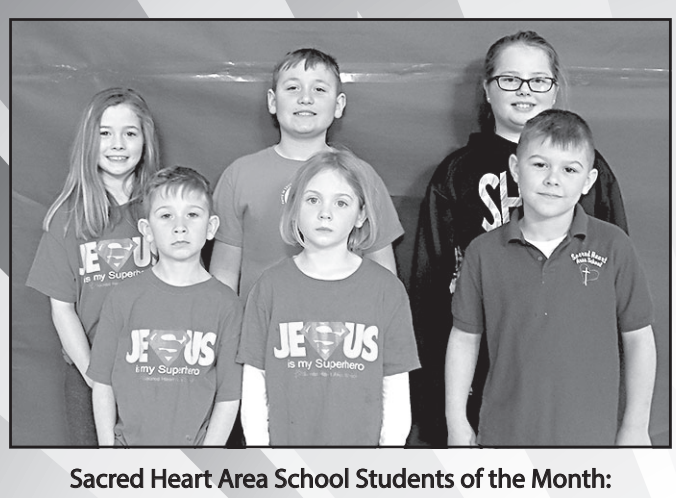


Motley Staples Middle School

Students of the Month and the subjects they were selected in included:
Eighth grade: Cade Schmidt, Technology; Madeline Rutherford, Math; Kayla Yoder, Art; Jaydon Friedel, English; Jack Tyrrell, Social; Rylie Rau, Orchestra.
Seventh grade: Tabitha Allen, Math; Vanessa Lozano, English; Mikayla Williams, Science; Emmett Anderson, Phy. Ed./Health; Rebecca Brown, Orchestra.
Sixth grade: Klaire Storry, Technology; Ethan DiGiovanni, Phy. Ed.; Sivert Klefsaas, Science; Drew Berg, Math; Calob Trantina, English; Kaylee Johnson, Social; Jaden Stangle, Band; Chandler Braith, Orchestra.

Staples World photo.

Sacred Heart Area School



Sacred Heart Area School Students of the Month:
Front row: Jaxon Gregerson, Chloe Larson, Riley Reese.
Back row: Jade Storry, Carter Gregorson, Corrine Japke.

Staples Elementary School



Staples Elementary School Bucket Fillers for the month of January
Left to right: Andrew Black, Cadence Pence, Addy Toepper, Conner Cusey, Katie Connel, Teegan Vogel, Britta Sweeney, Starr Holsetedt.

Motley Elementary School



December Students of the Month
at Motley Elementary School
Front: Gabe Vargas-Dewald, Melissa Anderson, Kyleena Rudlang, Emilynn Sullivan.
Back: Westen Bjerga, Camden Anderson, Wyatt Berg, Daniel Zimmerman.



January Students of the Month
at Motley Elementary School
Front: Emersen Bettis, Ruben Dahlvang, Anna Jares, Joey Grandby.
Back: Molly Broberg, Topanga Braith, Morgan Converse, Gabriel Decker.



Second Quarter Specials - Art.
Front: Isabella Sampson, Jack Tetlie, Sam Olsen, Natalee Kuklok. Back: James Hite, Ivan Lozano, Ilyse Koenig, Toree Rodriguez.



Second Quarter Specials - Technology.
Front: Spencer Olsen, Diamond Sharpe, Anna Jares, Jacob Hansen. Back: Daniel Zimmerman, Nathaniel Rubink, Nevaeh Fratzke, Molly Broberg



Attendance Awards
Front: Annabella Cory-Wolfe, Anna Jares, Heidi Zimmerman. Back: Korden Robinson, Nathaniel Rubink, Wyatt Kobliska, Michael Becker.

These area businesses offer their support and congratulations to the overall excellence exemplified by these students.

BRICKS Travel Center
Motley Auto Repair & Towing
Motley Dairy Queen
Auto Value Parts Store
LMH Embroidery
Countryside Restaurant
First International Bank & Trust
Ernie's Food Market
James Soule Auto Sales
Longbella Drug
Mayer, Porter & Nelson, Ltd., CPA's
Midwest Family Eye Center
Nelson Insurance Agency of Staples, Inc.
Nyhus Chev./Buick, Inc.
Orton's Staples Food Mart
Ron's Auto Repair
Staples Precision Metalcraft
Staples Eye Clinic
Long Prairie Sanitation, Inc.
SuperAmerica
Shear Contact
Wayne's Electric of Staples, Inc.
Hillyard Supply Company
Staples Dairy Queen
Lake Country Insurance (Inc., Motley)
Staples True Value & Just Ask Rental
Busker Concrete
Dan Orth, dba Kuhn Insurance Agency
Harmony House
Jon's Family Foods
3M
Brichacek Stone & Granite
PHB Excavating & Septic Pumping
Trident Seafoods Corp.
Japke Decorating, Carpet & Gifts
Giza Plumbing & Heating
Dr. Zachary Bailey, DDS
Central Building Supply
Tower Pizza
Sylvan Shores
Stern Rubber Company
Northwind Grocery
Burrows Auto Body
Brenny Funeral Home
Homestead Veterinary Clinic
Unity Bank
Design Electronics
Mid-Minnesota Federal Credit Union
Albie Electric
The Spot Café
SouthSide Mini Mart
Staples ACE Hardware
Motley Hardware
Staples World



Receives award

Jeff Iverson (right), director of bands at Staples Motley High School since 1988, was presented his 'Educator of the Year' award at the recent Minnesota Music Education Association Midwinter Clinic in Minneapolis. Presenting the award is Eric Anderson, MMEA President. A number of people attended the awards ceremony, including Jeff's wife, Kathy; and their daughters Becki, Kirstin, Lynnea and Jenessa. Jeff's former band professor at Concordia College in Moorhead, Russell Pesola, attended the awards ceremony, as well as the SMHS Symphonic Band's performance the day before. He said that the band sounded the way a band should sound. "… they made music instead of just playing notes."

(Submitted photo)



Loading up

Staples Motley High School music students loaded instruments on to one of the three charter buses taken to Minneapolis Feb. 11, for the Minnesota Music Educators Association Midwinter Clinic. Pictured above, from left, are Lucas Jimenez, John Lund, Coleman Klimek, Jenessa Iverson. In the background is parent Kathy Iverson.



Next stop, Minneapolis

Three charter buses transported Staples Motley High School music students. Pictured above, from left, are row one: Mikayla Sauber, Melissa Zetah, Brandon Cameron. Row two: Rachel Daly, Grace VanAlst, Janelle VanAlst. Row three: John Koopmann (standing), orchestra director; and Taylor Converse.



Recognizing the directors

Mary Moen (far left), music teacher at Staples Elementary and Motley Elementary, introduced the Staples Motley High School Music Directors at the recent MMEA Midwinter Clinic in Minneapolis; and presented them each with certificates. Also pictured are, from left, John Koopmann, Chamber Orchestra director; Jeff Iverson, Symphonic Band director; and Steve Hoemberg, A Cappella Choir director. The three directors proceeded to acknowledge Moen for her contribution to the school's successful music program. Thanks to her work, Hoemberg noted, the students already have a grasp of music before entering high school.



Hanging out in the lobby

Following their performance at the Minneapolis Convention Center Feb. 11, members of the Staples Motley High School Music Department relaxed a bit in the lobby before heading back home. Pictured above, from left, are students Coleman Klimek, Lucas Jimenez, Grant Yungbauer, Noah Han and Cade Bestland. Pictured at right are Joel Thompson; and Edy and Howard Johnson, Han's relatives from the Twin Cities area who attended the concert.



Family fun in Minneapolis

Several family members of Staples Motley High School Music Department students traveled to Minneapolis to hear performances by the school's band, orchestra and choir at the MMEA Midwinter Clinic Concert Feb. 11; and joined them later for dinner at the Spaghetti Factory in Minneapolis. Pictured above, the Paskewitz sisters Rachel (far left) and Rebekka (far right), both SMHS music students, posed for a picture at the Spaghetti Factory with their grandmother Billy Lundberg (second from left), mom Vicki Paskewitz (center) and grandmother Phyllis Paskewitz.



Proud mamas

A number of parents traveled to Minneapolis to attend the SMHS Music Department's concert in Minneapolis Feb. 11. Pictured above is Lisa Wick, with her son, Jordan Haglin. Pictured below, Zach Strickland receives a hug from his mom, Jennifer Strickland.



Heading home

Staples Motley High School choir director Steve Hoemberg (right) chatted with Jon Crust following the music department's performance in Minneapolis Feb. 11. Crust, currently a music major at Bemidji State University, student teaches in the SMHS Symphonic Band, under the direction of Jeff Iverson.

Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs

See more photos on page 1a and 12a.



Getting ready

Members of the SMHS Music Department waited prior to their performance in Ballroom A at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Pictured, from left, are Grace VanAlst, Taylor Converse, Vera Robinson, Amy Lochli, Kelsi Peterson, Kassidy White.



Time to celebrate

Symphonic Band Director Jeff Iverson (second from left) had a lot to celebrate Feb. 11, at the Old Spaghetti Factory in Minneapolis. Not only was his band selected to perform at the Minnesota Music Educators Association Midwinter Clinic; but he was recognized at a special ceremony after being named the MMEA's 'Educator of the Year' for 2016. Also pictured are, from left, Bruce Drone, high school custodian and supporter of the school's music dept.; Kathy Iverson, Jeff's wife; and Mary Moen, elementary school music teacher. Pictured in lower photo, band member Andrew Israelson gives his director a 'thumbs-up' at the restaurant.



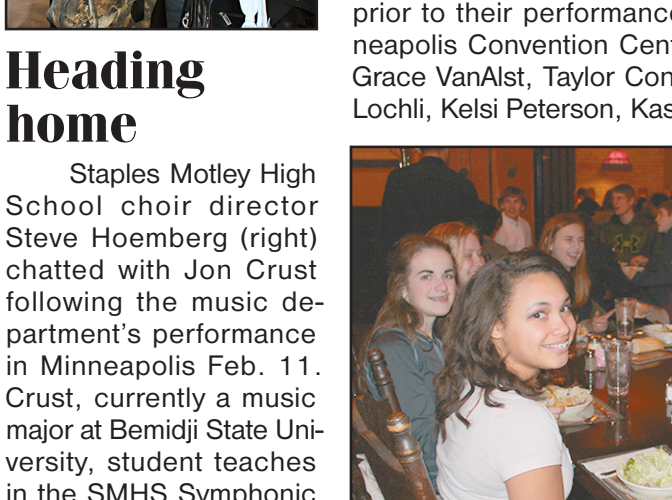
Out on the town

Members of the Staples Motley High School Music Department enjoyed dinner at The Old Spaghetti Factory. Pictured above, from left, are Taleigh Marlowe, Alisha Johnson, Taylor Heldman, Emma Colsen, Trenton Plopper, Alex Davis, Anna Bloomquist, Carly Smith. The meal and other expenses were made possible through the generosity of several donors from the Staples Motley community, including the Staples Motley Music Boosters.



Staples connections

Mike and Sue Ellingson of Blue Earth were hosts at the Staples Motley High School Music Department's concert in Minneapolis Feb. 11. Sue Ellingson mentioned that she had ties to Staples. Her grandparents, the McGiverns, were from there and McGivern Park is named after them. In addition, her uncle and aunt, Wendell and Marion Stone, were former owners of the Staples World.



Leading the way



Gene Johnson (above, right) was one of the bus drivers who helped navigate the SMHS Music Department's trip to Minneapolis Feb. 11. Also pictured are Joyce Anderson (left) and Mary Moen, who came to show their support for the music department. Pictured in lower photo is Huck Holst, who also drove bus that day.

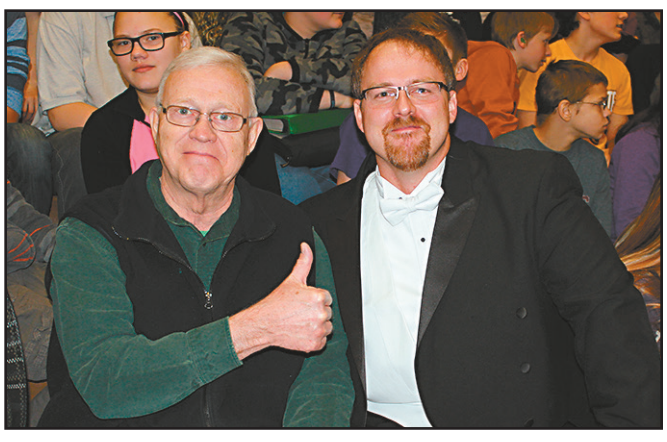
Cardinal music department alumni

A number of Staples Motley High School Music Department alumni attended their alma mater's concert Feb. 11, at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Pictured above from left are, front row, kneeling: Lynnea Iverson, senior at Bemidji State University; Brianna Granby, Onamia; Steve Hoemberg, choral director at SMHS; Jamie Peterson, Minneapolis (holding Georgia, her friend's child). Back row: Lisa (Sadusky) Wick, Staples; Cindy Koopmann, Motley, SMHS orchestra accompanist; Becki Iverson, Minneapolis; Kirstin (Iverson) Alvarez, Cambridge; Nicole (Bloomquist) Waataja, Minneapolis; Heidi (Nelson) Brings, Staples; Micheal Moxley, studying music at College of St. Scholastica in Duluth; Michael Rohr, music teacher in Maple Grove; Heather (Schimpp) Thompson, Burnsville; Dawn (Schimpp) Timbs, Staples; and Sawyer Thompson, in between his mother and auntie. Several other alumni were at the concert, but left before the photo was taken.



A taste of Tschaikovsky

The Staples High School Chamber Orchestra, under the direction of John Koopmann, performed "March Slave" by Russian composer P.T. Tschaikovsky during their dress rehearsal at the middle school Feb. 11. They also performed, "Brook Green Suite." Later, the orchestra (along with the SMHS choir and band) headed to the Minneapolis Convention Center to perform at the Minnesota Music Educators Association Midwinter Clinic. See more photos on page 1a and 11a. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Thumbs-up from Stan

Staples Motley High School choir director Steve Hoemberg (right) receives a 'thumbs-up' from Stan Carlson after the choir performed at the middle school Feb. 11, prior to their performance at the Minnesota Music Educators Association (MMEA) Midwinter Clinic. Carlson was Hoemberg's teacher and choir director while he was a student at SMHS (he graduated in 1997); and after receiving his B.A. in Music from St. John's University in 2001, Hoemberg returned to his high school alma mater, taking over for Carlson upon his retirement. In 1999, Carlson was named MMEA Educator of the Year and in 2010 he was named to the MMEA Hall of Fame. The SMHS choir had previously performed at the MMEA Midwinter Clinic under his leadership.



Playing 'Music from Jurassic Park'

Jeff Iverson, conductor of the Staples Motley High School Symphonic Band, leads the band in playing 'Music from Jurassic Park' during their dress rehearsal performance at the Motley School. The band also played, 'Flourish for Wind Band,' 'Puszta' and 'All the Pretty Little Horses.' After their performance, the band packed up their instruments and continued on to Minneapolis (along with members of the SMHS A Cappella Choir and Chamber Orchestra), to perform at the Minnesota Music Educators Association Midwinter Clinic Feb. 11.



All smiles

Staples Motley High School music students were excited to perform at both the middle school and the Minneapolis Convention Center Feb. 11. Pictured above, prior to their first performance in Motley are, from left, Grant Yungbauer, Josie Erickson, Coleman Klimek.



Show stopper

The A Cappella Choir's rendition of "Bring Me Little Water, Silvy" was a crowd favorite at their dress rehearsal performance. Featured vocalists, pictured above from left, were Lauren Nelson, Cade Bestland, Vera Robinson, Jenessa Iverson. Playing string bass is John Lund. The choir, under the direction of Steve Hoemberg, also performed "This Little Babe," "Staging a Battle with a Harp," Can You Hear," "If Ye Love Me," and "I Am Not Yours."

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Dress rehearsal performance

The Staples Motley High School A Cappella Choir, under the direction of Steve Hoemberg, performed a few songs, including "Can You Hear," at the Motley Staples Middle School Feb. 11. Following their dress rehearsal at the middle school, the choir (along with the SMHS band and orchestra) traveled to Minneapolis to perform at the Minnesota Music Educators Association Midwinter Clinic. This is the third time the choir has been selected to perform at this event.



NOTICE OF PRECINCT CAUCUSES

Pursuant to the laws of the State of Minnesota notice is hereby given that Precinct Caucuses of the Republican Party of Wadena County will be held:

Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 7:00 P.M.
at the following locations:

MENAHGA - CITY HALL
Blueberry Township; Huntersville Township; Menahga City; Shell River Township

SEBEKA - SEBEKA SCHOOL - MEDIA CENTER
Lyons Township; Meadow Township; Nimrod City; North Germany Township; Orton Township; Red Eye Township; Rockwood Township; Sebeka City

VERNDALE - SCHOOL LIBRARY
Aldrich City; Aldrich Township; Bullard Township; Staples Annex; Thomastown Township; Verndale City; Wing River Township

WADENA - PIZZA RANCH, DONOVAN ROOM
Leaf River Township; Wadena City - Precincts 1, 2 & 3; Wadena Township

www.wadenagop.com

Inserted and paid for by Wadena County Republicans.

SA4819



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Monday February 29
5-6p.m. or 7-8pm

(Sibling care will be offered for children not entering kindergarten.)

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*Intervention support for any student!
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*Bussing available for all students!

For more information contact Mrs. Miller at 445-5184 ext. 102 or Mrs. Veronen at 445-5184 ext. 108

Dave Rowe of Motley: Living 'the dream'

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Somewhere in the back of his mind, Dave Rowe could always hear the voice of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. reciting his "I Have a Dream" speech.

Even when he was living under a highway overpass in Chicago; and during the dark and lonely days spent in treatment and prison, he could hear it. "With all the stuff I've experienced, that speech still rings in my head," Dave said recently.

"It was on one of the record albums my mom would play when I was a kid," Dave said of the speech by the late Baptist minister and civil rights activist. "She also had records of JFK, Elvis Presley and the Jackson Five. We listened to those all the time."

He still has portions of the "I Have a Dream" speech memorized.

Dave was a teenager when he first heard those words penned by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and like the author, he had dreams of his own...a quiet home in the country, the acceptance of his neighbors; and perhaps his own business one day.

It would take a few decades for these dreams to come to fruition, slowed down by the effects of racism, depression and addiction.

Today, at home in rural Motley, Dave wears a smile a mile wide, has a new lease on life and is optimistic about the future. "I wake up these days singing church songs," Dave shared. "This morning, it was, 'I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart.'"

That wasn't always his story, however.

Now 54, Dave was 13 years old when he moved to the United States from Jamaica.

"Everyone told me, 'You're going to paradise,'" Dave recalled, adding that jobs were scarce in Jamaica and poverty was abundant. His mother had already left for the states, seeking a better life for her three children Dave, Hopeton and Annette.

"We lived with our grandparents for awhile, until we could join our mother in Chicago," Dave said, adding that their father had left the family years earlier.

The Rowe family settled in the Rogers Park neighborhood. "We lived on the north side of Chicago, by Wrigley Field," Dave said.

By the time her children joined her, Dave's mother, Mavis, had graduated from college and was working as a nurse at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago.

The move to 'paradise' ended up being a shock in more ways than one.

"It was the first time I had seen snow or experienced cold weather," Dave said. "And, I grew up speaking Creole, so there was a language barrier."

He was also not prepared to be a target because of his skin color. "I experienced a lot of racism at school because I was black and because I had a language problem," Dave said. "My siblings and I had to fight our way home every day."

This was very different from his experience in his home country. "In Jamaica, we love white folks. I remember we laughed and joked with them...ate with them. We never judged people by their color."

It certainly wasn't something he expected to encounter when he moved to Illinois, The Land of Lincoln, named for the United States President who freed the slaves.

"After awhile, you knew it would be coming," Dave said of the fights, adding that as difficult as things were for the Rowe kids, "We couldn't ditch it. Mom insisted we go to school."

He managed to graduate from the 8th grade at George B. Armstrong School and moved on to Sullivan High School. "There were more problems and more fighting than before," Dave said.

By that time, he was beginning to suffer from depression. "I was still having trouble learning English and after my third year in high school I was still a freshman."

He recalled one good teacher, Miss McGee, who tried to intercede on his behalf. "But there was only so much she could do."

In the end, Dave dropped out of school and joined the United States Marine Corps.

"They threw color out the window," Dave said of the marines, noting that his officer told them, "You're all green...not black or white."

While serving in Japan, his grandmother, Lillian Johnson, died. "That was tough. She had been one of my role models...she taught me how to cook and clean and how to be independent."

Other role models for Dave had been Walter Payton, football player with the Chicago Bears, and his mother.

"I learned from watching him play," Dave said of Payton. "His message was, 'Don't quit. Don't give up. Hard work pays off.'"

"My mom was a hard worker, too," Dave went on. "She always worked two or three jobs a week to make sure we had everything we needed. We never went hungry and we never went without a pair of shoes."

In spite of their positive influence on his life, Dave would go through a very dark valley that encompassed over 20 years of homelessness and addiction.

"After I got out of the marines, I went back to Chicago and lived with my mom for a couple of months until she kicked me out," Dave said. "That was my first experience with homelessness."

He spent the next five years in Chicago, staying at shelters and eating at soup kitchens. Later, he moved to New York City, hoping to get back on his feet. "I had an aunt that lived in Brooklyn. I found some odds and ends jobs, day labor."

While working a security job at Sunset Park, Dave met his ex-wife, Jennifer. "She was a minister and music leader at a church."

Shortly after marrying, Dave and Jennifer brought two children into the world; a little girl they named Sheana and a boy, named Dave, Jr.

"We moved back to Illinois to be near my family," Dave said, adding that they lived in Evanston.

After three years, however, Jennifer asked for a divorce. "I'd been drinking heavily again...ever since the military, I'd been an alcoholic."

Dave packed up a few belongings and hit the streets. "I was homeless again," he said.



At home

Owning his own home was a dream of Dave Rowe's for as far back as he can remember. After years of struggling with depression and addiction, which led to homelessness, Dave has found inner peace and healing and is now at home in rural Motley. As he reflected on Black History Month, Dave recalled the speech of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., "I Have a Dream," which always inspired him, even during his darkest days. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Somehow, he managed to get a job working at R.J. Wright clothing store and thought again of Walter Payton, the football player who never gave up. "I saved up my money and with my last pay-check I bought a one-way bus ticket to Minneapolis."

Dave figured Minnesota was close enough for him to see his kids; but far enough away for him to get a fresh start.

Minnesota would indeed prove to be a positive chapter in Dave's life; but not before he experienced some more dark days.

He continued to live in homeless shelters and sought treatment for both depression and alcohol addiction. Somewhere along the line he attempted suicide and when his doctor asked, "Why?" Dave could not come up with an answer, he said.

He joined the national guard in 2004, shortly before having his first heart attack. In 2006, Dave had another massive heart attack; and in 2007, received his first felony DWI, which landed him in prison.

"I finally got some help from the VA (Veterans Administration) in St. Cloud," Dave said. "Dr. Mary Howard told me, 'We're going to treat your depression first and then your addiction.'"

In speaking with Dr. Howard, it became clear that there were a few factors that fueled his depression.

"I was six years old when my dad sat me on his knee and said he was going away to Canada," Dave recalled. "I remember crying, chasing after his car until I couldn't see it any more." It would be 40 years before he saw his dad again. "I made a trip to Canada to see him...I had so many unanswered questions."

Then, there was the stress of moving to a new country and feeling responsible for his younger siblings in the midst of racial tension.

Through the help of his doctor, divine intervention and a lot of hard work, Dave has been able to get his life back on track.

"I was able to purchase a house in Motley...out in the country, just like I dreamed. When I saw the picture, I said, 'That is a home.'"

He has also found a spiritual home and healing at Motley United Methodist Church. "It really just snuck up on me...I wasn't seeking it."

Dave was quick to add that, "I'm not perfect, I still make mistakes. But, I am fulfilled."

He's a blessed man, Dave went on, mentioning that while he was in St. Cloud he met his fiance, Kathy. "She is a wonderful woman and I can't wait to spend the rest of my life with her," Dave said.

He no longer feels angry at the people from his past...including his father and those that treated him badly because of his color. "I let it go...all of that anger. It just happened naturally one day."



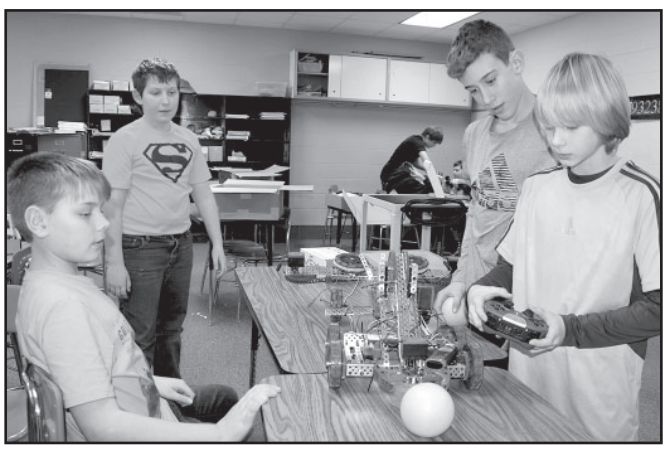
Earlier days

Dave Rowe of Motley moved to the United States from Jamaica when he was 13 years old, settling in Chicago with his mother and siblings. He is pictured above a few years after arriving to his new country. (Submitted photo)

Someday, he hopes the world will not be defined by color. "I see the world as one. No one is better than anyone else. I would rather hear folks say, 'People's Lives Matter' rather than, 'Black Lives Matter.'"

In the meantime, Dave is thankful for all that God has brought him through and continues to dream, just as Martin Luther King, Jr. did years ago.

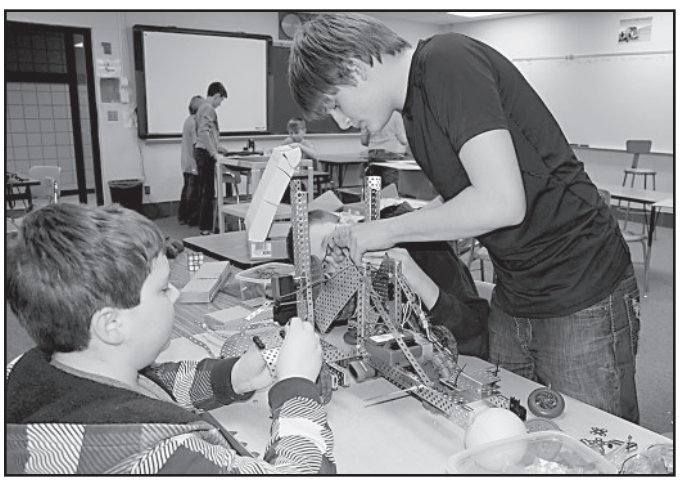
"Someday, I would like to have my own plastic recycling company," Dave said. "Yes, I still dream."



Robotics Club at MSMS



The Robotics Club, an extracurricular activity at Motley Staples Middle School, began this past December. John Regan, MSMS math teacher, is their advisor. The students, divided into two teams, built their battery-operated robots and recently held a competition between the two. Pictured above, from left, are Calob Trantina, Easton Ecker, Sam Opheim, Austin Johnson. Pictured below, are Connor Macheel, Jeremy Stultz, Jaydon Friedel. Pictured in center photo, Stultz continues to help build his team's robot. This is the first time a robotics club has been held at the middle school. "I think it's been great," Regan said. "The kids get a lot out of it…it helps promote teamwork as well as problem solving. They also get to create something, which is pretty cool." (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Cushing man arrested after foot pursuit

After a nearly three-hour foot pursuit in a wooded area in Cushing Township Feb. 15, a Cushing man was apprehended by a K-9 team and is currently in custody at the Morrison County Jail.

According to their report, the Morrison County Sheriff's Office observed 45-year-old Brian John Prozinski of Cushing working in his driveway at 28589 Bear Road. The sheriff's office had a probable cause arrest on Prozinski for second degree assault with a dangerous weapon and a felon in possession of a firearm stemming from an incident that took place on Jan. 28.

During the Jan. 28 incident, 49-year-old Marshall McClung of Cushing, who was known to Prozinski, was at his residence in a truck. Prozinski shot at McClung, hitting the driver's door with what appeared to be a round from a rifle.

A KOPS (Keep Our Police Safe) alert was sent out to other law enforcement agencies in an attempt to locate and apprehend Prozinski.

On Feb. 2, the MCSO executed a search warrant at Prozinski's residence. The Morrison County SWAT Team was activated for the search warrant. During the search, three firearms were located, two of which were loaded. Prozinski was not located at the residence. Law enforcement officials were advised by Prozinski's neighbor that Prozinski made a comment stating that he was not going back to jail willingly and that he would not be taken alive.

On Feb. 15, a Morrison County deputy confronted Prozinski in his driveway and told him he was under arrest. Prozinski immediately took off running into the woods northwest of his residence to avoid apprehension. The responding deputies and troopers were able to set up a perimeter. The foot pursuit included woodland terrain as well as swamp and marshy areas. The MCSO requested assistance from the Minnesota State Patrol Aviation Unit. With the assistance of the aviation unit and two deployed Morrison County K-9 teams, Prozinski was located over two and a half hours later climbing a tree in a wooded area. Prozinski was ordered down out of the tree several times by deputies and he refused to comply. A fifteen minute standoff ensued between the deputies and Prozinski. After all options were explored and considered and because of the remote area Prozinski was located at, Prozinski was advised by deputies on scene that if he refused to come out of the tree they would cut it down with a chainsaw.



Brian Prozinski

Prozinski proceeded to jump to other trees within range. Eventually, Prozinski started to climb down halfway and then jumped onto the ground. Prozinski again struggled with the deputies until he was apprehended by a K-9 team.

Prozinski was transported to St. Gabriel's Hospital in Little Falls where he was treated and released. He is currently in custody in the Morrison County Jail awaiting formal charges.

Motley Police Department, MCSO reports

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

Feb. 9 - The MPD responded to a call to assist the MCSO at a residence on Morrison St. E in Motley.

Feb. 4 - Konrad Alexander of Motley notified the MPD of a PayPal scam. Alexander said he had listed a tractor for sale on Craigslist and was contacted by Nelda Wallace of Greenville, SC., who wanted to purchase it. Wallace asked Alexander to send $1,500 via Western Union to cover shipping and handling; and that she would then send him the rest of the money to purchase the tractor.

Feb. 7 - The MCSO received a complaint from the Castaway Supper Club in Cushing regarding a fight between some customers. One of the customers (who was intoxicated) had been asked to leave. No one was hurt.

Feb. 5 - Deputy Yoder met the Staples Police Department in Motley, picked up Jasmin Line (who had a body only warrant) and transported her to the Morrison County jail.

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Ask A Trooper

By Sgt. Jesse Grabow, Minnesota State Patrol

Question: What is the law about a disability parking certificate/tag that hangs from your rearview mirror? The instruction sheet that is mailed out by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety states, "Driving with the hang tag on your mirror could result in a ticket for obstructed view". When attempting to look out the windshield with the tag on the rearview mirror I was amazed at how much visual space is obscured. I believe it is a real safety concern when people drive with the tag on the rearview mirror.

Answer: You are correct, state statute 169.71 prohibits any objects suspended between the driver and the windshield, other than: sun visors, rearview mirrors, global positioning systems or navigation systems when mounted or located near the bottommost portion of the windshield; and electronic toll collection devices. This law does not apply to law enforcement vehicles and other authorized emergency vehicles.

Having an object either attached to the windshield or hanging from the rearview mirror, that obstructs the driver's view, can result in a dangerous situation. The driver might not be able to see another vehicle, animal, pedestrian or bicyclist because of an object blocking their view.

For those with a disability parking tag, keep your tag in a secured location when driving and only put the tag up when you need to park. When you need to drive, take the tag down. This should become as much of a habit as putting your seatbelt on. Those other items that people like to hang from the mirror can also cause an obstruction (air fresheners, fuzzy dice, etc.)

Law enforcement can and will conduct traffic stops when seeing an object that is blocking the driver's view. A citation or warning will be issued to the driver. With more than 400 fatalities on Minnesota roads in 2015, the Department of Public Safety/Minnesota State Patrol is committed to making our roads safer through enforcement and education.

A portion of state statutes were used with permission from the Office of the Revisor of Statutes.

Sgt. Jesse Grabow, MN State Patrol, 1000 Hwy. 10 W, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501 (jesse.grabow@state.mn.us).

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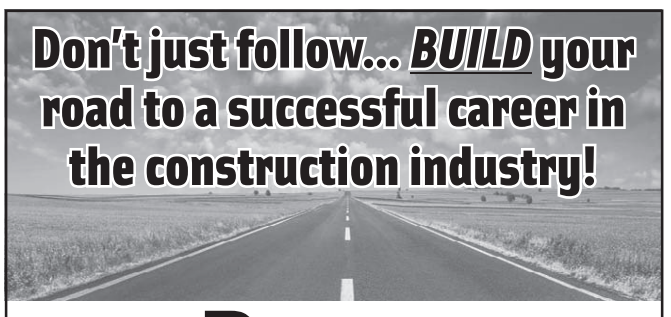
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Wrestlers make it to section finals

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

The Staples Motley wrestling team finished 15 points short in the Section 6A team championship, but Coach Dave Anglin feels they were very close to pulling the upset. "We didn't get the coin toss, but still could have won," said Anglin. "There were pins we could have avoided and points left on the mat."

The Cardinals lost to West Central Area 42-27 in the championship match, after beating New York Mills 36-31 in the semifinals. Both matches were Feb. 12 in Barnesville.

Against New York Mills, the Cardinals wrestled well but lost one key bout that put the fate of the match in the hands of heavyweight Kyle Serich. "Kyle had beaten their guy before and he went out and got the pin," said Anglin. "That fired us up for the next one."

Against West Central, the Cardinals struggled early but Jeremy Miller put them back on track with a big win at 152 pounds. Alex Erpelding and Jacob Bendson got the team back on track with pins, but it was too late. "In big matches, you can't give up too many points and that's what got us," said Anglin.

The varsity will have one more chance to get to state, with the individual tournament Feb. 19 and 20 at Wheaton. Anglin said seven Staples Motley wrestlers have a chance to get to state. "Even those who won't get to state have to wrestle well because it affects seeding for next year," said Anglin.

Team results

Staples Motley 36, New York Mills 31

106 Spencer Miller W 7-1; 113 Brayden Christensen L 16-2; 120 Owen Bjerga W fall; 126 Blayne Dumpprope W fall; 132 Jasiah Paskewitz L 4-2; 138 Eric Lisson W 7-1; 145 Dalton Holmberg W 6-3; 152 Jeremy Miller W 7-2; 160 Alex Erpelding W fall; 170 Jacob Bendson L fall; 182 Cameron Bendson L fall; 195 Shaine Guggenberger L fall; 220 Braden Tyrell L fall; 285 Kyle Serich W fall

Staples Motley 27, West Central 42

106 S. Miller W 7-4; 113 Bjerga L fall; 120 Dumpprope L fall; 126 Jack Tyrell L fall; 132 Lisson W 10-3, 138 Paskewitz L fall; 145 Holmberg L 11-4; 152 J. Miller W 13-10; 160 Isaac Swensrud L fall; 170 Erpelding W fall; 182 J. Bendson W fall; 195 B. Tyrell L 5-3; 220 Guggenberger L fall; 285 Serich W fall



Flip for first, going to state in four events

Millie Klefsaas is upside-down above the balance beam, but landed safely and went on to win the Section 8AA beam event with a score of 9.425. Klefsaas was fourth on floor exercise with a 9.2 and fourth on vault with a 9.175, both qualifying for the state meet. Her ninth place finish on uneven bars was enough to get a second place in the all-around (all four events combined), so she will compete in state for all-around, as well. The state gymnastics meet will be Feb. 20 at the University of Minnesota. (Submitted photo)



Bringing halftime cheer

Young Cardinal cheerleaders performed at halftime of the boys basketball game on Feb. 4. Pictured, front from left, Pamela Lawrence, Jayme Windorski, Serenity Hangge, Isabelle Donson and Addison Fonteyn; back, Payton Allen, Isabella Smith and Abby Brichacek. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



School support sends Klefsaas to state

Millie Klefsaas is surrounded by the Staples Motley boys basketball team and other students who cheered her on to the state gymnastics meet. This is Klefsaas' fourth year competing with the Brainerd Warriors. She is a team captain and was conference champion on beam and floor. She was all conference four events. (Submitted photo)

Politicians never tire of resource power grabs

In the hierarchy of public opinion, politicians are generally viewed as ranking somewhere toward the bottom. Surveys have repeatedly told us that politicians are held in pretty low esteem. There are exceptions, of course; politicians – statesmen, they may be entitled to be called – whose temperament and good judgment remind us of what can be accomplished by someone really dedicated to the process of governing. But revered, highly respected politicians do not seem to "grow on trees," as the saying goes.

- o -
Inside the Outdoors



Mike Rahn
- o -

One of the latest examples of things that give politicians a bad name is a bill in the Minnesota Legislature that would be comedic if it were not tragic in its potential consequences. The bill, House File 2589, would strip the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency of their authority to make and enforce rules, including – for DNR – those related to hunting and fishing. Instead, as Rep. Steve Green of Fosston apparently believes, those rules should be made by the Legislature. Taken to its logical ends, politicians would decide such things as fish stocking strategy and policy, and our deer and waterfowl hunting regulations. The Legislature would be in charge of monitoring and making sure toxic chemicals and pesticides don't find their way into the groundwater that feeds our residential and municipal wells. Of course, given this new and weighty responsibility, we would be asked to have full confidence that they would make sound and unbiased decisions in the interest of public health and welfare. Of course.

It was ironic, and timely, that I heard about this piece of legislation soon after I had spent the better part of an afternoon with a DNR Fisheries Section biologist. We spent that time discussing such things as the importance of ciscoes to healthy walleye populations, the effects of major summer rainstorms on stream trout survival and various other things. He was extremely knowledgeable, and more than willing to share his time and expertise. There is a longstanding joke that the initials "PhD" behind the name of a person with a doctorate degree stand for "piled higher and deeper." It's an uncomplimentary reference – as in "manure" – to the educational process that leads such a person to an advanced academic degree.

Having dealt with this and many other natural resource professionals, I've come to the more-than-obvious conclusion that owning and using a fishing rod, and a duck gun or deer rifle, doesn't come close to equipping the average person to manage fish and wildlife. Having a fireplace and a log splitter doesn't necessarily qualify a person to manage our state's timber. That's not to say that professional resource managers never make mistakes. But the work they do involves a lot of factors and variables they can't completely control. Extreme and unpredictable weather, technological advances in the tools of fishing and hunting, invasive species, disease, and other unknowns, make the field of resource management one that is both science and art, and – yes – even luck sometimes.

Resource management is not a field for amateurs. And when it comes to the scientific disciplines that underpin the management of our waters, forests, air quality, wetlands, fish and wildlife, there are but a handful of state lawmakers who have even limited exposure to these sciences. To ask us to believe that our politicians have the technical expertise to make sound scientific decisions within these disciplines is asking for a huge leap of faith.

One of the arguments advanced by Rep. Green for vesting such regulation-making authority in the Legislature is that such things should be done by "…elected officials who are accountable to the public." One of the things politicians do not eagerly advertise is that they are often held accountable by their own political party, and are expected to align their votes with the leanings of party leadership. Accountable, too, to those who support and contribute to their election campaigns. That's not to say that there are not politicians who consistently vote their conscience, even if it is in opposition to their party's leadership, or the interests of their campaign donors. But even if most did so, most of the time – which is a long-odds bet, at best – that would not make up for the resource science expertise that is absent from most legislators' resumes.

One would like to assume the most sincere motives for Representative Green and his bill's supporters, to believe that they really do have more effective natural resource management at heart. However, as reported in the February 12 edition of the Minnesota Outdoor News weekly, Rep. Green has also drafted legislation that would amend the state constitution in order to divert currently-dedicated Clean Water, Land, and Legacy funds intended for fish and wildlife habitat projects, to be used for state road and bridge projects. That may be the clearest indication of the ultimate goals of those who sponsor and support this kind of legislation.

School support sends Klefsaas to state

Millie Klefsaas is surrounded by the Staples Motley boys basketball team and other students who cheered her on to the state gymnastics meet. This is Klefsaas' fourth year competing with the Brainerd Warriors. She is a team captain and was conference champion on beam and floor. She was all conference four events. (Submitted photo)

Basic basketball leads to big win

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

The Staples Motley girls basketball team got back to the basics and it resulted in a 63-36 win over Frazee on Feb. 11.

With a five day break between games, Coach Craig Wolhowe said "we reviewed some basics and it helped. We were very solid on defense in the first half giving up 16 points, and no offensive rebounds." The Cardinals had only five turnovers for the game. "These are the three things we have been trying to improve on," said Wolhowe.

Claire Wolhowe led the team with 21 points and 10 rebounds. She made eight of twelve shots. The team passed well as Quinn Uhlman has six assists and Amber Robben had five.

Team results

Staples Motley 63, Frazee 36

Scoring: Claire Wolhowe 21, Kelsie Weite 11, Sam Schimpp 8, Quinn Uhlman 7, Chelsea Nanik 4, Megan Dumpprope 4, Ashley Smith 3, Amber Robben 3, Kaitlyn Longworth 2

Cardinal boys drop another close one

The Staples Motley boys basketball team continued a late season slide with a 68-65 loss at Osakis on Feb. 12. The Cardinals have been in a lot of close games but have lost five of their last six.

Staples Motley fell behind early and although they outscored Osakis 46-36 in the second half, it wasn't enough to come all the way back.

Team results

Staples Motley 65, Osakis 68

Scoring: Gavin Smith 25, Mason Rychner 14, Andrew Israelson 9, Trey Skeesick 5, John Lund 4, Jack Fietek 4, Connor Schmitz 2, Josh Lombard 2

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