

Staples budget includes hike in council salaries

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

The Staples City Council approved a preliminary budget with a 4.1 percent tax levy increase.

The preliminary budget, which may be reduced before the final budget is approved in December, included a salary hike for city council members and the mayor.

Three members voted for the budget increase, Doug Case, Kevin Jenkins and Mayor Chris Etzler. Two voted against the increase, Mary Theurer and Ron Murray. Council members Roy Miles and Mike Isenberg were not at the meeting.

City Administrator Jerel Nelsen said the new salaries were set to an average of what similar size cities in the area pay their council members.

Nelsen said council and mayor salaries cost the city about \$17,000 per year. The salary increase will raise that to approximately \$27,000 per year. The council has not had a salary adjustment since 2006 and no major changes since 1989.

Theurer pointed out that the one-time increase represents approximately one percent of the city's tax levy. "I would rather see that \$10,000 go towards the community center or something like that," said Theurer. She said she was in favor of a smaller incremental salary increase.

Case defended the increase and said "People's time is worth money, it's valuable."

Etzler said a salary increase could be a factor in getting more people to run for office.

Case said they considered an incremental adjustment but the council salary is "one of those things that keeps coming up" every year. "If we just get it done with that will take care of it and we can move forward," said Case.

The salary increase is currently in the budget, but Nelsen said it will be on the Oct. 11 council meeting agenda to formally approve it.

Tennis court dilemma

Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Grondahl told they council that the Park and Rec Board discussed tearing out the tennis court at Northern Pacific Park and making it into a green space. He said one idea for the future is to build an amphitheater on that spot.

Council member Jenkins said he would prefer to leave the space as a tennis court, but Grondahl questioned whether it was worth the money, especially since six nice tennis courts are a few blocks away at the sports complex.

Jenkins and Case voted against tearing out the tennis court, with Etzler, Theurer and Murray in favor of it.

See **COUNCIL** on page 10a



Homecoming royalty

Staples-Motley High School held its 2016 Homecoming Coronation Oct. 2, at Centennial Auditorium, crowning Millie Klefsaas and Gavin Smith this year's Queen and King (at right). Pictured above is the entire court. Front row, from left: Aleesha Carlson, Queen Millie, King Gavin, Coleman Klimek. Back row: Samantha Svendsen, Kelsie Weite, Sam Schimpp, Matt Miller, Hunter Berggren, Brian Sterriker. The royal court is participating in a number of special events during Homecoming week. Tuesday night's events were cancelled because of inclement weather, but they planned community visits Wednesday. Thursday will begin with a pep fest and include a picnic lunch on the football field and a powderpuff football tournament. The homecoming parade will begin at 2 p.m. Friday's tailgate party begins at 6 p.m. followed by the homecoming game at 7 p.m. against Long Prairie-Grey Eagle. The Little Cardinal Cheereaders will perform at halftime. The homecoming dance will begin at 9:30 p.m. in the gym. See more photos on page10a (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



School facilities study dominates discussion at board work session

By Brenda Halvorson
General Manager

Does the Staples-Motley School District need another facility study?

The short answer appears to be "Yes," but the method and timing issues caused considerable discussion at the school board's work session Oct. 3.

Superintendent Mary Klamm would like to get started with the process. She invited David Drown of David Drown Associates to explain how they work with NJPA (National Joint Powers Alliance).

Drown said NJPA has contracted with his company to provide services to their area. Financial consulting for cities and counties is his firm's area of expertise. They are expanding into more school work. The advantage to the school district, he said, is that NJPA will pay half of the fees, which could be considerable savings.

Klamm also had two more points in favor of doing a study now. She said facility funding is changing and

becoming friendlier for school districts. Also, the bond debt currently held by the school will be done by 2021.

"This is an opportune time," she said.

"Why can't we use the data we already have and just have them add the financials?" asked Bryan Winkels.

Winkels was referring to a facility use study that began in the fall of 2014 and was completed in the spring of 2015. The committee included board members, teachers, administrators and community members who met several times in large and small group sessions. It was accepted at the board's April 2015 meeting with the idea of evaluating the recommendations.

Klamm said that study would definitely be part of the new one, but that they needed to look at how the buildings were being used now.

She was referring to the Re-Start program begun this fall which moved all students in grades K-3 to the elementary building in Staples, all stu-

dents in grades 4-7 for middle school in the Motley building, and all students in grades 8-12 to the high school in Staples.

"There are pieces in each building that don't meet the needs of the students who are there," Klamm said.

Roy DiGiovanni said there would always be issues and that he thought it was too soon to evaluate the impact of the change.

"We're only a month into the school year," he said.

Chad Longbella expressed frustration that, even if the facilities committee had discussed the possibility of a study, "it is new to us as a board. We have not spoken as a board."

Longbella mentioned other issues and decisions that showed a lack of communication that frustrated him, such as student data reports the board used to see that have not been presented the last couple of years.

"What do you hope to get out of a facility utilization study?" Winkels asked.

See **FACILITIES** on page 2a

Hello, Readers,
On Oct. 6, 1961, President John F. Kennedy, speaking on civil defense, advises American families to build bomb shelters to protect them from atomic fallout in the event of a nuclear exchange with the Soviet Union. Kennedy also assured the public that the U.S. civil defense program would soon begin providing such protection for every American. Only one year later, true to Kennedy's fears, the world hovered on the brink of full-scale nuclear war when the Cuban Missile Crisis erupted over the USSR's placement of nuclear missiles in Cuba. During the tense 13-day crisis, some Americans prepared for nuclear war by buying up canned goods and completing last-minute work on their backyard bomb shelters.

Where in the World?
Sealed bid, public auction: 7A

Obituaries
*Claudia Engdahl
Irise Erickson
Joan Marquardt*

Housing project looking at trailer site

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

At the Sept. 27 Staples Economic Development Authority (SEDA) meeting, Economic Development Director Melissa Radermacher said she is working with the Central Minnesota Housing Partnership to develop an affordable housing townhome project in Staples.

Radermacher said one target area they are looking at is the trailer park near the north side of the overpass. If the project is approved, all the trailers would be removed and townhomes built. She is also working with a developer for an upscale housing project but no location has been determined yet.

Radermacher said she is talking to possible anchor tenants on re-opening the Batcher Building. She said the Prairie Bay restaurant is one business looking at the building.

Construction delays

City Administrator Jerel Nelsen told the SEDA that the hotel groundwork is ready to build on but there is a major backlog in the building industry because the state plumbing inspectors can take up to six weeks to get their review done before the plumbing can be covered up.

SEDA Board member Tim Rice, and Lakewood Health System CEO, said Lakewood is ready to start their construction project but they also have concerns about getting the inspections done on time.



The leaves they are a fallin'

It was a perfect day to get yard work done in Staples last weekend, with blue skies and temperatures in the 70's both Oct. 1 and 2. Pictured above, Deb Alexander of Staples (far right) watches as her grandchildren Jackson, five; and Lindsey, nine, rake leaves at her house on 6th St. NE. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Thank you for subscribing!

CAD discusses ideas for building a coalition

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

The Staples Citizens Against Drugs (CAD) held a meeting on Sept. 27 to discuss ideas on building a coalition in Staples and what that coalition could do.

Todd County Citizens Against Drugs has a five year grant from 2015 to 2020, which is dependent on local coalitions doing the work.

Examples of what some coalitions have done in other communities include; working on establishing social host ordinances, holding community events and increasing community awareness.

Todd County has a social host ordi-

nance, but the City of Staples does not. The Social Host Ordinance holds parents responsible if they allow underage drinking to occur.

CAD helped with the planning and with coordinating the methamphetamine forum "Not On My Block," held in Staples, last March. They are now helping with the Community Connect Resource Fair on Oct. 26, in Staples.

At the Sept. 27 meeting, Teresa Sorenson said the workgroup is handing out conversation cards hoping to get people talking about drug and alcohol issues. They also discussed doing awareness programs for parents at sports meetings or school conferences.

Essay winner attends fly-in



Visiting Washington, DC

Katie Benson's essay won a trip for her, her father and her FFA advisor to attend the National Farmers Union fly-in to Washington, DC, on Sept. 12 along with the Minnesota Farmers Union. Participants visited with some of Minnesota's Congressional delegation. From left are Stephen Benson, Katie Benson, Sen. Al Franken and Kerry Lindgren, Staples Motley FFA advisor. (Submitted photo)

FFA essay winner Katie Benson of Staples with her father Stephen Benson and Staples Motley FFA advisor Kerry Lindgren were able to fly along with the Minnesota Farmers Union (MFU) on Sept. 12 to join National Farmers Union (NFU) and nearly 300 fellow farmers, ranchers and rural citizens from across the county to meet with several U.S. Senators and Congressman.

Katie was able to use the skills learned in FFA and her commitment to rural Minnesota and farming to give her insight to representatives in Congress on the things that are affecting family farmers today.

The group in a whole was able to express their concerns and the need for change in the agriculture industry of the country in order to protect the future of family farmers

including concerns about consolidation and current prices in agriculture and addressing the trade and renewable fuels

"This is the opportunity that our members have to get in front of the representatives of Congress to help them understand the struggles that American family farmers go through," said Doug Peterson, Minnesota Farmers Union President.

In addition to Capitol Hill visits, Katie along with other MFU members were addressed by Tom Vilsak, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, who answered many questions that were brought forth by all members of National Farmers Union.

Another major component of the fly-in that Katie was able to witness was having the opportunity to present the Golden Triangle award to the key leaders who strongly support agriculture and family farmers, and have a 100 percent voting record with MFU and NFU policies. These leaders are Senator Amy Klobuchar, Senator Al Franken, Representative Colin Peterson, Representative Rick Nolan and Representative Tim Walz.



Celebrating Grandparent's Day

Following Grandparent's Day Mass at Sacred Heart Church, families were invited to Sacred Heart Area School, where students had made cards and posters honoring grandparents. Tours of their classrooms were also given to the honored guests. Above: Isabel, Hannah and Isaac Cole with grandmother Christi Cole and grandfather John Clark. (Staples World photos by Janice Winter)



Rita and Gary Stracek visit with granddaughter, Eva Birkholtz.



Lone Mertens, with granddaughter Roxy Mertens and Roxy's mom, Darcy Mertens.

FACILITIES continued from page 1a

Job growth given as reason for school district to plan for more students

"Education has changed in how it is delivered," Klamm replied and noted that the buildings were set for they way things were done 20 and even 50 years ago.

"How can we make our structures work for our kids in the future? There are opportunities for growth in our communities. We compete very well in what we offer inside, but there are issues in how the buildings look," Klamm said.

As an example, Mary Freeman said the room they were sitting in (the library/media center in Motley) was outdated, adding that there were better ways to access information, especially nonfiction, than books on a shelf.

Klamm also said they have no room to add students, no room for growth.

DiGiovanni pointed out that in the past they had 350 more students in the same buildings.

"We use rooms differently than we used to," she said, adding later that all rooms at the elementary school are being used.

Winkels acknowledged that three buildings contribute to a high plant and maintenance cost.

Longbella replied that the cost per square foot was the same whether in three buildings or one.

"The board has to decide how much the board wants to spend," Longbella said. "Just to spend money to talk is not where I want to go."

"Me, either," agreed DiGiovanni.

"I totally agree with you," Winkels said.

Dave Hoemberg said the previous facility study concluded the buildings were in good shape.

"What's the urgency?" he asked.

Freeman replied that job growth in the community drives the urgency, noting

jobs being added at Stern Rubber, Lakewood Health System and NJPA. She also mentioned the new hotel and housing being built in Staples that shows others are planning for the future.

"The community is planning for growth. If we sit on our hands, these kids won't come. If (the growth) happens and we didn't plan for it, then shame on us," she said.

The board continued to discuss how to proceed and decided to start with the previous study and seek input on each building from the principals, food service director, activities director, buildings and grounds supervisor and head custodians.

Hoemberg suggested a needs list and maybe a "want" list.

"I'm asking, who is going to do it?" Freeman asked. "We need a method to work toward a goal."

It was eventually decided that the facilities committee will meet with those named to gather the information. Hoemberg and Bruce Lund, who was not at the work session, are the board members on that committee. Another work session will be scheduled when their report is complete.

The student achievement data will be presented at the regular board meeting Oct. 17.

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NEWS

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OCT. 2-8, 2016

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Six candidates are vying for three seats on the Staples Motley School Board. Come to the

Candidate Forum

and hear what they have to say on issues facing the school district.

7-8:30 p.m. • Wed., Oct. 22
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They took the show on the road

Building and Grounds Supervisor Leroy Peterson, left, shows the new parking lot at the Motley-Staples Middle School, part of the Staples-Motley School Board facilities tour held Sept. 28. Peterson said the traffic flow has greatly improved with the addition of an outlet lane as part of the project. The tour also included new classrooms updated for fourth and fifth grade students. Peterson reported on an ongoing project

of replacing homemade cabinets with wheeled or wall storage. A project on the horizon is installing energy efficient windows at the Motley school building. From left are Peterson, Supt. Mary Klamm, Bryan Winkels, Mary Freeman in the background, Dave Hoemberg in the foreground and school board candidates Greg Frisk in front with Creig Dobson not quite visible behind Frisk. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



S-M Elementary’s new STEM room

The Staples-Motley School Board facilities tour checked out the elementary’s new science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) room, including bouncy seats. Other updates at S-M elementary included LED lighting in

the hallways, updated rooms and an expanded parking lot for buses. From left are Peterson, Dobson behind Peterson, Frisk, Klamm, Bruce Lund and Freeman. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



S-M board members see the light...s

New LED lighting in the Centennial Auditorium, was on display as the Staples-Motley School Board facilities tour learned that the school has a plan to eventually convert to all LED lights, which are more energy-efficient. The process will start with hallways and move to the classrooms. Another stop

on the tour at the high school was the new health room, located next to the weight room. From left are Klamm, Peterson, Freeman, Chad Longbella, Dobson, Lund, Winkels, Hoemberg and Frisk. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Staples Police report

Recent reports into the Staples Police Dept.

Sept. 26; Staples Police took a report of several items being stolen from a vehicle near the 400 block of 2nd Ave. NE.

Sept. 27; Staples Police assisted Todd County Child Protection with an alleged child maltreatment report.

Sept. 30; Staples Police responded to a driving complaint of a vehicle squealing its tires. Police arrived on the scene and the vehicle fled. Police pursued the vehicle until the vehicle stopped in the Burger King parking lot where the juvenile driver was arrested.

Oct. 1; Staples Police assisted the MN State Patrol on a welfare check of an passenger in a vehicle traveling on Hwy 10. The state patrol arrived on scene and through



Driver/passenger arrested

The Staples Police assisted the Minnesota State Patrol on a welfare check of a passenger in a vehicle traveling on Hwy 10 in Staples Oct. 1. Subsequently, the driver, Nicholas Johnson, 29, was arrested for 5th degree possession and a passenger was cited for possession of a small amount of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

investigation, the driver, Nicholas Johnson, 29, was arrested for 5th degree possession and a passenger was cited for possession of a small amount of mari-

juana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Oct. 1; Staples Police arrested Bradley Beach of Staples for domestic assault.

Staples Motley FFA work and show at state fair

Four members of the Staples Motley FFA Chapter attended the Minnesota State Fair Sept. 2-5 for the FFA encampment weekend. Rachel Paskewitz, Mikayla Sauber and Hayley Carlson showed livestock, and Katie Benson served as an ambassador for the FFA Leadership House.

The FFA Chapter House and Leadership Center is attached to the CHS Miracle of Birth Center and encourages guests to consider agriculture as a career through hands-on activities, engaging students and adults in thousands of possible careers. Benson spent five days at the leadership house promoting and advocating for the agricultural industry to fairgoers.

“The state fair is a chance for millions of people to connect with agriculture in a way they normally don’t during the average day. Through interactive experiences and conversations with real farmers, people start to connect the food they are eating with the hands that produce it,” commented Rebekka Paskewitz, the 2016-17 Minnesota FFA Reporter, and member of the Staples-Motley FFA chapter.

Although she graduated from Staples-Motley High School in 2016, Rebekka Paskewitz attended the fair to fulfill her duties as a state officer, which included working at the leadership house, the CHS Miracle of Birth Center (MOBC) and doing numerous media appearances advocating for the agricultural industry and promoting the Miracle of Birth Center.

Carlson, Sauber and Paskewitz participated in one of the things FFA members do best - showing livestock. All three showed beef cattle and Carlson also brought sheep.

“This was my last youth sheep show, so being able to



Attended the state fair

Competing at the state fair for the Staples-Motley FFA were, from left, Rachel Paskewitz, Mikayla Sauber and Hayley Carlson. (Submitted photo)

have the Minnesota State Fair FFA show be my last and doing well, was probably one of my favorite parts of the fair,” said Carlson. She showed five sheep and had three second place finishes, one third and one class winner.

“Although getting to show my cows was fun, one of the highlights of the fair was getting to see and hang out with all the other FFA members that you only get to see a few times a year,”

said Paskewitz.

All three did well with their cattle as well, Paskewitz placed first in her class and third overall, Sauber placed third in her class and Carlson won her class, but didn’t place in the overall show.

Advocating for the agricultural industry is always one of the highlights for those who attend the state fair. They also said that they had a great time and can’t wait for next year.

National teacher award nominations

The Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Teacher Award recognized America’s best educators who instill a sense of national pride in their students.

Teachers who promote civic responsibility, flag etiquette and patriotism are prime candidates for this award.

Do you know a teacher who plans field trips to city hall so students can learn about local government. Do you know of one who organized community volunteer projects or one who invited veterans into their classrooms to discuss their military experiences?

If you know of such a teacher, honor them by nominating him or her for the award.

For more information and for nomination forms, contact Jim White, VFW Post 3922 in Wadena, at 218-631-3211. Information can also be found online at www.vfw.org.

Deadline to submit nominations is Feb. 15, 2017.



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In this digital age, the newspaper audience has never been greater, with millions reading in print, online or via mobile. No matter the medium, those millions of readers rely on their local newspaper as the “**Way to Know!**”

NATIONAL NEWSPAPER WEEK Oct. 2-8, 2016

You are invited to a FREE Pancake Breakfast

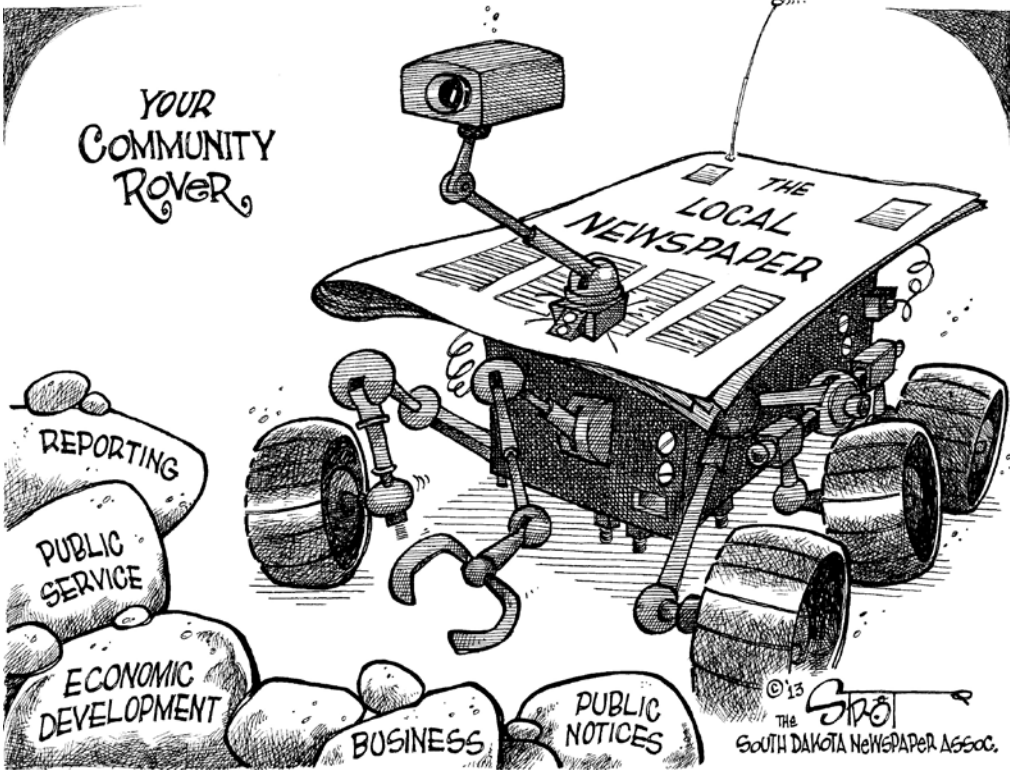
We at Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative appreciate our members, and to show that appreciation, we will be serving up a FREE pancake breakfast for MEMBERS and their families on Saturday, Oct. 8, from 8-11 am at our headquarters on East Hwy. 10 in Wadena.

- Chris Cakes Flippin Pancakes
- Bounce Houses from Ottertail Inflatables
- Kids Coloring Contest: 2 kids bikes will be awarded!
- Info on member programs, electrical safety, and more
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Activity fees raise questions

I would have never guessed I would be THIS pleased with how our Re-Start has gone. We are already one month into the 2016-17 school year and many kinks have worked themselves out.

I want to thank the Staples-Motley School District staff, parents and students for their willingness to be flexible and have such a positive attitude! It will take continued effort, enthusiasm and preparedness as we go through this first year.

I didn't actually think we would anticipate every single issue; and, lo and behold, we have run into a few bumps. As in most situations where there are misunderstandings, it boils down to communication. Here's where we failed to communicate:



By Mary Klampt
Supt.

At the July 18, 2016 Staples-Motley School Board meeting, the board approved the 2016-17 activity fee schedule. The schedule includes: athletic fees for 6-12th grade students; fine arts fees for grades 8-12; academic course fees for grades 8-12. Included is a maximum individual fee of \$300 and maximum family fee of \$600.

The eighth grade students are now part of the high school. They have the opportunity to participate in high school band, choir and orchestra. With that privilege, we must also assess the fees associated with this opportunity. We sincerely apologize for not letting parents know before the school year started that these fees would be part of the transition to eighth grade. We should have communicated that clearly after the board meeting. The lack of communication was an oversight on

our part and I sincerely apologize.

I receive many complaints about the activity fees. Believe me, I wish we didn't have to charge students to participate in any educational opportunity. Spending per pupil has increased dramatically over the past two decades. Salaries are a big part of that, but so are increased costs for utilities, technology and food. However, the simple fact is that funding from the State of Minnesota has been so lackluster for so many years that the only choice schools have had is to either charge activity fees or cut programs.

Unfortunately, our school district has had to do both. We have cut thousands of dollars over the past 10 years to get us through some very difficult times. Education leaders have had to put things on a values balance beam to make some impossible decisions about what to cut and what to save. The fees we have had to charge have helped to save some of our most treasured programs.

Last year, we received a decent increase in basic funding from the State of Minnesota. This year, we didn't lose any students to declining enrollment. There is a light at the end of the tunnel. If Minnesota legislators can begin to make up for the years of little or no additional funding and our enrollment stays steady or we grow, maybe we can begin having conversations about dropping those fees in the future!

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work through these issues together.

Reading local paper is 'Way to Know' community

By Layne Bruce

Several years ago cyberspace was frenzied over many popular websites going dark for 24 hours to protest a federal bill meant to crack down on video piracy.

The Stop Online Piracy Act - or SOPA - was a controversial and perhaps misguided effort championed by the Motion Picture Association of America to end illegal online sharing of copyrighted material, primarily movies and music.

To protest SOPA and its potential threats to the First Amendment, Wikipedia, Google, Reddit and - heaven forbid - I Can Haz Cheezburger, among many others, all shut down for a 24-hour period to show the web-surfing world what it would be like without its daily fix of photos of cats riding in baby strollers.

SOPA was eventually

defeated, but a strong, valid point was made. We had come to rely on those websites for information and entertainment. Their value to internet users was unquestioned.

Now imagine your own corner of the world without its local newspaper. At first, you might not notice much difference if the daily or weekly paper failed to show up in your driveway or mailbox, or on your computer screen or smart-phone.

Rather quickly, a good fraction of the internet itself would go dark again. This time involuntarily. If you've never noticed, the web and thousands of sites are populated by millions of stories and photos produced by local journalists. There'd be gaping holes on sites like Google and even Facebook where newspaper content is consumed and shared.

And soon an oily sheen would start to coat all the surfaces in town. With the watchdog off duty, things would start to go awry. The sunlight of transparency would inevitably set.

That's because a terrific amount of content that seems birthed magically of the digital age actually starts out as the scribbles or recordings of intrepid community reporters at city halls, school board meetings and statehouses nationwide and around the world.

And without their efforts, many officials would find it too tempting and much too easy to fudge the rules on public meetings, open records and a multitude of other rights to which taxpayers are entitled.

For instance, just here in Mississippi taxpayers may never have known the full story about the public

hospital on the Gulf Coast that had squandered the pensions of its employees.

City officials in a northeastern community of the state may have decided it's simply too convenient or expedient to not hold all their meetings in private. Why shouldn't they, the council members and attorneys might shrug. Not many people show up to the meetings anyway.

Or how about another town getting by without explaining to its citizens why a Department of Justice forfeiture fund had evaporated?

All of these are real and recent examples where a local newspaper made a difference on behalf of the citizens it serves.

I'll be honest, covering the public board meetings is not glamorous work. It can be rather tedious, actually. But like plumbing a toilet, sometimes a job is

undervalued until there's no one willing or able to do the work.

That's not to say the job of a community journalist is unpleasant (despite some national polls that will tell you as much); it's often one of the best in town, full of its own rewards. But it certainly can be - and often is - taken for granted.

Without newspapers, you might say, a substitute watchdog would come along to serve in the role. Eventually perhaps, but how much damage is done in the interim? And why put out to pasture a medium that's held this responsibility close to its heart for centuries?

If it ain't broke, don't fix it we say.

Oct. 2-8 is National Newspaper Week, a time when those of us who work on behalf of newspaper media will make an extra effort to sing the praises of community journalists and the work they do for all of us.

Literally, in towns, counties, parishes and provinces across North America, your local newspaper is the way to know what's going on in the world around us.

We're not under any illusion our work will ever be as popular as that video of the tabby playing the piano. But we're still proud of what we do. And we hope you can be, too.

But in those tough, even brutal, decades, we've also discovered how to make our pages come alive - literally, via the Web - and found new ways to know about and be in contact with those interested in news and information. To the old axiom about being "Clear, concise and accurate" those who have survived have added "responsive."

Oct. 2-8, 2016, is National Newspaper Week. Gene Policinski is chief operating officer of the Newseum Institute and of the Institute's First Amendment Center. A veteran multimedia journalist, he also writes, lectures and is interviewed regularly on First Amendment issues.

Letter to the Editor

Think beyond the sign

People put up lawn signs because they care about their communities, their government and their future.

Good people are on all sides of the current political process. Good people who want the best for us all, but see a different path to get there.

Those involved in the political process are also involved elsewhere in the community, often quietly contributing without recognition of any kind.

Please, when you see a sign for a candidate you don't care for, take a moment to think beyond it.

Kathy Marcussen
Verndale, Minn.

Power of the press is reporting news we need

By Gene Policinski

The power of the press rests in the ability of journalists to hold government accountable, to mobilize public opinion on matters that are important to individuals, communities or the nation and to provide necessary information of value.

Notice in those words not a mention of celebrity content, mobile devices nor "aspirational" reportage that feels good without doing any good.

But also notice in those words the key to the future for newsrooms across the nation: A visible role in the daily life of the nation rooted in real benefit and sustained credibility.

Newsprint may not be the medium-of-choice today for many readers, and perhaps certainly not the one for the desired next generation of readers. But the news organizations behind what certainly will be a blend of printed and electronic pages must be again the mediums-of-choice for that group, whether they be thought-leaders in society, officeholders in government or voters.

The nation - our audience - needs facts, presented clearly, accurately and completely. For those who are held rapt by the comings and goings of the Kardashians and turn away from discussion of policy in the Keystone Pipeline System debate: Well, perhaps it's time to say "good-bye" and leave them to vacuous talking heads, unreal "reality" shows and the assortment of cable TV geek-fests that offer a chance to feel superior just by sitting on a sofa.

"Targeted circulation" indeed. Let's leave behind the prideful ignorant who proclaim little faith and demonstrate even less actual consumption of news, and target those readers and users who want news and data and informed decisions - and who will pay a

reasonable fee to get it.

Okay, not as easy to gather in and report out as feature items and single-interview chats. It means bucking the system to place journalists in seats where daily decisions are made and social issues discussed - from city hall to church pews. It means bringing the news of the day in new ways, but with the same old standards that separated opinion from fact, news pages from editorials and commentary from reporting.

The Newseum Institute's latest State of the First Amendment national survey, published on July 4, showed that 70 percent of respondents disagreed with the statement that "overall, the news media tries to report the news without bias."

To be sure, the change of bias has been leveled at journalists since the nation began - and was, in fact, welcomed by many in the first "journals of opinion" and later by media moguls making no pretence at publishing anything but "news" filtered through their own views.

But over time, and by dint of the hard work and credible reporting by tens of thousands of journalists - in newspapers, and later in radio, television and now online - readers, listeners, views and users gave their loyalty to news operations that brought them what they needed.

As emotional as one can be when waxing about ink-on-newsprint, it was the information that was printed with that ink, on those pages, that made newspapers strong and powerful - and that information was the stuff - not the fluff - of life.

Of course there is room for entertaining, uplifting stories and reports on that part of the day that makes us chuckle, smile or simply shake a head. But editorial decisions ought not to start and end there. "Click-bait" ought

not to squeeze out real debate. "Metrics" ought not to rule over meaning. And the challenge in thorough reporting on the county's budget next year ought to mean finding a new way - perhaps through the new studies of gaming technology as applied to news reporting - of telling a complex story. Decades ago, USA TODAY showed us how color weather maps and national sports rankings could be fun while still bringing needed information to commuters, gardeners and golfers - and while also reporting on AIDS, national security issues and unsafe military vehicles.

Consider that most news today still originates with mainstream media - and that the value for those aggregators was simply in finding a new way to package and deliver the content. A simple text-and-photo site called Craig's List wreaked havoc on the financial underpinnings of a massive industry just by finding an easier way to post and peruse the same information. Cannot we collectively continue to find such innovation within newsrooms as well?

Journalists have learned many hard lessons over the last two decades: Nobody really loved us because of our nameplates, innovation was not just a good idea but a daily consideration on survival and we no longer are the gatekeepers between news makers and news consumers.

But in those tough, even brutal, decades, we've also discovered how to make our pages come alive - literally, via the Web - and found new ways to know about and be in contact with those interested in news and information. To the old axiom about being "Clear, concise and accurate" those who have survived have added "responsive."

The power of the press was, is now and will be in the future, bringing consumers the news they need - and having the fortitude to seek and report the news they don't even yet know they need, but will.

Oct. 2-8, 2016, is National Newspaper Week. Gene Policinski is chief operating officer of the Newseum Institute and of the Institute's First Amendment Center. A veteran multimedia journalist, he also writes, lectures and is interviewed regularly on First Amendment issues.

StaplesWorld

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Letters: Readers are encouraged to express their views by writing letters to the editor. Letters are verified for authenticity, so please include a name, address and phone number. Only the author's name and city will be published. Letters may be edited for spelling and grammar errors, libel, length and other factors. Private thanks, solicitations and libelous letters will not be published. Letters are printed on a space available basis. The editor reserves the right to reject letters.
The deadline is 5 p.m. Monday. Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily represent the views of this newspaper.

Fairness: The Staples World tries conscientiously to report fairly and accurately. If you feel we fall short of this objective at any time, please direct your complaint to the manager whose name appears on this page.
Note to Advertisers: Advertisers should check their ad following first publication. This newspaper shall not be liable for failure to publish an ad or for the typographic error or errors in publication except to the extent of the cost of the ad for the first day's insertion. Adjustment for errors is limited to the cost of that portion of the ad wherein the error occurred. The publisher reserves the right to cancel any advertisement at any time.

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Programs at the Staples Public Library

The Staples Public Library is offering the following programs:

Reading Roundhouse Storytime

Pre-K to second grade children are invited to Reading Roundhouse Storytime at the Staples Public Library on Wednesday, Oct. 12, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Enjoy a fun storytime and activities. The attendance limit is 15 and registration is required.

Page Turners Tween/Teen Book Club

Teens and tweens ages 8 to 18 are invited to join the Page Turners Book Club meeting at the Staples Public Library on Tuesday, Oct. 18, 4-5 p.m. Enjoy a fun hour of book chat, games, activities and snacks.

For more information contact the library at 218-894-1401.

The Staples Public Library is located at 122 6th St NE Staples: the hours are: Mon. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Tue. 2-8 p.m., Weds. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Thurs. 2-8 p.m., Fri. 1-5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Book talk set on rock and roll in Minnesota

Author Rick Shefchik will be at the Robertson Theatre, Wadena, on Oct. 14 at 7 p.m. to talk about his book, "Everybody's Heard About the Bird: The true story of 1960s Rock and Roll in Minnesota."

If you didn't experience rock and roll in Minnesota in the 1960s, this book will make you wish you had. This behind the scenes, up-close-and-personal account relates how a handful of Minnesota rock bands erupted out of a small Midwest market and made it big.

For the baby boomers who remember it and ev-

eryone else who has felt its influence, the 1960s rock and roll scene in Minnesota was an extraordinary period both in musical history and popular culture.

"Everybody's Heard about the Bird" celebrates how these bands found their singular sound and played for their elated audiences from the golden age to today.

The Robertson Theatre is located at the Wadena Deer Creek School, 600 Colfax Avenue SW. For more information contact the Wadena County Historical Society at 218-631-9079 or 603wchs@arvig.net.

Staples City Council agenda

The Staples City Council will meet Tuesday, Oct. 11, at 7 p.m. at the Staples City Hall, 122 6th St NE, Staples.

Preliminary agenda items include:

- Consider request from Marv Giza to split property east of 8th St. NE and north of Warner Road into two parcels.

- Consider School Resource Officer Agreement with Staples-Motley ISD 2170 for the 2016-2017 school year.

- Consider Community Center Rental Agreement with Staples-Motley ISD 2170 for the 2016-2017 school year.

- Consider first reading of ordinance adjusting Mayor and City Council Member compensation.

- Committee reports will include the Public Works Commission and the Staples Economic Development Authority.

- Open forum.
- City administrator's report.

Mark Your Calendar

October 10

CELIAC DISEASE SUPPORT GROUP Mtg Mon., Oct. 10, 6 p.m., Wadena Alliance Church, 1428 S. Jefferson St., Wadena. Bring gluten-free dish to share, copies of recipe. For info., 218-631-2170.

October 11

NARFE CHAPTER 0738 Mtg Tues., Oct. 11, Pizza Ranch, Hwy 371 in Baxter. Social hour, 11:30 a.m.; lunch, 12:30 p.m. Speakers: Blue Cross Blue Shield rep.; and NARFE district

president.

October 13

WADENA WHIRLWAYS SQUARE DANCE CLUB Mtg Thurs., Oct. 13, 7:30 - 10 p.m., Wadena VFW. Abe Maier, caller; Donna Stone, cuer. For info., 218-894-1542.

STAPLES SENIOR CITIZENS Mtg Thurs., Oct. 13, 5 p.m., at the Sr. Citizens Center. Following the meal, Senior Service Coordinator Sheila Stave will speak about programs to help seniors remain in their own homes, etc. Registration for meals required, call 218-894-2556.

CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT INTERNET AUCTION

OCTOBER 13
Bidding starts to close at 10 a.m. CDT

purple wave auction

All items sell without reserve! Including: dozers, graders, excavators, telehandlers, semi trucks & more. **866.608.9283**

Lakewood Health System to host groundbreaking

Lakewood Health System will be celebrating the official groundbreaking of its Staples and Pillager clinics on Monday Oct. 10; at 12:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. respectively. The Staples clinic is located at 49725 Cty 83; and the Pillager clinic at 653 Pillsbury St. N.

The celebration will include a brief presentation by Lakewood President and CEO Tim Rice, board chairs Loren Morey and Mary Theurer; and CMO Dr. John Halfen, followed by the official groundbreaking photo.

Refreshments will be served; and informational materials and renderings of the projects will be available to view. Representatives from the USDA, BWBR, Nor-Son Construction; and various city and state government offices will also be present at the event.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

Turn-key operations. The City of Vesta is accepting proposals for the purchase of the **Vesta Municipal Liquor Store**. It is an on and off sale facility. Proposals will be accepted until October 10, 2016 by email, phone, or mail at the City Clerk's Office:

150 Front Street West, PO Box 214, Vesta MN 56292

For more information call: Kimberly at the Vesta City Clerk's Office

507-762-3140 or **cityofvesta@mvtvwireless.com**

The Vesta City Council retains the right to refuse any and all proposals.

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance
1512 8th St. NE, Staples.....218-894-2891
Pastor Bob Hapokoski, 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 Svom
Sunday Worship.....8:30 a.m.
First Service.....10:45 a.m.
Second Service.....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.....8:00 a.m.
Saturday.....5:30 p.m.
Sunday.....8:30 a.m.

Seventh Day Adventist
421 Dakota Ave. SE, Staples
218-894-0033
Jeff Scaggins, Pastor
Saturday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
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 Bob Ford
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
Eric Clapp.....701-261-2394 (cell)
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. Magorden
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
Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Friday Office Closed
Senior Pastor: Pastor Dan Crocker
Visitation Pastor: Pastor Jim Brown
Youth & Ministry Coordinator: Stacey Minion
1354 Café Coffee Fellowship.....9:13 a.m.
Worship Gathering.....10:00 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
26298 Bear Rd., Cushing
www.cushingbaptistchurch.org
Pastor Dan Holmes.....320-749-2583
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Worship.....10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible study.....7:30 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
Pastor Bob Ford
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 Skip Hansen
218-746-3768
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Children's Church.....9:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Adrenaline Youth Group.....5:45 p.m.

Hewitt

Church of the Nazarene
114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146
Hewitt, MN 56453
218-924-2028
Pastor Wayne Hoffer
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, MN 56481
218-445-5619
Senior Pastor Tony Stanley
Heath Belknap, Pastor of Student Ministries
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Bible Fellowship Classes.....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
Children's Pastor Kenneth Kjeldergaard
Sunday School - Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship.....10:00 a.m.
Prayer & Praise.....6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
6:00 p.m.....Family fellowship meal
6:30 p.m.....Bible Study groups, all ages

Verndale United Methodist
103rd 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.

COZY THEATRE
Wadena, MN

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Fri. thru Thurs. Sept. Oct. 7 - 13
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:00 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:00
Matinee Sun. Oct. 9 at 1:15 pm

Screen 2
Fri. thru Thurs. Oct. 7 - 20
Fri. & Sat. Shows at 7:10 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:10
Matinee Sun. Oct. 9 at 1:25 pm

Screen 3
Fri. thru Thurs. Oct. 7 - 13
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:15 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:15
Matinee Sun. Oct. 9 at 1:30 pm

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Saturday, Oct. 8
*FREE Jukebox
SATURDAY, OCT. 15
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SATURDAY, OCT. 29
*Halloween PARTY!

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Comfort and peace

John 11:17-27

Pastor Tony Romaine, First Congregational Church UCC, Staples

Recently in this crazy world of ours we have experienced bombings, stabbings and countless losses in and around our otherwise peaceful Minnesota community. In times like these our faith is tested and we are asked to trust even deeper in the intangible eternal that comes after this world we inhabit. Yet, as Daniel Migliore states on page 23 in Faith Seeking Understanding, it is a mistake to think that faith is merely a leap in the dark; rather, it is reliable knowledge in the character and purpose of God.

But what purpose could God have when our society experiences tragedy? What character of God allows such pain and suffering? The easy and difficult answer is that God did not do, cause or allow any of this but is there with us amidst the pain and suffering. While to explain this would take more space than this devotional allows, let me say this:

Pain may wreak havoc on our bodies; suffering may infiltrate our lives but the God of love relieves the ills of earthly existence with an eternal euphoria beyond compare. This is the eternal hope and trust in that God is greater than any pain or suffering this world can produce.

This is why the impossible takes trust. For one has to think and move beyond blame and trust in that the impossible is possible. That God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are real and that heaven, wherever or whatever it is, truly does exist. See, I would rather trust in this impossible than be consumed by the disappointed reality of a limited possible. Yes, at a time like this, these words do not offer much comfort and peace, believe me I know. But comfort and peace come with time; and comfort and peace are two things only our Savior can truly provide.

Central Building Supply

Bob Reek, Manager
Hwy. 10 West, Staples, MN

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Motley and Pillager

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The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:



College ‘kids’ at the community meal

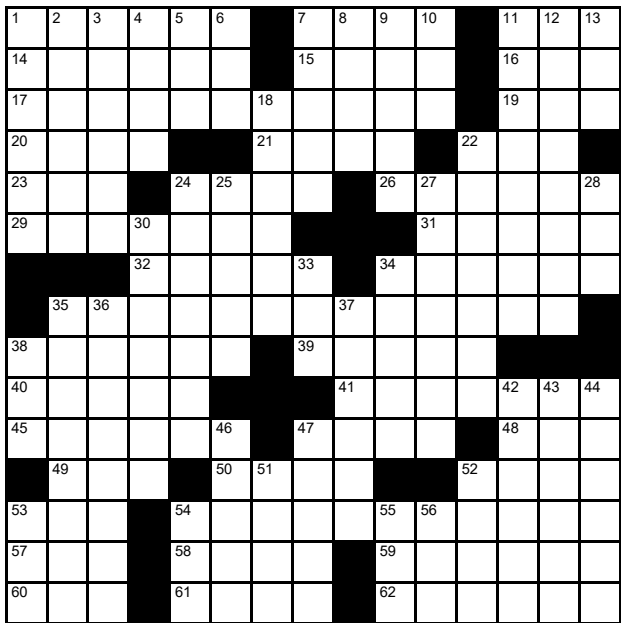
Approximately 220 people attended the first CARE Ministries-sponsored community meal Sept. 27, held at Staples United Methodist Church, hosts of the free event. Pictured, from left, are Central Lakes College students Brady Brown, Maple, Wis.; Dalton Lilienthal, Brook Park; Calvin Schmaedeke, Duluth; Daniel Burbul, Hawthorne, Wis.;

Jared Knudson, Brook Park; Nathan Stahl, North Branch. The boys are all in the diesel program at the Staples campus. In the background, are Staples UMC members Betty and Ron Starke of Motley. The next community meal is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 25, at the Congregational Church in Staples. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Crossword Puzzle

Provided by American Profile

Week 40



“Ice Cream”

Across
1 Break
7 Schnozzola
11 Do something
14 Freely negotiable by the holder
15 Golden rule preposition
16 Paid player
17 Ice cream flavor
#1
19 Drake’s song
20 God offended by Daphnis
21 No more
22 Casino transaction
23 Whip
24 Certain tape
26 ___ Peanut Butter Cups
29 Rock concert venue
31 It’s catching
32 Composer Ned
34 Put in jail
35 Ice cream flavor
#2
38 Two-door autos

39 Hard to pin down
40 Bull features
41 Saturday night setup, maybe
45 Let out fishing line
47 Vitality
48 Skunk
49 Perched
50 Forget about
52 Parisian pig
53 Blue shade
54 Ice cream flavor
#3
57 Get a move on
58 Ill temper
59 Rent payer
60 Stop
61 Takes out
62 Many desserts

Down
1 Dodgers’ field, once
2 Pointillist painter
Georges
3 “___ Hot Tin Roof”
4 Song and dance
5 ___ Dee River
6 Goof
7 New, to Neruda

8 In the past
9 Fab Four drummer
10 Many, many moons
11 Relaxing time on the slopes
12 Puts in a box
13 Exceed
18 Saddle front
22 Like some whales
24 Bishop’s realm
25 Continental money
27 Speak well, facetiously
28 Drench
30 Shoal snarer
33 Dallas cager, briefly
34 ___-mutton
35 Crockett’s cap
36 Cheered
37 Gaugin’s last home
38 Obama’s secretary of energy
Steven
42 Work up
43 Aim
44 Makes aquatints
46 Cap’n’s saluter
47 Facebook post comments
51 Security concern
52 It may be struck
53 Any ship
54 Fox rival
55 2002 British Open champion
56 Drops on blades

Last Week’s Answers
“Shifting Into Reverse”



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School Board

Contact me at gregfrisk@yahoo.com

Paid for by Greg Frisk, 1810 Azalea Rd., Motley, MN 56466

Obituaries



Irise Erickson

Irise Erickson, 90, of Staples passed away September 28, 2016, at her son’s home.

Funeral services were held Oct. 3 at the Staples Alliance Church with Pastor Daryl Jacobson presiding.

Arrangements were with the Schuller Family Funeral Homes’ Johnson-Schuller Chapel, Wadena.

Burial was at the Minnesota Veterans Cemetery, Little Falls.

Irise was born, September 22, 1926 to Ira and Esther (Estabrooks) Sarff in Williston, ND. She was baptized in May, 1939 north of Staples in the Crow Wing River. She attended Staples High School through 10th grade and graduated from Willmar High School in 1944.

Irise married with Lowell Eugene Erickson at the McCord Air Force Base in Washington. They traveled for many years while Lowell was in the service. They settled in Staples where Irise was a homemaker who enjoyed storytelling, crocheting, crossword and word-find puzzles. Most recently she loved participating in tea parties and coloring with her great-grandchildren. Irise had been a member of the VFW Post #1910 Past President’s Auxiliary.

She is survived by one daughter, Karen (Frank) Longworth of Plant City, FL; four sons, Robert (Katherine Mary) and Mark (Tonya), both of Staples, Dennis (Cheryl) of Nokoosa, WI and Keith (Carol) of Andover; 17 grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren and two great great-grandchildren and one sister, Betty Fisher of Walker.

She was preceded in death by her husband; parents; one brother, Eugene Sarff and two sisters Blanche Sarff Martin and Arlene Hood Larson.

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Claudia Engdahl

Claudia (Scribner) Engdahl, 69, of Staples, died September 29, 2016, at the Lakewood Health System Care Center in Staples.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 8 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Staples with Father Joe Korf officiating. Visitation will be held one hour prior to services at the church.

Interment will be at Evergreen Hill Cemetery in Staples.

Arrangements are with the Brenny Funeral Chapel in Staples.

Claudia Diane was born Sept. 8, 1947 in Staples to Warren and Dorothy (Dahm) Scribner, Jr. She married Darrell Engdahl on June 4, 1977. Claudia worked at Lakewood Health System for 28 years. She enjoyed her job and the people she worked with. She enjoyed vacationing with her grandchildren, bingo, knitting, baking, going to the casino and dolphins.

Claudia is survived by one daughter, Kathy Scribner; one sister, Susan Ehresman; two brothers, Mike Scribner and Steve (Loretta) Scribner; two grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren, other family members and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband; parents; grandparents and one grandson.

w40c A00006B2016OT06

Joan Marquardt

Visitation for Joan N. Marquardt, 91, of Duluth, formerly of Staples and Wadena, will be held Monday, Oct. 10 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Dougherty Funeral Home, 600 E 2nd Street, Duluth and will continue Tuesday, Oct. 11, from 10:00 a.m. until the funeral service at 11:00 a.m. at St. Michael’s Catholic Church, 4901 East Superior Street, Duluth. In lieu of flowers the direct memorials to the church.

Joan died on August 12, 2016.

w40 A00006B2016OT06

Free arthritis and joint pain seminar Oct. 25

Lakewood Health System, Staples will host a free educational seminar on arthritis, joint pain and joint replacement on Tuesday, Oct. 25, 5:30 p.m., in the lower level classrooms at Lakewood’s main campus in Staples.

Pie and coffee will be served with a presentation by Northern Orthopedics surgeon, Dr. Paul Rud at 5:50 p.m. Following the presentation, optional tours of the Joint Connection activity area, patient rooms and the operating room will be offered. A Biomet bus will be in the Lakewood clinic parking lot prior to the event. Attendees can tour the bus to see various instruments, diagrams and displays on joint replacements.

The Joint Connection

Hello World

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL INCLUDED:

Born to Ralph and Candus Berry of Nisswa, a baby boy, Noble weighing nine pounds, five ounces on September 24, 2016.

Born to Eric and Kathy Larson of Brainerd, a baby boy, Tyler Alan weighing eight pounds, nine ounces on September 24, 2016.

Born to Justin and Miranda Impola of Menahga, a baby girl, Trina Esther weighing eight pounds, 14 ounces on September 25, 2016.

Born to Kelly Andreassen and Bradley Dziejewczynski of Long Prairie, a baby girl, Charlie Marie weighing six pounds, two ounces on September 26, 2016.

Born to Grant and Kayla Noska of Browerville, a baby boy, Drake Andrew weighing eight pounds, seven ounces on September 27, 2016.

Born to Ryan and Roz Walwick of Staples, a baby boy, Soren Michael weighing six pounds, 13 ounces on September 28, 2016.

Student Achievements

MICHAEL STRAIN, Motley, has been accepted into the United States Army Officer Candidate School and will leave for service later this month. Strain is a 2012 graduate of Staples Motley High School; and a 2016 graduate of the University of Jamestown in North Dakota, where he majored in Business and Financial Planning. Strain was also the recipient of the Keith S. Warner Award for Academics, Athletics and High Ideals at Jamestown. He is the son of Don Strain and Sharon Stone, Motley.



KURT PORTER, Brainerd Lakes Area, recently became an owner at Severson Porter Law, with offices in Crosslake, Crosby and Baxter. Porter is a 2003 graduate of Staples Motley High School, the University of North Dakota; and the university’s School of Law. He is the son of Keith and Sandy Porter of Staples.

Have You HEARD?

Presented by

Steve Trebil, BC-HIS



DIZZYING INNER EAR DISORDER

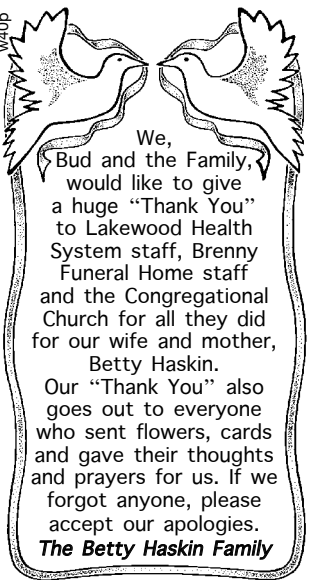
Ménière’s disease, which is named after the 19th-century French physician who discovered the condition, is characterized by intermittent and abrupt attacks of vertigo (a spinning sensation) and sometimes tinnitus (ringing in the ears). Ménière’s sufferers may also experience hearing loss that can become permanent over time, as well as hypersensitivity to sounds and sound distortion. The condition typically develops in people in their 40s and 50s and usually occurs in one ear. However, some of those afflicted with Ménière’s disease experience involvement of the second ear, which can lead to bilateral hearing loss. While the cause of the disease largely remains a mystery, and diagnosis may be challenging, treatment with a hearing instrument often proves to be of benefit.

Before being fitted for a hearing aid, it’s important to tell your doctor that your hearing loss is due to Meniere’s disease and the extent to which your hearing fluctuates. Hearing aids help some, but not all, Meniere’s disease patients. To schedule an appointment, please call PREFERRED HEARING at 1-800-458-0895. You will find us at 17274 State Hwy 371, Brainerd.

P.S. While there may be a decrease over time in the number and severity of episodes of vertigo associated with Ménière’s disease, tinnitus and hearing loss usually increase.

PREFERRED Hearing Aid Center

Offices in
Brainerd, MN • Pequot Lakes, MN
• Crosby, MN
800-458-0895 • 218-825-7349
218-546-8103



When someone we love becomes a memory; that memory becomes a treasure.



Staples Motley School Board Minutes

ISD #2170 SCHOOL BOARD MEETING #2 Monday, August 15, 2016, 7:00 p.m. Motley Media Center MINUTES

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order with Freeman, Hoemberg, Lund, Longbella and DiGiovanni present (comprising a quorum). Also present were Supt. Klamm; Business Manager, Marci Lord; Principals Johnson, Schmidt and Halverson; Buildings & Grounds Supervisor, LeRoy Peterson; Curriculum Coordinator, Cindy Swenson; Community Ed Coordinator, Kevin Roline; SMEA Rep, Bernadette Hogan; and several other staff and community members. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Lund, seconded by Longbella, to adopt the agenda, noting the deletions and addendums. Motion Carried

Recognize Public - Chair Freeman thanked everyone for attending **School/Community Forum**

a. CIPA - Internet Safety Policy (School Districts are required to offer a time for parents to discuss and ask questions regarding technology and the Internet Safety Policy.) No questions or discussion.

Consent Agenda:
Motion by Longbella, seconded by Freeman, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion Carried.

Finance Items
Ms. Lord presented the Financial Report with is available in the District Office.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by DiGiovanni, to approve the Financial Report and Authorization to Pay Vouchers. MC MF

Motion by Lund, second by DiGiovanni, to approve the Long Term Facilities Plan. Motion Carried.

It was noted that the plan can be modified or adjusted after it is submitted.

Motion by Freeman, second by Lund, to approve the Purchase of Services Agreement for School Nurse Consulting between Staples-Motley and Janet Mattson; \$4,400. Motion Carried.

This will provide guidance on school procedures and reporting for our new school nurse.

Personnel
Motion by Hoemberg, seconded by Longbella, to approve the retirement request of Gwen Landis. Motion Carried.

Motion by Lund, seconded by DiGiovanni, to approve the 2016-2017 contract for Hallie Bergeson; Elem. SSW; MA Step 1. Motion Carried.

Motion by Longbella, second by Freeman, to approve the 2016-2017 contract for Deb Meyer; Elem. Enrichment teacher; MA Step 1. Motion Carried.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Freeman, to approve the 2016-2017 contract for Victoria Serich; Elem. Receptionist; GR 8. Motion Carried

Motion by Lund, seconded by Freeman, to approve the 2016-2017 contract for Lori Nienow; HS Receptionist; AD/Com. Ed. Secretary; GR 7 Motion Carried.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Lund, to accept the resignation of Sarah Steinkopf from Staples School Readiness. Motion Carried.

Motion by Freeman, seconded by Lund, to approve the 2016-2017 contract for Sarah Steinkopf; Kindergarten; 7BA Motion Carried.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Hoemberg, to approve the 2016-2017 contract for Roseanne Rivers; Staples School Readiness Teacher; .87 FTE; BA Step 1 Motion Carried.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Lund, to approve the 2016-2017 contract for Cory Asfeld; Elem. PE; BA Step 1 Motion Carried.

Policies and Curriculum

Motion by Longbella, seconded by DiGiovanni, to adopt Policy #810 Unmanned Aerial Vehicles / Drones. Motion Carried.

Presentation of the 2015-2016 QComp Annual Report (*no action needed*)

Motion by Lund, seconded by Freeman, to approve the 2016-2017 High School, Middle School and Elementary Student Handbooks. Motion Carried.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Hoemberg, to approve the Application for Dissolution of Boys Hockey Cooperative Sponsorship with WDC, S-M, NYM, Sebek, and Vernedale. Motion Carried

Motion by Lund, seconded by DiGiovanni, to approve the Application for Boys Hockey Cooperative Sponsorship of W-DC, S-M, NYM, Verndale, Sebek, and Henning for the 2016-2017 School Year. Motion Carried.

Reports by Principals, Superintendent, Buildings & Grounds, and SMEA

Adjourn Regular Meeting

Motion by DiGiovanni,

seconded by Hoemberg, to adjourn the regular meeting and move to Closed Session. Motion Carried.

Reconvene in Closed Session to Review Superintendent's Evaluation

Motion by Lund, seconded by Hoemberg, to call the Closed Session to Order. Motion Carried

Adjournment
Motion by Lund, second by Hoemberg, to adjourn the Closed Session. Motion Carried

Complete minutes are available at: www.isd2170.k12.mn.us

40pnc
SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION MEETING #3 Monday, September 12, 2016, 7:00 p.m. High School Media Center MINUTES

Call the Work Session to order

The meeting was called to order with Longbella, Winkels, Freeman, Hoemberg and Lund present (comprising a quorum). Also attending were Supt. Klamm; Business Manager, Lord; Principal Schmidt; Activities Director, VanOverbeke; SMEA Rep, Brand; CE Coordinator, Roline and several community members.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Winkels, to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion Carried.

Updates Enrollment

District enrollment was at 1,152 on 9-12-16 which was down three (3) from the same date in 2015-2016.

Class size
Class sizes grades K-5 range from 17- 23.

Transportation
Transportation is running well. Two Paraprofessionals rode the shuttles between Motley and Staples for the first week; a few minor adjustments will be needed.

Personnel

Several staff are on variances for the 2016-2017 school year: Joy Rippen-trop; Jeremiah Piepkorn; Laurie Trout; Clay Houselog (1 hour); Cathy Evans (1 hour). New staff have been invited to attend the Sept. 19 Board Meeting.

Facility Study

Now that the buildings are reconfigured, the district needs to look at the adequacy of our buildings to make sure they are fitting the needs of students. The first step will be the district student mapping project. The Strategic Planning Committee will then be

re-engaged along with representatives from the PTC groups. September will be a month of planning and begin moving ahead in October.

Activity and Gate Fee Discussion

Supt. Klamm proposed that staff be given free passes for all home games - this is not a money matter, but a way to get staff to attend more events in our community. Students like to see their teachers attending their games and events.

Longbella indicated that this proposal may not be good for public perception when families who are paying athletic fees still have to pay to attend events. This is something for the Board to think about and bring up at a future meeting.

Season Passes were also discussed and can be obtained at the HS office or at the ticket gate. Family Season Passes extend to immediate family only.

Board Discussion

• A new coordinator for the Adventures program has been hired (Jenny Cushing). Kevin Roline is overseeing the program and is working toward a “pre-pay” goal.

• Eligibility - VanOverbeke and Schmidt clarified the policy. Academic failing lists are run every two weeks. A student athlete is first put on probation; then suspended from play until passing grades are obtained; following that - the season can end for a student.

The AD keeps track of the list and serves as the bridge between teachers and coaches; they are willing to work with students.

It was clarified that if a student is on the list for a subject, they may get their grade up to passing, but can then remain on the list for another failing grade.

This policy has been in place and enforced for the past 4+ years.

•Gradebook - Family Access

The expectation is that gradebooks are up to date, realizing that some classes such as Lit. and college classes take longer to grade.

If parents see that their child's grades are not up to date they should contact the teacher then the Principal.

HS Students can access their own grades.

Adjournment

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Longbella, to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Motion Carried. 40pnc

TODD COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE BY SEALED BID/ PUBLIC AUCTION

The County of Todd, a political subdivision organized under the laws of the State of Minnesota will be accepting sealed bids until November 8, 2016, at 10:00 a.m., at the Todd County Commissioner's Room, 2151 1st Ave. S., Suite 300, Long Prairie, MN, for the purchase and sale of the land and buildings at Co. Rd. 56, Long Prairie, MN 56347. This parcel has been used as a Sheriff's Impound Lot, Veteran's Service Garage and Sentence to Serve Wood Sale lot. The parcel will be sold “AS IS” with no warranty whatsoever. Additionally there is no warranty on boundaries or legal descriptions.

All bidders will complete, sign and submit a Purchase Agreement together with earnest money of \$10,000.00 in the form a cashier's check payable to Todd County. After opening of the sealed bids on November 8, 2016, at 10:00 a.m., any bona-fide bidder may raise their bid as in public auction until such time as a successful bidder is determined. The minimum bid which the Seller will consider is \$277,185.00 plus any and all attorney fees incurred by the county in selling the real estate. The successful bidder will be required to complete the closing with full payment and possession in accordance with the terms of the purchase agreement. Todd County will issue a Quit Claim Deed as set forth in the Purchase Agreement. The Purchase Agreement and bidding instructions may be obtained from the following:

Sellnow Law Office
229 Central Avenue
Long Prairie, MN 56347
Todd County Website www.co.todd.mn.us

Todd County reserves the right to reject in whole or in part any bid deemed to be insufficient, to accept a bid which, in the sole judgment of Todd County, best serves the interest of Todd County and to waive any and all technicalities.

Sealed bids shall be clearly marked “BID FOR PARCEL NOS. 36-4013300 AND 36-4014300”, and submitted to Denise Gaida at the Todd County Auditor/ Treasurer's Office, 215 1st Ave. S., Suite 201, Long Prairie, MN 56347 or Sellnow Law Office, 229 Central Avenue, Long Prairie, MN 56347 on or before November 7, 2016 or presented on the date the bids are

open.

The parcels are located at Co. Rd. 56 in the City of Long Prairie. The legal description is as follows:

That part of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter, Section 17, Township 129 North, Range 33 West, Todd County, Minnesota, described as follows:

Commencing at the northwest corner of Lot 2, Block One, BURLINGTON ADDITION, according to the recorded plat thereof;

thence on a record bearing of North 74 degrees, 50 minutes 00 seconds West along the northwesterly extension of the northerly line of said Lot 2 a distance of 427.32 feet to the point of beginning of the land to be described;

thence South 18 degrees 17 minutes 00 seconds West 225.15 feet;

thence North 71 degrees 09 minutes 34 seconds West 271.31 feet to the easterly right of way line of County Road No. 56;

thence North 25 degrees 37 minutes 38 seconds East along said easterly right of way line 224.53 feet;

thence South 71 degrees 40 minutes 30 seconds East 242.60 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 1.32 acres more or less

AND

That part of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter, Section 17, Township 129 North, Range 33 West, Todd County, Minnesota, described as follows:

Commencing at the northwest corner of Lot 2, Block One, BURLINGTON ADDITION, according to the recorded plat thereof;

thence on a record bearing of North 74 degrees 50 minutes 00 seconds West along the extension of the northerly line of said Lot 2 a distance of 427.32 feet;

thence South 18 degrees 17 minutes 00 seconds West 225.15 feet to the point of beginning of the land to be described;

thence North 71 degrees 09 minutes 34 seconds West 271.31 feet to the easterly right-of-way line of County Road No. 56;

thence South 25 degrees 37 minutes 38 seconds West along said right-of-way line 115.91 feet;

thence South 72 degrees 35 minutes 31 seconds East 286.15 feet;

thence North 18 degrees 17 minutes 00 seconds East 107.95 feet to the point of beginning.

Containing 0.71 acre more or less.

Barbara Becker, Todd County Commissioner Chairperson

40-42pnc

Todd County Commissioners Minutes

MINUTES TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS JUNE 7, 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 7th day of June, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairperson Erickson. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners present with Commissioner Becker absent.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote. To approve the agenda with 4.11 Added for Todd County Ag Society Informational Item and remove 11.1 Approve Jail/Dispatcher Units Labor Agreement.

Routine Business

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Auditor Warrants number 227259 through 227501 in the amount of \$9,327,217.32.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number 43471 through 43597 in the amount of \$88,958.52.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Warrants number 68591 through 68756 in the amount of \$107,499.03 and 511163 through 511225 in the amount of \$67,814.94.

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

GAMBLING PERMIT FOR FOR CENTRA CARE HEALTH-LONG PRAIRIE

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for CentraCare Health-Long Prairie through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a one

day Gambling Permit for CentraCare Health-Long Prairie to hold a raffle at the Long Prairie Country Club in Long Prairie Township at the address 406 6th St. SE, Long Prairie, MN on July 19, 2016.

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

A RESOLUTION FOR ADMINISTERING THE RENTAL DEFERRED LOAN PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Todd County has made significant progress in meeting the need for housing rehabilitation in the cities and rural areas of the county, and;

WHEREAS, an unmet need remains for the repair and rehabilitation of rental housing units, and;

WHEREAS, the Rental Rehabilitation Deferred Loan program sponsored by Minnesota Housing (MHFA) may provide a means for rehabilitating rental housing units in Todd County.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Central Minnesota Housing Partnership is hereby to approved to continue as

the administrative body for implementing this program in Todd County subject to review and renewal in June 2018.

The County Board heard information on NJPA Contracted Services Agreement and the introduction of Dan Vogt from NJPA who will be assisting as contracted services for the Human Resources Dept.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve a one day Dance License for American Legion #417 Oscar Jacobson Post (Little Sauk Legion) to be held August 27, 2016 at the parking lot of the Legion at 16268 County 50, Long Prairie, MN.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve a 1 Day Temporary On Sale Liquor License for American Legion #417 Oscar Jacobson Post (Little Sauk Legion) for August 27, 2016 at 16268 County 50, Long Prairie, MN.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was

introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the transfer of funds of \$9,000 from the Todd County Allocation Funds to the Todd County Park and Trails Board Fund.

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

GAMBLING PERMIT FOR NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION STRUTTIN BLACK BEARDS CHAPTER

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for National Wild Turkey Federation Struttin Black Beards Chapter through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a one day Gambling Permit for National Wild Turkey Federation Struttin Black Beards Chapter to hold a raffle at Thunder Lodge in Long Prairie Township at the address 22056 US 71, Long Prairie, MN on August 4, 2016.

The Todd County Ag Society, represented by Del-

vin Durheim, presented a report of activity to the County Board for their acknowledgement.

Public Works

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

FINAL PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION - 2015 BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

WHEREAS, the contract with Marvin Tretter, Inc. for the 2015 Bridge Construction Contract known as SAP 077-599-062 located on 250th Street in Long Prairie Township, has in all things been completed, and;

WHEREAS, construction work on this contract was completed in 2016 with the value of the total work certified being \$103,419.75, and;

WHEREAS, partial payments amounting to \$97,708.45 have been previously been made to the contractor as work progressed, and;

WHEREAS, it has been determined that \$5,711.30 still remains to be paid to Marvin Tretter, Inc.

See **TCC** on page 8a

TODD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS continued from page 7a

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners does here accept said completed project for and in behalf of the County of Todd and authorize final payment as specified.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To concur with the City of Long Prairie in awarding a construction contract to RL Larson Excavating of St. Cloud, Minnesota based on their low bid of \$5,388,372.81.

Ditch Inspector

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To acknowledge receipt of a Hold Harmless Agreement Petition from Henry Theisen for ditch maintenance on County Ditch 25 located in Sections 24 & 25 of Germania Township.

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

HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT FOR DITCH MAINTENANCE - COUNTY DITCH 33

WHEREAS, Eric Denny has submitted an after-the-fact Hold Harmless Agreement petition for ditch maintenance. The maintenance was done on a portion of Lateral 9 on County Ditch 33, located on parcel 20-0031901, in Reynolds Twp Section 29, and;

WHEREAS, Eric had previously received permission from NRCS for the project, which also included a private lateral. He stated, he was not aware this ditch line was part of CD33, and;

WHEREAS, a site visit was done April 20, 2016. The project was discussed at multiple TEP meetings. The TEP called the cleaning of the CD33 portion maintenance/repair, and not a violation, and;

WHEREAS, if applicant had submitted a HHA petition before doing the work, he would have been allowed to maintain the drainage ditch to the original width, depth and grade. The excavation has been done and has been deemed maintenance so now spoil may be side cast and leveled staying within 16.5 feet of the ditch.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Todd County Ditch Authority is aware that maintenance was done on approximately 780 feet of Lateral 9 on CD33 and now gives Eric Denny permission to level spoil, staying within 16.5 feet of the ditch. This work has been done on his own property, at his own expense.

Planning & Zoning

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Zoning Amendment for Earl Peterson to change zoning district from Commercial to R2 for parcels 18-0017800 and 18-0018202.

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

FINAL PLAT APPROVAL - "LITTLE SAUK HILL" SUBDIVISION

WHEREAS, Applicant Chris and Sandy Weissner applied to subdivide a property located in Section 32 of Little Sauk Township to create a three lot subdivision to be known as "Little Sauk Hill". Plat consists of Lots 1,2, and 3 of Block 1 (25.34 total acres located on Little Sauk Lake, a Natural Environment lake located in a Shoreland Zoned District.

WHEREAS, On January 7, 2016 the Todd County Planning Commission recommended the following property be considered for Subdivision pursuant to Todd County Subdivision Regulation and Ordinance:

SECT-32 TWP-128 RANG-34 GOVT LOT 4 EX PART OF GOVT LOT 4 DESC AS: BEG AT SW COR OF LOT 14 BLK 1 OF EAST LITTLE SAUK SHORES, S 363.75 FT, SW 177.96 FT, NW 295.66 FT,

NE 405 FT TO SHORELINE, NE-RLY ALONG SHORELINE 302 FT TO E LINE OF GOVT LOT 4, S 507 FT TO BEG & SE4 SW4 EX COMM AT SW COR OF SEC 32, E 1300 FT TO PT OF BEG; THENCE E 850 FT, NW 913 FT TO SHORELINE, W-RLY ALONG SHORELINE 420 FT, S 756 FT TO BEG

WHEREAS, On January 19, 2016 the Todd County Board of Commissioners considered the Preliminary Plat for the above described property and approved the Preliminary Plat (CUP #20160210894) 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) Drain way easements shall be provided along each side of the centerline of the natural drain way running along the property lines shared between Lots 1 and 2, and 2 and 3. The easement shall extend for no less than 10 ft. from center line of the drain way. 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,

WHEREAS, the Planning & Zoning Department has completed the necessary final plat review and find that all items required for final plat approval have been completed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the final plat of "Little Sauk Hill" subdivision be approved as presented.

Parks & Trails

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the proposed paving project at Battle Point Park.

Sheriff's Office

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To hire Brittney Just as a full-time Deputy at a Grade 20, Step 1, with an effective date of June 26, 2016 with the passing of a physical exam.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To hire Sam Larson as a full-time Deputy at a Grade 20, Step 1, with an effective date of June 27, 2016 with the passing of a physical exam.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To hire Joshua Nice as a full-time Deputy at a Grade 20, Step 1, with an effective date of June 28, 2016 pending the passing of a background check, psychological and physical exam.

Health & Human Services

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the promotion of Samantha Cofell to the position of Nursing Supervisor, Grade 22, Step 5, as recommended by the Todd County Personnel Committee.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the request for TCHHS to recruit and hire a Public Health Nurse to fill the position left vacant by the promotion of Samantha Cofell, as recommended by the Todd County Personnel Committee.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To accept the retirement of Sandra Aamold effective June 30, 2016.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the request for Health & Human Services to recruit and hire a registered nurse to replace a Public Health Nurse position vacated by the retirement of Sandy Aamold as recommended by the Todd County Personnel Committee.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To accept the resignation of Kathy Johnson effective July 1, 2016.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the request for Health & Human Services to recruit, advertise, and post a Registered Nurse position to fill the position left vacant by the resignation of Kathy Johnson as recommended by the Todd County Personnel Committee.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Agreement between MTWCHB delegation counties for shared staffing to provide public health services.

Auditor-Treasurer Report

Nothing to report at this time.

Commissioners' Report

The Commissioners reported on the meetings they had attended.

Adjourn

Chairperson Erickson recessed the meeting until June 21, 2016.

AUDITOR WARRANTS	
Vendor Name	\$ Amount
COMPUTER PROFESSIONALS	\$4,729.00
PHEASANTS FOREVER	12,112.80
VERIZON	2,409.39
Payments Less than \$2,000	7,549.37
ALLIANCE BUILDING CORPORATION	5,241.15
AMERICAN HERITAGE BANK	42,912.82
ANOKA CO GOV'T CENTER	15,159.00
BOYER FORD TRUCKS	67,617.90
FLEET SERVICES/WEX BANK	3,660.76
LATIMER LAKE ASSOCIATION	2,444.00
LONG PRAIRIE SANITATION INC	3,261.79
MN DEPT OF FINANCE	6,361.50
MORRISON COUNTY	24,756.65
PETERS & CHURCHWELL	6,952.56
SCHUMACHER'S NURSERY AND BAKERY	6,366.25
STEP	4,567.50
Payments Less than \$2,000	14,735.27
CARD SERVICES	
COBORNS	2,777.45
GENE-O'S COUNTRYSIDE REST.LLC	6,591.20
GOULD/RHONDA M	2,727.00
LONG PRAIRIE OIL COMPANY	4,207.74
MARTHALER CHEV. OF GLENWOOD	29,703.00
MINNESOTA POWER & LIGHT	11,620.85
PRAIRIE LAKES MUN. SOLID WASTE AUTH	43,613.24
TODD TRAILS ASSOCIATION	30,000.25
ZAYO ENTERPRISE NETWORKS	3,442.05
Payments Less than \$2,000	12,543.01
AMERICAN HERITAGE	9,714.34
CENTERPOINT ENERGY	2,080.10
NELSON AUTO CENTER INC	29,201.72
STAPLES ADVANTAGE	2,683.59
Payments Less than \$2,000	6,876.87
ALLIANCE BUILDING CORPORATION	118,655.00
FAHRNER ASPHALT SEALERS, LLC	59,852.53
HARDRIVES INC	225,971.34
INITIATIVE FOUND.	5,200.00
RESOURCE TRAINING AND SOLUTIONS	220,398.00
TODD CO AUD-TREAS	15,857.50
TRAFFIC MARKING SERVICE INC	57,275.89
VERIZON	2,143.12
Payments Less than \$2,000	9,127.16
AMERICAN HERITAGE BANK	1,090,288.92
BIG SWAN LAKE IMPROVEMENT DIST	8,272.04
CITY OF BERTHA	118,633.67
CITY OF BROWERVILLE	149,469.74
CITY OF BURTRUM	12,361.40
CITY OF CLARISSA	121,450.43
CITY OF EAGLE BEND	139,658.89
CITY OF GREY EAGLE	48,422.69
CITY OF HEWITT	38,131.89
CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE	452,720.76
CITY OF OSAKIS	85,084.97
CITY OF STAPLES	358,644.28
CITY OF WEST UNION	6,986.22
REGION V DEVELOP COMMISSION	14,284.27
SAUK RIVER WATER SHED DISTRICT	42,775.32
SCHOOL DISTRICT 213	448,649.74
SCHOOL DISTRICT 2155	2,102.54
SCHOOL DISTRICT 2170	355,676.02
SCHOOL DISTRICT 2753	1,414,078.95
SCHOOL DISTRICT 2759	168,365.90
SCHOOL DISTRICT 486	207,753.68
SCHOOL DISTRICT 487	5,325.16
SCHOOL DISTRICT 740	40,279.10
SCHOOL DISTRICT 743	326,516.32
SCHOOL DISTRICT 786	245,261.53
SCHOOL DISTRICT 787	290,351.10
SCHOOL DISTRICT 818	28,854.32
TOWN OF BARTLETT	48,326.18
TOWN OF BERTHA	42,014.30
TOWN OF BIRCHDALE	75,602.88
TOWN OF BRUCE	71,438.21
TOWN OF BURLEENE	38,365.02
TOWN OF BURNHAMVILLE	84,602.64
TOWN OF EAGLE VALLEY	55,286.62
TOWN OF FAWN LAKE	91,149.03
TOWN OF GERMANIA	35,721.25
TOWN OF GORDON	145,982.57
TOWN OF GREY EAGLE	110,785.90
TOWN OF HARTFORD	90,117.78
TOWN OF IONA	52,346.01
TOWN OF KANDOTA	48,428.55
TOWN OF LESLIE	96,828.81

TOWN OF LITTLE ELK	44,870.94
TOWN OF LITTLE SAUK	66,530.61
TOWN OF LONG PRAIRIE	69,648.70
TOWN OF MORAN	56,537.37
TOWN OF REYNOLDS	50,457.05
TOWN OF ROUND PRAIRIE	100,807.02
TOWN OF STAPLES	97,543.12
TOWN OF STOWE PRAIRIE	57,334.15
TOWN OF TURTLE CREEK	43,563.03
TOWN OF VILLARD	120,527.08
TOWN OF WARD	55,101.19
TOWN OF WEST UNION	65,222.53
TOWN OF WYKEHAM	47,003.80
Payments Less than \$2,000	1,574.47
Total:	\$9,327,217.32

COMMISSIONERS WARRANTS	
Vendor Name	\$ Amount
BENNING PRINTING & PUBLISHING	\$7,932.60
BUSKER CONCRETE	2,000.00
CENTRACARE HEALTH LONG PRAIRIE	3,220.66
ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE INC	16,247.50
LONG PRAIRIE LEADER	6,788.30
MORRISON CO PUBLIC HEALTH SERV	2,378.22
SPECTRUM PRINTING	3,423.06
TURNKEY THREE SQUARE MARKET	4,063.53
WARNER GARAGE DOOR, INC.	6,322.13
WIDSETH SMITH NOLTING INC	3,246.16
Payments Less than \$2,000	33,336.36
Total:	\$88,958.52

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS	
Vendor Name	\$ Amount
DHS - MSOP-MN SEX OFFENDER PROG.	\$12,624.80
DHS - SWIFT FRESHWATER ED. DISTRICT 6004	14,877.00
RURAL MN CEP INC	18,888.31
Payments Less than \$2,000	40,275.29
Total	\$107,499.03

Vendor Name	\$ Amount
CENTRACARE HEALTH - LP	6,733.94
EAGLE RIDGE BOYS RANCH	2,550.00
MID MINNESOTA DRUG TESTING INC	4,575.00
NEXUS INC - MILLE LACS ACADEMY	5,035.50
NORTHERN PINES MENTAL HLTH CTR	12,912.50
STEP WEST CENTRAL REG JUVENILE CTR	3,312.50
Payments Less than \$2,000	\$26,234.58
Total	\$67,814.94

On a motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held June 7, 2016 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on September 20, 2016.

Witness my hand and seal:

Barb Becker, Todd County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer 40pnc

MINUTES TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS JUNE 21, 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 21st day of June, 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 Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote. To approve the agenda with 4.7 Added to Acknowledge Park Board Shoreland Report and remove 6.1 Abatement Policy.

Routine Business

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number 43598 through 43743 in the amount of \$110,173.99.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Warrants number 511226 through 511314 in the amount of \$134,474.82.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the two Budget Request Forms to properly align funds for the approved Battle Point Park Paving Project payments.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Budget Re-

quest Form to correct the account number for Federal Grants in the Public Works Fund 2016 Budget.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Lease Agreement between the Todd County Ag Society and Todd County Board of Commissioners to the Todd County Historical Society contingent upon agreement that the lease period be shortened to 2 years.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the decrease from \$15 to \$10 for the Law Library Fee adopted by the Law Library Committee on June 9, 2016.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To acknowledge the Battle Point Shoreland Restoration Inspection Report

Public Works

On a motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Cooperative Construction Agreement for Fiscal Year 2018 Construction.

Emergency Management

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN PLANNING PROCESS AND EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the County of Todd is participating in a hazard mitigation planning process as established under the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and;

WHEREAS, the Act establishes a framework for the development of a multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan; and

WHEREAS, the Act as part of the planning process requires public involvement and local coordination among neighboring local units of government and business; and

WHEREAS, the county will lead the planning effort with the assistance of consultants and State of Minnesota mitigation staff.

WHEREAS, the county will provide staff and resources from departments related to mitigation, will facilitate participation of jurisdiction within the county, and provide quarterly reporting on plan progress.

WHEREAS, the plan must include a risk assessment including past hazards, hazards that threaten the county, maps of hazards, an estimate of structures at risk, estimate of potential dollar losses for each hazard, a general description of land uses and future development trends; and

WHEREAS, the plan must include a mitigation strategy including goals and objectives and an action plan identifying specific mitigation projects and costs; and

WHEREAS, the plan must include a maintenance or implementation process including plan updates, integration of plan into other planning documents and how the county will maintain public participation and coordination; and

WHEREAS, the draft plan will be shared with the State of Minnesota and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for coordination of state and federal review and comment on the draft; and

WHEREAS, approval of the all hazard mitigation plan will make the county eligible to receive Hazard Mitigation Assistance grants as they become available; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Todd County will enter into an agreement with the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management in the Minnesota Department of Public Safety for the program entitled

Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) for the update of the Todd County All-Hazard Mitigation plan. Michael Wisniewski, Emergency Management Director is hereby authorized to execute and sign such agreements and any amendments hereto as are necessary to implement the plan on behalf of Todd County.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the letter of commitment of funds for the 25% of the cost of the update for Todd County Hazard Mitigation.

Sheriff's Office

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

PURCHASE OF 3 POLICE VEHICLES

WHEREAS, Sheriff Asmus has informed the Todd County Board of Commissioners that it is vital that new squad vehicles be purchased as existing squad fleet vehicles need to be replaced, and;

WHEREAS, Sheriff Asmus has presented a three year financing option to purchase three (3) 2017 Ford Interceptor Utility Vehicles through a state purchasing program, and;

WHEREAS, this financing option would cost \$30,364.25 for the next three years and these funds are included the Sheriff's Office budget.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Sheriff Asmus be authorized to enter into this agreement to purchase the above mentioned vehicles.

Solid Waste

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the hooking up to natural gas through CenterPoint for heating the Solid Waste Dept.

Planning & Zoning

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the zoning amendment request by James Rowe to rezone parcels 05-0000500, 05-0000501, and part of 05-0000702 from T10 to AF-1.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve Conditional Use Permit for Joe Varner. Site address: 32610 County 3, Eagle Bend, MN. Parcel 05-0000500, 05-0000501, and 05-0000400. NW4 of Section 1 of Burleene Township (Approx 160 acres). Granted with the following conditions: Subject to one year review of CUP to monitor progress toward MN 7020 compliance.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Preliminary Plat for Sunset View Development with no conditions for Marc and Julie Brinkman Site Address: Directly East of 10491 Amigo Trail Parcel #03-0022400. On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

FINAL PLAT APPROVAL - "SEIDE ADDITION" SUBDIVISION

WHEREAS, Applicant Justin and Steven Seide applied to subdivide a property that is part of Govt. Lot 2 W of Highway 27 in Section 10 of Gordon Township. Plat is to be known as Seide Addition. Plat consists of 3 residential lots and 3 outlots located on Osakis Lake - a General Development Lake located in a Shoreland Zoned District.

WHEREAS, On March 3, 2016 the Todd County Planning Commission recommended the following property be considered for Subdivision pursuant to Todd County Subdivision Regulation and Ordinance:

Section 20 TWP-128 Range - 35. Part of Govt. Lot 2 West of Highway 27 Except parts sold and ex-



Lions donate to Dollars For Scholars

The Staples Host Lions Club donated \$3,500 to the Staples-Motley Dollars For Scholars. The DFS will not holding their annual auction, but will instead be selling raffle tickets starting Friday, Oct. 7. Tickets can be purchased from board members and at school events. The DFS fund will also be setting up a GoFundMe page for scholarship donations.

Pictured, front, Scout Strickland and Cade Schmidt. Standing, DFS members Becky Fuhrman and Mary Kobliska, Lions representative Mike Gedde, students Autumn Nelsen, Ashley Smith, Claire Wolhowe, Brian Sterriker, DFS members Michelle Wolhowe, Judy Droubie and Mike Schmidt. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Minnesota Business Snapshot will help small businesses and consumers

Secretary of State Steve Simon announced the launch of the Minnesota Business Snapshot, a new initiative designed to better serve Minnesotans by providing the public - from consumers to small business owners to educational institutions - with critical data and information on the economic and demographic make-up of Minnesota's businesses.

The Minnesota Business Snapshot (MBS) is a voluntary, five-question survey now being offered to nearly 550,000 new and existing businesses in Minnesota as they file their annual renewal each calendar year with the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State.

The survey asks Minnesota business owners a variety of questions, including how many full time employees they have; whether they

self-identify as a member of a specific community, such as a veteran, woman or community of color; the industry or field in which the business operates; whether it's a full-time or part-time endeavor; and gross revenues for the past year.

"The Minnesota Business Snapshot is going to make it easier and more convenient for small business owners to identify potential partners, for consumers to target their spending, and for the public and educational institutions to better understand the economic and demographic makeup of our state's business community," said Secretary Simon. "This is an important step to better serving Minnesotans."

"The St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce thanks Secretary Simon for his leadership on this and is

pleased to partner with him to help bring the business community together and help facilitate economic growth in Minnesota," said St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce President/CEO Matt Kramer. "The Minnesota Business Snapshot is a great resource for Minnesotans across the state, and we look forward to Minnesota businesses participating in this important and valuable initiative."

The survey was put together with the input of individual business owners, business organizations, nonprofits and researchers from across the state. The information collected from the MBS will be available for purchase beginning in the first quarter of 2017. The data will include specific responses from each business that has voluntarily responded.

TCC continued from page 8a

cept parts platted. Total of 4.90 acres

WHEREAS, On March 15, 2016 the Todd County Board of Commissioners considered the Preliminary Plat for the above described property and approved the Preliminary Plat (CUP #20160308898) with no conditions.

WHEREAS, the Planning & Zoning Department has completed the necessary final plat review and find that all items required for final plat approval have been completed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the final plat of "Seide Addition" subdivision be approved as presented.

Health & Human Services

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the hire of Sarah Becker to fill an open position as a Child Protection Social Worker at Grade 20, Step 2-\$20.49/hr.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the hire of Kali Rechtzigel to fill an open position as a Child Protection Social Worker at Grade 20, Step 2-\$20.49/hr.

Human Resources

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

2015 - 2017 TEAMSTERS LOCAL 320 JAIL/ DISPATCHER BARGAINING AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the Todd County Negotiations Team met in negotiations with the Teamsters Jail/Dispatcher Unit, and;

WHEREAS, the parties have reached a tentative agreement, and;

WHEREAS, the Teamsters Local 320 Jail/Dispatchers voted to accept the agreement as presented.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, it is recommendation of the Todd County Negotiations Team that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve the adoption of the attached agreement for 2015 - 2017.

Auditor-Treas. Report

Budget Reports have been sent to departments for review. Absentee Ballots are now available for the Primary Election beginning June 24, 2016. Denise will be attending the Auditors Conference the remainder of this week.

Commissioners' Report

The Commissioners reported on the meetings they had attended.

Adjourn

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

COMMISSIONERS WARRANTS	
Vendor Name	\$ Amount
BENNING PRINTING & PUBLISHING.....	\$2,463.15
CLOUD 9 SCREEN PRINTING.....	2,875.00
CORBIN PICKAR EXC INC.....	11,617.50
HANCOCK CONCRETE PRODUCTS CO.....	4,406.08
INFORMATION SYSTEM CORP.....	2,199.00
LONG PRAIRIE MACH. CO INC.....	3,354.81
OLSON'S TRUCK & TRACTOR SER	2,730.33
SOUTHWEST EXPLOSIVES	2,175.00
STREICHER'S.....	6,247.50
THOMPSON/SARA	2,000.00
TODD CO AUD.-TREAS.	2,337.39
TODD CO MIS DEPT.....	7,431.18
TRUENORTH STEEL.....	12,960.85
TURNKEY/THREE SQUARE MARKET.....	2,496.98
WOLTERS BODY SHOP.....	4,052.98
Payments less than \$2,000	40,826.24
Total:	\$110,173.99

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS	
Vendor Name	\$ Amount
#14471	\$2,297.76
ANU FAMILY SERVICES INC	2,274.19
#4453	2,635.00
FEDA/DENNIS	2,483.67
GREATERN MN FAMILY SRVS INC.....	6,786.85
HEARTLAND GIRLS RANCH	6,801.09
#1911	2,242.85
KINDERCARE ED. LLC	2,412.00
#10746	3,173.31
NEXUS INC-MILLE LACS ACADEMY-SHIP	5,203.35
#14051	3,470.76
PARENT EDUCATION SERVICES	3,188.25
PARISH/JON	4,676.67
PESTA/JEANNETTE OR KENNETH	3,033.95
PINEHAVEN YOUTH/ FAMILY SRVS. INC	7,651.42
STEP	7,113.70
VILLAGE RANCH INC.....	14,229.20
#14480	2,262.59
Payments Less than \$2,000	52,538.21
Total:	\$134,474.82

On a motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held June 21, 2016 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on September 20, 2016.

Witness my hand and seal:

Barb Becker, Todd County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

40pnc

“THE LAKEWOOD STAFF IS LIKE FAMILY.”

–Gary, Henning

Every patient and their story is unique. Take Gary, for example: He's a cancer survivor who has been to several different healthcare facilities in Minnesota and Texas for various health concerns, which finally landed him at Lakewood. Thanks to the great communication and assistance of his care team, Gary is getting the care he deserves, so he can live the semi-retired life he wants. To experience Lakewood's care for yourself, call to schedule an appointment today. **Lakewood Health System is your choice for a lifetime of care.**

Your Choice.

For a lifetime of care.

800-525-1033 | 218-894-1515 | lakewoodhealthsystem.com

NOTICE

Water Main Flushing

The City of Staples Water Department will be flushing water mains throughout the City starting **October 4, 2016 and continuing for a couple of weeks.** You may experience cloudy water during this time. If this occurs, allow the cold water to run until it clears.

THE ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (EAP) HELPS PAY HOME HEATING COSTS AND FURNACE REPAIRS FOR INCOME QUALIFIED HOUSEHOLDS.

EAP is federally funded through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Grants are available for renters or homeowners, with household income at or below 50 percent of the state median income, and is based on household size, income, fuel type and energy usage. Services may include payment of energy bills, help with utility disconnections or necessary fuel deliveries, education on efficient and safe use of home heating energy, and repair or replacement of homeowners' malfunctioning heating system.

The average energy assistance grant in Todd County is \$681 per household. Households with an income less than 50% of the state median income (\$47,192 for a family of four) may qualify; those who qualify are served on a first-come, first-served basis while funds last. People have until May 31, 2017 when the program year ends, to apply for EAP

EAP pays the utility company directly on behalf of eligible households. Qualifying families must apply for assistance at the local service provider in their area.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR ENERGY ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CONTACT TODD COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AT 320-732-4516 OR TOLL FREE AT 888-838-4066.

If you signed up for the Cold Weather Rule through your energy provider, this protection ended on April 15, 2017.

Other forms of assistance may be available through county social service programs, community-based organizations and nonprofit agencies. See the Minnesota Department of Commerce webpage at mn.gov/commerce for resources and energy saving tips.



Real Men Sing! Festival; mass chorus finale

A total of 277 voices filled the Staples-Motley High School gymnasium during the Real Men Sing! Festival concert Oct. 1. The event, now in its 14th year, was hosted by the Staples Area Men’s Chorus (SAMC), under the direction of Rob Frelove. Pictured above, Dr. Bret Amundson, Director of Choral Activities at the Col-

lege of St. Scholastica, directs the mass choir which included the SAMC, the Bemidji State University Choir, and student singers. Prior to the mass choir finale, individual choirs performed, including Real Men Sing! Jr. A total of 14 towns were represented at the event. Earlier in the day, clinics and workshops were offered

to middle and high school students, as well as adult singers. Leading the Real Men Sing! Jr. was Dr. Sarah Cohen, also of the College of St. Scholastica. (Staples World photo by Ken Klose)



Lunch time

Over 100 pizzas were served during the Real Men Sing! Festival in Staples Oct. 1. The event was hosted by the Staples Area Men’s Chorus (SAMC) and held at the Staples-Motley High School. Attendees at the full day workshop included junior high and high school students together with area men’s choral groups. Pictured above, from left, are SAMC members Jim Downes, Steve Sing, Bruce Lund, Mike Gold. (Staples World photo by Ken Klose)



Sectional work during the music festival

Erik Espe, choral director at Long Prairie-Grey Eagle Schools, led one of the sectional workshops during the Real Men Sing! and Real Men Sing! Jr. Festival in Staples Oct. 1. (Staples World photo by Ken Klose)

COUNCIL continued from page 1a

Sunset Drive tarring project approved

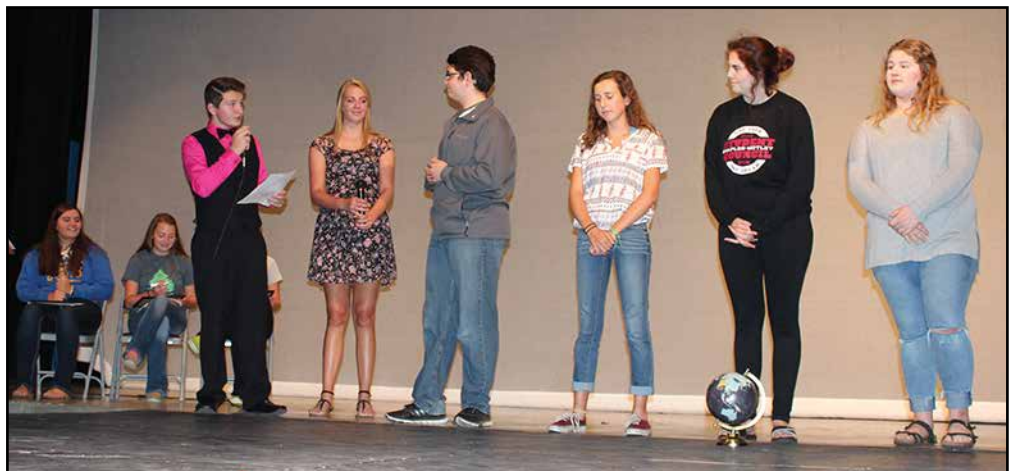
In other news, the council

- Approved a request from the Staples Motley Area Chamber of Commerce to use the Staples Community Center for a beer and wine tasting fundraiser.

- Approved a Memorandum of Understanding with Central Lakes College regarding responsibilities and information sharing of sexual assault and certain other crimes.
- Approved an agreement with MnDOT for an

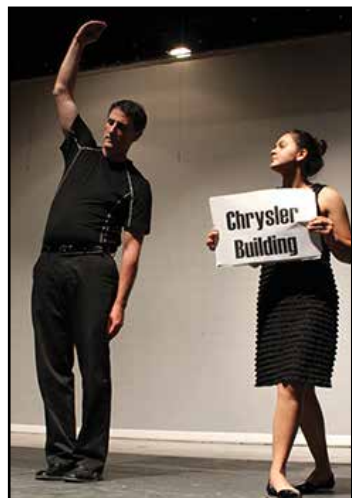
airport hangar project.

- Accepted the donation of a used Trimble pipe laser from Greg Haglin.
- Approved tarring Sunrise Drive as requested by petition from landowners on the street.



Coronation entertainment

Skits, a dance performance and a cheerleading routine were part of the entertainment at the Staples-Motley High School Homecoming Coronation Oct. 2. Pictured above, from left, are emcees Alex Erickson and Claire Wolhowe; and student actors Cade Bestland, Bryn Williams, Sara Oberlander, Sophie Roberts. In the background are Rachel Paskewitz, Katie Benson and Lexi Johnson (hidden). The actors each gave clues as to what teacher they were representing; and the student panel behind them had to guess who they were. Bestland was Eric Johnson; Williams was Mitch Anderson; Oberlander was Bob Shaffer; and Roberts was Rachel Sanders. Pictured in lower left photo, are SMHS cheerleaders Jordan DeChaine, front; Aleasha Carlson, Larken Hirschey, middle; Rachael Isenberg, Delayne Larson, Madeline Rutherford, back. In lower right photo, English teacher Kermit Klefsaas (and father of the homecoming queen) does his infamous “imbuildings” while SMHS student Ari Brings holds up a sign indicating which building he is acting out. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Say goodbye to PAIN



FREE public seminar by Pain Specialist Joshua Horowitz, D.O.

Tuesday, October 18
12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

The Center, 803 Kingwood Street in Brainerd

Learn about different types of pain, numerous treatments including specific diagnostics and tests, and how to live with and manage pain.

Complimentary soup and sandwich lunch provided

Reservations: 218-545-4455 or marketing@cuyunamed.org





Lacey Smieja of Little Falls is offered position of Motley City Clerk/Treasurer

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

After a full day of panel discussions, facility tours and interviews with five worthy candidates Aug. 29, the Motley City Council voted to offer the position of clerk/treasurer to Lacey Smieja of Little Falls.

The terms of the offer, as discussed with Gary Weiers, management consultant with David Drown Associates, Inc., includes hiring Smieja up to a Step 3 on the salary schedule (a starting pay of \$23.40/hr.); six days of paid vacation per year; and health insurance benefits.

Pending Smieja's acceptance, final approval of the offer will be voted on at the council's regular meeting Oct. 10.

Smieja currently works as an auditor/quality control specialist at Rutledge & Associates, APC/Rutledge Claims Management, Inc., a position she has held since 2012. Prior to that, she was employed at Law Offices of Thomas W. Rutledge, APC in Poway, Calif.

Smieja holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Northern Michigan University in political science/pre-law; and philosophy; and a Master of Public Administration degree from San Diego State University. During an internship, she gained experience in grant research, as well as organizing an existing grant system.

During the recent interview process, council members met with the candidates individually, asking each a total of 13 questions. The questions focused on the person's job experience (especially in the area of budgeting and finances),



Lacey Smieja

their interests and qualifications; and ethics. They were also asked how they would involve themselves with the Motley community; and how they viewed the relationship between the city council and the city clerk.

Smieja said one of the things that interested her in the city clerk position was the variety of tasks involved. Having been at the same company for the past nine years, she said she has held every position and learned a lot of roles, something which she has really enjoyed.

Although she does not have experience in budgeting and financial planning, Smieja said she has already looked into training opportunities, such as the upcoming clerk's conference. "I think it's important to tap into resources," Smieja said, adding, "I'm a quick learner."

When asked how she would build trust with the city staff and council, Smieja said she would meet with everyone one-on-one and try to build positive relationships. She noted that they are all working toward a common goal.

As far as community involvement, Smieja said she

would like to have a "meet and greet" with the Motley residents. She also sees the importance of participating in and helping to organize community events. "I would also have a place available for feedback," Smieja said. "I want people to feel comfortable bringing up concerns, etc. I want them to trust staff."

Smieja was asked to describe a situation where she had to explain complex financial matters to people who did not have extensive knowledge in this area. She mentioned sitting down with her husband's aunt who needed help with her budget, utilizing a spreadsheet to document the aunt's monthly expenses.

When asked how she believed the relationship between the city clerk and the city council should function, Smieja said there needs to be open communication. "I work for them as well as the community," Smieja said. "There needs to be mutual respect."

Integrity and ethical standards were something the council asked Smieja about. She shared a story of noticing a \$50 item that a waitress has forgotten to add to her family's bill; and alerting her to that fact. "I believe it's important to be honest in all situations," she said.

"Why should the City of Motley select you as their next city clerk/treasurer?" was the final question asked. Smieja answered, "I'd be a good fit." She went on to note that she is committed to local government, is excited to learn and to have the opportunity to help a city grow in a positive way. She also has the ability to wear a lot of different hats, which is a plus,



Taking a break from interviews

The Motley City Council interviewed five candidates for the city clerk/treasurer position Sept. 29. Pictured, from left, are council members Al Yoder, Pat O'Regan; Mayor Nancy Nieken; council members Amy Hutchison, Steve John-

son; and Gary Weiers, with David Drown Associates, Inc., of Fairbault, who provided comprehensive search services as part of the hiring process. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

Smieja said.

When given the opportunity to ask the council questions, Smieja inquired as to the most important thing they were looking for in hiring someone for this position.

Mayor Nancy Nieken said, "Stability."

Council member Amy Hutchison said it was important that the council have a comfortable, non-defensive relationship with the clerk.

Council member Steve Johnson said he was looking for good harmony between the two entities.

Council members Al Yoder and Pat O'Regan agreed with all of the opinions voiced. Yoder said he would also add that a clerk's ability to help the city with funding issues would be important.

The city received a total of 16 applications for this position, of which five were selected as finalists. In addition to Smieja, the other four candidates interviewed were:

- Betty Gumm, Brainerd. Gumm has a bachelor's degree in travel/tourism. She has previously worked as a water utility specialist for the City of Superior, Wis.; and as a grant writer for the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin; and the Boys and Girls Club of Wausau, Wis.

- Joe Hatch, Minneapolis. Hatch has a bachelor's degree in liberal arts and a master's degree in public administration. His work experience includes working for the City of New Brighton as management analyst/HR specialist for two years; and seven years as code enforcement supervisor.

- Penny Poling, Staples. Poling has a bachelor's degree in accounting. Past experience includes bookkeeper/office manager for Amazing Days Elderly Care Center, accountant at Pederson and Pederson, P.A.; and accountant for Wadena County Public Health.

- Kari Tyson, Little

Falls. Tyson has a bachelor's degree in business administration. Previously, she has worked as a finance assistant at Onamia Public Schools; deputy clerk in Pierz; and interim city administrator for the City of Pierz.

After interviewing all five candidates, the council met with Weiers to discuss how they would like to proceed.

Feedback from each of the council members indicated that Lacey Smieja was at the top of their list.

"I thought she was comfortable and relaxed in her answers, and presented herself in a calm, intelligent way," Johnson said of Smieja.

It was noted that although Smieja does not have a lot of experience in financial budgets, she indicated a willingness to learn. Weiers also reminded the council that there are resources available to them, including David Drown Associates, Inc. and the city's interim clerk, Scott Saehr.



It's pumpkin time

'Tis the season for pumpkins, squash, gourds and corn shocks. A colorful display belonging to Karen Pipek

and can be seen along the Warner Rd. east of Staples. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Missing Motley woman safely located

Cass County Sheriff Tom Burch reported on Sept. 30, that Alice Whim, the subject of the missing person investigation, has been safely located and is no longer considered a missing person.

Whim, 21, had been reported missing from a residential group home in rural

Motley on Aug. 12. As per the sheriff's report on Sept. 7, Whim was believed to be voluntarily missing and foul play was not suspected.

The Cass County Sheriff's Office thanks the media and public for their assistance in this matter.

Motley Police, Morrison Cty Sheriff's reports

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

Sept. 28 - The MPD and MCSO responded to a report of a person with their face painted like a clown at Ortons in Motley. Caller stated they thought this was suspicious.

Sept. 24 - MPD Officer Jason Borash issued a citation to Brianna Wenner, 23, for failure to move over for an emergency vehicle; and speeding citations to Alyssa Guzek, 28; Tyson Temple, 27; and Jacinta Urbano, 22.

Sept. 23 - MPD Officer Borash issued a citation to Patrick Rough, 21, for having

mirrored windows on his vehicle; and a speeding citation to Reid Vanelsberg, 20.

Sept. 22 - MPD Chief Ron Smith issued a citation to Sheena Meyer, 32, for not having a valid MN drivers license. Driver had been stopped for having out of date tabs.

Sept. 27 - The MCSO received a call from Eric Stumbo who reported hitting a deer with his vehicle on 330th St. in Cushing.

Sept. 27 - The MCSO received a report that six gallons of hydraulic oil had been spilled at 1070 Holt Rd. in Cushing.

Sept. 25 - The MCSO received a call from Bruce Pederson that a boat washed up to shore at his cabin on Bay View Trl. in Cushing. The registered owner of the boat was contacted.

Scandia Valley Fire Dept. open house Oct. 13

In recognition of Fire Prevention Week, the Scandia Valley Fire Department (SVFD) will host an open house at the fire hall Thursday, Oct. 13, from 5 - 7 p.m.

The public will have the opportunity to meet the firefighters, door prizes will be

given away and snacks will be served. A number of kids' activities will be offered as well, including a coloring contest.

The SVFD's fire hall is located at 3518 320th St. (Cty Rd. 3) in Cushing.

Faith in Action program awarded \$192,313 grant

Horizon Health's Faith in Action (FIA) program was awarded \$192,313 for the year 2017-2018 from Department of Human Services Live Well at Home grant.

This grant covers Community and Independence planning, Annual Assessment of current clients, Development of Discharge Planning and providing Tele-Homecare to residents of Morrison County.

In 2000, the Long-Term Care Task Force of the Minnesota Legislature was convened to address critical long-term care issues. In 2001, based on the recommendation of the Long-Term Care Task Force, the Minnesota Legislature enacted a number of strategies intended to reshape long-term care. The central theme of the reforms passed by the Minnesota Legislature was to reduce Minnesota's reliance on nursing homes and to increase care for older persons in the community by expanding home and community-based

service options.

Kristine Hoheisel, Horizon Health's Independence Plus and Faith in Action Director, states that in 2016 "we served 603 seniors in Morrison County through our programs at Horizon Health. We are very excited to add Tele-Homecare to our program. By providing this service we will be able to keep seniors living at home through daily remote monitoring. We see a need for this program in rural Morrison County. According to the Morrison County Demographic and Service profile, Morrison County will have a population of 37,440 people by 2020 and 31 percent of our population will be over the age of 65 which is high compared to the state average of 24 percent."

For more information about Horizon Health's Faith in Action program or to sign up for their quarterly newsletter, call Kristine at 320-468-6451.

Child and Teen Checkups available in Cass County

To help children and teens grow into healthy adults, Cass County Public Health recommends regular well-child exams. These checkups are an important tool that health care providers use to screen for medical and developmental issues.

Regular medical, dental and vision checkups are necessary to assure any potential health problems are treated early, before they become more complex. The beginning of the school year is the perfect time to make sure your child is current on their checkups.

In Minnesota, 'Child and Teen Checkups' (C&TC) is the official name for the well-child exam. These specialized health checkups are available at no cost to children, teens and young adults, including young parents up to the age of 21 who are enrolled in Medical Assistance (MA). Parents can also use this health checkup to meet requirements for daycare, Head Start, camp or sports. At these special-

ized checkups, teens and young adults can also get guidance and services for holistic physical and mental health.

During a comprehensive C&TC, the health care provider will: Complete a head to toe physical exam including height, weight, hearing and vision testing; assess development and social emotional health; provide immunizations and lab tests; conduct a blood lead test at 12 and 24 months; and provide health and nutrition education related to the child or teens age. Many providers will offer dental vanishing. Referrals can be made, if needed, to area dentists, specialists and/or service providers. A C&TC visit also offers a great opportunity for parents and children to build an ongoing relationship with their health care provider.

Cass County Public Health provides C&TC outreach services for well child checkups to children and teens ages birth up to age 21 who reside in Cass

County. Child and Teen Checkup clinics are provided by a public health nurse for children birth through age 12 at locations throughout the county including the communities of Pillager, Longville, Remer, Pine River and Walker. Clinic dates and locations are published monthly in area newspapers. The complete C&TC exam is covered by MA; however, if the child is uninsured, there is an affordable sliding fee. For example, a family of five with annual income of \$40,500 would pay only \$5 per child for the complete exam including immunizations.

For more information on how to schedule a child or teen for the Cass County Public Health's C&TC clinics or locating resources of a health care provider or clinics, call Carrie at Cass County Public Health at 218-547-1340 ext. 311. Information can also be found online at www.health.state.mn.us/divs/cfh/program/ etc.

Playing for the crowd

Mardi Opheim passes a ball in front of the Staples-Motley student section. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



Tall tip

Taylor Heldman pushes the ball past the blockers. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Big windup

Mackenzie Zetah rises up for a spike from her middle hitter position. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



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SW 2016 wk #7



Swimmers improve against fast competition

The Staples-Motley swim team took on a variety of competition in three meets, against Fosston-Bagley on Sept. 27, against Park Rapids on Sept. 29 and a four team meet on Oct. 1 against Perham, Fosston-Bagley and Crookston.

“We had some great swims as well as some learning experiences,” Coach Amanda Olson summed up.

Olson said the four team tournament was a good example of the Cardinal’s season. “The teams we swam against provided some great competition that the team needed at this point in the season,” said Olson. “They swam some strong races and had great attitudes throughout the meet, and the girls are starting to get their heads into their races and really doing well.”

An example of a swimmer being pushed by the competition was Lili Schneider’s first place in the 100 breaststroke with a

personal best time of 1:18.

The 200 medley relay team has been dropping their times and it showed in the three meets, as they placed 2nd, 1st and 2nd. The team includes Emily Veronen swimming the backstroke leg, Schneider with breaststroke, Autumn Nelsen doing the butterfly and either Jaden Engebretson or Emma Gerard on the freestyle anchor leg.

Varsity Highlights

Sept. 27, vs. Fosston-Bagley:

- 200 Medley Relay (Emily Veronen, Lili Schneider, Autumn Nelsen, Jaden Engebretson) won by almost 4 seconds.
- Schneider was 2nd in the 200 Freestyle
- Nelsen was 2nd in the 100 Fly
- Engebretson was 2nd in the 100 Free
- Joelle Bounds dropped 3 seconds in her 500 Freestyle to 6:45
- 200 Free Relay team (Brianna Hinman, Adriana Dickey, Aleeah Halverson, and Joelle Bounds) got 3rd place at 2:15
- Schneider won the 100 Breaststroke by 5 seconds!

Sept. 29, vs. Park Rapids:

The 200 Medley Relay started out the meet on a great note by winning with a 2:12 (Veronen, Schneider, Nelsen, Emma Gerard)

Hinman and Nelsen both had personal bests in the 200 IM both at a 2:53

Nelsen (1:07) and Engebretson (1:08) both got personal bests in the 100 Freestyle

Bounds dropped 4 seconds off her 500 Freestyle getting a 6:39 and 3rd place

Veronen and Schneider both won the 100 Backstroke and 100 Breaststroke.

Oct. 1 vs. Perham, Fosston-Bagley and Crookston:

Veronen, Schneider, Nelsen, Gerard took 2nd overall in the 200 Medley Relay with 2:11

Gerard took 4th in the 50 Free with a 29.85

Nelsen took 4th in the 100 Fly with 1:17 and Brianna Hinman took 5th with a 1:20.

The 200 Free Relay (Nelsen, Bounds, Hinman, Gerard) took 4th with a 2:05

Veronen took 3rd in the 100 Backstroke with 1:12

Schneider took 1st in the 100 Breaststroke in 1:18.50

400 Free Relay (Schneider, Dickey, Hinman, Veronen) took 5th with a time of 4:39



Volleyball spike celebration

The Staples-Motley volleyball team celebrates a successful spike in the first set against New York Mills. From left, Mardi Opheim, Mackenzie Zetah, Chel-

sea Nanik, Camryn Banaka, Taylor Heldman and Alex Davis. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Cardinal volleyball playing well in losses

The Staples-Motley volleyball team lost three straight games but are showing a competitive spirit in facing some of the good teams in the area.

The Cardinals lost on Sept. 27 to Menahga 19-25, 19-25, 15-25, on Sept. 29 to Park Rapids 15-25, 13-25, 15-25, and on Oct. 3 to New York Mills 19-25, 13-25, 17-25.

Coach Gretchen Bestland said the last couple of weeks have been challenging with the majority of our schedule against teams ranked high in the state, a number of the games on the road and an injury taking out one of the regular players.

“The team has persevered and held their own to make the games competitive,” said Bestland. “They are working well together and it has been fun to observe their growth over the season.”

A good example was the first set against New York Mills, who came in with a 12-3 record. The Cardinals didn’t back down and tied the score at 10-10 on Taylor Heldman’s third kill of the game. Camryn Banaka tied the game again at 12 with an ace serve. Other players also stepped up to keep the score tight, Mackenzie Zetah scored two kills and Mardi Opheim had one. The team scored on one long rally that included a dig by Ashley Vasquez, another dig by Chelsea Nanik and finally a kill by Vasquez.

But the NYM attack



Passing concentration

Alex Davis stays low to return a serve. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

proved too powerful and the Cardinals fell in the last part of the set.

Team results

vs. Menahga:
Mardi Opheim - 3 Digs, 1 Assist, 3 Kills; Mackenzie Zetah - 1 Ace Serve, 4 Digs, 1 Assist, 2 Kills, 2 Blocks; Ashley Vasquez - 1 Dig, 1 Assist, 2 Kills; Camryn Banaka - 5 Digs, 6 Assists; Chelsea Nanik - 16 Digs, 2 Assists, 1 Kill; Paige Kittleson - 2 Digs, 2 Kills; Taylor Heldman - 2 Digs, 2 Kills; Alex Davis - 1 Ace Serve, 1 Assist; Jenna Trantina - 2 Digs vs. Park Rapids

Opheim - 3 Digs, 1 Assist, 2 Kills; Zetah - 2 Ace Serves, 3 Digs, 2 Kills; Vasquez - 6 Digs, 4 Kills; Banaka - 1 Dig, 6 Assists; Nanik - 14 Digs, 1 Assist; Heldman - 2 Digs, 1 Kill; Davis - 1 Ace Serve, 7 Digs, 2 Assists, 1 Kill; Trantina - 1 Dig vs. New York Mills

Opheim - 10 Digs, 4 Assists, 2 Kills; Zetah - 3 Digs, 6 Kills, 1 Block; Vasquez - 5 Digs, 1 Assist, 3 Kills; Banaka - 1 Ace Serve, 7 Digs, 12 Assists; Nanik - 16 Digs; Heldman - 1 Ace Serve, 6 Digs, 6 Kills; Davis - 1 Ace Serve, 7 Digs; Trantina - 4 Digs; Kiera Dumpprope - 1 Dig, 1 Kill

Anderson, Sweeney win at Deer River

The Staples-Motley cross country teams had two individual winners as both teams won the Deer River meet on Sept. 27.

Emmet Anderson won the boys meet in 17:03 and Hunter Klimek was close behind in third place in 17:27.

Kira Sweeney won the girls meet easily as the Cardinals placed six runners in the top seven positions.

Team results

Girls results
Deer River War Eagle meet: Staples-Motley 17,

Wadena/Deer Creek 54, Northland/Deer River 120, Pillager 120, Pine River/Backus 145

1. Kira Sweeney 19:37, 2. Addison Lorber 21:01, 3. Amara Chenoweth 21:51, 5. Taylor Yungbauer 22:03, 6. Natalie Kleiberova 22:16, 7. Kaitlyn Smith 22:18, 14. Mikayla Sauer 23:22, 15. Abby Brown 23:25, 17. Madyson Hull 23:34, 18. Mackenzie Wilds 23:34, 23. Jorie Ihme 24:38, 31. Julia Trantina 27:04

JV/jr. high: 2. Ashley Robben 10:41

Boys results

Deer River War Eagle meet: Staples-Motley 36, Wadena-Deer Creek 38, Cromwell 89, Northland/Deer River

122, Pine River/Backus 124, Pillager 177

1. Emmet Anderson 17:03, 3. Hunter Klimek 17:27, 9. Ben Bartczak 18:15, 11. Tanner Robben 18:29, 12. Jack Tyrrell 18:33, 16. Coleman Klimek 18:39, 17. Bentley Christensen 18:40, 19. Cael Sams 19:01, 22. Brayden Christensen 19:20, 26. Finn Erholtz 19:44, 27. Nick Tabbatt 20:01, 28. Isaac Christopherson 20:02, 31. Trenton Plopper 20:45

JV/jr. high: 2. Alex Vernon 9:45, 8. Connor Judd 10:31, 11. Austin Johnson 10:42, 22. Alex Brings 12:12, 27. Grant Johnson 12:45, 28. William Thew 12:56

Of mice and more mice

I’m sure it’s no more than rumor that John Steinbeck’s celebrated novel *Of Mice and Men* began as an essay on mouse-proofing the family cabin. You know how it is once rumors get started. Obviously, Steinbeck knew where the money was, and came out way ahead by writing an enduring, if controversial, piece of American literature.

But that’s not to say there isn’t merit in giving some deserved attention to the reliable autumn phenomenon encountered by those who have cabins, or who simply live in rural areas. This is the time of year when deer mice and white-footed mice seem most active in their search for snug winter quarters. At least it seems that way to us, based on the frequency of our removing luckless mice from the traps we set in the family cabin, nestled between Norway pines and birches on the shore of a lake here in North Central Minnesota.

Over the last month, with each of our visits – once or twice weekly – we’ve had to muster a “mouse removal detail.” Trap and mouse are carried out to the de facto cemetery, the cabin’s brush pile where lawn trimmings and fallen branches are deposited. If we’re ambitious, we turn over a spade’s worth of earth with a shovel and cover the furry corpse beneath it; not out of reverence so much as to avoid any chance of our Labrador catching one of the diseases for which mice are carriers. Fortunately Bella seems to have little interest in mice to begin with. They don’t bounce or float, and thus have little usefulness in retrieving.

The most unnerving thing about the removal process is the fact that the little critters have large, glossy eyes out of all proportion to their body, and no eyelids. As a result, no matter how recent or how long since that trap spring pinned them in a death grip, they always seem to be staring you right in the face with those huge but sightless eyes. If rigor mortis has not yet set in, you half expect them to spring to life and make a dash for it when you pull back the spring to release them.

As unnerving as they are to look into, there is evolutionary purpose in those huge mouse eyes. Camera buffs know that there is a direct relationship between the size of glass elements in a camera lens and its ability to gather light. Generally speaking, the larger the lens the more light it gathers, and therefore the greater

its ability to capture images on film or digitally in low-light conditions. Since mice do much of their active living in low light or in darkness, all the more valuable are those eyes that protrude so prominently from their little faces, like a large light-gathering lens mounted on a camera.

Besides having great ability to see things in low light, these two most common of Minnesota mice are experts at crawling through tight spaces. As plump as their fur makes them seem, mice can pretty much get through any space their tiny skull can pass through. They remind me of cave explorers who can contort their bodies, control their breathing, and otherwise “skinny” themselves when confronted with a narrow passage that would stop most of us in our tracks with a case of claustrophobia.

On one level mice are an annoyance. They get into our food supplies, leave untidy little black “calling cards” to let us know they visited, build nests in furniture or other places they’re unwanted, and chew up upholstery or even electrical wiring. Of course, from their perspective it’s a case of our interposing our dwellings and garages and boats and vehicles in places where they happened to be living first.

Unfortunately for them, as top predators we’re in a better position to do something about them than they are to do something about us. Between traps and poisons and our house cats, we definitely have the upper hand. Their defense is not intelligence or power, but in being prolific; strength in numbers, as it were. That’s why when I de-mouse a trap on Thursday there is likely to be another in the same trap on Saturday. Whereas some species seem able to communicate danger to others of their kind, mice – based on the evidence I’ve seen – seem not to. Perhaps the demise of one is not so much as loss as it is a thinning of competition for food and nesting sites.

Though we associate “mouse” with “house,” mice actually serve a much more valuable purpose in the wild, where they are a prolific part of the base of the food chain that feeds predators above them. Predators like hawks, owls, foxes, coyotes, and even an occasional timber wolf; northern pike, bass and trout, too, should a hapless mouse find itself having to make a swim for it. The wooden Creek Chub Mouse in my tackle box, and the deer-hair mouse in my fly box, testify to the fact that this happens to mice more often than one might think.

Humans may not agree, but “more mice” is a good thing for the many creatures who find them a dependable item on their menu.

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Inside the Outdoors



Mike Rahn

- O -

Football team falls short in road game

The Staples-Motley football team battled until the end but ended up one score short, losing to Ottertail Central 33-26 at OTC on Sept. 30.

The Cardinals gave up the first score but responded with a 44 yard pass from Josh Lombard to Matt Miller.

OTC scored twice in the second quarter, but Miller ran the kickoff back 75 yards for a touchdown. Lombard passed to Hunter Berggren for the extra point to make it 14-21

Late in the half, Miller ran in a touchdown for his third score of the game

and the Cardinals went into halftime down 20-21.

OTC increased their lead with a touchdown in the third quarter and another in the fourth. Berggren finished a Cardinal drive with a touchdown in the last three minutes, but that was the end of the scoring.

The loss dropped the team’s record to 3-2 with their Homecoming game coming up Friday, Oct. 7 against Long Prairie-Grey Eagle.

Team results

SM 6 14 0 6 - 26
OTC 7 14 6 6 - 33

Rushing: SM 112, OTC 254
Dalton Holmberg 15-72, Hunter Berggren 7-47, 1 TD
Matt Miller 2-19, 1 TD, Eric Lissom 5-3, Mason Rychner 3(-10), Josh Lombard 2(-19)

Passing: SM 13-26, 147 yards, OTC 3-8, 37 yards, Rychner 7-13, 106; Lombard 6-12, 41, 1 TD

Receiving: Miller 3-72, Berggren 4-64, Rychner 1-2, Holmberg 2-0, Lissom 2-0

Tackles: Alex Erpelding 21, Braden Tyrell 7, Scout Strickland 6, Lissom 6, Kyle Serich 6, Miller 5, Trey Skeesick 3, Lombard 2, Berggren 2, Holmberg 1, Derek Kennedy 1, Mason Nyhus 1, Isaac Swensrud 1, Rychner 1
Interceptions: Kennedy 1, Miller 1

Tennis team prepares for section tournaments

The Staples-Motley tennis team won 6-1 against Perham on Oct. 3, and will have one more match before postseason play begins.

The Cardinal’s Oct. 4 match against Minnewaska was rained out and will be played Oct. 6 instead.

The team will start the Section 8A tournament on

Tuesday, Oct. 11 at Courts Plus in Fargo. The Cardinals are going for a rematch against 10th ranked Roseau, who defeated them 4-3 in a very tight match earlier this season. Team play will be Oct. 11 and 12, with individual brackets being played Oct. 12 and 13.

Team results

Staples Motley 6, Perham 1

Singles: Izabella Edin W 6-0, 6-0; Ashley Smith L 4-6, 2-6; Kelsi Peterson W 6-1, 6-0; Sam Schimpp W 7-6 (7-5), 7-5

Doubles: Lexi Johnson/Claire Wolhowe W 6-4, 6-7 (1-7), 6-0; Katie Benson/Kelsie Weite W 6-1, 6-1; Anna Willgoths/Bryn Williams W 7-6 (7-1), 6-1