

## Lt. Col. Ferdon honored by Minnesota Wild

By Dawn Timbs  
Staples World reporter

Lt. Col. Keith Ferdon of Motley, along with his military team, was honored during a recent Minnesota Wild hockey game at the



Sawyer Ferdon was one of the military kids invited out on the ice as part of the opening lineup at the Minnesota Wild game.

Xcel Center in St. Paul.

As part of the Wild's Military Appreciation Night, one of Ferdon's soldier's, CPT Ryan Derner, was saluted on the ice during the performance of the national anthem. In addition, six military kids, including Ferdon's son, Sawyer, were invited out on the ice as part of the opening lineup.

"The recognition was awesome," Ferdon said, adding that the soldiers received a standing ovation from the entire arena, which was "powerful."

A member of the Army National Guard for the past 17 years, Lt. Col. Ferdon has had four years of active service. He currently serves as commander of the Minnesota Army National Guard's 682nd Engineer Battalion located in the St. Cloud/Willmar areas.

This past August, he and his battalion returned after a nine-month deployment to Kuwait, serving under the title of Task Force Wild in honor of the Minnesota hockey team.

According to a press release, the mission of the

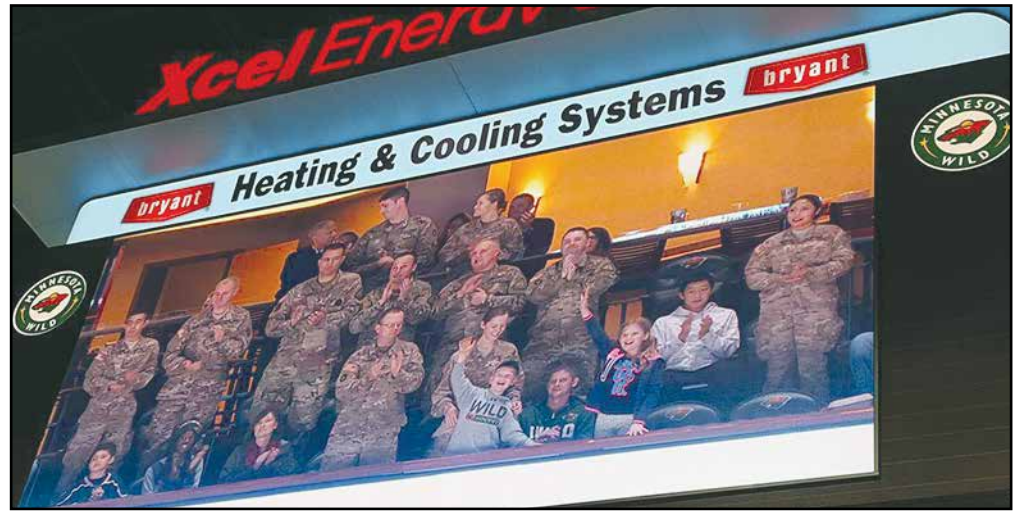
task force was to provide horizontal and vertical engineer construction in support of coalition forces in the region. The soldiers oversaw the planning and execution of 285 construction projects with an approximate total value of \$20.2 million in seven countries: Afghanistan, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon and the United Arab Emirates. The peak strength of Task Force Wild was 1,100 soldiers.

In addition, the unit's forward support company was responsible for distribution support and maintenance of equipment that increased the battalion's operational readiness from 59 percent to 91 percent.

"I am proud of what we did on this last deployment and the ways we helped in the fight against Da'esh (ISIS)," Ferdon said recently.

He's been passionate about the United States of America for as long as he can remember, Ferdon went on; and knew at a very young age that he would like to serve in the military.

Lt. Col. Ferdon grew up in Larson, Wisc., which is



### At Minnesota Wild game

The Minnesota Army National Guard's 682nd Engineer Battalion, of Willmar/St. Cloud, was honored at a recent Minnesota Wild hockey game at Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul. In attendance were Lt. Col Keith Ferdon of Motley, Commander of the battalion; his wife, Debbie and children Brooke and Sawyer; and other members of the battalion. (Submitted photos)

near Oshkosh. After high school he attended the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Pt., where he majored in biology. He was also a part of the ROTC program (Reserved Officers Training Corps), which helped pay for his tuition.

The day after he graduated from college in 1995,

Ferdon reported to active duty. He was initially stationed at Ft. Knox, Ky., followed by continued training at U.S. Army Ranger School in Ft. Benning, Ga. Later, he was stationed at Ft. Irwin, Calif., where Ferdon says, "I was lucky enough to find my

He and Debbie eventually moved to Minnesota, settling in the Motley area. Debbie is a teacher at Motley-Staples Middle School; and Keith works at Camp Ripley as a state employee, in addition to serving as a battalion commander. The  
See **FERDON** on page 12a

### State - District 9

Senate

House 9A

House 9B



**Paul Gazelka**



**John Poston**



**Ron Kresha**

Paul Gazelka (R) incumbent.....	27,738
Jason Weirnerman (D) .....	11,188
John Poston (R) .....	13,293
Meg Litts (D) .....	6,076
Ron Kresha (R) incumbent .....	14,139
Dustin Simmonds (D).....	5,402

All results are unofficial until canvassed.

### Staples-Motley School Board

Four year terms



**Greg Frisk**



**Chad Longbella**



**Bryan Winkels**

Chad Longbella (incumbent) .....	3,025
Bryan Winkels (incumbent) .....	2,769
Greg Frisk .....	2,298
Creig Dobson .....	2,039

All results are unofficial until canvassed.

### City of Staples



**Chris Etzler**  
Mayor-2 yr. term



**Mary Theurer**  
Council-4 yr. term



**Doug Case**  
Council-4 yr. term



**Rachel Johnson**  
Council-4 yr. term



**Brian Fisher**  
Council-2 yr. term

Chris Etzler.....	1,056
Rachel Johnson .....	805
Mary Theurer (incumbent) .....	747
Doug Case (incumbent).....	740
Brian Fisher .....	674
Charles Tester.....	400

All results are unofficial until canvassed.

### City of Motley

Mayor

Council Member



**Al Yoder**  
Mayor-2 yr. term



**Steve Johnson**  
Council-4 yr. term



**Nate Douglas**  
Council-4 yr. term

Al Yoder.....	171
Amy Hutchison .....	86
Steve Johnson .....	155
Nate Douglas.....	115
Bob Follis .....	77

All results are unofficial until canvassed.

### Wadena County Commissioners

District 2

District 4



**Jim Hofer**



**Chuck Horsager**

Jim Hofer (incumbent) .....	655
Ralph Miller .....	597
Brian Hagen (and other write-ins) .....	160
Chuck Horsager .....	694
Murlyn Kreklaun.....	654

All results are unofficial until canvassed.

### Hello, Readers,

At the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, the Great War ends. At 5 a.m. that morning, Germany, bereft of manpower and supplies and faced with imminent invasion, signed an armistice agreement with the Allies in a railroad car outside Compiègne, France. The First World War left nine million soldiers dead and 21 million wounded, with Germany, Russia, Austria-Hungary, France, and Great Britain each losing nearly a million or more lives. In addition, at least five million civilians died from disease, starvation, or exposure.

### Where in the World

Sgt. Joyce Wille:  
**4B**

### Obituaries

Pearl Hoernberg  
Larry Killian

Thank you for subscribing!

## Murder suspect held in Wadena shooting

The Wadena Police Department is investigating a possible homicide in the 300 block of Bryant Ave. SW, Wadena. At approximately 2:30 p.m. on Nov. 7, the Wadena County Sheriff's Dispatch Center received a 911 call of an adult male with a gun.

An officer responded to the location and observed an adult male fleeing the residence, which resulted in pursuit of the suspect

in his vehicle in Wadena, heading west on Hwy. 29. The adult male was pursued west into Otter Tail County, ending just past the intersection of Hwy. 29 and Otter Tail County Rd. 75, when the subject's vehicle crashed into another vehicle.

Officers located an adult female inside a home at the Bryant Ave. SW residence who was identified as Margaret St. Marie, age 27,

Wadena, who was deceased from apparent gun shot wounds.

The adult male, Antonio St. Marie, Wadena, is in custody at this time.

Wadena Police Department is being assisted by Wadena County Sheriff's Office, West Central Task Force, Minnesota BCA and the Otter Tail County Sheriff's Office. This is currently an on-going investigation.

## Guns, depression lead to suicide concerns

By Mark Anderson  
News Editor

Firearms are by far the number one mode of suicide in the United States and Minnesota. Although there is no single cause for suicide, a dangerous time is when a person is coming out of a deep depression, according to Maggie Freiberg, Mental Health Therapist at Lakewood Health System.

Freiberg gave those tips and more at a breakout session during the Community Connect resource fair on Oct. 26 at Staples-Motley High School.

"When they start to come out of a deep depression, they have more energy to engage in suicidal activities," said Freiberg.

But she said mental health problems are treatable and also had suggestions to deal with the firearm problem.

Freiberg said depres-

sion is often undiagnosed or untreated. She said most people who actively manage their mental health conditions lead fulfilling lives.

Besides depression, warning signs for suicide include loss of interest, rage, irritability, humiliation or anxiety, especially if it is out of character for the person.

People contemplating suicide often talk about:

being a burden to others, feeling trapped, experiencing unbearable pain, having no reason to live, or killing themselves.

Behaviors associated with suicide include: giving away prized possessions, increased use of alcohol or drugs, searching for a way to kill themselves, acting recklessly, withdrawing from activities,

See **SUICIDE** on page 11a

## Veterans Day programs Nov. 11

All area veterans are invited to three Veterans Day programs to be held Friday, Nov. 11, in Staples and Motley.

Motley-Staples Middle School will have a program at 9:30 a.m.; Sacred Heart Area School in Staples will have their program at 10 a.m. and Staples-Motley High School's program will begin at 1:30 p.m.

The high school program will feature Charlie Poulton as the main speaker and will include paver dedications for the Staples Veterans Park.

# Business Barn Quilt Trail to be developed



## Finishing touches

Ashley Smith, senior at Staples-Motley High School, adds some final touches to a barn quilt that will be placed near the Northern Pacific Depot in Staples. Smith is a student in art teacher Jill Schneider's class; and Schneider helped with the "Railroad Crossing" pattern of the barn quilt. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Barn Quilts of Central Minnesota now have 19 quilts on display on their trail. More are being added each month.

The organizers are now seeking to develop a Business Barn Quilt Trail. This would feature smaller versions of a barn quilt, 2 ft. by 2 ft. or 4 ft. by 4 ft., mounted on a building owned by a business.

Local businesses have the opportunity to partici-

pate. Art students at Staples-Motley High School are willing to paint the quilts.

The Early Bird Deadline to reserve a spot is Dec. 1. An application form was included in the Staples Motley Area Chamber of Commerce November newsletter. The fee does not include mounting the barn quilt.

For more information contact Lisa Kajer at 218-

894-2906. The website is barnquiltsmn.org

Barn quilts are quilt squares painted on medium density overlay board and then mounted on a barn or other structure. Generally they are 8 ft. by 8 ft., but some are 4 ft. by 4 ft.

The pattern may be chosen to tell a story or simply because the owner/creator likes the colors or image.

Dave Noska at Don and Dave's Store south of Staples chose "Churn Dash" as his theme because of the dairy products his store sells. The design features include an ice cream cone.

"It's been fun having a barn quilt on my business," Noska said.

Participating businesses will be listed on the Barn Quilts of Central Minnesota's website on a downloadable map. Brochures will also be printed and distributed to travel information stops and chamber offices in a 70 mile radius of the Staples and Motley area.

There is a business barn quilt trail between Chisago City, Lindstrom, Shafer, Center City and Taylor's Falls. This "Swedish Barn Quilt Trail" on Hwy. 8 now has over 75 barn quilts. It is bringing more tourists to the area and foot traffic to local businesses.



## Peterson and Klouchar visit Ernie's

U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar, center front, and U.S. Representative Collin Peterson, center left, tour Ernie's Food Market in Staples on Nov. 2, a long with store owners Al and Barb Erbe and USDA Rural Development State Director Colleen Landkamer, left. The visit was to see the results of a \$19,693 Rural Development Rural Energy for America Program grant, which the Erbes used to purchase energy efficient coolers, like the new coolers (above) in the convenience store and produce coolers (below) in the grocery store. Erbe also installed LED lighting throughout the store, also with the grant money. Erbe told his visitors that the new lighting requires half the wattage as the old lights, eliminating the need for a transformer. He said the grant will help him remain competitive with big box stores out of town.

Klobuchar said the visit was part of a rural needs tour which included attending an Alzheimer's conference in Wadena and learning about the market tax credit in Park Rapids.

Below, Staples Mayor Chris Etzler also met with the contingent. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



## Students meet politicians

Staples-Motley High School students Norah Anderson and Taylor Heldman visited with U.S. Representative Collin Peterson and U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar during their tour of Ernie's Food Market. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

## Staples Police report

Recent reports taken by the Staples Police Dept. include the following:

Nov. 2, Staples Police responded to Staples-Motley Elementary School for a student that ran away from the school. The student was returned.

Nov. 2, Staples Police put three abandoned bikes from the community center in the bicycle impound. The bikes are a blue Triathlon Pro Ironman, a black Eagle River Murray and a blue/silver MTN Sport SX Road Master. If these bikes belong to you contact the police 218-894-1841.

Nov. 2, Staples Police responded to the 200 block of Cleveland Ave. SW for a report of suspicious activity, someone attempting to kick a door in of a residence. A party at the residence stated they were aware of who was at the door and stated he was fine and didn't need assistance.

Nov. 3, Staples Police responded to the 400 block of 7th St. SE for a report of a domestic. When police arrived the suspect had left the residence, police spoke to the victim. After an investigation, police determined the suspect would be arrested for domestic assault. The following day Albert Garza turned himself into police and was arrested for domestic assault and interfering with an emergency phone call.

Nov. 4, Staples Police took a report of two juvenile females pouring water from the overpass on to Hwy 10. Police located the juveniles and advised them of the consequences.

Nov. 5, Staples Police took a report via text message stating a subject high on meth wanted to harm a Brainerd Police officer. Police assisted the reporting party with contacting Crow Wing County dispatch.

Nov. 5, Staples Police conducted a welfare check on an individual on the 400 block of 8th St NE. When police contacted the individual he gave police a false name. Upon investigation police found the true identity of the subject, who was arrested for giving a false name to a police officer and for a warrant on a probation violation.

Nov. 6, Staples Police took a report of a possible domestic assault at a residence on Ravilla St. NE. The report will be forwarded to the Wadena County Attorney's Office.

**FREE Fun Activities & Food**

ANNOUNCING THE **GRAND OPENING** OF THE **CBR REC**

**Saturday November 19 10am - 3pm**

**DRAWINGS FOR FREE STUFF & DISCOUNTS ON LAKE WEAR**

CAMPFIRE BAY RESORT

GYM AREA

FITNESS CENTER

SPA & SALON SERVICES

Directions to CBR found on [www.campfirebayresort.com](http://www.campfirebayresort.com) or 218-575-2432

**Holiday Arts & Craft Sale**

**9 am-4 pm, Saturday, Nov. 19**

We fill the building with over 50 vendors from all over the state featuring everything from homemade goodies to hand crafted gifts to personalized ornaments.

Let's not forget Santa! Bring your children for a Christmas photo by a local photographer. Then you can shop while the children enjoy free swimming from 1-3 pm.

**Staples Community Center ~ 425 4th St. NE**

**WE SALUTE OUR VETERANS**

All Veterans are welcome

Friday, November 11 to enjoy...

**FREE Mini Pizza, Salad & Beverage**

Our way of saying "THANKS!"

Open 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

**TOWER PIZZA**

218-894-3299

414 2nd Ave. NE, Staples

**Tri-County Health Care** TCHC.org

**Women's Day Out**

TO EMPOWER FEMALES AGES 8 TO 88!

Available through funding from the Tri-County Health Care Foundation, Tri-County Health Care Auxiliary and Tri-County Health Care.

**Sunday Nov. 20, 2016**

**Wadena-Deer Creek Middle/High School 1-5 p.m. No pre-registration needed!**

Keynote Speaker **REBECCA UNDEM**

National speaker and published author of the book "How Mommy Got Her Groove Back"

She inspires audiences to find the magic in the mundane by embracing both the quaintness and the quirks of living and working in a small town.

Due to low utilization at past events, child care will not be offered this year.

- FREE HEALTH SCREENINGS & EDUCATIONAL BOOTHS**
- PRIZES & REFRESHMENTS**
- PROVIDER PANEL & INTERACTIVE BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

**CARISA RASMUSSEN**  
Cooking Demonstration

**BETH MOTSCHENBACHER**  
STACEY CALLAHAN, PT, DPT  
Resistance Fitness

clean & lean



**Constellation observation . . .**

Staples-Motley High School astronomy students Austyn Ploshnick and Kyle Huepenbecker show their 3D constellation model, part of a class project, to third grader Kaden Speckhard. Instructor Dawn Paurus' high school astronomy class, is made up of students in grades 8-12. Students in Donnalee Butler's third grade elementary class were invited to learn about their constellation unit. Near the end of the unit, high school students will make books to bring to the third grade classroom. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



**Stories in the stars**

Hallie Wood talks to Emmalee Dobson and Makana Juergens about mythological stories behind constellations, how patterns in the night sky were named after Greek gods, heroes, princesses, kings and queens.



**Constellation station**

Edilia Chinbaeva and Kaitlyn Smith quiz Mason Albertson and Gabe Kroll on constellations using marshallow models and paper drawings.



**Eye towards the sky**

Third grader Joe Knosalla learns to use a telescope during a class visit to the astronomy class.

**Todd County Board deals with routine agenda**

The first regular meeting of November on Nov. 1 for the Todd County Board of Commissioners was short. Including the closed session, the meeting was 50 minutes in length. The closed session was for the purpose of 2018 labor negotiation strategy. No report was given.

**Open Forum**

District 9A Democratic House of Representatives candidate Meg Litts addressed the board. Commissioner Randy Neumann asked Litts how she would plan to fund the increasing costs of insurance and child protection in the county.

She replied that they needed to find a way to hold the pharmaceutical companies and insurance companies accountable for the skyrocketing costs and look at how to bring costs down.

**Consent Agenda**

- Established the date of Dec. 8 at 6 p.m. in the county board room for the Truth in Taxation Hearing.
- Rescheduled the Dec. 6 board meeting to Dec. 7 at 9 a.m. due to the commissioners attending the AMC Conference.
- Reappointed Jeff Rinde, representing District 4, to a three year term on the County Extension Committee effective Jan. 1, 2017 to Dec. 31, 2019.

Commissioner David Kircher said that in the past the commissioner for the district that's up for reappointment had been notified. He had received no notification, felt the commissioners were being left out of communication. "I have no problem with Jeff at all," he said.

- Approved the Election Day Registration Capture Agreement.

The Auditor/Treasurer's office has been looking at ways to increase efficiencies of data processing within the office.

SeaChange, their regular election support vendor, has presented a new program called Election Day Registration (EDR) Capture to facilitate in automating the entry of Election Day Voter Registration Applications.

The board action read, "Due to the expected increased volume in Election Day Registrants for the General Election on Nov. 8, 2016, the Auditor/Treasurer's office is eager to set-up this process to ease overtime needs to meet Minnesota Statute time frames for processing EDR Applications. This agreement

has been reviewed by the county attorney."

The EDR Capture Agreement with SeaChange will be effective Aug. 1, 2016 through Dec. 31, 2018.

The cost is approximately \$1 per registration.

The board set a cap at \$2,000 for the use of the program.

- Approved Budget Amendment for Special One-Time Retiree Severance payment to Community Corrections in Fiscal Year 2016, to aid in reducing the levy request for Fiscal Year 2017, per recommendation of the Todd County Finance Committee.

The amount of the request was \$83,273.

Community Corrections Director Kathy Langer (not present at the meeting) had reported at

the finance committee that several retirements would be coming up.

The motion to transfer funds from the General Fund to the Community Corrections Fund was also approved.

**Reports**

Auditor/Treasurer Denise Gaida said that her office has been quite busy with election duties already. They have had 1,003 requests for absentee ballots and 764 of those have been accepted already.

County Coordinator Lisa Herges also gave a brief report. Her last day with the county is Nov. 15.

Neumann also thanked the staff who participated in the Halloween dress up day on Monday. He dressed as a rooster.

**Changes proposed to zoning ordinance**

At the Oct. 18, Todd County Board of Commissioners work session, Planning and Zoning Director Tim Stieber reviewed seven areas of the current zoning ordinance proposed to be revised. The revisions will be presented at the Dec. 1 and Jan. 5 planning commission meetings and be made available online and at the planning office for public review. Comments can be submitted to the office or at the meetings listed above through the end of January, 2017.

Proposed revisions include a number of administrative changes designed to allow smoother and quicker office processing of land use applications and to land use board appointments. None of the proposed changes are more restrictive than current standards and several will provide more opportunity to landowners for use their land.

A new standard is proposed for ag-forestry zones that would allow permits to be issued if "legal access" can be demonstrated. Legal access will be defined to be either a land connection or perpetual access easement recorded at the records office. Many rural parcels in ag-forestry zones do not meet the road frontage requirements and therefore cannot currently be issued building permits.

A new set of standards allowing small numbers of animals to be housed in shoreland zones are proposed based on parcel size and at the discretion of the feedlot officer. This would allow small one to two acre parcels to obtain a permit for a chicken coop and even larger animals if the parcel has more than five acres of fenced pasture that are outside the shoreland setbacks and has no steep slopes.

Look for more as these changes are presented to the public and these proposals are refined.

For more information contact Todd County Planning and Zoning at 320-732-4420.



**Governor's visit**

Al Kolling, left, president of the Staples Rotary Club, welcomed Rotary District 5580 Governor Herbert Schmidt and his wife Bonnie to a recent club meeting. The Schmidts currently live in Fargo, N. Dak., but originally are from Dickinson, N. Dak., same as Kolling. The theme for Rotary International this year is "Rotary Serving Humanity" and Schmidt reminded the club of the many regional, national and international projects and opportunities supported by individual clubs and their members. Schmidt's vision focused on improving educational opportunities for children around the world, but also specifically in this district on improving literacy among the Native Americans. (Staples World photo by Brenda Halvorson)

**Bake Sale**  
**Sat. Nov. 19**  
 9-11:30 a.m.  
**Faith Lutheran Church**  
 430 12th St. NE, Staples  
**Ethnic Goodies...** Lefse, Rosettes, Krumkaka, Rice Pudding, Rommgrot, ect.  
**Other Goodies...** Cookies, Candies, Breads, Pies, Doughnuts, ect. (cookies will be sold by the pound)  
**Come and let us help you with your Holiday Baking!**

**DEER PROCESSING**  
**Pillager**  
**218-851-0327**

**Maasconis Char & Bar**  
 210 W. Service Rd. | Verndale MN | 218.445.2855

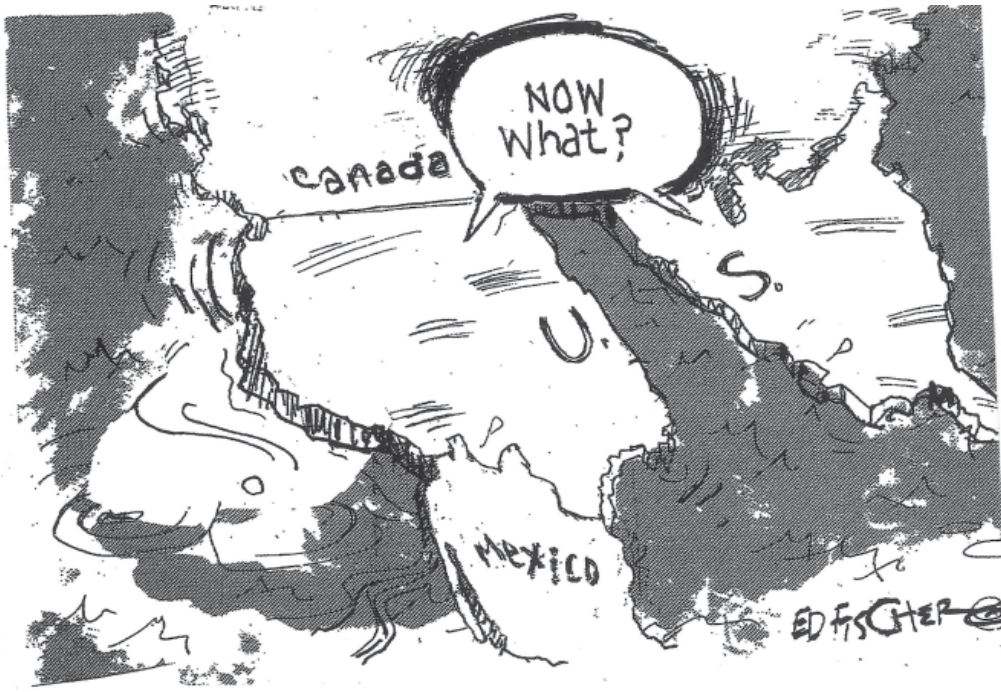
**HAPPY HOUR**  
 Tuesday-Thursday, 4pm-6pm  
 • 1/2 Price Appetizers  
 • \$2 Domestic Taps and Rail Drinks  
 • \$4 Craft Beer Flights (Pick 4)  
 • \$3 Craft Beer Tap

**Friday and Saturday, 9pm-10pm**  
 • 1/2 Price Appetizers  
 • 2 for 1 Cocktails

**EVENING SPECIALS**  
*(Dine in only, cannot use with other coupons or discounts)*  
**TUESDAY**  
 Buy one Burger, Get one Half off (of equal or lesser value)  
 Buy one Flatbread, take one home Free (Baked or unbaked)  
**WEDNESDAY**  
 1/2 Price Wings ALL Night  
 All Pastas ONLY \$12.99  
**THURSDAY**  
 10 oz. Ribeye or 8 oz. Ball Tip Sirloin- \$13.99 each  
 Kids eat Free with each paid adult. (Limit 2 per family/table)  
**FRIDAY AND SATURDAY**  
 Slow Roast Prime Rib 12oz. \$17.99 or 14oz. \$19.99  
 Additional Chef Features (Changes Weekly)  
**SUNDAY BRUNCH**  
 10:30-2PM

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**Holiday Customer Appreciation Event!**  
**40% off frames**  
**TRUNK SHOW featuring DESIGNER LINES**  
 and many more  
**ONE DAY ONLY EVENT!**  
**Mon. Nov. 21 - 9a.m.-5 p.m. in Staples**  
**BAXTER 218.828.9545**  
**877.338.3937 Toll Free**  
**STAPLES**  
**1.866.894.5455 Toll Free**  
**Dr. Jackie McCall - Dr. Evan Kuhn**  
**Midwest Family Eye Center**  
*"our focus is on you"*



# Keeping our promises honors all veterans

By U.S. Senator Al Franken

Each year on Veterans Day, I think about the military men and women I had the honor to meet when I took part in several overseas USO tours before I became a U.S. Senator.

Those tours not only gave me the chance to help entertain our troops stationed in places like Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan, but they also allowed me to sit down with many of them and understand the sacrifices that they make to defend our nation, and more importantly, the toll it can take on them and their families.

As Senator, when I've visited Walter Reed Medical Center near Washington, D.C., I've met brave service men and women who have made unimaginable physical and psychological sacrifices to ensure our freedoms. These are the troops whose battles did not end when they came home.

What's most striking is that when I meet them, they often tell me that despite their own suffering, they think more about their fellow service members, especially those who didn't make it home.

### Keeping promises to veterans

What do our veterans in Minnesota and across the country ask in return for their service? Usually, they want nothing more than the benefits they were told would be there for them when they leave military service.

I recently met with Veterans Secretary Robert McDonald and urged him to continue to make the changes necessary to address the VA's recent benefits backlog that had forced far too many returning veterans to wait far too long to receive the medical care they need to treat both the visible and invisible scars of war.

I told him I'm going to continue my fight to ensure that veterans not only get timely and quality care at our VA medical facilities, but also receive the education, training and housing benefits they were promised to help ease their transition back into civilian life.

When I talk to Minnesota veterans and meet with the leaders of our state's veterans groups, they tell me that ensuring access to these important benefits must continue to be a top priority.

During the current Congress, I, along with Minnesota Congressman Tim Walz, have pushed our "Quicker Veterans Benefits Delivery Act," to get benefits into the hands of veterans with service-related disabilities as quickly as possible. A key feature of the bill is to allow veterans to receive a disability diagnosis from doctors outside the VA system so that they can access their disability benefits more quickly.

This year, I've also pressed to ensure that Minnesota National Guard and Reserve members who were called to active duty can access their hard-earned veterans benefits. Unfortunately, some Minnesota Guard and Reserve members who were deployed to the hostile Sinai Peninsula in Egypt had their GI Bill applications rejected after returning home.

I've worked with Senator Amy Klobuchar to fix this problem by pushing to ensure that Guard and Reserve men and women who were called to active duty - including the Minnesotans deployed to the Sinai - are no longer denied these important benefits.

### Helping atomic veterans

I'm also working to help thousands of service members who in the late 1970s were unwittingly exposed

to high levels of radiation when they helped clean up nuclear testing sites in the Marshall Islands without proper protection. Today these "atomic veterans," suffer from high rates of cancer, heart disease, and respiratory issues and are not being adequately compensated for their medical costs.

To correct this injustice, I, along with Republican Senator Thom Tillis of North Carolina, have pushed a bipartisan bill to extend key medical benefits to these veterans so they can get the care they should have gotten long ago.

### Honoring veterans' sacrifice

I'll continue to listen to Minnesota veterans and fight on their behalf in the U.S. Senate to ensure they have access to the VA benefits they were promised in return for the sacrifice and service. Perhaps President Reagan said it best on Veterans Day in 1985, when he spoke of those who laid down their lives for our country. "Most of them were boys when they died," he said, "and they gave up two lives - the one they were living and the one they would have lived."

Today, for us to honor our veterans' "second life," we must do more than thank them for their service. We must ensure that we keep our promises to get them the medical care they need, and deliver the education, training and housing benefits they've earned in a timely manner. Keeping our promises will not only help ease a veteran's transition back into civilian life, but it will reflect the true meaning of Veterans Day.

Sen. Al Franken can be reached at 309 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510, 202-224-5641, <http://franken.senate.gov>

# Better attendance leads to a better student

As we enter into the winter months of the 2016-17 school year, attendance concerns seem to follow right along with weather.

At ISD 2170, we expect our students to be here. Research shows, time and again, that attendance is the largest factor in a student's success in school. There's a phrase that reads: "The world is run by those who show up." We couldn't agree more. Their grades, activities and athletics all stay the course when attendance isn't a concern.

We owe it to our students and families to maintain our attendance expectations. They're real and very relevant to the workforce awaiting them after they graduate. Here at the high school, "habits" mean as much to us as academics. As a staff, we feel assisting our students in strong habits, both school and life related, is part of our obligation to their education. With all of us working to keep their expectations in good standing, success isn't far behind.

As an effort to better serve our families, we'll be activating our "Attendance Calls" via Skyward Family Access. If your student is marked absent in any of their classes, you'll be getting an email, voice-mail and/or text message based on the

Staples-Motley Schools



By Mike Schmidt  
Staples-Motley and Connections High Schools Principal



information we have in Skyward Family Access. We feel it's important we're all in the loop with your student's attendance.

We have adopted the same attendance policies and expectations at all three building sites. This was developed by our administration and social workers to consistently have the same message and accountabilities for our students and families. Throughout our process in developing our policies, research and input was utilized from many resources to ensure the best practices.

From kindergarten to graduation, we feel consistent attendance matters. As a parent, you can excuse up to five days per semester. After that, professional services documentation is required for any other absences. You can reference our handbooks for more detailed information.

As always, we're here to work with you. By keeping us informed as to situations you've encountered, we can better serve you and your student(s).

Simply put, our classrooms and buildings are better when we're all here. The inconsistencies lend themselves to reaching higher and digging deeper with our teaching and learning.

# Freshwater to celebrate American Education Week

By Jerry Nesland

Hats off to all public educators as everyone recognizes American Education Week, Nov. 14-18. The theme is "Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility."

As director of the 13 member Freshwater Educational District of Central Minnesota, I am daily reminded of the huge impact

quality education has on children. Everyone who works at a school deserves a "thank you" for contributing to the success of public education.

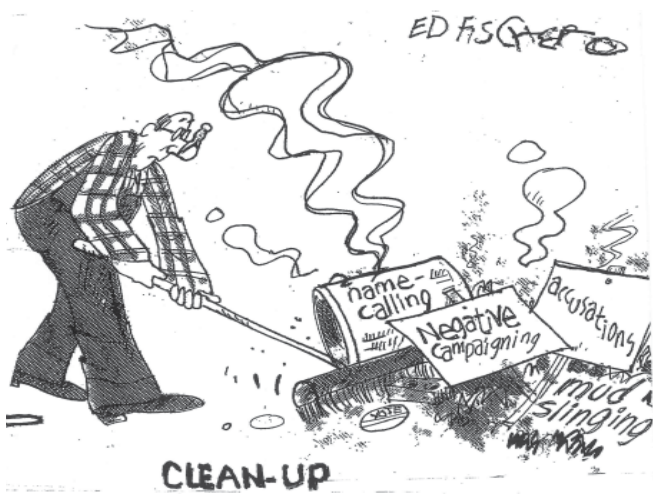
In addition to the successful work provided by our area schools, I also want to thank all of the local business and industries that provide jobs to our graduates. Central Minnesota truly has a skilled

workforce and ample job opportunities. The quality of manufacturing and business productivity is a very strong and successful outcome of good schools, strong family values and excellent business and industry opportunities.

Thanks again to everyone who supports quality public education.

The Staples-Motley, Verndale, Bertha-Hewitt, Browerville, Eagle Valley, Pillager, Long Prairie-Grey Eagle, Wadena-Deer Creek, Sebeka, Menahga, New York Mills, Henning and Perham school districts are local members of the Freshwater Educational District. Freshwater is a multi-school district cooperative that provides specialized staff and services that are more efficient, to jointly sponsor.

Jerry Nesland is the director of the Freshwater Education District based in Staples.



## Letter to the Editor

### Trade deal

Our Minnesota Congressional delegation should vote no on the Trans Pacific Partnership trade deal, which could come up for a vote any time before the end of the year.

The TPP does more to advance the interests of multi-national corporations than it does to improve trade relations or benefit everyday Americans.

In addition to transferring US jobs overseas, increasing extreme energy extraction and raising basic healthcare costs, the deal would give foreign corporations the power to sue governments - at the national, state or local level - for any laws they see as "impeding expected future profits." That means if a foreign corporation thinks one of our township's laws is an obstacle to their "expected profit," they could sue for millions of dollars. The same goes for long-

standing federal laws and basic regulations like food safety protections. In fact, our government was already sued by a Canadian corporation under this provision in NAFTA, when TransCanada sued the U.S. for over \$15 billion for rejecting the KeyStone XL Pipeline.

TPP would expand this power to over 9,000 new foreign corporations in 11 other countries. This provision in the TPP violates our fundamental sovereignty as a country as well as people's right to have a say over what goes on in their communities locally - all to protect and expand corporate profit.

I am disappointed that Senator Klobuchar has yet to take a stance on the TPP. I urge the Senator to stand with the interests of citizens, not corporations, and publicly commit to voting no on TPP.

Don Twaddle  
Staples, Minn.

# Staples World

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**Fairness:** The Staples World strives 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.

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**The deadline is 5 p.m. Monday.** Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily represent the views of this newspaper.



## Traveling exhibit to explore the 1960s

“Coming of Age, The 1968 Generation” is on display through Dec. 30 at the Wadena County Museum. This traveling exhibit from the Minnesota History Center explores the self-expression, upheaval, change and sounds of the 60s and the Vietnam War. Growing up amidst political turmoil and revolutionary social change had a lasting impact on teens in the late 1960s. The exhibit looks at the pivotal events, both far away and close to home, that forever shaped the lives of this generation. In “Coming of Age: The

1968 Generation,” visitors will glimpse into the lives of Minnesotans who grew up in and around 1968. The exhibit features six graphic panels, a computer game show activity about the songs of that era, and a kiosk displaying video clips featuring famous people and events. The Wadena County Museum is located at 603 Jefferson St. N., Wadena and is open Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. For more information or to book group tours call 218 631-9079 or email 603wchs@arvig.net.



## Carr, Birkholtz on public tv

Ray Gildow, right, host of Lakeland Currents, will welcome Melissa Birkholtz, Staples Chief of Police, and Mike Carr, Wadena County Sheriff, to discuss drug enforcement issues in the region. They will examine the current amount of illegal drug use in the area and the cooperation among local law enforcement agencies to combat drug trafficking in the communities. The show will be aired on Lakeland Public Television Friday, Nov. 11, at 8 p.m. (Submitted photo)

## Vietnam-era veterans recognition planned

Recognizing Vietnam-era veterans living in the Brainerd Lakes Area is the first item on the agenda at the Veterans Town Hall meeting Dec. 6 at 5 p.m. at American Legion Post 255, located at 708 Front Street, Brainerd. The St. Cloud VA Health Care System, a Commemorative Partner in the national Vietnam War Commemoration, is committed to publicly thanking and honoring Vietnam veterans and their families. Vietnam veterans and families desiring to participate in the commemoration can simply show up and check in, said Kerri Schwegel, Outreach Coordinator for the St. Cloud VA HCS. The town hall meeting also provides veterans an opportunity to hear from and have concerns addressed by St. Cloud VA officials.

vide information on the full range of Veterans benefit programs.

### About the Vietnam War Commemoration

Authorized by Congress, established under the Secretary of Defense and launched by the President in May 2012, the Vietnam War Commemoration recognizes all men and women who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces from Nov. 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975. Nine million Americans, approximately seven million living today, served during that period, and the commemoration makes no distinction between veterans who served in-county, in-theater or who were stationed elsewhere during those 20 years. All answered the call of duty.

By presidential proclamation issued on May 25, 2012, the commemoration extends from its inaugural event on Memorial Day 2012 through Veterans Day 2025.

To learn more about the Vietnam War Commemoration, go to [www.vietnam-war50th.com](http://www.vietnam-war50th.com).

## ‘Book Ends’ is new event series at An Open Book

“Book Ends,” a new program connecting readers and writers, opens Saturday, November 12, at The Uptown in Wadena. According to An Open Book owner/operator Gillette Kempf, Minnesota authors are invited to talk about the writing process, discuss, read from their current publication and take questions from the audience. Books will also be for sale.

winners, Booker Prize winners, Newberry Award, Edgar Award - every award seems to have been won by a Minnesotan.”

Each monthly event is sponsored by a local business or organization. Faith is sponsored by Jackpine Writers’ Bloc of Park Rapids. Saturday December 10, will feature Betsy Nelson author of “Tasting Minnesota” and is sponsored by Mason Brothers, of Wadena. “Tasting Minnesota” is the December/Christmas event that will also feature local chef Amy Thielen and Prairie Bay Restaurant in Baxter, among others,” said Kempf.



Faith Sullivan, guest author

The events are free and will be held on the second Saturday of each month, beginning November 12, at 11 a.m. Midwest Book Award winner Faith Sullivan will be discussing her novel “Good Night, Mr. Wadehouse”.

“Faith has a large fan club in northern Minnesota,” said Kempf. “She visits often and loves the people and the place”. “We’re blessed to have a large cadre of Minnesota authors to choose from,” said Jerry Mevisen, events coordinator. “We have Pulitzer Prize winners, National Book Award

Other authors who’ve been invited include Mary Casanova (Frozen and Ice-Out), William Kent Kruger (Ordinary Grace), Kate DiCamillo (Raymie Nightengale), Candace Simar (Shelterbelts) and Will Weaver (The Survivors).

For information, contact Gillette Kempf at 218-632-2665.

## Free class offered in online library research

The internet offers a wealth of information. Curious about an event or a person? Just enter it into a search engine and you’ll get pages and pages of websites to visit.

But can you trust what you find on those websites? How can you be sure you are getting the best, most current, most accurate information? The Staples Public Library and Central Minnesota-North Adult Basic Education can help you become confident in your research. They are collaborating to offer a class for the public from 10 a.m. to noon, Wednesday, Dec. 7, at the Staples Library at 122 6th St. NE, Staples.

Space is limited so registration is requested by Dec. 1 by calling Amy at 218-894-5315. Laptops will be provided. Participants of all ages 16 years and older are

welcome to attend. As the volume of information grows in databases, libraries and on the internet, information literacy skills are key to being able to find and manage information effectively in a complex society.

Information literacy is about recognizing when information is needed, and locating, critically evaluating, using and presenting the information to suit a specific purpose.

These skills are increasingly in demand by individuals and employers alike. Technicians from the Great River Regional Library system, of which the Staples Library is a member, will teach this free, two-hour module. You will be introduced to information literacy via the many various resources available to you through navigating the GRRRL online.

## School board special meeting and work session

The Staples-Motley School Board will meet Monday, Nov. 14, at 7:45 a.m. at the district office. Agenda items include:

- canvassing the returns of the Nov. 8 school board elections and authorizing certificates of election.
  - personnel items including permission to post for an accounts receivable position up to half time; approve resignation of Marci Lord with new effective date and approve a contract for Patricia Vacek as the school business manager effective Nov. 21.
- The board has also set a work session for 7 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 15, at the high school media center to review data relevant to a facility study.

## Donations sought for book sale

The Friends of the Staples Public Library is seeking donations for their annual used book sale. Clean, gently used paperback and hardcover books can be brought to the library anytime during regular library hours.

The sale will be Friday, Nov. 18, from 1-5 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 19, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the library building in the city council chambers.

Volunteers are also needed to assist during the sale hours, prior to the sale to help set up and immediately following the sale to box the remaining books. Anyone interested can sign up at the library’s circulation desk.

The Staples Public Library is located at 122 6th St NE Staples and the library 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.

Proceeds from the sale are used to support library activities and reading programs for children, teens and adults. The funds also may be used to purchase furniture and equipment needed by the library staff.

## Mark Your Calendar

### November 16

STAPLES ALL VETERANS AND COMMUNITY PARK ASSOCIATION BOARD Mtg. Wed., Nov. 16, 5:30 p.m., lower level of Twisted Sisters in Staples. Public invited.

**TEN HI**  
MOTLEY • 352-6310  
ON/OFF SALE • OFF-SALE SPECIALS  
**Welcome Deer Hunters!**  
**STOP IN FOR A BLOODY MARY & OFF-SALE SPECIALS**  
Month of November:  
**20% OFF select Off-Sale WINES!**  
FRI., Nov. 11  
FREE JUKE BOX  
SAT., Nov. 12  
FREE JUKE BOX  
NO MINORS AFTER 8:00 P.M.



## Student entrepreneurs

Students in the CEO (Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities) program gathered recently for a breakfast with program investors and business hosts. After viewing a video about the origins of the programs and its growth to date, local students shared their observations about the businesses they had toured so far. Fourteen students from Staples-Motley and Wadena-Deer Creek school districts are enrolled. They meet from 7:30-9 a.m. every school day. This semester they have been meeting at Stern Rubber, Staples. Next semester they will meet at a Wadena business. They tour various businesses to hear about the challenges and the career opportunities. Each student will start their own business before the end of the school year and will showcase them at a business fair. Standing is Rachel Fisher, Staples, sharing her observations. (Staples World photo by Brenda Halvorson)

## HERE'S WHAT'S COOKING AT BRICKS

Best Homemade soup in the area from the best soup guy around!!

## SOUP BUFFET

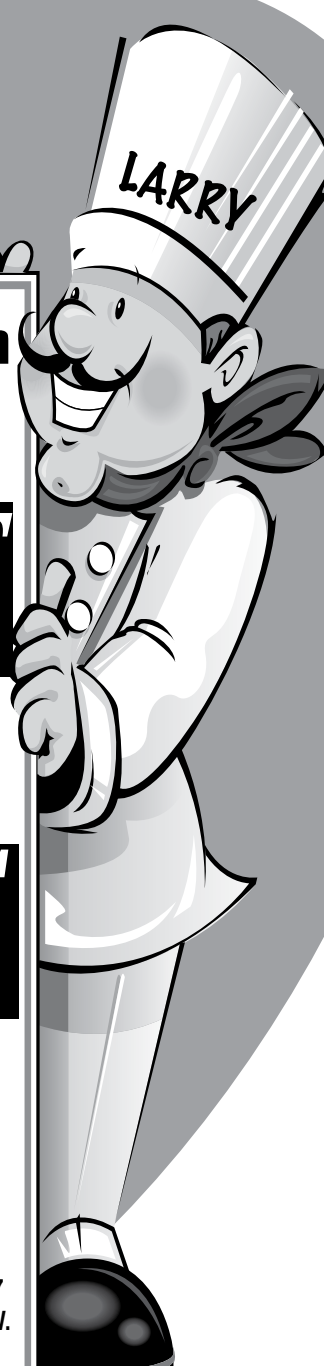
Every Tuesday 11am - 9pm

Soups that may be included: Bricks Cheese, Creamy Wild Rice, Old Fashioned Tomato, Cream of Asparagus, Chili, Broccoli Cheese And Many More!!!

## BUFFETS 40 Plus Items

Fridays 11am - 9pm  
Sunday Brunch 10am - 4pm  
Sunday Buffet 4pm - 9pm  
Hours: Mon-Sat. Open at 5:30am, Sun. 7am  
Convenience Store open 24 hours

**BRICKS**  
TRAVEL CENTER  
218-352-6677  
265 Hwy 10 W.  
Motley



**COZY THEATRE**  
Wadena, MN

Screen 1: Fri. thru Thurs. Nov. 11 - 17, Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:15 & 9:15, Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:15 pm. Matinees Sat. & Sun. Nov. 12 & 13 at 1:15 pm. Held Over 2nd Week!

Screen 2: Fri. thru Thurs. Nov. 11 - 17, Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 6:45 & 9:30, Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:00 pm. Matinees Sat. & Sun. Nov. 12 & 13 at 1:25 pm. Held Over 2nd Week!

Screen 3: Fri. thru Thurs. Nov. 11 - 17, Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:00 & 9:30, Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:00 pm. Matinees Sat. & Sun. Nov. 12 & 13 at 1:30 pm. Held Over 2nd Week!

Screen 4: Fri. thru Thurs. Nov. 11 - 17, Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:00 & 9:30, Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:00 pm. Matinees Sat. & Sun. Nov. 12 & 13 at 1:30 pm. Held Over 2nd Week!

Matinees and Tuesday Bargain Night All Seats \$5.00!  
[www.cozytheatre.com](http://www.cozytheatre.com)

**Maasconi's**  
Char & Bar  
210 W. Service Drive | Verndale, MN | 218.445.2855

**NIGHTLY SPECIALS**  
HAPPY HOUR  
Tuesday-Thursday from 4pm - 6pm  
Friday-Sat 9pm-10pm

**WE ARE HAVING Thanksgiving BRUNCH/BUFFET**  
**SUNDAY BRUNCH**  
10:30AM-2PM

- Featuring a Full Salad Bar
- Breakfast Table that includes: Fresh Fruit, Caramel Rolls, Muffins, Bagels, Scrambled Eggs, Eggs Benedict, Sausages, Hash Browns, French Toast and Biscuits & Gravy
- Dinner Table that Features Three Meats (Changes Weekly), Mashed Potatoes, Two Gravy's, Alternate Potato Dish & Vegetables
- A Dessert Table with assorted Pies, Homemade Carrot and Banana Cake, Cheesecakes and our infamous Chocolate Bread Pudding!

**15 HOT ITEMS**

**ALL FOR ONLY \$12.99- ADULT, \$9.99-SENIORS AND KIDS, \$5.99- LITTLE TYKES (5 & UNDER)**

**Maasconi's**  
Char & Bar  
210 W. Service Drive | Verndale, MN | 218.445.2855

Buy One, Get One **HALF OFF**  
of equal or lesser value, one per family, expires Nov. 27th.

Public Notice  
Advertising Protects  
Your Right To Know



## Hey, DJ! Missing a class ring?

A Staples High School class ring from 1964 has been found and the finder is trying to find the owner. The initials on the ring are "D" and "J."

Robert Somers found this ring, which is in good condition, in the late 1970s or early 1980s while hiking along the Mississippi River between St. Paul and Hastings. He thinks it might have been in the area of Nininger. It was found on the west side of the river.

He also noted that it was not found on a trail. He usually hikes off the trail.

To claim the ring email Somers at rmjsomers@gmail.com.

## Care Center

**NOVEMBER SPECIAL ACTIVITIES AT THE LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM CARE CENTER:**  
Thurs., Nov. 17, 10 a.m. Bible study; 4 p.m. Cheers; 6 p.m. Games

Need Special Treats or Gifts for the Holidays? Come join the fun!

### Bazaar & Bake SALE

Sat., Nov. 12 ~ 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. ~

**Motley United Methodist Church**  
847 3rd Ave. So. Lane, Motley

**SHOP HOMEMADE:** \*Lefse  
\*Pies, cookies, bars, muffins, breads, candy, jam, jelly  
\*Rada knives & peelers  
\*Silent auction items  
\*Local crafters  
Special Handmade Items  
White Elephant Treasures

Sponsored by  
Motley United Methodist Women.

**\*Smile with Savannah\* Benefit for the Savannah Springer Family**  
SATURDAY, NOV. 12, 5 - 9 p.m.  
\*BLUFFTON COMMUNITY CENTER\*

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE AT ANY WADENA STATE BANK LOCATION

FREE WILL DONATION: Savannah was severely injured in a farming accident Aug. 22 and airlifted to Hennepin County Medical Center. She miraculously survived her injuries, spending one month in the hospital. She continues to improve, facing more surgeries and recovery.

Scalloped potatoes, sliced ham, veggies, dinner roll, dessert, punch & coffee.  
Silent Auction until 8:30

LIVE MUSIC BY THE CONFUSED BROTHERS BAND FROM THE TWIN CITIES

# THANK YOU

for supporting the Brainerd Lakes Area Walk to End Alzheimer's to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research. Your participation helped us reach our fundraising goal of \$95,000!

## WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

alzheimer's association

24/7 Helpline 800.272.3900  
alz.org/mnnd

### THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

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**JOGGER**

Aicota Health Center Clow Stamping CTC  
Heritage House of Pequot Lakes Home Instead Senior Care  
Horizon Health/Harmony House  
Immanuel Lutheran Church of Crosby St. Croix Hospice

## Hello World

### BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL INCLUDED:

Born to Mary Monnier and Russell Powell of Cushing, a baby boy, Jake Allen weighing seven pounds, six ounces on October 28, 2016.

Born to Daniel and Staci Stoerzinger of Cushing, a baby boy, Beau Douglas weighing nine pounds, one ounce on October 29, 2016.

Born to Whitney Peterson and Zach Zeise of Wadena, a baby boy, Zayden James weighing nine pounds on November 1, 2016.

Born to Josh and Kelsey Kern of Wadena, a baby girl, Jaidyn Rae weighing seven pounds, four ounces on November 1, 2016.

Born to Kyle and Rishona Ashman of Pequot Lakes, a baby girl, Avery Ruth weighing seven pounds, 11 ounces on November 1, 2016.

Born to Terry and Jessica Senn of Motley, a baby boy, Austin Douglas weighing six pounds, six ounces on November 1, 2016.

Born to Randy and Ashley Mumm of Wadena, a baby boy, Collin Gary weighing seven pounds on November 2, 2016.

Born to Candace Fear and Brenden Foley of Brainerd, a baby girl, Haven Claire Pauline weighing eight pounds, six ounces on November 3, 2016.

Born to Nick and Amanda Lengyel of Brainerd, a baby boy, Wyatt Eugene weighing seven pounds, 15 ounces on November 3, 2016.

Born to Drew and Megan and Drew Benzer of Pine River, a baby girl, Camilla Aurora weighing eight pounds, eight ounces on November 4, 2016.

Born to Brittany Cheney and Tim McKenna of New York Mills, a boy, Maverick James McKenna weighing eight pounds, six ounces on October 29, 2016 at Tri-County Hospital, Wadena.

Siblings are David, Grayson, Austin and Jadalynn. Grandparents are Kari McKenna and Rhonda Karnes.

Born to Michael and Kelly DeGeest, Cushing, a boy, Elias Neil weighing six pounds, 13 ounces on October 10, 2016 at Essentia Health-St. Joseph's Medical Center, Brainerd.

Grandparents are Donald and Joan DeGeest, Motley and Roger and Linda Feist, Browerville.

## Help improve mental health needs for Minnesota veterans

The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs a long with Wilder Research are working to assess the mental health needs of veterans in Minnesota. Feedback will help improve services for veterans throughout the state.

The survey is completely confidential and no responses can in any way be traced back to participants; this is only to help service providers and the state provide better services.

The survey is available online at <https://na2se.voxco.com/se/1145/MDVA-VETS/>

There's also a paper version of the survey. Stop by the Todd County Veterans Office at 347 Central Ave #5, Long Prairie for a copy or

call 651-280-2748, or to complete the survey over the phone, call 651-280-2748.

Complete the survey by Dec. 4. For questions regarding the survey, call 651-280-2748.

As a way to thank survey participants a \$10 gift card to Target, Walmart or Cenex will be given to each one completing the survey.

## Much Appreciated

### Many events

We would like to thank all of our volunteers and families for all of our fabulous PTC events that were held in October. We had a busy month which include Display My Art Night, Supper for the Teachers during conferences, Book Fair and Fall Festival.

It's been amazing to have all the helpers and donations. We could not have had such a successful list of events without you all. Thank you, thank you.

Staples-Motley Elementary Parent Teacher Connection

**Dr. Peter Brenny DENTIST**  
•Staples only resident Dentist  
•Staples most experienced Dentist  
Complete Family Practice  
**218-894-2755**  
212 4th St. NE, Staples

**BOOK ENDS**  
Connecting Writers with Readers  
A monthly Literary Event at The Uptown, 224 Jefferson St. S., Wadena  
Saturday, Nov. 12, 11 a.m.  
featuring author Faith Sullivan  
"Good Night, Mr. Wodehouse"  
Faith Sullivan, sponsored by Jackpine Writers  
Call An Open Book 218-632-2665 or go to [www.anopenbookmn.com](http://www.anopenbookmn.com) for details.

**Retirement Party...**  
Together let us honor and celebrate the retirement of our beloved pastor  
**Steve Sveom**  
Sunday, November 20  
Faith Lutheran Church  
430 12th St. NE, Staples  
\*Worship Service at 10:45 a.m. followed by a program celebrating Pastor Steve and Toni, approx. 11:15 a.m.  
\*Lunch to follow in the Community Room.  
Questions, call 218-894-1546 or email [faithluthernstaples@gmail.com](mailto:faithluthernstaples@gmail.com)



## Soup, sandwich and 'swan' song

Staples Area Women's Chorus under the direction of Rob Freelove at the Soup, Sandwich and Song concert held Oct. 29 at Staples Alliance Church. This was Freelove's last performance with the SAWC, as he will be the director

of the Staples Area Men's Chorus. At the event, chorus members honored Freelove for his dedication to the group and welcomed the SAWC's new director, Joan Batcher Rhymers. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



## Breakout singing stars

Members of the Staples Area Women's Chorus sang breakout songs during their Soup, Sandwich and Song event, including the group of Judy Wolak, Judy

Jenkins, Barb Cline and Anne Freelove performing "I Enjoy Being a Girl" and Macy Judd singing "The Way I Am."



## Bratfest and polka music

The Staples-Motley High School music department hosted their annual Bratfest event Oct. 14 at the school cafeteria. The festive polka band had people up dancing....both experienced and newcomer polka dancers. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

## Student Achievements

**ASHLEY SMITH**, Staples, has been accepted to and has chosen to attend the University of Minnesota, Morris. Smith will graduate from Staples-Motley High School in 2017 and plans to attend Morris beginning Fall 2017. She is the recipient of an Achievement Scholarship.

**LYNNEA IVERSON**, Staples, will perform her senior vocal and instrumental recitals at Bemidji State University on Nov. 12. Iverson is a double major at BSU in K-12 instrumental and vocal music education. Her recital will begin at 7:30 p.m., in the Thompson Recital Hall of BSU's Bangsberg Fine Arts Complex. Lynnea is the daughter of Jeff and Kathy Iverson, Staples.

Obituaries

Larry Killian

Larry Killian, 73, of Staples, passed away peacefully at his home November 2, 2016, after a two week battle with an infection which he had been hospitalized at the St. Cloud Hospital for.



Services were held Nov. 5 at the Church of Christ in Staples, with Pastor Barry Klein officiating.

Interment was at Evergreen Hill Cemetery in Staples.

Arrangements were with the Brenny Funeral Chapel, Staples.

Larry was born September 24, 1943 in St. Paul to Floyd and Martha (Walters) Killian. As a young child, his family moved to Philbrook where his father started Killian Sanitation. He worked with his father in the family business, later taking it over. Larry married Betty Kmetz in 1966. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, being outdoors, cooking, grilling and traveling. Larry spent the past six years wintering in Arizona. He especially enjoyed spending time with his children and grandchildren.

Larry is survived by three daughters, Debbie (Harold Shequen) Killian and Darlene Hoemberg both of Staples and Carrie Killian of Bullhead City, AZ; one brother, Harlan (Myrna) Killian of Staples; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife and one brother, Jerry Killian.

w45c A00006B2016NV10

Pearl Hoemberg

Mass of Christian Burial for Pearl Hoemberg, 95, will be held Saturday, November 12, 2016, at 11 a.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Staples with Father Joe Korf as celebrant. Visitation will be Friday, Nov. 11, at the Johnson-Schuller Chapel in Wadena from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with a Rosary at 6:00 and prayers at 7:00 p.m. Visitation will also be held Saturday, Nov. 12 from 9:30 a.m. until the time of services at the church.

Pearl passed away November 6, 2016, one day after her 95th birthday at the Fair Oaks Lodge, in Wadena. A full obituary will be in next week's issue of the Staples World.

Arrangements are with Schuller Family Funeral Homes, Wadena.

w45c A00006B2016NV10

MMFCU starts mittens drive

Mid-Minnesota Federal Credit Union (MMFCU) is once again leading an effort to warm the hands of those in the Staples community this winter.

MMFCU Staples branch will host a "Mittens and More Drive" throughout the month of November. The goal is to collect as

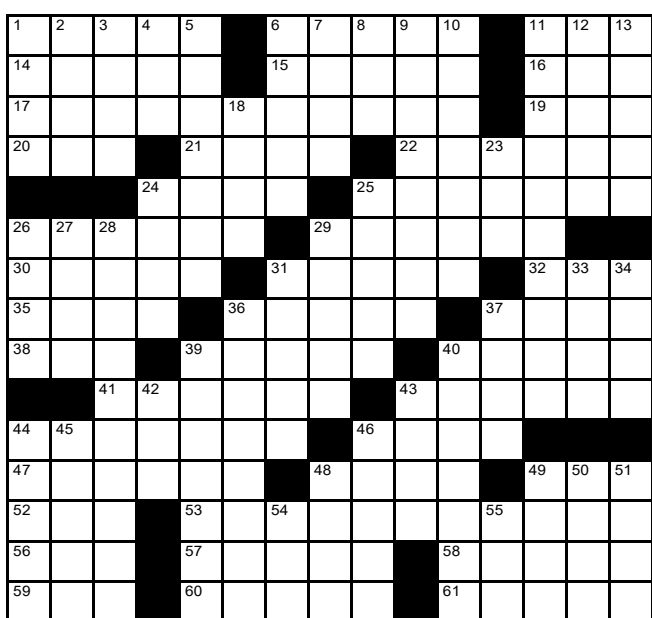
many new mittens, hats and scarves as possible. The items collected are given to Staples '93 Lions for distribution to families in need.

Donations will be accepted through Dec. 2 and hung on a "mitten tree" in the Staples branch location.

Crossword Puzzle

Provided by American Profile

Week 44



- 'Sound Conclusions' 49 Miscue 9 Beat
Across 51 "I see!" 10 Magnificent
1 Knight titles 52 Bartender, often 11 Murmur
5 C minor chord 54 Madcap comedy 12 Words of honor?
note 56 "Gateway" sci-fi 13 Clear
author 21 Choose (to)
10 Representation 61 Editable site 22 Actionable words
14 Pint or quart 64 Element no. 5 25 "\_\_\_ rabbit!"
15 Bum 65 Connive 26 Laid up
16 Math calculation 66 "Sounds good!" 27 Ogle
17 Add cargo 67 Kind of suit 30 Campaign setting
18 Run up 68 Late Tonight host 31 Het up
19 Keats, for one 69 Zingy taste 32 Ratty place
20 Santa's home 70 Blocks 33 Become narrower
23 Man of fable 71 Genesis garden 38 Gorging on
24 Shuttletcock Down 39 Clemson athlete
28 Catch suddenly 1 Islamic chiefs 40 Musician Yoko
29 Mystery feature 2 Piled up 41 Shred
34 Onion roll 3 Passes on the 42 Nuptial agree-
35 CIA agent road 43 Jack Bauer's org.
36 Interior space 4 Note taker 45 Released early
37 American symbol 5 Mideast potentate 46 Sonic boom
38 Nonbinding vote 6 Source speed 47 Country singer
41 Actress Christina 7 \_\_\_ Ness Monster Blake
44 Adolescent 8 "Can I borrow \_\_\_ 50 Bobby, for short
45 Evening hrs. of sugar?" 53 Picture puzzle
48 Spot's jingler 55 iPad maker
57 Stop order?
58 HOMES body
59 Scope
60 Resting places
61 Humor
62 "\_\_\_ little confused"
63 Family folk

Last Week's Answers
"Costume Party"

'Christmas For Kids' still going strong

The Staples '93 Lions are once again preparing for the annual Christmas for Kids program.

Their goal is to assist where there is a need and to provide holiday joy to children in the Staples-Motley School District that otherwise may not have a Christmas.

The Staples '93 Lions ask that, "If

you or someone you know could use a little help with Christmas gifts this year, you may pick up an application at Staples-Motley Elementary or Motley-Staples Middle School." The ages served are birth - age 15.

The application deadline is Nov. 23; and parents or guardians are asked to pick up the gifts on Saturday,

Dec. 10, at the Staples Community Center.

To make a donation to the Christmas for Kids program, mail your check to Dena Iverson, 523 4th St. NE, Staples, MN, 56479. For more information, call Lion Dena Iverson at 218-296-1312 or Lion Janet Opheim at 218-397-2376.



Disney celebrated at FIB on Halloween

The entire "cast" at First International Bank & Trust in Staples enjoyed a day with "Disney" as they dressed up as some of their favorite Disney characters for Halloween Oct. 31. An ice castle was also featured. (Submitted photo)

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples Area Church Directory listing various churches and their services: Staples Alliance, Trinity Lutheran, United Methodist, Church of Christ, Assembly of God, Congregational Church, UCC, Faith Lutheran, Sacred Heart Church, Seventh Day Adventist, Thomastown Covenant, Bethany Lutheran, Cushing Baptist, Leaf River Township, etc.

Praying for the new president

By Pastor Greg Ciesluk, Staples and Motley United Methodist Churches

"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity." -1 Timothy 2:1-2

As you read this, Election Day 2016 will have come and gone, though the outcome is unknown as I write this piece. I can hear many of you saying, "Thank God it's over." It's been a tough campaign, all right. It's been bitter and rancorous with accusations, smear tactics, suspicions and scandal swirling all around. Many of us were not thrilled with our choice of candidates. Polls said that most of our fellow Americans were voting more against instead of voting for their preferred candidate. But now, regardless of who has been elected, we must go on.

Whatever one's politics may be, I think it makes sense that all wise and fair-minded people desire for the next president to succeed. Furthermore, it is most appropriate that all people of faith unite to devote themselves to fervent, faithful prayer on our new president's behalf. To assist you with this task, let me offer the following prayer: O Lord our God, Sovereign of the Universe, we unite our hearts in prayer for our newly elected president. We dare to believe, by the mystery of the working of Your will, You have elevated (our president) to serve our nation for such a time as this by divine appointment and for such a time as this.

Advertisement for Staples area Church Directory sponsored by businesses: Central Building Supply, Longbella Drug Store, Ernie's Food Market, Staples Veterinary Clinic, Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank, Custom sausage making, Staples World, Tower Pizza, Staples True Value.









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 Baxter: 218-828-9545 toll free 877-338-3937



**City thanks CLC Heavy Equipment trail builders**

The Central Lakes College Heavy Equipment program recently finished the groundwork of a 2,600 foot trail connecting the Living Legacy Gardens bicycle trail with the Hwy 10 overpass bike trail. The trails expected to be paved next year, depending on grant money availability.

On Oct. 27, the Staples Parks and Rec Dept. along with city officials thanked the students with a pizza party at CLC campus. Pictured, front; left, Mitchell Kopp, Spencer Tiboni, Bryce Urbaniak, Andrew Ives, Cody Learman, Justin Getschel, Sam Erickson; back row, Mike Sams, Anthony Koll, Damian Jensen, Alex Sorenson, Roy Wigton, Thomas Loewen, Evan Doty, Kolton Opelt, Trisha Jasmer, Eric Cambronne, Kevin

Grondahl and Mary Theurer.

Students were in charge of the entire project, including the Gopher State One calls, making sure they knew where the buried utilities were. The students back-scheduled the build from their completion date and hit every time target. During the project, students were able to practice using a variety of equipment, with approximately 30 different machines being used.

Instructor Mike Sams said the project, which included 1,632 man hours and 1,351 machine hours, if priced at traditional costs, saved the city \$84,794, including a reduction in man-hour costs because this was the first live project for the students. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

**Todd County TAX REMINDER**

The **Second Half** of the **AGRICULTURAL REAL ESTATE TAXES** and **MOBILE HOME TAXES** are due on or before **November 15, 2016**. State law requires that the penalty be applied to the unpaid balance on November 16, 2016. These taxes are payable at the **Todd County Auditor-Treasurer's Office**, or by mailing to: **215 1st Ave. S., Suite 201, Long Prairie, MN 56347** with the envelope being postmarked **November 15, 2016**. Call our office at 320-732-4469 for details on internet payment or paying by credit card through Official Payment Service at 1-800-272-9829.

**PLEASE BRING YOUR STATEMENTS OR STUBS WHEN PAYING YOUR TAXES.**

Just a reminder - the drop off box is still located in the tunnel of the Historic Courthouse, just inside the street level doors across from the bank. This box is only accessible during business hours 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and is checked daily.

*Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer*

**STUDENT RECOGNITION**



**Motley-Staples Middle School**

Students receiving the student recognition award at Motley-Staples Middle School for September were:

- Corinne Olson, Hayden Rutherford, Jessica Lundquist, Andrea DiGiovanni, Logan Zimmerman, Caroline Perez, Brian Vorbeck, Adam Nienow, Amy Rollins, Brooklyn Huwe, Ellie DiGiovanni, Amanda Carter, Topanga Braith, Nevaeh Fratzke, Grace Jennissen, Malaya Reem, Brookelyn Huisenga, Corey Hansen, Evelyn Gonzalez, Drew Berg



**Sacred Heart Area School**

Students receiving Student of the Month awards for September were:  
 Front: Isaac Cole, Kana Reese.  
 Back: Riley Reese, Ronnie Noska, Gabe Koval, Axel Mertens.



**Staples-Motley Elementary School**

Students receiving the Bucket List award included:  
 Left to right: Delilah Hart, Connor Cusey, Logan Serich, Zachory Harvey, Kalee Winter, Bryson Dumpprope, Collin Hall, Scarlett Stracek.

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

- Mid Central Federal Savings Bank
- Precision Polishing and Plating, Inc.
- Arvig
- Adam's Electric
- Mid-Minnesota Federal Credit Union
- Jon's Family Foods
- Sylvan Shores
- Homestead Veterinary Clinic
- Trident Seafoods Corp.
- 3M
- Busker Concrete
- Tower Pizza
- Harmony House
- Northwind Grocery
- James Soule Auto Sales
- Japke Decorating, Carpet & Gifts
- The Spot Café

- Staples Ace Hardware
- PHB Excavating & Septic Pumping
- First International Bank & Trust
- Central Building Supply
- Staples Dairy Queen
- Motley Auto Repair & Towing
- Brenny Funeral Home
- Stern Rubber Company
- Burrows Auto Body
- Staples True Value / Just Ask Rental
- Unity Bank
- Giza Plumbing & Heating
- BRICKS Travel Center
- Dan Orth, dba Kuhn Insurance Agency
- Wayne's Electric of Staples, Inc.
- SuperAmerica

- Shear Contact
- Staples Eye Clinic
- Staples Precision Metalcraft
- Ron's Auto Repair
- Orton's Staples Food Mart
- Nyhus Chev./Buick, Inc.
- Nelson Insurance Agency of Staples, Inc.
- Midwest Family Eye Center
- Long Prairie Sanitation, Inc.
- Mayer, Porter & Nelson, Ltd., CPA's
- Longbella Drug
- Ernie's Food Market
- Countryside Restaurant
- LMH Embroidery
- Auto Value Parts Store
- Motley Dairy Queen
- Staples World



**Students connect at Community Connect**

The Staples Motley Community Connect held Oct. 26 invited high school seniors to check out the stations before the event was open to the public. Above, Alex Miller has blood drawn so she can measure her blood sugar levels. The SM Community Connect was sponsored by Staples Motley Beyond Poverty. At the public portion of Community Connect, more than 75 people met with 32 agencies and vendors, shared a meal and received services. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



**Road test**

Part of the Community Connect event for Staples-Motley seniors included a presentation on underage drinking. Above, Staples Police officer Jake Maros demonstrates the procedures when a driver is suspected of drinking. The alcohol seminar was sponsored by Staples Citizens Against Drugs.

**SUICIDE** continued from page 1a

**Reach out to friends and family, for help with depression and mental health issues**

isolating from family and friends, sleeping too much or too little, visiting and calling people to say goodbye, or aggression.

Freiberg said there is always hope to actively manage mental health. Some ways to avoid mental health problems include having healthy social support, engage in activities that give your life meaning, be physically active, eat healthy foods, avoid alcohol and drugs, get regular sleep, and take medications as prescribed.

She said the best way to get help for mental health problems is to reach out to family, friends and mental health professionals.

"You have to accept help when you need it," she said.

Freiberg gave some resources for people considering suicide or dealing with mental health issues: Crisis Line & Referral Service - call 218-828-4357



**Health speaker**

Maggie Freiberg talks about suicide from a mental health perspective at the Oct. 26 Community Connect.

(HELP) or 1-800-262-5525. Other options are to call 911 or go to the nearest emergency department.

**Firearms**

Guns play a big role in suicides. Nationally, they were involved in 21,334 suicides, compared to 10,945 used for homicides, said Freiberg. The other top two methods of suicide, suffocation and poisoning, don't even reach that level combined.

For that reason, Freiberg recommended that anyone who owns a firearm keep their ammunition and weapon in separate areas, as that gives a person considering suicide more time to think about what they are doing, between the time they get the gun, get the ammunition and start to load it.

Other firearm safety recommendations include trigger locks and a locked gun safe. Freiberg said it is a good idea to remove all firearms from the home of someone who is showing signs of being suicidal.

**Seventh Judicial District candidates announced**

The Commission on Judicial Selection is recommending three candidates to Governor Mark Dayton for consideration to fill the current vacancy in Minnesota's Seventh Judicial District. This vacancy was created by the retirement of the Honorable David R. Battey and will be chambered at Alexandria in Douglas County.

Minnesota's Seventh Judicial District consists of; Becker, Benton, Clay, Douglas, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Otter Tail, Stearns, Todd, and Wadena counties.

An announcement of the appointment will be made following the interview process over the next few weeks.

**Nominees**

• Judge Amy Chantry: The Honorable Amy Chantry is a contract Administrative Law Judge in the Minnesota Office of Administrative Hear-

ings, a solo practitioner at the Law Office of Amy Jo Chantry, and an attorney at St. Cloud State University Student Legal Services.

Previously, she was an associate at Eller Law Office, an Assistant Public Defender in Benton and Stearns counties and a judicial law clerk to the Honorable David R. Battey. Judge Chantry volunteers at high school mock trial tournaments and for various student activities at Sauk Rapids Rice Middle School and High School.

• Timothy Churchwell is a shareholder at Peters & Churchwell, P.A. and is also an Assistant Seventh District Judicial District Public Defender. Previously, Churchwell was an attorney at the law firms Brown & Sellnow and Currott & Jesse and a judicial law clerk to the Honorable Lawrence T. Collins.

Churchwell serves on the Minnesota Lawyers

Professional Responsibility Board. He is also a member of the Todd-Wadena Community Corrections Board, Swanville Lion's Club and past chair of the Todd County Law Library Board of Trustees.

• Michelle Clark is an Assistant Douglas County Attorney, where she handles misdemeanors, gross misdemeanors and felony cases. Previously, she was an attorney at Tillitt McCarten Johnson & Hasegan Ltd., and a judicial law clerk to the Honorable Thomas M. Stringer.

Clark serves on the Domestic Abuse Taskforce, the Douglas County Coalition on Mental Health and the Legal Office Advisory Committee at Alexandria Technical and Community College. She is also a member of the St. John Lutheran Church Pastoral Call Committee and President of the Douglas County Law Library Board.



**The CARE coats of many colors**

Volunteers at the Great Coat Giveaway held Oct. 26 included, from left, Carolyn Lohman, Sue Flaten, Valerie Nanik and Dottie Call. The event was sponsored by Care Ministries at the Staples Community Center and provided hundreds of coats for area children as well as some adult coats. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

**Philanthropy award given to Initiative Foundation**

The Minnesota Council of Nonprofits presented its Responsive Philanthropy Award to the Initiative Foundation and its five Minnesota Initiative Foundation's sister organizations during its Oct. 7 annual conference. A video also was produced to highlight the collective responsive philanthropy work of the six foundations.

The Minnesota Council of Nonprofits is an association with more than 2,000 nonprofits whose members vote to determine which foundations and corporate giving programs in Minnesota should receive special annual conference recognition. Award criteria includes:

- Being responsive to citizen initiatives.
- Recognizing public policy issues and long-term strategies to fight problems.
- Committing substantial resources to disadvantaged people and Minnesota communities through a process of dialogue and partnership.

The Minnesota Initiative Foundations have demonstrated responsive philanthropy since

their inception, said Neal Cuthbert, vice president of program for The McKnight Foundation. "After 30 years, the Minnesota Initiative Foundations are more than a grantor, lender or partner. They are a voice for rural communities and a champion for all those who make Minnesota a great place, including our future generations of leaders, entrepreneurs, volunteers, employees, donors and families."

Designed to empower and organize local people to address local issues, each Minnesota Initiative Foundation has developed uniquely over the years in response to key issues in their respective regions. Their determination and prudent use of assets helps to ensure that the people in their regions have more opportunity and the best possible start in life.

Individually and collectively, they share a culture of collaboration with the citizens of their regions, with nonprofit and business partners and with each other. An example of this includes the recent award from the State of Minnesota to support

joint work around Pre-K to Grade 3 alignment, recognizing their key role in improving early learning outcomes in rural Minnesota.

Another example; small business and nonprofit emergency grant programs that were set up to quickly provide financial support to stabilize organizations dealing with extreme weather events that devastate small towns.

"It's an honor to be recognized for the work we have accomplished together," said Kathy Gaalswyk, president of the Initiative Foundation. "With the investment and support of The McKnight Foundation, the Minnesota Initiative Foundations have strengthened the economies and communities of Greater Minnesota through grants, business loans, programs, donor services and collaborative statewide initiatives."

Together, the Minnesota Initiative Foundations have awarded more than 34,000 grants totaling \$203 million, \$68.5 million in business loans and have combined assets totaling \$270 million.

**CLC budget cuts in line with statewide student shortage**

Central Lakes College, along with many colleges throughout the state and nation, is facing a budget shortfall.

Rather than simply dealing with the current year, college leaders have committed to taking a long-term approach to position CLC for the future. Considering tuition revenue, state allocation changes and estimated inflationary costs, CLC is facing a two-year budget shortfall of about \$2.2 million.

The shortfall is largely caused by declining enrollment in recent years, a trend shared across the state and the nation. According to the 30-day Fall 2016 enrollment report, CLC enrollment has declined by 3.7 percent compared to last year, which is consistent with the Minnesota State system average decline of 3.5 percent.

To address these challenges, college leaders approached this repositioning by focusing on serving students and preserving faculty and staff positions. To this end, the college offered an optional retirement incentive program resulting in 15 volun-

tary full and partial retirements and three full-time employee reductions including faculty, staff, and administration.

Other cost savings implemented include

- Elimination of vacant positions in nine academic and non-academic departments,
- Reduction of operational budgets by five percent in the 2017-2018 year, and
- Evaluation of academic programs resulting in efficiencies in course offerings and strategies to enhance enrollment.

Although the changes will impact the entire college, core services and academic programs will not be adversely affected.

"CLC's commitment to students and our community has not been compromised in any way. These efforts will allow us to focus on the important work of serving students and investing in strategies for future growth through program enhancement, marketing, recruitment, retention and innovation," said CLC President Dr. Hara Charlier.

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Other event photos available.

Staples World

# Staples Motley FFA receives national honors

Six members of the Staples Motley FFA Chapter had the opportunity to attend and compete at the 89th National FFA Convention held in Indianapolis Oct. 19-22.

The chapter earned the National Chapter Award and the Communications Career Development team earned a gold ranking. Brian Sterriker earned the opportunity to play with the National FFA band.

In addition, Mary Sarah Sauber, a graduate of Staples-Motley High School, earned the American FFA Degree.

Rebekka Paskewitz, Molly Lindgren and Katie Benson competed against 33 other states nationally in the National FFA Agricultural Communications Career Development Event (CDE). The top ten individuals and the national winning team members received cash awards recognizing their success in the event.

Benson earned second place individual, Lindgren earned a silver ranking and Paskewitz earned a bronze ranking with the team ranking gold overall.

The National FFA Agricultural Communications CDE is a competitive event that tests students' skills in all areas of the agricul-

tural communications field and evaluates how well they can apply classroom knowledge to real-life situations. Participants attend a simulated news conference and use the information gathered to complete individual practicums in writing, electronic media and design.

Prior to the event, students compile media plans related to innovative agricultural practices, management techniques and marketing tools. Each team then creates a 15-minute presentation based on their proposal. Members also compete in an editing exercise and a general communications quiz.

"Although it was a very long and intense contest, competing and representing your state at the national level is an honor that not many FFA members get to achieve, so that makes you appreciate this special opportunity even more," said Lindgren.

Brian Sterriker also had a once in a lifetime opportunity to play with the National FFA Band. Sterriker submitted an audition tape and was one of the FFA members selected to help bring full instrumental balance to the band. The band performed several times adding excitement and motivation to the sessions through their music. The 83 National FFA Band members are chosen from a pool of more than 225 applications.



## FFA'ers earn awards

Members of Staples Motley FFA attended their national convention in Indianapolis, IN on Oct. 19-22, earning awards for their participation. From left; advisor Kerry Lindgren, members, Brian Sterriker, Katie Benson, Rebekka Paskewitz, Molly Lindgren and Zachary Strickland. At right, Mary Sarah Sauber, a Staples-Motley High School graduate, also attended the convention to receive the American FFA Degree. (Submitted photos)



ment and motivation to the sessions through their music. The 83 National FFA Band members are chosen from a pool of more than 225 applications.

Although Mary Sarah Sauber is now graduated

from Staples-Motley High School and is attending South Dakota State University, she had the opportunity to end her FFA career by earning the highest degree that you can receive within the National FFA

Organization, the American FFA Degree.

The American FFA Degree is awarded to FFA members who have demonstrated the highest level of commitment to FFA which is earned by less than one

percent of FFA members. The National Chapter Award program recognizes FFA chapters that successfully completed an annual Program of Activities (POA), which includes a series of activities designed to encourage its members to grow as individuals, to work as part of a team and to serve others.

Zachary Strickland won the State Farm Bureau Discussion CDE, but there is no national competition yet. He attended the convention to represent the chapter and receive the National Chapter Award on behalf of the Staples Motley FFA Chapter. The chapter received a two-star ranking.

Besides competing, members were able to attend different sessions and hear motivational speakers like Diana Nyad and Collin Ryan. There was also a large career fair with hundreds of agricultural businesses and careers represented, along with many college booths.

"Overall, national convention is one of the best experiences that I've had in FFA. We met so many incredible people on our journey and had the chance to represent Minnesota and Staples Motley well," said Benson.

# Wadena County Public Health remodeling project let out for bids

By Rin Porter, Wadena County reporter

At the Nov. 1 Wadena County Board meeting, commissioners voted to proceed with the bidding letting process for the remodeling part of the Public Health Building. Vercon, the county's construction manager, is supervising the project.

The remodel is to improve building security, enclose work areas for needed privacy and to reduce foot traffic through the building. The lobby will get new doors in the vestibule area, new windows and new insulation throughout the building as well.

Public Health Director Cindy Pederson told commissioners she hoped the project would be completed yet this year. The estimated cost of the project is \$175,000. Approximately one half of the cost will be paid through grants and the rest from the public health department's reserve funds.

Bids are due Nov. 15 and will be reviewed at the Nov. 16 county board meeting.

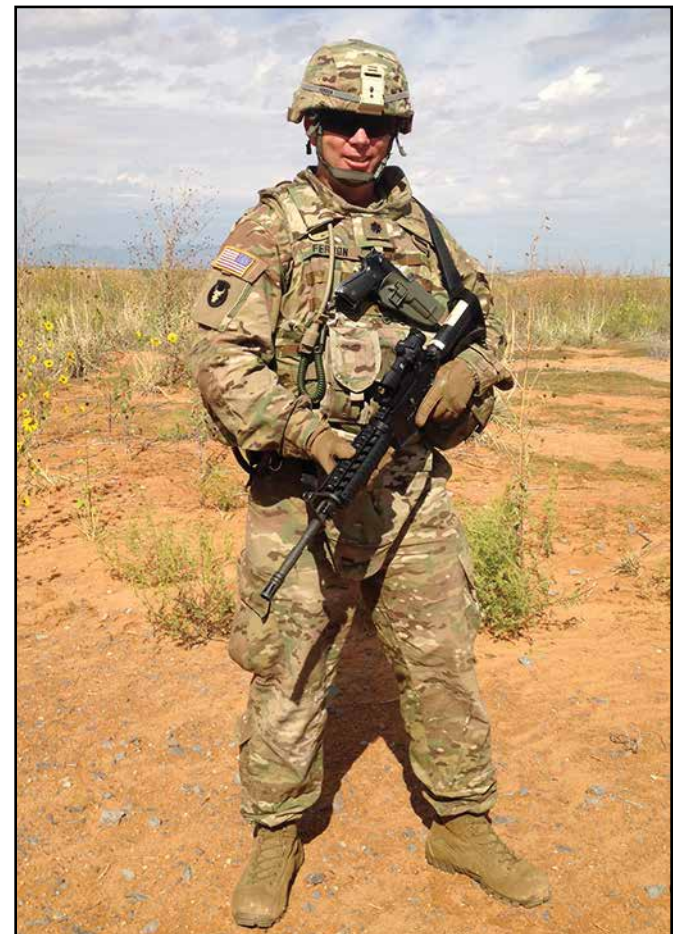
**In other business, the board**  
 • Discussed the proposed Solid Waste Management Plan with Solid Waste Director Mike Hanan and Transfer Station Supervisor Tammy

Ehrmantraut. A public hearing on increased tipping fees will be held later this month.

- Approved a low income septic system replacement grant for a county resident.

- Approved the ordering of two new squad cars for the sheriff's department from budgeted funds.

- Approved the participation of County Engineer Ryan Odden in a planned railroad crossing improvement by BNSF on CR 115 to be done during the summer of 2017. The county will pay half the cost, \$51,016, from local option sales tax funds, with BNSF paying the rest of the cost.



## During training

Lt. Col. Keith Ferdon is pictured during training at Ft. Bliss, Texas, prior to being deployed to Kuwait. Ferdon, who lives in the Motley area, is Commander of the Minnesota Army National Guard's 682nd Engineer Battalion in the St. Cloud/Willmar areas. (Submitted photo)

FERDON continued from page 1a

## Ferdon's battalion named Hero of the Game

couple has two children: Brooke and Sawyer. Lt. Col. Ferdon says that being in the military has allowed him to travel quite a bit and has broadened his view of the world. He has appreciated the opportunity to serve his country, but is hoping he won't be deployed again any time soon. "I want to be home with my family...I missed a lot while I was stationed overseas."

He's glad that the entire family was able to attend the recent Minnesota Wild hockey game with him and to be there when his battalion, Task Force Wild, was proclaimed Hero of the Game.

It's a shared memory that will stay with each of them for a long time.

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**Sat., November 12, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.**  
**Hewitt Community Center**

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## And they're off.....

Kira Sweeney, center, with lane 3 sticker and ID number 451, takes off with the mass of 176 runners at the state cross country meet held Nov. 5. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

# Sweeney seventh at state

## Anderson finishes in top third

At the state cross country meet, held Nov. 5 at St Olaf College in Northfield, Kira Sweeney ran with top runners in the state, finishing seventh in the girls race with her 5k time of 19:24.

In the boys race, Emmet Anderson ran well, finishing 52nd out of 176 runners, crossing the finish line in 17:09.

Sweeney started out in the front of the pack and was in fourth place at the mile mark, with a 5:54 mile split. She fell back to seventh by the mile two mark, with a 12:18 split. The final mile was crazy with runners falling back and moving up, but Sweeney stayed steady and finished in seventh place.

Anderson's first mile of 5:13 had him in 59th place, he moved into the top 40 by the two mile mark, with a 10:46 split. His final mile was slightly slower and he settled in 52nd place, outsprinting four runners chasing within a second of him.



## Eyeing the finish

Kira Sweeney rounds the final corner looking straight ahead to the finishing hill at the state cross country meet. After the hill, the runners have a 100 meter sprint to the finish line.



## Setting the pace

Emmet Anderson emerges from the woods with about a half mile to go in the race.

# Tennis team earns all-state academic award

The Staples-Motley/Verndale tennis team held their end of season awards banquet. Izabella Edin, Lexi Johnson and Claire Wolhowe were named to the All-Conference team and Katie Benson, Kelsie Weite and Kelsi Peterson were named All Conference Honorable Mention. Awards given were: Most improved, Sam Schimpp; Hardest Worker, Lexi Johnson; MVP, Izabella Edin.

The team received the Gold Academic Award from the Minnesota State High School League for their 3.75 grade point average as a team. Academic All State awards went to Izabella Edin and Katie Benson.

Pictured, varsity team members include, front; from left, Bryn Williams, Lexi Johnson, Ashley Smith, Kelsi Peterson; back, Izabella Edin, Kelsie Weite, Claire Wolhowe, Anna Wilgohs, Sam Schimpp and Katie Benson.

# Disappearing wilderness

By Ray Gildow

Two recent studies were published that caught my eye and really saddened me.

One, authored by Oscar Venter, a professor at the University of Northern British Columbia, has noted that the earth has now lost all but about 23 percent of its wilderness. According to his research, we have lost about 1.2 million square miles of wilderness over the past 20 years.

While we have made some strides to protect about 850,000 square miles of it—about the size of Alaska plus California, we are losing ground. The researchers used satellite and surveys over two decades to map where people paved roads, installed railroad tracks, power lines, built cities and converted land into crops and pastures. The areas without these activities are called wilderness. This study has shocked conservationist who didn't realize how fast we have been developing pristine parts of North America, North Asia, North Africa and Australia.

Another recent, and somewhat controversial study, by the World Wildlife Fund, suggests that humans have caused the wild animal populations of the world to drop by 60 percent since 1970. The data provided by the Zoological Society of London and the World Wildlife Fund, suggests that if man doesn't do something to change this trend we will have wiped out two-thirds of all wildlife by 2020. Conservation experts now agree that the earth has entered the sixth "mass extinction event" in the last half-billion years. The last being the elimination of dinosaurs. These events are marked by species disappearing at least 1,000 times faster than the usual rate.

However, there is still an opportunity to reverse

the trend, the report said. One of the positive signs is the Paris Climate Accord recently launched, that establishes United Nation's measures for sustainable development by 2030.

One of the controversies of this study is that it assumes we know all the species that exist in the world and how many there are of each. Another controversy is the timeframes outlined in the report. Many scientist question the accuracy of such predictions, but there is little disagreement in the fact that we are losing wildlife at an alarming rate.

Factory fishing, for example, has eliminated 40 percent of sea life, and nine out of ten fisheries are either over fished or full fished globally. There has been a thirty eight percent drop in elephant populations and eighty one percent drop in freshwater species worldwide. People eating animals is one of the driving forces behind much of the decrease in populations.

Wetlands, lakes and rivers have been the hardest hit since 1970, also causing some of the biggest losses of wildlife.

Recommendations to reverse these trends include; moving from petroleum and coal based economies to cleaner fuels, preserving wetlands, protecting rivers and waterways, setting aside more areas of natural wilderness, limiting invasive species and limiting pollution.

I think we all feel a sense of helplessness when we read studies like these, but I find hope for initiatives we are undertaking in Minnesota. We are developing more parks, working on protecting our rivers and lakes, moving toward new energy sources and making real efforts to control invasive species. These are all important steps in the right direction.



# Deer camps may differ, and yet they're the same

"Deer camp" is both a concept and a place. In concept, it's leaving behind day-to-day cares and surroundings for simplicity and singleness of purpose, typically in the company of friends or family. More than most other kinds of hunting, the deer camp experience is likely to build life-long traditions and inter-generational bonds, owing perhaps to the teamwork that often leads to deer hunting success.

As a place, deer camp is a destination tangibly different from the familiar. In a pinch, it can be any headquarters where we stow our gear and return after a hard day's hunt to celebrate success, or to strategize for tomorrow's campaign. For some, this could be a motel room in a rural community, perhaps miles from where the hunt actually takes place. Most memorable,

however, are those places that are distinctly different from the everyday, places that in our hunting memories will never be mistaken for any other. I've experienced a wide spectrum of deer camp venues, beginning with the good fortune of having hunters among my high school friends, since hunting was not a tradition in my own family. These friends had generous parents who consented to my tagging along, gestures without which I would not have been introduced to deer hunting, or perhaps becoming a hunter at all.

My first deer hunting expedition came as a 10th grader, armed with a Remington semi-automatic rifle that a friend's dad was kind enough to let me use. We hunted on forested land near Brainerd, which to a young, untraveled suburban Twin City boy, was as remote as the Canadian border. My friend Kevin, his father and I "camped" in a motel room, about which I remember nothing being unique. But that hardly mattered, the important thing being this creature I'd rarely seen outside a tame "deer land" environment. I did see a deer on that first

hunt, but the half century-old memory fails to disclose whether I shot and missed, or merely stood there frozen in "buck fever." I do remember a white flag of a tail waving goodbye as the deer bounded away.

A year or two later the deer hunt benefactor was a different friend and his father. We hunted near Hinckley, with a pickup camper as our cabin-on-wheels. I was fascinated by the concept of a hunter taking his camp with him wherever he went, no matter how remote, or how "minimum maintenance" the road. Unlike my first deer hunt, this opening morning was lung-searing cold, and we emerged from the camper to discover ice in the ditches of the dirt road where we had parked for the night.

What a pickup camper offers in convenience and portability, it gives up in elbow room. One might compare it to a spacecraft, where all necessities and conveniences are thriftily designed for a minimum space. Bunking was cozy, and then some. Meal preparation was a solo affair, the camper's tight quarters resembling the proverbial "one-butt kitchen." I still recall the smell of sausage

warming to readiness, and a fortifying breakfast before we put on down vests and slipped into bright red coats, in those days when blaze orange had not yet come over the hunting horizon.

Still lacking a deer rifle of my own, I was toting a classic Winchester Model 94, a 30-30 caliber carbine belonging to my host parent; a rifle and caliber that were a mainstay of Minnesota deer hunters for generations before the proliferation of telescopic-sighted, high-powered rifles. When deer hunters say that what they remember best are things other than "the kill," there's more than a grain of truth to it. I recall the mapping out of our deer drives, the anticipation that a whitetail could come bounding toward me at any moment as a drive reached its climax, and the sharp crack of a rifle shattering the quiet at dusk. Though we harvested a deer on one of these drives, I can't recall whether it was a buck or doe, or who put his tag on it. Those details have inexplicably slipped into the mist of memory, while other recollections – the confines and camaraderie of that deer camp on wheels

– remain vivid to this day.

Deer hunting, like other human pursuits, has its share of serendipity, the good fortune that comes unexpectedly. Some years later, one of my favorite deer hunting experiences began with an event having nothing to do with hunting. As a young writer I was assigned to interview the director of an outdoor education preserve on the St. Croix River, not far from St. Paul. The director, as it turned out, was a deer hunter. As so often happens when people discover a common interest, the interview took some unexpected turns, and I learned a lot more than what I had come for.

He told me how his former deer hunting party used to backpack into "the bush" and tent-camp in the watershed of the Baptism River, on the North Shore inland from Lake Superior; an area with few roads and little competition from other hunters. Since he no longer hunted there, the wheels in my head began to turn, and I proposed the idea to a hunting companion. We purchased and studied topographical maps of the area, and assembled camping and hunting gear.

We arrived a day early to

set up camp and scout for deer signs, leaving our car at a jumping-off point before heading into the timber. Camping in November adds a whole other dimension to the hunting routine. But we were not exactly camping greenhorns, so the extra preparation and chores added to the intrigue of the adventure. Looking back on it now I'm reminded of the poem The Explorer, by Rudyard Kipling: "Something lost beyond the ranges. Lost and waiting for you. Go!" Both Al, my hunting partner, and I shot bucks that opening weekend. His was a whitetail of truly memorable proportions, in both antlers and body weight.

In my deer seasons, base camps have included motel rooms and campers, tents and cabins. Though very different, each was important because it enabled an experience that helped shape me as a hunter. Some who don't hunt are skeptical when a hunter says "It's not so much about the kill, but the total experience." When it comes from a hunter who's regularly been to deer camp, there's no reason to doubt it.



Inside the Outdoors

Mike Rahn







## Sgt. Joyce Wille, the only woman in the Motley American Legion, shares thoughts



Cushing, where she loved being outdoors and helping her dad on mechanical projects.

"Dad could repair anything...motorcycles, cars, farm equipment," Joyce shared. "I guess I inherited that skill from him."

After graduating from Staples High School in 1977, Joyce attended technical college in Alexandria for a while, but felt that wasn't where she belonged.

"I decided I wanted to join the military," Joyce said, adding that this was something else she had in common with her father.

"Dad was in the 101st Airborne Division of the Army," Joyce said. "He served in WWII and Korea."

Her folks were okay with her helping repair engines on the family farm, but the idea of their daughter joining the military was not something they applauded.

"My parents were both really angry," Joyce recalled. "They said that women shouldn't be in the military. Period."

That wasn't something that settled well with their daughter.

"I guess I developed a bit of an attitude," Joyce said, adding that she challenged them to, "Tell me why I shouldn't join?"

Her parents were unable to dissuade their daughter; and Joyce joined the army in 1979. She first traveled to Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., where she did her basic training and Advanced Individual Training (AIT).

After meeting all requirements to become a 63B10 Light Wheel Vehicle Mechanic, Joyce was stationed at Ft. Campbell, Ky., where she worked in the generator shop for a couple of years.

It was work that she enjoyed, but she did not have the full support of her company. "There were guys in the hangar who would not help me out when I first got there because I was a woman," Joyce said, adding that when it came to working on generators, she figured a lot of things out on her own. "I have to thank my dad for all of the things he taught me when I was growing up."

She endured some "smart comments" from a few of the male soldiers during those early years. There were also some men (married and unmarried alike) who made inappropriate statements toward her. "I had to stand my ground. I knew I had the right to be there."

She ultimately gained the respect of her fellow soldiers and was even nominated for Soldier of the Year during her time there. "I missed it by one point," Joyce said. She still has that plaque, along with other certificates she received for her outstanding work.

Joyce left Kentucky for Rhode Island, where she became a sergeant at the Field Artillery. She later worked at the Veterans Administration (VA) Hospital in Providence, R.I. "I was there 11 years," she said, adding that she worked as a medical clerk.

From 1988 - 1991, Joyce went into the service again. In 1991, her unit was next in line to be deployed to the Persian Gulf but the war ended shortly before their departure date. "I was terrified," Joyce recalled of that time.

It was a privilege to serve fellow veterans, Joyce said. She recalled

one instance where she was able to assist in saving a person who had had a massive heart attack.

During her time in Rhode Island, Joyce was in a serious car accident which left her unable to work for a couple of years. She has also suffered lingering side effects. "I have a lot of migraine headaches," she said.

The headaches, compounded with anxiety issues stemming from her years in the military, caused Joyce to leave her job at the V.A. Hospital in 1999.

"I decided to come back to Minnesota, mainly because that's where my family was," Joyce said, mentioning her parents and younger siblings, Les and Donnel. Her older brother, Ralph, had died of a brain tumor. Since becoming an adult, Joyce has also met up with her birth parents and half-siblings.

No matter where she lived geographically, however, Sgt. Wille never felt quite at home without her military family.

Upon returning to Minnesota, Joyce joined the DAV (Disabled American Veterans) in St. Cloud, serving as adjutant. She later transferred to the DAV in Little Falls. In 2010, she joined the Motley American Legion.

She was one of very few women in the DAV and the only woman in the Motley American Legion.

"This is a great group to be a part of," Joyce said of the Motley post. "These guys have all stood by me, I really appreciate it."

She looks forward to being a part of the color guard on Veterans Day. "It means a lot to me," she said



### Earlier days

Joyce Wille, Motley, joined the army in 1979 and served a total of 16 years. She is pictured after completing basic training at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo. (Submitted photo)

of the upcoming holiday. "Events like that keep me going. I'm still serving my country, whether I'm in the service or not."

Joyce doesn't know how she feels about women serving on the front lines during combat but she fully supports women in the military. "If I had any advice to give, I would tell them that they need to be strong. They need to prepare themselves mentally and physically."

If she could do it all again, Joyce said she would have a stronger backbone and "not be pushed around."

One thing she wouldn't change, though, are the practical lessons she learned while growing up in rural Cushing. "I already knew how to work on engines before I joined the military and I played a lot of softball when I was a kid, so I threw a grenade well," she laughed.

### Proud to be a veteran

Army veteran Joyce Wille, Motley, is a member of the Motley American Legion and will participate in the Veterans Day program in Motley Nov. 11. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

By Dawn Timbs  
Staples World reporter

Whenever the Motley American Legion Post #124 is called to provide the color guard, you can bet on seeing army veteran Sgt. Joyce Wille in the lineup.

"It's an honor to be a part of it," Sgt. Wille said recently of the Motley American Legion, of which she has been a member since 2010. "We help at a variety

of events, such as funerals, parades and Memorial Day programs. I love it all."

Joyce will join her fellow American Legion Post #124 members Nov. 11 at the Veterans Day program in Motley. She'll be dressed in the uniform attire that's been a part of her wardrobe since joining the army in 1979.

Adopted at age two and a half by Donald and Ruby Wille, Joyce grew up in

### Motley Police, Morrison County Sheriff's reports

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

Nov. 2 - The MPD issued a citation to Derreck Soukup, 33, for driving with a suspended license. Officer brought driver home.

Nov. 2 - The MPD issued a citation to Marcel Gnali, 19, for speeding and for having a revoked license. Driver's passenger also had a revoked license and the two called someone from Wadena to give them a ride home.

Oct. 30 - The MPD issued a citation to Tammy Jackson, 37, for not having proof of insurance. Driver had been stopped for having a cracked windshield.

Oct. 29 - The MPD issued a speeding citation to Braden Osmundson, 22.

Oct. 29 - The MPD issued a citation to Maria Garza-Elizerio, 37, for driving with a revoked license. Driver had been cited earlier in the day by the Staples Police.

Oct. 27 - The MPD issued a citation to Linda Haugen, 63, for going through a red light at Hwy 10 and 210 in Motley.

Nov. 1 - The MCSO received a call from a resident on the 33000 block of Cherry Ln. in Motley that someone was knocking on his door at random times of the night. Responding deputy was unable to locate anyone around.

Oct. 28 - The MCSO responded to a dispute between neighbors at the 6000 block of Azalea Rd. in Motley.



### Vehicle trouble leads to traffic jam

Traffic along Hwy 10 in Motley was at a standstill for nearly an hour the afternoon of Nov. 4, after the drive shaft of a semi-truck fell out. Motley Police Chief Ron Smith said the incident happened as the semi-truck, headed east on Hwy 10, was turning onto Hwy 210. Westbound traffic on Hwy 10 was backed up from the intersection lights to the south end of town. Eastbound traffic was diverted around the fairgrounds. Pictured in lower photo, Chief Smith helped direct traffic at the intersection of Hwys 10 and 210 while a tow-truck works at the scene. The Motley Fire Dept. also helped direct traffic. "And of all the days to break down, it was the Friday of deer hunting opener," Chief Smith said. "On a good note, everyone got where they were going safely." (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



### Voting day in Motley



Motley area residents were among the hundreds of thousands of Minnesotans who got out and voted Nov. 8. Pictured above, discussing the election over coffee at BRICKS in Motley are, from left: Doug Barnett and Mark Heinecke, both of May Township; Duane Houck, Rogers; and Al Yoder, Motley. Barnett and Yoder had already voted that morning; Heinecke planned to go later in the day; and Houck (in the area

for deer hunting), said he did not plan on voting. Pictured in lower photo, Floyd Griffith of Motley checks in at Motley City Hall with election judge Marilyn O'Regan prior to voting. Other election judges pictured include, from left, Judy Thorsett, Joe Mrazek, Sr., Chris Rosvold. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

### Two-vehicle accident on Hwy 210

A two-vehicle accident at Hwy 210 and 37th Ave SW in Cass County Nov. 4, left one man injured and totaled both vehicles. The incident occurred at 6:19 p.m.

According to the Minnesota State Patrol, a Mazda van driven by Travis Faulkner, 31, of Motley was eastbound on Hwy 210 when it was struck by a Honda Accord, driven by Hannah Reynolds, 18, of Brainerd.

The report states that Reynolds' vehicle was facing south at the stop sign on Cty Rd. 1, when it started southbound, striking the driver's side of the Mazda. Faulkner was transported to Lakewood Health System Hospital in Staples for non-life threatening injuries. There are no reported injuries for Reynolds or her passenger, Simone Djuren, 26, of Motley. No alcohol was detected in either driver and road conditions were dry.

Responders at the scene included the Minnesota

State Patrol, Pillager Police Department and Cass County Sheriff's Department.



### Ready for hunting opener

Danielle Dewey (right) of Motley purchased her deer hunting license at BRICKS in Motley Nov. 4, the day before the opening of firearms season in Minnesota. Dewey said she planned to hunt in the Swanville area. Also pictured is BRICKS employee Maddison Johnson of Motley. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)