

Enrollment outlook: Staples-Motley will maintain students

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

After studying population trends, economic trends and open enrollment trends, John Powers believes the Staples-Motley School District will maintain approximately the same number of students in the coming decade.

Powers, of Applied Insights North, gave a presentation of his study at the Nov. 21 school board meeting.

Staples-Motley enrollment has declined by 16 percent in the past ten years, from 1,363 to 1,151. That decline is more than the decrease of students living in the district, which was seven percent. Powers said the decline has been stabilizing in the last five or six years.

Powers had heard the district's concerns about students open enrolling to nearby districts, but after mapping the residence of each student, he said "basically it's geography, kids on the eastern side go to Pillager and kids on the west go to Verndale."

There has been a rise of students living in the Staples-Motley district who attend Pillager schools, but

Powers thought that trend would flatten out.

"It's not what I thought it would be, you are still getting two-thirds of the kids" from the eastern portion of the district, said Powers. "Some schools only get 10 percent of students from an area."

That was a strong sign since "Pillager has been very aggressive in marketing inside your district," said Powers.

Economic, housing and population trends show the potential for growth in the area. "Staples economically is hot," said Powers. He pointed to the 2,000 people commuting to Staples for work each day and the housing projects in Staples and Motley that could bring many of them to live permanently in the area.

He said nearby areas have declined in births, but this area has not. "It appears the district may be growing faster than the four counties as a whole," said Powers.

Powers' conclusion was that enrollment will be "essentially stable," with the numbers showing a two percent decline, although he said that could just as easily be a two percent rise

if birth rates or other factors improve slightly.

How to use the data

Jeff Schiltz of Foster Jacobs & Johnson also spoke as part of the presentation. He said his company can help the district use the demographics data as part of a facility study that would consider the educational space needed in the future.

Schiltz said the overall tax burden in the Staples-Motley School District is currently below the state average and well below neighboring districts. He said there are other funding options available if the facility study determines future needs.

Greg Frisk, who was elected to the school board and will start that position in January, was at the meeting and asked if having three facilities in two towns was hurting the district. He asked if building a k-12 school might eliminate some of the instability that causes students to enroll in nearby districts that have one building.

Powers said the three buildings may cause some issues, and cited the statistics showing the school

See **SCHOOL** on page 2a



Memories of the USS Lowndes

Dean Fearing of Staples, left and Robert Warnberg of Princeton, right look at photos of past reunions of crew members of the USS Lowndes. The two, who are former shipmates met Nov.22, at Fearing's home in Staples. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

WWII shipmates share memories

By Mark Anderson, News Editor

Dean Fearing of Staples and Robert Warnberg of Princeton had a World War II reunion of sorts recently in Staples. The two were crew members of the USS Lowndes, a supply and transport ship that was a crucial part of the Pacific Theater in World War II.

They've been through Hawaii, Japan, Iwo Jima, Saipan, Okinawa, Guam, Japan, the Philippines, Aleutian Islands and the Panama Canal, but on Nov. 22 they met at the Lakewood Pines, Fearing's home in Staples.

When Warnberg entered the lobby, the two of them shared a moment alone and then had lunch with their families and talked about their time aboard ship.

Both sailors did their boot camp at Faragut Naval Training Station in Idaho. But they really got to know each other during their two years aboard the USS Lowndes. They worked on different parts of the ship, but "I knew him because he was from Minnesota," said Fearing.

Warnberg did radar work on the ship and was stationed in the engine room. "It was so hot down there, all they had was a fan in the corner. At least I was able to go topside, he was down there all the time," said Fearing.

Fearing was on the winch crew which lowered supply boats into the water, filled with supplies or marines.

The two shared some unforgettable memories, especially of the large battles

of Iwo Jima and Okinawa. As Fearing lowered marines into the water off Iwo Jima, "I remember the looks on their faces, they were scared," said Fearing.

They both remember watching the battle from the ship.

"It was fireworks like the Fourth of July," said Warnberg.

Fearing said, "It was scary seeing those red bullets coming at us, they didn't reach the ship, we were just out of their range."

Both of men were in the harbor and saw the marines raise the flag on Iwo Jima, a moment that became famous for the photograph and statue made by re-staging the event.

"Everyone on the ship saw the flag fly on Iwo Jima," said Warnberg, "it was an old tattered flag," unlike the nicer one used in the famous photograph.

Fearing recalls "All the ships were blasting their fog horns when they saw that flag flying," he said.

He also remembers bringing in the boats carrying wounded marines. "It was not a pretty sight, they were hollering in pain," he said.

They were also in the Pacific when the United States dropped the atomic bombs on Japan.

"We saw the planes taking off," said Fearing. Warnberg said there were B-29 bombers flying often. He especially remembers seeing them fly overhead during the Iwo Jima battle.

Okinawa was another pivotal battle

See **VETERANS** on page 2a

Staples comprehensive plan may get makeover

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

The next comprehensive plan for Staples could be a readable coffee table book, making it easier for

residents to understand the future plans for the City of Staples. At the Nov. 22 Staples Economic Development Authority (SEDA) meeting, Economic Development Director Melissa Radermacher said she is working on grants that will help cover the \$12,500 cost of a new type of plan.

National Joint Powers Alliance and Region Five Development Commission, both headquartered in Staples, have a partnership that will coordinate the planning with public engagement and will put the plan together.

Radermacher said the result with be a "coffee table book, nice to look at and informative." There would also be an online version to view. The full plan would still have the statistics and technical terms of a traditional comprehensive plan, but the version presented to the public would be easier to follow.

The process will also update the city's trails plan. It could take eight months to a year to complete, Radermacher said. She is applying to the Initiative Foundation and AgStar for the funding of the project.

Other projects

Radermacher updated the SEDA board on the downtown building pur-

chased by the SEDA as an incubator building. Baby Steps, the current tenant, said they are unable to purchase the building at this time or pay more in rent. Radermacher said they did agree to restructure their lease so they are in charge of building maintenance, which the SEDA was estimating could be around \$5,000 per year. The lease would be for one year, after which Baby Steps would again determine if they would buy the building or could pay more in rent. Radermacher said it's reasonable to wait two, three or even up to five years, for a business to work out. The board agreed to the revised lease.

The SEDA also agreed to increase the rent with Accura Tool for space in the Staples Industrial Park building. The rent had been \$4.50 per square foot and they're raising it to \$4.75.

Radermacher updated the SEDA on other happenings:

- Plans to construct lower income housing on land occupied by a trailer park near the overpass are continuing. Radermacher is working with the Central Minnesota Housing Partnership on the project. She said a family of four earn-

See **SEDA** on page 2a

Hello, Readers,

On Dec. 7, 1941, at 7:55 a.m. Hawaii time, a Japanese dive bomber bearing the red symbol of the Rising Sun of Japan on its wings appears out of the clouds above the island of Oahu. A swarm of 360 Japanese warplanes followed, descending on the U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor in a ferocious assault. The surprise attack struck a critical blow against the U.S. Pacific fleet and drew the United States irrevocably into World War II. Outside of Pearl Harbor, the destroyer Ward, its crew primarily reservists from St. Paul, attacks and sinks a Japanese midget submarine, the first shots fired on the date of infamy. Inside the harbor, Minneapolis-born Captain Franklin van Valkenburgh is killed on the bridge of his ship, the USS Arizona. He would be awarded the Medal of Honor by Congress.

Where in the World?
School, county minutes: **7-9A**

Obituaries
Katherine Anderson
Roy Anderson
Alan Case
John Eisenlohr
Joan Gajewski

Open records request draws city discussion

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

At the Nov. 21 Staples City Council meeting, a citizen asked for more information about an open records request he had sent previously.

The citizen would not state his name, claiming it was not necessary for an open records request.

City Administrator Jerel Nelsen said the city did respond with the police reports regarding the request. The citizen said he did not receive the response, but was still not satisfied when Nelsen read what had been sent. The citizen said the information was used in filing a restraining order against him and didn't feel that the response was the correct information.

Nelsen and Mayor Chris Etzler said they would contact Police Chief Melissa

Birkholtz to determine if there is more information to be obtained.

In other news, the council approved request from Staples Fire Department Relief Association to conduct a raffle.

Nuisance house

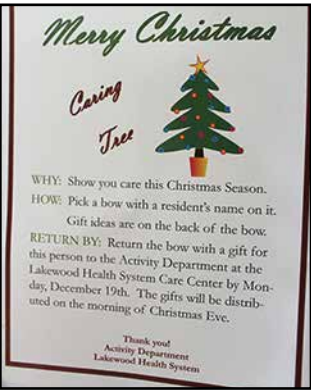
The council discussed nuisance priorities and how to go about enforcing nuisance laws. The council did not discuss the home on Hwy 10 and 9th St. NE that's been the subject of nuisance code infractions for many years.

The residents of that house have moved out and according to Nelsen, City of Staples has a purchase agreement with Rudy Bjerga for the property. Bjerga is going through the legal process with David Blonigen to get the contents removed. At that time, the house will be removed by the city.



Caring tree

Eillie Welling (left) and Iras Chapin, co-presidents of the Residents Council at Lakewood Health Center Care Center in Staples, are pictured by the newly decorated Giving Tree located in the dining room of the care center. Each bow on the tree has the name of a care center resident with gift ideas on the back. Care center employees and patrons can select a bow and return it with a gift by Monday, Dec. 19, to the activities department. The gifts will be distributed on Christmas Eve morning. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Thank you for subscribing!

VETERANS continued from page 1a

Veterans were witness to history

the two witnessed. “The Japanese didn’t want to surrender, some ran to the other end of the island and jumped off the cliffs rather than be captured,” Fearing said.

Warnberg remembered visiting the island after the battle. “We saw all the tunnels they dug,” he said, realizing how hard it was for the troops to get the Japanese out of their entrenchments.

Fearing and Warnberg talked about other aspects of their ship experience. Warnberg remembered how tough it was to refuel the ship and to transfer troops, especially on the rough seas.

Fearing also lowered some of the boats onto the rough seas and it could hit pretty hard, with the troops on board getting a big jolt.

Fearing said he wasn’t always a winch operator, especially after he talked back to the chief warrant officer one day. The officer put him on mess hall (cooking) duty as a punishment, but it turned out to be his favorite job in the navy. He became the cook for the chief’s quarters, which allowed him special privileges. He worked his way into the laundry area, where he made “all kinds of extra money” by pressing the dress blues for the crews. It also gave him more free time, which he spent playing poker with the new ensigns, another good way to make money.

Warnberg’s son Sheldon brought him to Staples for the day. Sheldon said he

still has the dispatch that was sent to the ship telling them that President Franklin Roosevelt had died.

Fearing’s daughter Patty and her husband Brian Baustian also came for the reunion and shared some old photos from the war.

Coming home

Fearing joined the navy at 17, so he was still young when he came back two years later. “When I got home there was a bus strike, so I had to hitchhike home,” he said.

“When I came home I went to work, got married and never made a big deal about the war,” said Fearing.

He had worked for the Chevrolet dealer in Staples before the war and continued there when he got out of the service, spanning 70 years. He had fought the Japanese in the war, but when Japanese cars began competing with American cars, “I still had to fight them,” said Fearing.

Warnberg’s situation was different. He was married with two children when he was drafted at the age of 27. Upon returning home to his family in Minnesota, he only had enough money to get him to Rock Rapids, Iowa. He borrowed some money, and bummed a ride the rest of the way home.

Warnberg too, went back to his old job he had before he was drafted, the Chicago-Northwestern Railroad. He also had a side business fixing up cars, and had a friend who

would paint them for him.

Crew members of the USS Lowndes have had reunions over the years and there is a web site for reunions, but they haven’t had one in a while because “there’s not many people left,” said Fearing.

This reunion was pulled together by Lee Jenkins of Staples along with his wife Judy, who made and served a meal for the veterans and their families.

Jenkins and Fearing had worked together at the car dealership in Staples so Lee knew that Dean had been on the Lowndes. One day Jenkins saw Warnberg at a casino and noticed he was wearing a cap with USS Lowndes on it. He talked to Warnberg for a while but didn’t say anything about Fearing.

Four years later, Jenkins saw Warnberg at the casino again and Warnberg remembered their first meeting. Jenkins in the meantime had spoken to Fearing about seeing his shipmate and this time Lee put the plans for a reunion in motion. It took several months contacting family members and making plans for the reunion. The date was set and it worked out and for veterans.

After lunch and visiting for a while, the two sailors decided to do one of their favorite pastimes on the ship, play cards. They went to Fearing’s apartment and played cribbage and shared more memories of the experiences that brought them together and linked their lives for more than 70 years.



A sailor’s pastime

Playing cribbage just like during the World War II days, Dean Fearing and Robert Warnberg settled in to their card game as they reminisced about life during and after the war. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

One charged in snowmobile accident

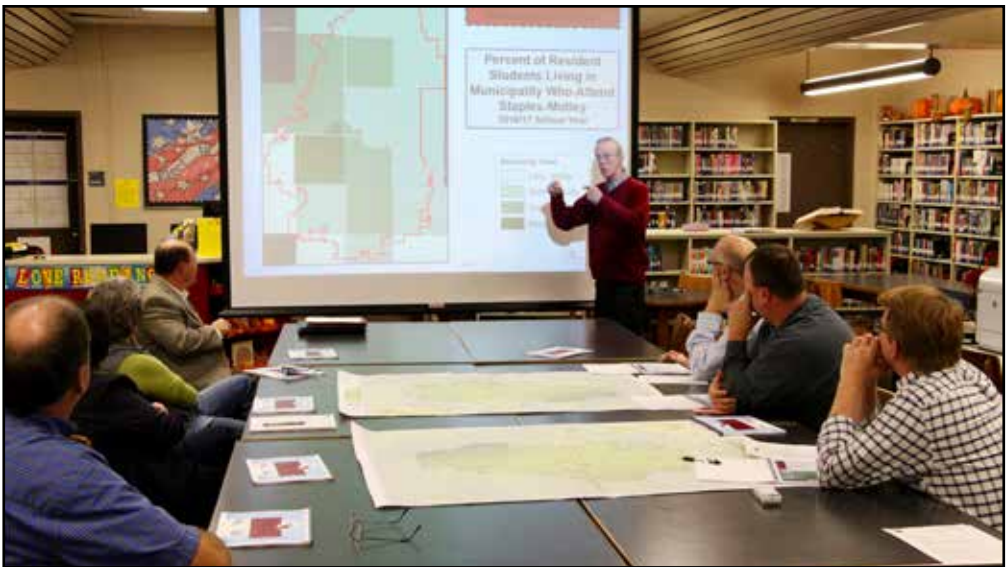
On Nov. 21 at approximately 2:45 p.m., the Wadena County Sheriff’s Office took a report of a snowmobile accident on 340th Street, west of Hwy. 71 in Blueberry Township.

Deputies arrived on scene and learned Carl Hendrickson, 28, of Menahga along with passenger Stephanie Velasio, 26, of Fargo, N.Dak., were westbound on 340th Street when Hendrickson put the snowmobile into a skid sideways rolling the machine. Hendrickson and Velasio were not wearing helmets and were found unconscious in the roadway by a passing motorist.

Both Hendrickson and Velasio were transported to St. Joseph’s hospital in Park Rapids. Velasio was transported to a higher level of care facility for her injuries and Hendrickson was treated and released.

Hendrickson was arrested and had his first appearance in Wadena County District Court Nov. 23. He was charged by the Wadena County Attorney’s Office with Felony Criminal Vehicular Operation and Felony First Degree Driving While Impaired. Bail was set at \$4,000.00.

The Sheriff’s Office was assisted by the Menahga Police Department, Menahga First Responders and Tri County Ambulance.



School district multimedia maps

With maps on the table and maps projected on the screen, the Staples-Motley School Board learned about enrollment projections from John Powers of Applied Insights North, standing. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

SCHOOL continued from page 1a

Study of data can aid facility plans

had been losing students in the fifth to sixth grade range, when they were transitioning to a different building. But he said building new “is a partial roll of the dice ... how it gets done is a big issue.”

In other news, the board

- Accepted resignation of Lisa Kajer from the FACs program.
- Accepted retirement of Donna Best-

land from health career classes.

- Accepted resignation of Jarid Johnson, paraprofessional.
- Approved maternity request of Samantha Pommier.
- Approved contract for Jackie Engbretson for accounts receivable.
- Granted permission to explore option of a science educational trip to Iceland in June, 2018.

Notification of sex offender release in Wadena County

The Wadena County Sheriff’s Office and the Sebeka Police Dept. released a community notification for a Level 3 Predatory Offender who moved to the City of Sebeka.

Timoth George Bungert, 34, was released Nov. 18 after serving his sentence. He has a history of contacting adolescent females (ages 12-14) on the Internet and engaging in sexual conversation. He has also attempted to arrange to meet for sexual contact with one victim. He was not known to victims.

Law enforcement is releasing this information pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 244.052. This statute authorizes law enforcement agencies to inform the public of a sexual or predatory offender’s release from prison or a secure treatment facility when law enforcement believes that the release of information will enhance public safety and protection.

All Level Three Sex Offenders are considered public information and are posted on the Minnesota Department of Corrections website listing the names, addresses and the number of offenders within each county in Minnesota.

The Sebeka Police Dept. and the Wadena County Sheriff’s Office will have copies of the public information sheet for Level 3

Predatory Offenders residing in the Wadena County area.

The individual who appears on this notification has been convicted of criminal sexual conduct or another offense that requires registration with law enforcement pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 243.166 or 243.167.

Convicted sexual and predatory offenders have always been released to live in our communities. It was not until the passage of the Registration Act that law enforcement had an ability to track movement of these offenders after their initial release. With the passage of the Community Notification Act law enforcement may now share information about many of these offenders with the public.

Abuse of this information to threaten, harass or intimidate a registered offender is unacceptable and such acts could be charged as a crime. Such abuses could potentially end the ability of law enforcement to provide these notifications.

If community notification ends, the only person who wins is the offender. Many of these offenders derive their power from the opportunity that secrecy provides.

Law enforcement may not direct where the offender does or does not reside, nor can this agency

direct where he/she works or goes to school. The risk level of this offender has been determined largely on his/her potential to re-offend based on his/her previous behavior.

Wadena County currently has 66 registered predatory offenders. These offenders are required to maintain their registration with the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and their residency and personal data also remains on file with local law enforcement agencies for monitoring purposes.

Sheriff Michael Carr has maintained a stringent program of monitoring all registered sex offenders in Wadena County and checks to determine their current residency status.

Wadena County Attorney Kyra Ladd has also been aggressive in prosecution of sex offenders failing to register change of address or living status with the Minnesota Bureau of Apprehension as required by law.

This offender is not wanted by the police at this time and has served the sentence imposed on him/her by the court. This notification is not intended to increase fear in the community. Law enforcement believes that an informed public is a safer public.

Have You HEARD?

Presented by Steve Trebil, BC-HIS



WOULD YOU LIKE SOME ASSISTANCE?

For those who would like to augment their hearing instruments with other devices that promote better hearing, the hearing specialist can suggest any of a number of “assistive listening devices” (ALDs). These apparatuses, which are often referred to as “binoculars for the ears,” utilize a microphone to pick up sound, transmission technology to deliver the signal, and a receiver to pick up the signal and deliver sound to the ear. They serve to both amplify sounds and eliminate unwanted background noise. One type of ALD system, known as “hearing loops,” can be found in theatres, conference rooms, and places of worship, while personal ALDs can be connected to the phone, TV, or other audio sources at home.

ALDs are used by people with all degrees of hearing loss. This includes hearing aid users and cochlear implant users, as well as consumers who do not use either hearing aids or cochlear implants. To schedule a hearing assessment, please call **PREFERRED HEARING** at 1-800-458-0895. You will find us at 17274 State Hwy 371, Brainerd. We are committed to providing expert and compassionate service as we work towards helping you hear at your very best.

P.S. The hearing loop, which is a wire that circles a room and is connected to the sound system, transmits the sound electromagnetically.

PREFERRED

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Obesity rate drops for young children

‘Choose Health’ going well

Minnesota’s obesity rate among children ages two - four from low-income families participating in the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program decreased from 12.7 percent in 2010 to 12.3 percent in 2014, according to a study by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention and U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Minnesota’s obesity rate for young children enrolled in WIC is eighth lowest in the nation. Nationally, the rate was 14.5 percent in 2014. Minnesota children participating in WIC also have lower obesity rates than children using WIC in neighboring states Wisconsin, Iowa, North Dakota and South Dakota, according to data available at The State of Obesity.

WIC promotes healthy eating and nutrition education for infants and children up to age five; and low-income women who are pregnant, postpartum or breastfeeding. Nutrition during pregnancy and early childhood is critical for healthy child growth and development.

In Minnesota, one out of three children ages two - five are served by WIC.

“I’m pleased to see that our efforts through WIC and our community partners are showing positive results,” said Minnesota Commissioner of Health Dr. Ed Ehlinger. “Healthy eating, physical activity and breastfeeding in early childhood put young children on a path to healthy weight as they grow.”

Minnesota WIC promotes healthy weight through:

- Individualized nutrition assessments and counseling.
- Providing a nutritious food package that includes low-fat milk, whole grains and fruits and vegetables.
- Monitoring appropriate weight gain and growth.
- Discouraging use of sweetened soft drinks.
- Encouraging families to be physically active and to limit screen time for television, computers and video games.
- Promoting exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months and breastfeeding with healthy foods for the first year of life

MnDOT issues new mowing/hay standards

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) urges those who want to mow and or bale hay on state rights of way, land along Minnesota’s state roadways, to put in their permit applications early next year.

MnDOT recently adopted a statewide standard for mowing and baling in the rights of way and has developed a new permit form. State law requires that MnDOT manage right of way mowing, which includes cutting in advance of baling. By state law, it is a misdemeanor to mow on state highway rights of way without a permit.

“Having local landowners mow, and bale hay if they choose, in the rights of way can be mutually beneficial,” said Steve Lund, MnDOT’s state maintenance engineer. “But we want to ensure that it is done at the right time of year to make sure we are protecting habitat for wild-

through peer counseling and breastfeeding support.

• Promoting appropriate weight gain during pregnancy to support healthy birth weights.

• Referrals to community nutrition and physical activity resources.

Across Minnesota, communities are working together through the Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) to support and expand access to healthy eating and active living opportunities in schools and child care facilities, workplaces, health care and communities. SHIP grantees across Minnesota are also focused on families with babies and young children. Since January 2016, 266 child care providers caring for 8,591 children are partnering with SHIP (three-quarters of these providers are serving low-income children). Working with SHIP, providers receive training and assistance to improve their practices in healthy eating, supporting breastfeeding and physical activity.

Choose Health, an effort in Staples, is getting healthier foods to families that are struggling to put nutritious food on the table. Choose Health links those in need with fresh, healthy produce and tools to increase knowledge about nutrition and cooking. Health4Life, the SHIP grantee in Todd, Wadena and Morrison counties, has assisted in coordinating the Choose Health program, where Lakewood Healthy System prescribes community-supported agriculture (CSA) with local farmers to patients who report having trouble getting healthy foods.

In September, the CDC also reported that Minnesota’s adult obesity rate saw a statistically significant drop between 2014 and 2015, from 27.6 percent in 2014 to 26.1 percent in 2015, Minnesota was the only state in the region, including North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Iowa, to succeed in keeping its obesity rates firmly below 30 percent. According to data released recently by CDC, neighboring states’ adult rates ranged from 30.7 to 32.1 percent.

life and pollinators. We want to ensure that those who mow and harvest hay are doing so safely.”

The new permit provides information on when and where mowing and baling can occur, safety measures required and how long baled hay can be left in the rights of way. Large round hay bales are heavy and can be a significant hazard to vehicles that might run into the ditch.

Landowners who want to mow on rights of way adjacent to their property need to apply for a permit before the end of January. On Feb. 1, all others may apply for permits to mow on state rights of way. MnDOT will accept, review and approve permits on a first-come, first-serve basis.

The new permit can be found at: www.mndot.gov/mowing, or by looking on MnDOT’s A to Z website directory for mowing/hay baling permit.



New business manager

Staples-Motley Business Manager Patty Vacek started at the school on Nov. 16.

Vacek’s goal is for business office to make a difference

By Mark Anderson, News Editor

Patty Vacek knows the role that students have in keeping a school funded. “If you are losing students, you are losing money,” said Vacek, who started as the Staples-Motley Business Manager on Nov. 16.

That’s why Vacek said a lot of her job is getting involved with staff, teachers and students, so that they can afford the type of education they want.

“I do what I can every day to make a difference,” she said about her job. “I like the variety of it, there is always something new.”

Vacek worked for 10 years at the Kaleidoscope Charter School in Ostego, working her way up to become business manager. She also did some work for the state and judicial system before coming to Staples-Motley.

She said the differences between a charter school and a public school are not that great. “It’s about saving money and finding money, the main difference is in how it is reported,” she said.

Some challenges of the Staples-Motley job include keeping track of three different buildings and learning the names and roles of the people in each building.

Vacek said she is learning the new processes at Staples-Motley and wants to find out what works well at the school. “There is a lot to learn. I look forward to meeting all the staff,” she said.

Legislative Salary Council vacancies

Governor Mark Dayton is encouraging all eligible Minnesotans to apply for one of the eight current vacancies on the Legislative Salary Council. The council was created upon Minnesota’s voters passing the Constitutional Amendment and this citizens-only council will prescribe salaries for legislators.

Governor Dayton will appoint eight Minnesotans to this council, which will include one appointee from each Congressional District. Four members must be Democrats and four members must be Republicans. Additionally, none of the members of the council may be:

- A current or former legislator, or the spouse of a current legislator
- A current or former lobbyist registered under Minnesota law
- A current employee of the legislature
- A current or former judge
- A current or former governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, secretary of state or state auditor

To apply, submit an

application, cover letter, and resume through the Minnesota Secretary of State’s website. Due to the statutory requirement that the Governor must appoint four Democrats and four Republicans, applicants are asked to disclose their party affiliation on the application form.

The deadline to apply and receive full consideration is Monday, Dec. 5. For inquiries concerning the application process, contact Andrew Olson, Director of Appointments, at andrew.c.olson@state.mn.us.

About the Legislative Salary Council

The council consists of eight members appointed by the Governor and eight by the Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court. By March 31 of each odd-numbered year, the council will prescribe salaries for legislators to take effect July 1 of that year. In setting salaries, the council will take into account any other legislative compensation provided to the legislators by the state and the most recent budget forecast.

Snowmobile trails open Dec. 1, early snow is challenge

As northern Minnesota received its first significant snowfall recently, many snowmobile enthusiasts are rushing to take their first ride of the season. Snowmobile riders are reminded that despite the early snow, most of the state’s snowmobile trails are not yet ready for riding, according to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Minnesota’s snowmobile trails officially open Dec. 1 each year; and several conditions must be met before trails are open and ready for travel:

- The ground must be frozen to allow for crossing wet areas.
- Adequate snow cover, about 12 inches, must be on the ground to allow for packing and grooming of the trails.
- Trails must be cleared of fallen trees, signs put in place and the gates opened. Snowmobile club volunteers and DNR staff are currently working on these tasks.

“While the early snow is encouraging, it acts as insulation that slows the freezing we need in order to work on brush clearing and other trail maintenance in wet areas,” said Grand Rapids area supervisor Guy Lunz.

After recent record-breaking warm temperatures into early November, most lakes remain ice-free despite the recent snow. The DNR recommends a minimum of five inches of new clear ice for snowmobiles.

When the trails open, the DNR urges riders to use caution. Early season trails may have trees or other debris across the trails, unfrozen areas, rocks or ruts or standing crops and closed gates.

Also, road ditches can have obstacles such as culverts, signposts and rocks.

Registrations and trail stickers for new snowmobiles must be purchased in person at any deputy registrar of motor vehicles or at the DNR License Bureau in St. Paul. Renewals of registrations and trail stickers may be done in person, or online at <http://licenses.dnr.state.mn.us/>.

Minnesota has more than 22,000 miles of groomed snowmobile trails; more than 21,000 miles of them are maintained by local snowmobile club volunteers. Snowmobile trail maintenance costs are partially funded through the combined snowmobile registrations and trail sticker sales, and state gas tax attributed to snowmobile use. Donations and volunteer work by trail clubs make up the remainder of the costs and efforts to operate these trails.

Trail users are always encouraged to call in advance or research online to get local conditions for the area they plan to ride. State trail conditions are posted each Thursday on the DNR website at www.dnr.state.mn.us/snow_depth/index.html.

Links to snowmobile trail information, state trail maps, regulations, safety training, and more is available on the DNR website at www.mndnr.gov/snowmobiling.

Local conditions are often posted online by local tourism associations, chambers of commerce and volunteer snowmobile clubs. To find the nearest club, visit the Minnesota United Snowmobiler’s Association website at www.mnsnowmobiler.org.



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29TH ANNUAL

Farm Forum

Perspectives in Agriculture for 2017

Current Issues in Agriculture

Tuesday, December 6



10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
ASSEMBLY ROOM
Central Lakes College,
Staples Campus

1830 Airport Road, Staples, MN Enter door #3 or 4 & follow signs.



2016 AGENDA

9:30 a.m.....Registration and Refreshments
Sponsored by First International Bank & Trust
Central Lakes College

10:00 a.m.....Introductions and Overview
Jef Cichos, President, First International Bank and Trust, Staples|Motley
Edward Uhlenkamp, Instructor,
Farm Business Management, Central Lakes College

10:15 a.m.....Year-End Tax Planning Hints
“What’s New that Effects You”
Chuck Mayer - CPA, Mayer, Porter, Nelson, Ltd.

11:00 a.m.....AgCentric/ CLC Ag. & Energy Update
Keith Olander - Director of AgCentric,
Dean of Agricultural Studies, Central Lakes College

11:20 a.m....Township Nitrate Testing, MN Water Quality Certification Program
Ryan Perish, Soil Scientist, MN Department of Agriculture

12:00 p.m....Lunch
Catered by Ted & Gen’s, Aldrich
Sponsored by First International Bank & Trust

12:45 p.m....Technology in Agriculture
-Precision Applications -UAS (Drones) in Ag
Eric Snude, Midwest Machinery
Hannah Barrett, Research Coordinator, CLC Ag. & Energy Center

1:40 p.m....Break, Refreshments served
Sponsored by First International Bank & Trust and Central Lakes College

1:50 p.m....Soil Health & Fertility
-Livestock & Crop Farms -Economics of Tillage Options
Kent Solberg, Sustainable Farmers Association
Bob Rick, Instructor, Farm Business Management

2:50 p.m.....Door Prizes and Adjournment
Jef Cichos, President, First International Bank and Trust, Staples|Motley
Edward Uhlenkamp, Instructor, Farm Business Management, CLC

3:00 p.m....Adjourn

SPONSORED BY:

First International Bank & Trust - Staples & Motley
Farm Business Management - Central Lakes College
Central Lakes Ag and Energy Center - Central Lakes College



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Dec. 2-3...Deck the Halls!
Dec. 9-10...Fill the Sleigh!
Dec. 16-17...Home for the Holidays!

33885 U.S. Hwy 10 (6 mi. S. of Motley)
218-821-2236

2016

Community Christmas Concert

Featuring ...

Staples Area Men’s Chorus
Staples Area Women’s Chorus
Colla Voce Girl’s Choir
Central Minnesota Boy’s Choir

Tickets \$10
Family \$25
6 and under free

Available online at www.staplesmen.org
from chorus members
or Nelson Insurance
Agency, 325 2nd Ave. NE,
Staples, 218-895-5046.

**Saturday,
December 10
7:30 p.m.**

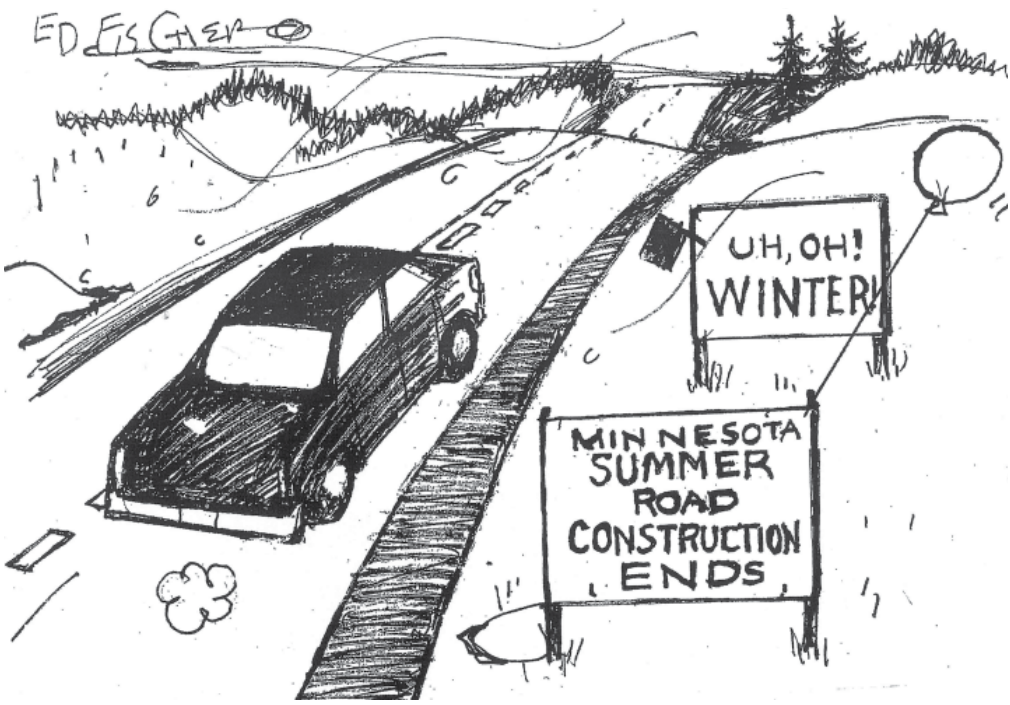
Sacred Heart Church
310 4th St. NE, Staples, Mn.
Limited seating available.

www.staplesmen.org



This project is made possible with support from the Five Mpls. Arts Council and the McKnight Foundation, administered by the Learning and Support from Staples Motley Area Community Foundation.

w48c



Stress the importance of daily attendance

Attendance is the true building block for student growth in the areas of enjoyment, achievement and success in any school. Being the principal of Motley-Staples Middle School, I have a vested interest in “seeing and building relationships” with our students everyday.

“The world is run by those who show up” has been a slogan of many political activists, recorded in print since 1987. The author of the slogan is unknown. Variants of the saying include “The government/country/nation is run by those who show up.” Furthermore, filmmaker Woody Allen said: “Showing up is 80 percent of life.” While I would not agree with all of this reasoning, there are always exceptions to the rule; but there is a copious amount of research and data to make me a believer.

Our district's heightened awareness to this particular topic is very important. We, as Motley-Staples Middle School educators, want to make a difference in the lives of our talented students. In order to have success at all levels, we are targeting several areas.

First, we have a Boosters program at our middle school designed for students who have at-risk levels of absence and specific academic needs and offers opportunities to make significant gains in the areas of personal growth and academic achievement. Our teachers take great pride in the extra effort that makes a big difference for our students.

Second, we have an initiative to com-

— o —
Staples-
Motley
Schools



By Chris
Halverson
Motley-
Staples
Middle
School
Principal

— o —

municate and collaborate with parents and families about this specific concern. This may come by way of a phone call or a letter of concern from our school attendance team.

Third, our school continues to communicate within, and bring concerns and solutions to the table, for the betterment of our students and community at large. Our staff is committed to make the effort and initiate the communication that will lead to a positive future for our students.

In the big picture, Motley-Staples Middle School has a vision of developing students who will assimilate and innovate the future workforce. Employees who show up for work on time, more often than not, and give proper notice of absences or tardiness are practicing good attendance. Attendance as a work ethic includes sticking to work schedules, being ready to start work on time, remaining on the job during the workday to complete duties and limited use of leave.

Our district is committed to moving forward in strengthening the system to help our students' success and achievement. Join us and collaborate in creating young adults who have great character that requires dependability, reliability, responsibility and discipline.

It is a great time to be a Cardinal! We are proudly building a culture of innovation, achievement, and excellence; but the community and our communication will tell the story.

Local leadership matters reaching broadband goals

By Kathy Annette

Recently a team from Blandin Foundation was in Staples to celebrate the wrap-up of our partnership with the Resilient Region through the Blandin Broadband Communities (BBC) program. What we saw was impressive: a diverse group of dedicated broadband champions working together to make their communities better.

The Resilient Region Champions have been working for several years to develop a five-county strategic plan to increase the vitality of the region. They recognized from the start that broadband was

important, and through their work on the BBC program, they came to realize that broadband touched all regional projects.

In the past 18 months, the BBC steering committee chose a wide-variety of projects, including: telehealth training, enhanced classroom technology, expansion of PCs for People computer refurbishing programs at The Shop and on the Leech Lake Reservation, videoconferencing for the community, marketing, a Hackfest, the “What the Tech?” technology expo, studied the economic impact of infrastructure expansion, and created the Brainerd Lakes Talent Re-

cruiter position.

Local leadership matters. Blandin Foundation congratulates Stacy Stockdill of Ensearch for her leadership, the staff of Region Five Development Commission for their organizational support, and commends everyone who participated in the work of the Steering Committee for your vision and dedication to building a more connected community with opportunity for all.

Kathy Annette is President and CEO of Blandin Foundation, Grand Rapids, Minn. She can be reached at 877-822-2257

Slow down, shop small this season

By Nancy Flock
Rural Enterprise Assistance Project
Center for Rural Affairs

I recently attended the North Platte, NE, Shop Local Kickoff event, featuring state and local proclamations highlighting the importance of shopping local brick and mortar retail stores. The event made me think about my holiday shopping.

This year, I'm challenging myself to make local purchases and encourage everyone else to do the same. I say challenge because I get it – it's often faster and less expensive to go online. But that route wastes our power to use our purchases to make a difference in our communities.

Moreover, shopping online is not always the best deal. Often, the price that drives you to click “add to cart” isn't so

great after you checkout and pay shipping. After waiting for the item to arrive, you may not even like what you bought. When you shop at a local retailer, you know what you're buying, and who you're buying from. The local small business owner you support is creating jobs, paying local taxes, and will often be one of the first to throw down sponsorship bucks for community events like a 5K fun run or a local celebration.

This shopping season, I'll be getting on my feet and into small businesses when I'm searching for gifts for my friends and family. I know I'll find something unique. By supporting a local business, I'm making a big impact in my own communities – that's what I call value. I hope you'll join me. When small businesses thrive because of your support, everyone wins.

Ideas to counter hate and discrimination

By Rivera Sun

Many people in the United States are expressing concern over the rise of hatred, hate crimes, bigotry, racism, sexism, and Islamophobia. At the same time, a number of creative nonviolent responses have arisen for addressing discrimination and hatred on the ground. Here are a few stories from the past few weeks.

In Michigan, after someone threatened a young Muslim woman that he would set her on fire if she did not remove her hijab, the Muslim Student Association decided to hold a group Isha prayer (which happens at night) at University of Michigan to show that they are proud to be Muslim and will not let hatred and threats push them into fear. Concerned that there would be pushback, they asked allies to join them. To the MSA's surprise, 200 non-Muslims showed up on the cold night to stand guard in a protective circle around them.

In Sarasota Springs, Florida, swastikas were spray-painted on buildings and streets. One inspired person turned them into a message of love. The unknown person connected the legs of the swastika into a square where each section contains one of the letters L O V E. This was a smart and creative response to a symbol that has become synonymous with white supremacy, violence and hate.

In response to concerns that president-elect Trump would follow through with his campaign comments about establishing a Muslim registry and requiring all Muslims to sign up, thousands of non-Muslim Americans pledged that they would put their names on the registry if their Muslim brothers and sisters were required to do so. Jonathan Greenblatt, the head of the Jewish Anti-Defamation League, said

that he would, too. “If one day Muslim Americans will be forced to register their identities, then that is the day that this proud Jew will register as a Muslim,” Greenblatt said.

Sanctuary Cities nationwide state their positions: they're not backing down. Sanctuary Cities are municipalities that adopt a range of policies that resist unjust immigration laws and deportation practices. Since Election Day, mayors and police chiefs in more than 10 major cities, including San Francisco, Oakland, Los Angeles, New York, Portland, Chicago and Washington, D.C., have reaffirmed their commitment to upholding their sanctuary policies, even in the face of federal threats.

The Denver City Council issued an official proclamation to all of its citizens, announcing its position on inclusivity, justice, and freedom from fear of persecution. One part of the proclamation reads: “We commit to evaluate our systems of government with an inclusive lens. Our communities will foster and ensure equity, social justice and freedom from fear of persecution based on race, religious belief, country of origin, sexual orientation, gender, physical ability or age. Specifically, we must work together to support our brothers and sisters in communities of color, LGBTQ, immigrants, refugees, and those of the Muslim and Jewish faiths who at times have been targeted in unjust ways.”

Everyone has heard of the outspoken comments of the cast of the musical Hamilton. Vice-president-elect Mike Pence was in the audience and treated to a respectfully, but clearly worded statement from the performers. Cast member Brandon Victor Dixon said, “We, sir - we - are the diverse America who are alarmed and anxious that your new administration will not protect us, our planet, our children, our parents, or defend us and uphold our inalienable rights,” he said. “We

truly hope that this show has inspired you to uphold our American values and to work on behalf of all of us.” The statement set off a storm of reactions nationwide, including from president-elect Donald Trump. Pence, however, said he was not offended, and that the statement from the cast was, “what freedom sounds like.”

At Baylor University in Texas, a student harassed a young black woman, Natasha Nkhama, on Election Day, shoving her off the sidewalk and saying it was for whites-only. Two days later, 300 students walked with her to class to take a clear stand against racism and discrimination. Using the hashtag #IWalkWith-Natasha, they provided a powerful message to a nation reeling from the election results. They also tapped into the strength of collective action and protective accompaniment to ensure that the harassment not be repeated.

In many other places across the United States, including Gainesville, Fla.; Beloit, Wisc.; and Detroit, Mich.; people took to the streets in demonstrations, marches, and rallies to proclaim their solidarity and common humanity with all human beings. These actions focused on common humanity, rather than political figures, and emphasized love and support for those who are feeling or being targeted by hate speech, policy proposals, or potential cabinet choices of the incoming administration.

All of these actions, and many more, offer us examples of how we can organize and mobilize in our communities to take clear and proactive stances in support of respect, dignity, human rights, civil rights and liberties, inclusion, safety and justice.

Author/activist Rivera Sun, syndicated by PeaceVoice, is the author of The Dandelion Insurrection and other books, and the Programs Coordinator for Campaign Nonviolence.

Staples World

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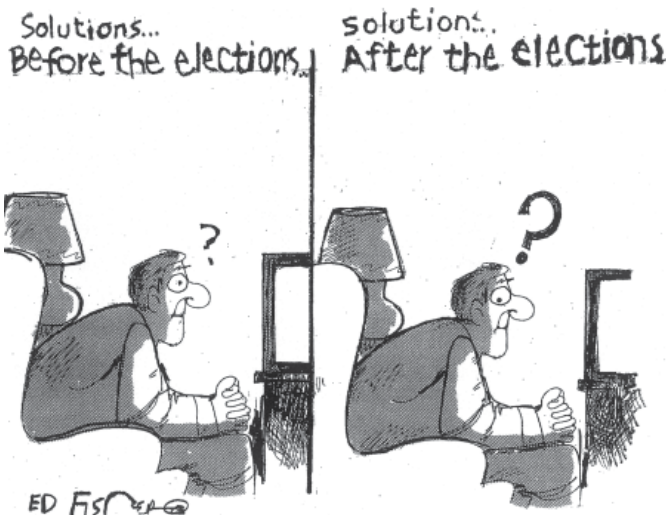
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The deadline is 5 p.m. Monday. Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily represent the views of this newspaper.

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

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Steve Johnson 218-352-6630
Pat O'Regan 218-316-7570
Al Yoder 320-630-9315
City Hall 218-352-6200



Farm Forum is Dec. 6 at CLC

Community members are invited to attend the 29th Annual Farm Forum Tuesday, Dec. 6 at Central Lakes College's Staples campus, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Registration begins at 9 a.m.

Attendees will hear from speakers on the current issues in agriculture. Topics include: Yearned tax planning hints, AgCentric/CLC Ag & Energy, township nitate testing, technology in

agriculture, and soil health and fertility.

The event is free and open to the public. When arriving on campus, enter door No. 3 or 4 and follow the signs. For more information email Keith at KOLander@clcmn.edu.

The forum is sponsored by First International Bank, the Farm Business Management program and the Ag & Energy Center at Central Lakes College.



Santa at the Lions meal

The Staples Host Lions are offering their free community meal Dec. 10 at the Staples-Motley High School cafeteria. Last year Santa Claus came to visit and spoke with Melissa Anderson and Elizabeth Tangeman. This year he is bringing Mrs. Santa along. (Staples World file photo)

Staples Host Lions set free Christmas meal

A free Christmas Community Appreciation Dinner will be served Saturday, Dec. 10, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Staples-Motley High School cafeteria.

The Staples Host Lions started the Christmas meal in 2007, replacing their Christmas Gift Basket project.

Santa and Mrs. Claus will also be available for photos with the children.

Everyone is invited and welcome to attend. There is no charge.

Staples Library events

The following activities are taking place at the Staples Public Library.

Minnesota Workforce Center visits - Dec. 1

A Workforce Center staff person will be available to assist adults at the Staples Public Library on Thursday, Dec. 1, 2-4 p.m. A Workforce Center staff person is available the first Thursday each month to assist job seekers with resumes, accessing online job sites and other one-on-one assistance.

Holiday gingerbread houses - Dec. 8

People of all ages are invited to make their own

holiday gingerbread house at the Staples Public Library on Thursday, Dec. 8, 4-7 p.m. Houses will be made using frosting, candies and graham crackers. All supplies are provided by the Friends of the Library. Attendance limit is 20 and registration is required.

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

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

Mark Your Calendar

December 7

STAPLES AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY CHRISTMAS PARTY Weds., Dec. 7, noon, Lions Bldg., Staples. Potluck lunch, bring wrapped gift for 'crazy bingo' game; and usual items. For info., 218-894-2254.

December 14

STAPLES SENIOR CITIZEN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY Weds., Dec. 14, 11:30 a.m., Staples Community Center: Meal, 11:45 a.m. Special music, entertainment, prizes. Reservations required. Call 218-894-2556 before Dec. 9.



Community Christmas Concert

The 2016 Community Christmas Concert will be Saturday, Dec. 10, at Sacred Heart Church at 310 4th St. NE, Staples, at 7:30 p.m. The Staples Area Men's Chorus, the Staples Area Women's Chorus, Colla Voce Girl's Choir and Central Minnesota Boys Choir will each perform selections before singing en masse. Audience participation is optional in singing Christmas carols while each group transitions to the stage. The acous-

tics in the church provides a rich sound that truly need to be experienced to fully appreciate. Seating is limited. Tickets are available online at www.staplesmen.org, from a chorus member, or at the Nelson Insurance Agency, 325 2nd Ave. NE, Staples, 218-895-5046. This photo is from the 2014 concert, the most recent one held at the church. (Submitted photo)

Free online conference for beginning farmers, ranchers

Minnesota Farmers Union (MFU) is offering an opportunity for new Minnesota farmers to learn innovative and important skills through a free, online multi-day conference organized by National Farmers Union (NFU).

"It is vital for family farmers to continue educating themselves on important topics, such as managing farm business and legal risks, learning about new technology, or about the Farm Bill," said Doug Peterson, MFU President. "This conference

will help beginning farmers, veterans looking to start farming, or farmers that have many years' experience. The best part about this virtual conference is that it can be attended from anywhere in the state, country or world."

Conference presenters include:

- Eric Sannerud, MFU member and Mighty Ax Hops CEO, 'To Save Farming We have to Save Farmers. Session begins at 6 p.m., followed immediately with a live Q&A session with Sannerud.

- Michael O'Gorman, 'Beginning Farmer Needs for Veterans.'

- Lisa Kivirist, 'How She Does It' Women Farmers Generating Income Through Diversification.'

This four day conference begins Monday, Dec. 5 and goes through Thursday, Dec. 8, from 4 - 7 p.m. each day. For a full schedule of events and to register for this free event go to www.nfu.org and look for Growing for the Future. Registration is open to everyone with an interest in farming.

Ag Water Quality Certification session set

Bradley Jordahl Redlin, Manager, Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program, will present a program Thursday, Dec. 15, from 3-4:30 p.m. at Land Services Building, 322 Laurel St., Brainerd, Lower Level, Meeting Room 2, (located behind the Historic Crow Wing County Courthouse). Free

parking is available in the county lot on the corner of 4th and Laurel.

The program is a voluntary opportunity for farmers and agricultural landowners to take the lead in protecting and improving water resources.

The MAWQCP certifies farmers and landowners for mitigating their risks

to water quality through a whole-farm (field by field, crop by crop) risk assessment that evaluates: physical field characteristics, nutrient management, tillage management, pest management, irrigation and tile drainage management, and conservation practices.

Producers interested in becoming certified also receive priority status for technical and financial assistance. Farmers and landowners who implement and maintain management and practices that mitigate risks to water quality across their entire operation are certified and in turn obtain regulatory certainty for a period of 10 years.

For questions contact Tasha Lauer at Crow Wing

County SWCD at 218-282-6197.

Holiday Tea

The Wadena County Historical Society will hold their annual Holiday Tea and Open House Thursday, Dec. 8 from 4-7 p.m. at the Wadena County Museum.

All are welcome to come and enjoy freshly brewed tea, holiday treats and live Christmas music.

The Wadena County Museum is located at 603 Jefferson Street North, Wadena. For more information call 218 631-9079 or email 603wchs@arvig.net.

Christmas Light Show

A 'Christmas Light and Music Show' will be on display at 26534 - 490th St. in Staples throughout the holiday season beginning Thursday, Dec. 1.

The show runs nightly from 6 - 11 p.m.; donations will go to the Staples-Motley Elementary School's PTC (Parent Teacher Connection).

Directions: Go south on Hwy 210 to Pine Grove Rd., then west for approximately one mile.

College Student Performances

THE ST. OLAF CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL, featuring students in the St. Olaf College Music Department, will perform Dec. 1 - 4, in Northfield. The theme of this year's festival is, "Light Dawns, Hope Blooms." It will be broadcast on public television and radio. Local students performing include:

- Anna Koopmann, Motley. She is a performance major and a member of the St. Olaf Orchestra. Anna is the daughter of John and Cindy Koopmann.

- Lucas Jimenez-Kloeckl. He is a member of the Viking Chorus. Lucas is the son of Francisco Jimenez Heredia and Tracey Kloeckl-Jimenez.

TRISTAN JENKINS, Staples, will be performing in the annual Christmas in Christ Chapel worship services at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Dec. 2 - 4. The evening performance on Saturday, Dec. 3, will be live streamed online for free beginning at 7:15 p.m. Jenkins is a senior at Gustavus Adolphus.

School board work session

The Staples-Motley School Board has set a special meeting and a work session for 7 p.m., Monday, Dec. 5, at the Motley media center.

The special meeting will take action to change the names on documents relating to financial matters due to the change in business office staff.

The work session will immediately follow. Agenda items include discussions on the tax levy and on the facility assessment.

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Motley / 352-6310
On/Off Sale/Off-Sale Specials

Happy Holidays!
No hall charge for your Christmas parties!

HAPPY HOUR :)
Monday - Thursday
6-7 p.m. & 9-10 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 2
*FREE Jukebox
Saturday, Dec. 3
*FREE Jukebox
NO MINORS AFTER 8:00 P.M.

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Wadena, MN

Screen 1
Now Showing thru Thurs Dec. 15
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:15 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:15
MATINEES SAT. & SUN. DEC. 3 & 4 AT 1:15 PM

Screen 2
Now Showing thru Thurs Dec. 8
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:10 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:10
MATINEE SUN. DEC. 4 AT 1:30 PM

Screen 3
Now Showing thru Thurs Dec. 8
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:10 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:10
MATINEES SAT. & SUN. DEC. 3 & 4 AT 1:15 PM

MATINEES AND TUESDAY BARGAIN NIGHT
ALL SEATS \$5.00!

FREE CHRISTMAS MATINEE!
Saturday December 3rd at 12:00 & 2:00 PM
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Santa Claus
The North Pole

Write your Letter to Santa and we'll publish it in our special Dec. 22 edition of the Staples World.

By Dec. 12 please bring it to our office at 224 4th St. NE, Staples, or mail it to us at PO Box 100, Staples, MN 56479

Then we'll send your letter on to Santa at the North Pole!

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Sat. Dec. 3
At Lefty's Bar in Staples
BEFORE-DURING-AFTER BINGO
Jack-Pot \$900

Come support our local baseball team!
*****FREE WILL DONATION MEAL*****
LIVE MUSIC 8-10PM
Acoustic Rock
With Lizzy Juergens & Jeremy Boxhorn



Clearing Veterans Park

Three Connections High School students chose to shovel out the Veterans Park instead of going to the Sadie Hawkins dance/roller skating party Nov. 23. They uncovered the pavers in time for Thanksgiving visitors. From left are Tyler Chounard, Tyler Gosch and Austin Boyer. (Submitted photo)

Staples-Motley High School honor rolls

The following students at Staples-Motley High School, grades 8-12, were named to the first term honor roll.

Senior A

Norah Anderson, Katherine Benson, Hunter Berggren, Alessia Corti Emily Cushing, Rachel Daly, Rebecca Daly, Noah Han, Taylor Heldman, Kyle Huepenbecker, Alisha Johnson, Reyd Jordan, Emmeline Klefsaas, Eric Lisson, Taeleigh Marlowe, Matthew Miller, Chelsea Nanik, Mikayla Sauber, Ashley Smith, Samantha Svendsen, Ezra Trantina, Grace VanAlst, Kelsie Weite, Taylor Yungbauer, Mackenzie Zetah

Junior A

Nicholas Allshouse, Anna Bloomquist, Mitchell Braith, Reid Busker, Zachary Carlson, Alexandra Davis, Haley Dietman, James Ehresman, Elizabeth Flansburg, Natilee Gabel, Chelsea Hofmann, Molly Lindgren, Rachel Paske-witz, Kelsi Peterson, Hope Ratajczak, Alyssa Vander-hoof, Kassidy White, Anna Willgohs, Claire Wolhowe

Sophomore A

Kallee Abbas, Jack Adamietz, Jeffrey Allen, Benjamin Bartczak, Andrew Bates, Jack Benson, Jordon Carlson, Bentley Christensen, Hannah Dolezal, Kiera Dumpprope,

Del Eckman, Finn Erholtz, Matthew Fisher, Ryan Gerard, Brooklyn Kovach, Reyes Luengo Muniz, Spencer Miller, Nancy O'rourke, Trenton Plopper, Torrence Salcido, Lilian Schneider, Kiara Storry, Sadie Thompson, Heather Wonders, Krystal Yoder

Freshman A

Tasha Achermann, Tiffany Achermann, Mackenna Bjerga, Owen Bjerga, Isaac Christoffersen, Juanita DeWald, Jaydon Friedel, Jonah Johnson, Benjamin Olander, Alixandra Peterson, Riley Peterson, Morgan Swecker, Jack Tyrrell, Izabelle VanAlst, Ryan Wick, Emmitt Winkels

8th grade A

Tabetha Allen, Abigail DiGiovanni, Beck Erholtz, Rose Han, Jady Kincaid, Mary Lund, Alex McIlravy, Torri Nienow, Ava Schneider, Maxwell Strickland, Cole Winkels

Senior B

Tesla Anderson, Cade Bestland, Aud-Helen Bjaanesoe, Jenna Brand, Aleesha Carlson, Hunter Carlson, Edilia Chinbaeva, Taylor Converse, Nicholas Crist, Corey Ekholm, Jack Fietek, Christopher Hart, Alexis Johnson, Maddison Johnson, Natalie Kleiberova, Maria Martinez, Dominic Nistler, Mardi Opheim, Haley Payne, Lissabeth Pierce,

Amber Robben, Samantha Schimpp, Gavin Smith, Zachary Strickland, Jenna Trantina

Junior B

Jordan Dechaine, Zachary Demars, Hillary Eblen, Rachell Fisher, Gaten Fleischacker, Emma Gerard, Maxwell Giza, Hailey Halvorson, Sydnie Johnson, Samuel Kern, Jorge Khalil Jr, Gage Kieffer, Kimberli Kronenberg, Draven Lane, Jonathon Lisson, Autumn Nelsen, Beau Nieters, Sara Oberlander, Colton Rau, Lukas Schmieg, Cesar Sotelo Aportela, Jakub Suchopar, Isaac Swendsrud, Colleen Wickman, Bryn Williams

Sophomore B

Joshua Carlson, Brayden Christensen, Morgan Dolezal, Blayne Dumpprope, Nicholas Franzen, Addison Hirschey, Larken Hirschey, Matthew Iaquinto, Macy Judd, Nicole Larson, Brittney Lisson, Joshua Lombard, Amy Michel, Evan Nanik, Deavon Olson, Jasiah Paskewitz, Sophia Roberts, Chastity Runge, Abbygayle Seamann, Jakob Stangle Scout Strickland, Jeffrey Sundstrom Jr, Sydney Wallace, Bryce Weber

Freshman B

Alexis Beach, Jackson Berg, Ashley Black, Jasmine Braith, Marie Brings, Cadee Carlson, Zeke Cline, Izaiah Demars, Kaila Erbe, Alecia Fall, Connor Fox, Dominic Hamann, Ethan Holmberg, Aidan Jaeger, Victoria Jenkins, Isaac Kern, Hunter Klimek, Elizabeth Kobliska, Issac Kronenberg, Maykayla Lambert, Amber Longworth, Valeria Lozano, Isabella Martin, Tyson Miller, Katelyn Olander, Paul Peterson, Lula Robinson, Jacynnda Rodeman, Brandon Rubink, Madeline Rutherford, Cael Sams, Cade Schmidt, Kaitlyn Smith, Nathan Stiner, Alana Sullivan, Joshua Trantina, Kayla Yoder

8th grade B

Emmet Anderson, Payton Bjerga, Alex Brings, Abigail Brown, Rebecca Brown, Haley Cichos, Hannah DeWald, Jenna Dvorak, Alexander Giza, Brooke Heldman, Hannah Heschke, Samuel Jennissen, Connor Macheel, Katherine Michel, Libby O'Neil, Adam Oberlander, Kyler Ottomoeller, Tanner Robben, Alexander Ross-Bahn, Amber Shequen, Kira Sweeney, Kristian Thompson, Alexis Tweeter, Logen Weite, Zaynie Zigmund

Sandy's Antique & Holiday Sale in Long Prairie

at Camp-S'more Camp-grounds, 24797 US 71, Long Prairie, MN 56347 (3/4 mi. N of Long Prairie)

THURS.-SUNDAY Dec. 1 - Dec. 4

9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Antiques *Christmas Décor *Cupola *Single Ice Fish House *Fun stuff

Sandy: 320-760-8632

SSW48p

Obituaries

Alan Case

Alan Case, 86, of Staples, passed away November 22, 2016, at the Central Todd County Care Center in Clarissa.

Services will be held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, Dec. 2, 2016 at Faith Lutheran Church in Staples with Chaplain Daryl Jacobson officiating. Visitation will held be one hour prior to services at the church.

Interment will be at Evergreen Hill Cemetery in Staples.

Arrangements are with the Brenny Funeral Chapel, Staples.

Alan was born August 15, 1930 in Staples to Cyril and Lillie (Johnson) Case. He graduated from Staples High School in 1949. Alan worked as a taxicab driver where he met his future wife. Alan married Nancy Spencer on October 4, 1952, in Staples. He went to work for Northern Pacific/ BNSF Railroad, retiring after 42 years. He enjoyed woodworking, gardening, cooking, was a jack-of-all trades and loved to tinker and was a member of the Still Cruisin' Car Club where he would show his antique car. He loved spending time with his grandchildren, great-grandchildren and other family members.

Alan is survived by one son, Brian (Brenda) Case of Waconia; three daughters, Nancy (Greg) Koval of Browerville, Elizabeth (Ted) Kraemer of Osakis and Dayna Mertens of Staples; nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife; an infant son; one son, Scott and two brothers, Robert Case and Cyril (Bruce) Case.

w48c A00006B2016DC01

Katherine Anderson

Katherine Anderson, 90, of Motley passed away November 26, 2016, at Lakewood Health System Care Center, Staples.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, Dec. 3, at 11 a.m., at the Motley Free Methodist Church. Visitation will be held from 9-11 a.m. at the church prior to services.

Interment will be at Motley City Cemetery.

Arrangements are with the Brenny Funeral Chapel and Cremation Service, Staples.

Katherine Mae Anderson was born February 3, 1926 in Grove Lake Township, near Glenwood, to James W. and Olive "Ollie" (Alberts) McDougale. In 1969, she married Phillip H. Anderson in North Dakota. She worked as a cook at Island View Lodge for many years and at several other places as a cook. She collected cookbooks, recipes, enjoyed baking and decorating wedding and birthday cakes, gardening, quilting and raising dogs. She was a member of Staples Alliance Church for many years, later attending Motley Free Methodist Church with her son.

Katherine is survived by three daughters, Bever-



ly Herman, Baxter, Barbara (Roy) Dobson, Chisholm and Marion (Rod) Beller, of Staples; two sons, Dwight "Ike" VanVickle and Robert (Wendy) Anderson, both of Motley; 16 grandchildren; 35 great-grandchildren; many great-great-grandchildren; and two sisiters; Delores Koob, Myrtle Jergenson, tow brothers; James McDougale, Jr., and John McDougale and many special "children" who she welcomed into her family over the years.

She was preceded in death by her husband; two daughters, Sheila and Diane; one son, Russell "Buck"; one grandson, David; and eight siblings, William, Gerald, Mabel, DeLaine, Caroline, Beatrice, Mary and Marcella.

w48c A00006B2016DC01

Joan Gajewski

Joan Kay Gajewski, 71, of Solway Township passed away November 13, 2016, at St. Luke's Hospice.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Nov. 17 at St. Raphael's Catholic Church, Hermantown.

Interment was at Calvary Cemetery, Duluth.

Arrangements were with Bell Brothers Funeral Home, Duluth.

Joan was born May 6, 1945 to Verl and Violet (Johnson) White in Eagle Bend. She grew up in Motley and graduated from Motley High School. She received her B.A. in education from Bemidji State University. She taught in The Red River Valley and in Silver Bay. She married Ronald Gajewski on August 23, 1975. After Joan retired from teaching she became an Avon consultant, was involved in several organizations: Two Harbors Youth Program, ADK Sorority, National and Diocesan Councils of Catholic Women, St. Raphael's St. Theresa's Circles, St. Raphael's youth program, Duluth Diocesan RCIA program, Solway Fire Dept., Flamette's Auxiliary, Solway Special Events committee, Proctor Soccer Fields committee, Munger PTA and she was named a Solway Citizen of the Year Award.

She enjoyed traveling, playing cards, reading and was a movie buff.

Joan is survived by her husband; one son, Jason Gajewski; one daughter, Jennifer (Ryan) Lundberg; two foster children, Mark Andres, Sr. and Mike Lofdahl; five grandchildren; one brother, Dairien White; one sister, Sharon Harrison; brother-in-law, Walter B. Gajewski; step-sister, Sandra (Kent) Kraft; two step-brothers, Gary (Elaine) Briggs and Gene (Willma) Briggs and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by one son, Nathan Gajewski and another angel baby; parents; step-father, Floyd Briggs, step-brother, David Briggs, brother-in-law, James Harrison; sister-in-law, LaVaune White; and mother and father-in-law, Mary and Walter Gajewski.

w48p A00006B2016DC01

John Eisenlohr

John Eisenlohr, 79, of New York Mills passed away November 29, 2016 at the Elders' Home in New York Mills.

Arrangements are pending with the Karvonen Funeral Home, New York Mills, www.karvonenfuneralhome.com.

w48c A00006B2016DC01

ANNUAL Christmas Boutique

***Friday, Dec. 2**
2 p.m.-8 p.m.

***Saturday, Dec. 3**
9 a.m.-12 p.m.

at my home in Motley:
7182 112th St. SW,
Signs will be posted.
Primitive and Holiday Décor
American Girl and Bitty Baby clothes *Fleece Mittens *
Srubbies *Cotton dish rags
*Towels *Much more

Questions call
Wendy Holub,
218-352-6365

80th Birthday
Bernice Holub Thomson



Friends and Family come and help celebrate,
Sunday, December 4
1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Motley United Methodist Church, Motley, MN



NEWLY REMODELED

- 50 lb. Washers
- 70 lb. Dryers

Car Wash Tokens Special

\$5 OFF On a 10 Token Package

Offer good Dec. 3-9, 2016

North 4th Car Wash & Laundry
920 4th St. NE, Staples



Staples-Motley School Board Minutes

**ISD #2170
SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING #4
Monday, Sept. 19,
2016, 7:00 p.m.
Staples-Motley High
School Media Center**

MINUTES

Call to Order

Roll call was taken with Freeman, Lund, Winkels, Hoemberg, Longbella and DiGiovanni present (comprising a quorum). Also attending were Supt. Klamm; Principals Johnson, Halverson and Schmidt; Business Manager, Lord; Com. Ed. Coordinator, Roline; SMEA Rep., Hogan; teachers, FFA students; Staples World Manager, Halvorson and Recording Secretary, Madson. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Lund to adopt the agenda with changes to the order of personnel items. MC MF

Consent Agenda:

DiGiovanni requested that #6 (Community Center Rental Agreement) be pulled from the consent agenda and acted on separately.

Motion by DiGiovanni, seconded by Longbella to approve the Consent Agenda items 3-5 and items 7-12. Motion Carried.

Discussion followed regarding the Community Center Lease. The usage and cost of the lease has increased significantly over the past two years. Most can be attributed to pool use for Adaptive PE and also gym space for BB practice.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Winkels, to approve the 2016-2017 Community Center Rental Agreement in the amount of \$84,251.49, with the stipulation that the agreement is reviewed in the upcoming year. Motion Carried

Finance Items

Ms. Lord presented the Financial Report.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Lund, to approve the Financial Report and Authorization to Pay Vouchers. Motion Carried.

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Longbella, to approve the 2016-17 Proposed Tax Levy for the maximum amount. Motion Carried.

Motion by Lund, seconded by Hoemberg, to approve the Letter of Engagement through 12-31-16. Motion Carried. Jenny Holmes will provide communication services (news releases, editorials, written communication, etc).

Motion by Freeman, seconded by Lund, to approve the 10 month contract with J & J Solutions in the amount of \$16,250. Motion Carried. Lisa Jenkins will provide the graphic design aspect of communications.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Winkels, to approve the agreement for EMS systems at \$80 per event. Motion Carried.

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Hoemberg, approve the 2016-2017 Service Agreement with Northern Pines for \$7,000. Motion Carried. This will provide for child and family in-house counseling services.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Freeman, to approve the 2015-2016 list of write-offs. Motion Carried.

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Longbella, to approve the 2015-16 Fixed Asset Deletion List. Motion Carried.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by DiGiovanni, to approve the credit reimbursement request for Lorna Bendson - \$3,014.53.

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Longbella, to approve the LCA Transfer Motion Carried. This is the smallest transfer needed since the start of LCA.

Personnel

Motion by Hoemberg, seconded by Longbella, to accept the resignation of Melissa Wright from EC. Motion Carried.

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Freeman, to approve the 2016-2017 contracts (agenda items #26-33) for the Paraprofessionals: Deb EagleTail, Melissa Wright, Kim Berggren, Dale Stoll, Kathy Rob-

ben, Robert Larson, Justin Genosky and Becky Templin; Grade 7. Motion Carried.

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Lund, to approve Penny Olsen as PLC Facilitator. Motion Carried

Motion by Winkels, seconded by DiGiovanni, to accept the resignation of Steve Hoemberg. Motion Carried

Motion by Freeman, seconded by Longbella, to accept the resignation of Huck Holst as Ticket Gate Manager. Motion Carried.

Motion by Lund, seconded by Winkels, to approve the increase of contract time for Deb Meyer. Motion Carried

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Longbella, to approve the 2016-2017 contract for Kaycia Ellingsen. Motion Carried

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Freeman, to approve the additions to the Coaching/Advisor Assignment List. Motion Carried

Motion by Freeman, seconded by Winkels, to approve the increase of contract time for Gloria Palmer. Motion Carried.

Other

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Hoemberg, to approve the Music Tour Field Trip Request. Motion Carried.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Freeman, to approve the designation of Mary Klamm as the District IOA for the MDE External User Access Recertification System. Motion Carried

Reports:

Supt. Klamm notified the Board that the annual evacuation drill scheduled for 9-23-16 has been cancelled. This same drill has been carried out for the past 10-15 years, and is too staged to be effective in a real emergency. She will be meeting with key people to assess our procedures make sure a plan is in place for a variety of situations.

Supt. Klamm has scheduled a tour of the district for Board members to look at completed and needed projects.

A thank you was extended to the Principals for their leadership and to staff for the great start to the year. She noted that spectators will now be stamped when they pay at the gate - this is a change. The first staff In-service day is Oct. 7 and the focus will be Technology implementation and culture.

SMEA - nothing

IIX. Adjournment

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Lund, to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried.

48pnc

**SCHOOL BOARD
WORK SESSION
MEETING #5**

**Monday, Oct. 3,
2016, 7-8:30 p.m.
Motley Media Center**

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order with Longbella, DiGiovanni, Winkels, Freeman and Hoemberg present (comprising a quorum). Also present were Supt. Klamm; Principals Schmidt, Johnson and Halverson; Assessment Coordinator, Swenson; Staples World Manager, Halvorson and Recording Secretary, Madson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

II. Facility Study

Guest presenter, David Drown, explained how his firm works with NJPA to provide services. They are currently expanding into more school areas and NJPA would pay half of the cost of a facility study which would be a substantial savings to the district. Supt. Klamm indicated she would like to begin looking at the usage of our buildings which do not meet the needs of all our students. Following the re-start, the impact is already beginning and this is an opportune time to start planning ahead.

Winkels referred to past

studies and questioned if that data could be used rather than going through the whole process again. Several members felt that it was too soon to evaluate needs following the re-start, and frustration over lack of communication was expressed - specifically in the area of test score comparisons.

When asked what a facility study would be looking for, the following were listed:

- Education is changing dramatically;

- Our district must meet the needs of our students and be attractive to families;

- There is opportunity for growth in both Motley and Staples communities;

- Complaints have been voiced about the appearance of buildings;

- Libraries/Media Centers are outdated;

- The district must have a roof replacement plan (there has been a plan in the past but it was not followed).

- Our buildings have no room for growth;

- We should be looking at other districts and communities with similar dynamics

- We are challenged by having 3 buildings (high plant and maintenance costs)

Freeman stated that the district needs to take advantage of growth opportunities.

After some discussion regarding how to proceed, it was determined that the Facility Committee Members (Lund and Hoemberg) should seek input from key areas (custodial, food service, administration, etc.) and another work session will be scheduled to present that information.

III. Student Data Review

Ms. Swenson presented an overview of the MN Multiple Measurement Rating System (MMR). Succeeds Act). Recommendations are being taken by MDE and the new plan will probably be implemented next year.

- It was noted that parents receive individual student results, but the MMR rating is a combined measure of the school.

- The MMR system looks at proficiency, growth, achievement gap reduction, and graduation rate (HS), with 75 points possible for elementary and middle schools and 100 points possible for high schools.

IV. Assessment Scores & Initiatives

Student Achievement Data will be presented at the next regular Board meeting.

Upcoming Dates and Meetings:

Tues., Oct. 4: CHS Board Meeting; 4:00 p.m. Room #601

Weds., Oct. 12: School Board Candidate Forum; 7:00 p.m.; Centennial Auditorium

Thurs., Oct. 13: SM Community Foundation Awards; Ted & Gen's

Mon., Oct. 17: School Board Meeting; 7:00 p.m.; Motley Media Center

Tues., Nov. 8: Election Day

Mon., Nov. 14: Canvass Election Results; 7:45 a.m. District Office

V. Adjournment

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Hoemberg, to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried.

48pnc

**ISD #2170
SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING #6**

**Monday, Oct. 17,
2016, 7:00 p.m.
Motley Media Center**

MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order with Longbella, DiGiovanni, Winkels, Freeman, Hoemberg and Lund present (Comprising a quorum). Also attending were Supt. Klamm; Business Manager Lord; Principal Halverson; Community Ed Coordinator, Roline; SMEA Rep., Hogan; Staples World Manager, Halvorson; Greg Frisk; and Recording Sec-

retary, Madson. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Chair Freeman asked to have agenda item #8 pulled from the Consent Agenda to be acted on separately.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Winkels, to adopt the agenda with the above change. Motion Carried.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Lund to approve the Consent Agenda #3-7 and #9-12. Motion Carried

8a. **Motion** by Lund, seconded by DiGiovanni, to rescind the motion from 9/19/2016 to approve the Community Center lease. Motion Carried.

8b. **Motion** by Winkels, seconded by Longbella, to approve the 2016-2017 Community Center Lease at \$70,675. Motion Carried.

Finance Items: (10-11-16 Finance Committee minutes 10-11-16; Facilities Committee minutes 9-26-16)

Ms. Lord presented the Financial Report dated September 30, 2016.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Lund, to approve the Financial Report and Authorization to Pay Vouchers. Motion Carried.

Review of the Under-Levy options as recommended by the Finance Committee

Three options have been presented; the final Levy is not certified until after the Truth & Taxation Hearing at the December Board meeting. Ms. Lord asked that the Board come to a consensus regarding the OPEB portion of the Levy so she has a number to work with, which they did - Option # 2 at \$36,771.01. This amount can be decreased but not increased.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Winkels, to approve removing Megan Martin's name from financial accounts and adding Bonnie Thoele to those accounts. Motion Carried.

Motion by Lund, seconded by Hoemberg, to approve moving ahead with a Quit Claim Deed back to the City of Staples. Motion Carried.

Motion by Winkels, seconded by DiGiovanni, to put the south side property out for bids, with the right to reject any bids. Motion Carried.

Motion by Lund, seconded by DiGiovanni, to approve the SM Community Foundation Grant Submission (Activity Day funding).

Motion by Lund, seconded by Longbella, to approve the SM Community Foundation Grant Submission (HS Reality Store). Motion Carried.

Staff Development

Presentation of the 2016-2017 Staples Motley Curriculum Council Plan of Action (Information only - no action needed)

Personnel:

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Winkels, to approve the Winter Extra-Curricular Coaches /Advisors. Motion Carried.

Motion by Lund, seconded by DiGiovanni, to accept the resignation request from Megan Martin; Payroll; eff. Sept. 30, 2016. Motion Carried.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Winkels, to accept he resignation of Marci Lord; Business Manager; eff. Oct.31, 2016. Motion Carried.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Hoemberg, to approve the contract for Jackie Tyrrell; ECSE program paraprofessional; eff. 10/13/2016. Motion Carried.

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Hoemberg, to approve the contract for Amanda Weishair; Elementary Paraprofessional. Motion Carried.

Motion by Winkels, seconded by DiGiovanni, to approve the contract for Matthew Holmquist; SRR Paraprofessional; eff. 10-12-2016. Motion Carried.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Winkels, to approve the increase in contract time for Mary Martin, Motley Food Service from six hours per day to seven hours per day. Motion Carried.

Motion by Longbella,

seconded by Winkels, to approve the contract for Taylor Marucha; Payroll/HR/ Risk Management Clerk; GR 12P; eff. 10-17-2016. Motion Carried.

Reports:

NJPA - August 16 minutes

Principals - Written reports included:

Supt. Klamm gave an update on the scheduled Activity Days. A committee of Admin., teachers and parents will be meeting; grants are being secured for funding; Transportation and Food Service will operate as usual on those days.

SMEA - staff appreciated the valuable planning time this morning prior to conferences.

Adjournment

Motion by Winkels, seconded by DiGiovanni, to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried.

48pnc

**SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING #7**

Canvassing

Election Returns

Monday, Nov. 14,

2016 7:45 a.m.

District Office

MINUTES

Roll Call was taken with board members Freeman, Longbella, Lund, Hoemberg, DiGiovanni and Winkels in attendance (comprising a Quorum). Also attending were Staples World Manager, Brenda Halvorson and Recording Secretary, Bonnie Madson. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

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

Canvass Returns of November 8, 2016 School Board Election

BALLOTS CAST:

Cass County 1,572
Morrison Cty. 1,861
Todd County 4,688
Wadena County ... 2,065
Total
Ballots Cast.....10,186

CANDIDATES:

Chad Longbella..... 3,025*
Bryan Winkels 2,769*
Creig Dobson 2,039
Greg Frisk..... 2,298*
Write in Votes 55
Total Ballots
Counted.....10,186

*Elected to four-year term starting January, 2017. Longbella and Winkels were incumbents; Greg Frisk will be replacing DiGiovanni.

The Clerk's Certificate as to Abstract and Return of Votes Cast was signed by Member DiGiovanni.

Resolution Canvassing Returns of Votes

Motion by Lund to adopt the Resolution Canvassing Returns of Votes of School District Election, showing Chad Longbella with 3,025; Winkels with 2,769; and Frisk with 2,298 votes. Motion for the adoption was seconded by Hoemberg. Voting in favor were Longbella, Freeman, Hoemberg, Lund, Winkels, and DiGiovanni. Opposed: none. Motion Carried. (The complete resolution can be viewed at the District Office)

Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Certificates

Motion by DiGiovanni to adopt the Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Certificates of Election after time of contesting has passed (seven (7) days) and they have filed a campaign financial report; and directing the School District Clerk to perform other Election related duties. Motion to adopt was seconded by Lund. Voting in favor were Longbella, Freeman, Hoemberg, Lund, Winkels and DiGiovanni. Opposed: none. Motion Carried. (Complete resolution can be viewed at the District Office).

Accept the Certificate of Election

Motion by Longbella, seconded by DiGiovanni, to give the Certificate of Election to Longbella, Winkels and Frisk. Motion carried.

a. Acceptance of Office & Oath of Office

Certificates will be given to new members, at least seven (7) days after the election when the con-

testing time has passed and they have turned in their campaign financial report.

Oath will be taken at the first meeting in January 2017.

Personnel

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Longbella, to approve the resignation of Marci Lord; eff. Nov. 11, 2016. Motion Carried. This is an extension beyond the previously approved date of Oct. 31, 2016

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Winkels, to approve the contract for Patricia Vacek; Business Manager; Gr 23P; eff. 11-16-16. Motion Carried.

Permission to add an (up to) .5 Accounts Receivable position to the Business Office Staff; Grade 11

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Lund, to add an (up to) .5 Accounts Receivable position to the Business Office. Motion Carried.

Permission to post for an (up to) .5 Accounts Receivable position; Grade 11

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Hoemberg, to grant permission to post for an (up to) .5 Accounts Receivable position; Grade 11. Motion Carried.

Motion by Lund, seconded by Freeman, to accept the resignation of Jackie Engebretson; Accounts Receivable/ Accounts Payable; eff. Nov. 14; contingent on the approval of the addition of the .5 Accounts Receivable position; Grade 11. Motion Carried.

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Freeman, to post for an Accounts Payable position; Grade 11. Motion Carried.

Adjourn

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Winkels, to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried.

48pnc

**SCHOOL BOARD
WORK SESSION
MEETING #8**

Tuesday, Nov. 15,

2016, 7-8:30 p.m.

High School Media

Center

MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order with Longbella, DiGiovanni, Winkels, and Freeman present (comprising a quorum). Also present were Supt. Klamm; Principals Schmidt, Johnson and Halverson; Buildings & Grounds Director, Peterson; Board Member Elect Frisk; Kevin Roline, Susan Estabrooks-Anderson, John Regan, Staples World Manager, Halvorson and Recording Secretary, Madson. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

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

Facility Items

- Supt. Klamm reviewed the district goals and 2020-21 Vision.

- The March 2015 Long Range Facilities Plan report was read.

- Pictures of the aging building brick were presented by LeRoy Peterson, indicating where tuck pointing is needed; along with disintegration and water damage at the HS, elementary and MS (old gym including the smokestack).

- A 10-year Reroof plan and budget was presented

- Each building principal presented a map of their building and provided an explanation about building usage.

- The 10-year Facilities Maintenance plan which was previously board approved and submitted to MDE, along with Health & Safety Projects and Levy information was available to the board.

Chair Freeman urged the group to call the Supt., LeRoy or building principals if they have any questions. Also, if staff have concerns or redesign wishes, they should contact their administration. It is evident the district has big decisions ahead.

Adjournment

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Longbella, to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried.

48pnc

Todd County Commissioners Minutes

MINUTES TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SEPTEMBER 6, 2016

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 6th day of September, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Becker. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners present.

Approval of Agenda

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

Routine Business

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Auditor Warrants number 227867 through 228065 in the amount of \$1,789,352.33.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number 44140 through 44283 in the amount of \$125,282.20.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Warrants number 69079 through 69252 in the amount of \$137,249.05 and number 511549 through 511590 in the amount of \$65,017.17.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for April 19, 2016, May 3, 2016, May 17, 2016, May 24, 2016, and May 31, 2016.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve a one year On Sale 3.2 Malt Liquor License for Eagle Mountain at the address of 33861 Breezy Drive, Burtrum, MN in Grey Eagle Township effective September 15, 2016 thru September 15, 2017.

Central Minnesota Housing Partnership

Discussion was held concerning the Central Minnesota Housing Partnership's request of the Reichert Place Apartment's Loan Forgiveness. More data will be researched and further action tabled until the September 20, 2016 meeting.

Soil & Water

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve advertising, interviewing, and selection of suitable candidate for the Wetlands Conservation Coordinator position at Grade 10-1B.

Sheriff's Office

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To hire Shane Carlberg as a Part-time Deputy, with an effective date of September 18, 2016 pending the passing of a background check, psychological and physical exam.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To hire Brian Madison as a Part-time Deputy, with an effective date of September 18, 2016 pending the passing of a background check, psychological and physical exam.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To hire Paul Amell as a Part-time Deputy, with an effective date of September 18, 2016 pending the passing of a background check, psychological and physical exam.

the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To hire Brian Lashinski as a Part-time Deputy, with an effective date of September 18, 2016 pending the passing of a background check, psychological and physical exam.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To hire Dan Lueth as a Part-time Deputy, with an effective date of September 18, 2016 pending the passing of a background check, psychological and physical exam.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To accept the resignation of Gene Ziegenhagen as a Part-time Deputy.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the resignation of Part-Time Jailor/Dispatcher Renee Wenner.

Health & Human Services

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the application for the Initiative Foundation Innovation Grant.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the request for Health & Human Services to change the hours of the Office Support Specialist II position (formerly titled Public Health Secretary under Hay) back to a full-time status.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the hire of Mari Ludwig to the position of Seasonal Energy Assistance Program worker at \$16.38/hour.

Auditor-Treasurer Report

Working on final budget information for the September 13 budget work session.

Commissioners' Report

The Commissioners reported on the meetings they had attended.
Coordinator's Report
MCIT Staff will be on site on September 13 for a data practices training. Consensus was taken that the Commissioner's Boardroom will remain locked when not in use. Currently working on policy changes/revisions for future review.

Adjourn

Commissioner Becker recessed the meeting until September 20, 2016.

AUDITOR WARRANTS	
Vendor Name	\$ Amount
ANOKA CO GOVERNMENT CENTER.....	\$15,159.00
VERIZON.....	3,018.39
WONDERLICH/SCOTT A.....	7,077.00
Payments less than \$2,000.....	6,698.15
AMERICAN HERITAGE BANK.....	44,425.66
COMPUTER PROS.....	4,417.00
GOULD/RHONDA M.....	2,727.00
LONG PRAIRIE SAN, INC.....	2,294.40
MN DEPT OF FINANCE.....	7,576.50
MORRISON COUNTY.....	19,326.45
PRAIRIE LAKES MUNI. SOLID WASTE AUTH.....	60,892.96
STEP.....	4,429.50
Payments less than \$2,000.....	12,632.35
BIG BIRCH LAKE ASSOCIATION.....	7,804.21
CARD SERVICES COBORNS.....	3,213.79
FLEET SERVICES/WEX BANK.....	4,104.66
GENE-O'S COUNTRY-SIDE REST LLC.....	7,843.10
MINNESOTA POWER & LIGHT.....	13,605.81
MINNESOTA VALLEY TESTING LABS.....	14,022.50
PETERS & CHURCHWELL.....	4,275.50
WATERGUARDS, LLC.....	22,083.00
Payments less than \$2,000.....	10,826.44
AMERICAN HERITAGE.....	6,245.28
CELLBRITE INC.....	3,299.00
COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE.....	2,485.00
FAHRNER ASPHALT SEALERS, LLC.....	5,910.88
HARDRIVES INC.....	1,128,870.52
KROHNFELDT/DARYL.....	27,206.40
LONG PRAIRIE OIL COMPANY.....	3,379.88
MITCH'S FUEL SERV.....	13,125.00
VOYANT COMM, LLC.....	3,484.18
Payments less than \$2,000.....	8,770.97
ALLIANCE BUILDING CORPORATION.....	14,345.00
PHEASANTS FOREVER.....	23,014.32
RESOURCE TRAINING	

AND SOLUTIONS.....	231,022.00
ROGERS/PATRICIA.....	6,186.15
STAPLES ADVANTAGE.....	6,120.10
TODD CO AUD-TREAS.....	13,478.50
VERIZON.....	2,542.23
Payments less than \$2,000.....	11,413.55
Total.....	\$1,789,352.33

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS	
Vendor Name	\$ Amount
ALL STATE COMMUNICATIONS.....	\$8,497.50
CENTRAL APPLICATORS INC.....	2,679.00
CENTRAL SPECIALTIES INC.....	8,214.01
COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION.....	3,545.55
DAKOTA WHOLESALE TIRE.....	4,973.40
DELL MARKETING L.P.....	4,758.49
ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE INC.....	3,198.64
MORRISON CO PUBLIC HEALTH SERV.....	5,174.30
NO NAME CONSTRUCTION.....	4,800.00
TRUENORTH STEEL.....	21,066.24
TURNKEY/THREE SQUARE MARKET.....	5,398.28
ZUERCHER TECHNOLOGIES LLC.....	17,069.00
Payments less than \$2,000.....	35,907.79
Total.....	\$125,282.20

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS	
Vendor Name	\$ Amount
COMMUNITY AND FAMILY SRVS LLC.....	\$4,425.99
KINDERCARE EDU LLC.....	2,412.00
KINDRED FAMILY FOCUS.....	3,019.41
MERIDIAN SERVICES INC.....	2,537.31
MINNESOTA CONSTRUCTION INC....	6,600.00
NORTH HOMES CHILD. & FAMILY SRVS.....	9,508.44
NORTHERN PINES MENTAL HLTH CTR.....	4,202.80
PRODUCTIVE ALTERN. INC - FERG.....	2,127.02
VILLAGE RANCH INC.....	3,266.74
WEST CENTRAL REG JUVENILE CTR.....	4,760.00
Payments Less than \$2,000.....	22,157.46
Total.....	\$65,017.17

Vendor Name	\$ Amount
CENTRAL MN COUNCIL ON AGING.....	2,534.00
DANIEL FUNERAL HOME - ST CLOUD.....	4,250.00
DHS - MSOP- MN SEX OFFENDER PROG.....	6,882.00
DHS - SWIFT.....	46,716.56
FRESHWATER ED. DISTRICT.....	12,382.00
RURAL MN CEP INC.....	14,489.39
V#14070 COST EFFECTIVE HEALTH INS.....	4,082.40
167 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000.....	45,912.70
Total.....	\$137,249.05

On a motion by Erickson and seconded by Kircher, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held September 6, 2016 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on November 1, 2016.

Witness my hand and seal:

Barb Becker, Todd County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

Minutes of the Special Closed Board Meeting of the Todd County Board of Commissioners held on September 13, 2016

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 13th day of September, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Becker. All Commissioners present.

Closed Session

Chairperson Becker asked for a motion to close the board meeting to proceed into a Closed Session to discuss matters of an employee subject to the authority of the County Board regarding separation from employment. This meeting is being held pursuant to Minnesota Statute Section 13D.05 Subd. 3(b) attorney-client privilege. Therefore, the meeting is being closed so the County Board can make an informed decision with the advice of counsel; that advice cannot be freely given where the opponent can listen; that tax dollars are at stake in the event of a poor or uninformed decision; that nothing beyond the specific matter justifying the closure will be discussed.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the meeting was closed at 11:01 a.m. Closed session was held within the small Commissioner's Room.

Chairperson Becker reopened the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Adjourn

Commissioner Becker recessed the meeting until September 20, 2016.

On a motion by Erick-

son and seconded by Kircher, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held September 13, 2016 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on November 1, 2016.

Witness my hand and seal:

Barb Becker, Todd County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

MINUTES TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SEPTEMBER 20, 2016

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 20th day of September, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Becker. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners present.

Approval of Agenda

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

Routine Business

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number 44284 through 44389 in the amount of \$81,806.61.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Warrants number 511591 through 511698 in the amount of \$170,687.38.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for June 7, 2016 and June 21, 2016.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Region V Lease Agreement effective from October 1, 2016 through December 31, 2021.

On motion by Erickson and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the attached Hockey Lease Agreement effective from September 15, 2016 through March 31, 2018.

Finance Committee

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

A RESOLUTION

ADOPTING THE 2017 PRELIMINARY LEVY

WHEREAS, the Laws of the State of Minnesota direct that the Todd County Board of Commissioners are required to approve by resolution a preliminary levy no later than September 30 annually, and;

WHEREAS, The Todd County Board of Commissioners have considered the financial situation of the County and had an opportunity to deliberate the levying of property taxes upon property owners within the County.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve the 2017 preliminary levy for Todd County, for property taxes payable in 2017 per table below, with the

authority to reduce this levy before the final levy deadline of December 30 2016.

Public Works

On motion by Neumann and second by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To set the 2016 Fall Road Meeting for November 2, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Public Works Long Prairie Shop located at 44 Riverside Drive, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

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

Approval to Initiate the Process to Sell County Owned Parcels 36-4013300 & 36-4014300 (Impound Lot and STS Wood Sale Lot)

WHEREAS, Todd County has been approached by Long Prairie Packing Company, LLC to consider selling two County owned parcels that contain the Sheriff's Impound Lot, Veteran's Service Garage, and the Sentence to Serve Wood Sale Lot (Parcel ID 36-4013300 and Parcel ID 36-4014300), and;

WHEREAS, the County has compiled a cost estimate to provide for full replacement of these lots which would be located in the City of Long Prairie's Industrial Park with a value of replacement being \$277,183.00, and;

WHEREAS, the sale of these parcels would provide for new County buildings, increased tax base and reduction of potential farm vehicle interaction on County State Aid Highway #56, and;

WHEREAS, the sale of these parcels will need to be sold on a public auction to provide opportunity for all interested parties to submit a bid for purchase.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners instructs the County Engineer to proceed with the process to initiate the public sale of County owned Parcels 36-4013300 and 36-4014300; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Engineer has been granted the authority to work with a local real estate attorney to provide legal services for the County to help negotiate the public sale of these parcels; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the minimum bid for the sale of these parcels shall not be lower than the estimated replacement cost of \$277,183 and any associated legal real estate fees.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the County Engineer to be a signatory for the County on the attached easement upon receipt of the final version of the easement from Minnesota Power which will contain the updated legal description.

Central Minnesota Housing Partnership

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To deny the Reichert Place Apartments Loan Forgiveness Request.

Big Swan Lake Improvement District

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Big Swan Lake Improvement District 2017 - 2021 budget plan, an assessment to 165 property owners in the amount of \$95 per property owner, to-

taling \$15,675 per year.

Initiative Foundation

Jeff Wig, Initiative Foundation and Rick Utech, Todd County Development Corporation presented information to the board on the Initiative Foundation's undertakings and accomplishments.

Solid Waste

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

MARKET PRICE FOR THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT TAX

WHEREAS, the solid waste management tax requires political subdivisions to identify by resolution a market price if the political subdivision: Subsidizes the cost of service at a facility, and;

WHEREAS, the political subdivision will be liable for the solid waste management tax based only on the market price amount identified through this resolution, and;

WHEREAS, the market price is identified in state statutes as the "lowest price available in the area", and;

WHEREAS, Todd County has performed research to identify the lowest price available in the area;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Todd declares a market price of \$65 per ton at the Morrison County Landfill.

Health & Human Services

On motion by Kircher and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Energy Assistance Program Contract and Internal Controls Documentation for FFY2017.

On motion by Kircher and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the hire of Amanda Allen to fill an open position as a Child Protection Social Worker at Grade 10, Step 1-\$23.26/hr.

Human Resources

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve filling the full-time position of Payroll Specialist in County Administration.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the continued part-time status of Lisa Herges as County Coordinator/Human Resources at 2/5 time and 2/5 pro-rated salary effective the week of September 25, with work days alternating Thurs/Fri and Mon/Tue from week to week through November 15, 2016.

Auditor-Treasurer Report

Absentee voting for the General Election begins on September 23. Election Equipment Testing will be performed over the next couple weeks. Real Estate taxes are increasing in daily traffic.

Commissioners' Report

The Commissioners reported on the meetings they had attended.

Coordinator's Report

MCIT meeting was held last week and recommends to not necessarily record the open meetings but instead only record what we are legally bound to record. Currently working on a new personnel policy. Currently working on a proposal for NeoGov software to allow a better management process to accept, screen, and process job applicants.

Adjourn

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

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS	
Vendor Name	\$ Amount
CENTRAL SPECIALTIES INC.....	13,471.44
ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE INC.....	3,926.73
GOVCONNECTION INC.....	3,500.70
HORIZON ROOFING INC.....	2,560.00
LONG PRAIRIE OIL CO ...	3,234.04
M-R SIGN CO. INC.....	6,749.00

TCC continued on page 9a

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

MORTGAGOR(S): Andrew M. Froehle, Trustee of the Andrew M. Froehle Living Trust Dated June 28, 2001

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., a Delaware corporation, as nominee for Summit Mortgage Corporation, a Minnesota corporation

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association by assignment recorded on December 29, 2014 as Document Number A492526 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to Federal National Mortgage Association by assignment recorded on October 11, 2016 as Document Number 501165 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$212,500.00

DATE OF MORTGAGE: May 7, 2009

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on July 9, 2009 as Document Number 463550 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$202,227.66

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lots 23 and 24, Block 8, Sylvan Shores South, Todd County, Minnesota

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 28453 OTTAWA DR, BROWERVILLE, MN 56438

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Todd County, Minnesota

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Elec-

tronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Summit Mortgage Corporation, a Minnesota corporation

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Seterus, Inc.

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 26-0043100

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 100061907000094672

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

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

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: January 5, 2017 at 10:00 AM

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

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

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on July 5, 2017.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE

MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED. MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: November 4, 2016

FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION Mortgagee

THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A.

By: /s/ Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq. N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq. *Curt N. Trisko, Esq.* Samuel R. Coleman, Esq. Attorneys for Mortgagee The Academy Professional Building 25 North Dale Street St. Paul, MN 55102 (651) 209-9760 (16-0983-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

45-50pnc

TCC continued from page 8a

OFFICE VENTURES.....	2,225.00
SHIRLEY'S GAS & GROCERIES.....	2,659.53
TODD CO AUDITOR-TREASURER.....	3,106.73
TODD COUNTY TREASURER.....	3,248.80
TURNKEY/THREE SQUARE MARKET.....	2,226.22
US POSTAL SERVICE.....	4,980.00
Payments less than \$2,000.....	29,918.42
Total.....	\$81,806.61

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS

Vendor Name	\$ Amount
# 14471.....	2,074.21
ANU FAMILY SERVICES INC.....	3,000.00
CENTRAL MN MENTAL HLTH CTR.....	4,895.00
#4453.....	5,015.00
GREATER MN FAMILY SRVS INC.....	2,818.31
HEARTLAND GIRLS RANCH.....	8,219.40

HOLISTIC FAMILY EDUCATION SRVS.....	4,323.34
#11617.....	2,744.47
KINDRED FAMILY FOCUS.....	3,190.85
LUTHERAN SOCIAL SRVS OF MN-ST PAUL.....	3,937.31
#10746.....	3,164.79
NORTH HOMES CHILD. & FAMILY SRVS.....	4,477.00
NORTHERN PINES MENTAL HLTH CTR.....	5,030.50
#14051.....	4,143.92
PARENT ED. SERV.....	2,067.00
#14162.....	2,272.92
PINEHAVEN YOUTH AND FAMILY SRVS INC.....	7,758.37
PORT OF CROW WING GIRLS HOME.....	2,211.00
STEP.....	7,711.30
#14203.....	2,690.80
VILLAGE RANCH INC.....	18,962.49
WEST CENTRAL REG JUVENILE CTR.....	3,312.50
#14480.....	2,370.49
Payments less than \$2000.....	64,296.41

Total:.....\$170,687.38

On a motion by Erickson and seconded by Kirchner, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held September 20, 2016 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on November 1, 2016.

Witness my hand and seal:

Barb Becker, Todd County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

48pnc

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Staples World

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

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

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

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

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

Faith Lutheran
430 12th Street. NE., Staples
218-894-1546
Sunday Worship.....8:30 a.m.
Worship Service.....8:30 a.m.
Sunday School.....9:35 a.m.
and Coffee Fellowship.....9:35 a.m.
Worship Service.....10:45 a.m.

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

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

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

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

United Methodist
310 5th St. NE, Staples.....218-894-2248
Pastor Greg Ciesluk
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.
(Nursery Available for Sunday Worship)
Sunday School (for grades K-12 and adults)
.....9:15-10:15 a.m.

Aldrich

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

Balsamlund Lutheran
19550 490th Street, Aldrich
Eric Clapp.....701-261-2394 (cell)
Sunday Worship.....8:15 a.m.
Sunday School.....8:30 a.m.

Cushing

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

Lincoln Evangelical Free
1354 320th St., Cushing.....218-575-2449
www.lincolnefree.org Facebook Lincoln E Free
Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Friday Office Closed
Visitation Pastor: Jim Brown
Youth Coordinator: Kelly Gelle

SUNDAY
Sunday School for all ages.....9:00 a.m.
Worship Gathering.....10:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Praise & Prayer.....4:30 p.m.
Kids' Club.....6:00 p.m.
Jr./Sr. Forge Youth Group.....6:00 p.m.

Cushing Baptist
26298 Bear Rd., Cushing
www.cushingbaptistchurch.org
Pastor Dan Holmes.....320-749-2583
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Worship.....10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible study.....7:30 p.m.

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

Leader

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

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

Motley

Motley Free Methodist
33 Wellwood St. E
Motley 56466.....218-352-6888
Pastor Jim Johnson
Assistant Pastor Richard Broberg
Sunday Worship.....9:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School.....10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Kids Club.....4:00-5:30 p.m.
Youth Group.....5:30-7:30 p.m.

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

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

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

Oylen

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

Pillager

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

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

First Baptist

903 River Street South, Pillager
Pastor Skip Hansen
218-746-3768
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Children's Church.....9:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Adrenaline Youth Group.....5:45 p.m.

Hewitt

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

Verndale

Verndale Alliance
109 NW Brown Street, Verndale, MN 56481
218-445-5619
Senior Pastor Tony Stanley
Heath Belknap, Pastor of Student Ministries
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Bible Fellowship Classes.....11-11:45 a.m.

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

Family Life Church
402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale
Church.....218-445-5568
VerndaleFLC@gmail.com
Pastor Amos Self.....218-371-7189
Children's Pastor Kenneth Kjeldergaard
Sunday School - Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship.....10:00 a.m.
Prayer & Praise.....6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
6:00 p.m.....Family fellowship meal
6:30 p.m.....Bible Study groups, all ages

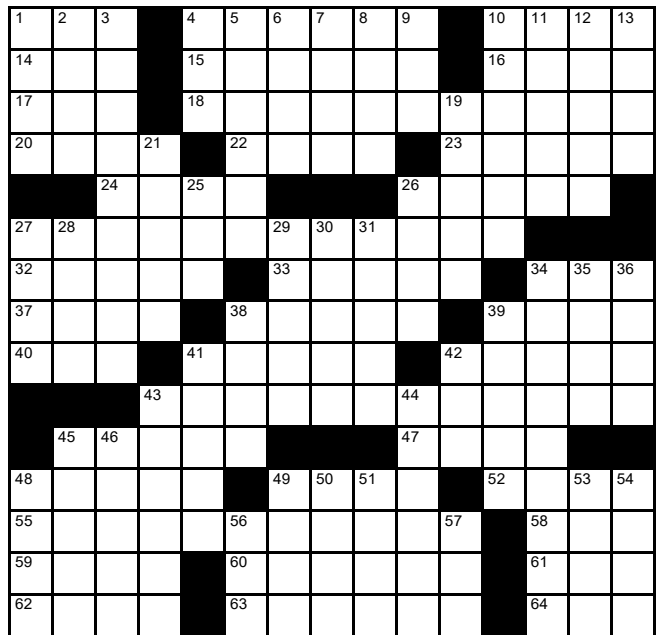
Verndale United Methodist
10 3rd Ave. SW, Verndale
218-445-5108
Pastor Jill Pawlowski
Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.

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

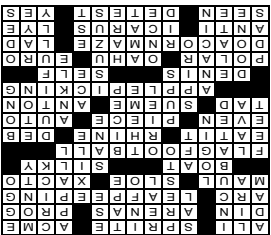
Crossword Puzzle

Provided by American Profile

Week 48



- “Autumn Activity”
- Across
- 1 Muhammad ____
- 4 Fairy tale figure
- 10 Culmination
- 14 Hullabaloo
- 15 Sites for fights
- 16 Genesis genre
- 17 Semicircle
- 18 Autumn activity #1
- 20 Stake driver
- 22 Blackthorn fruit
- 23 Kind of knife
- 24 Dinghy or dory
- 26 Soft to the touch
- 27 Autumn activity #2
- 32 Hit for “Weird Al”
- 33 German wine valley
- 34 Cotillion girl
- 37 Fifty-fifty
- 38 Chessman
- 39 Short car?
- 40 Bit
- 41 “So I lied!”
- 42 Playwright Chekhov
- 43 Autumn activity #3
- 45 Actor Leary
- 47 Narcissist’s love
- 48 Frigid
- 49 Home to Honolulu
- 52 Continental coin
- 55 Autumn activity #4
- 58 Sprout
- 59 Oppositionist
- 60 Mythical flyer
- 61 Alkaline liquid
- 62 Observed way
- 63 Hate
- 64 Sycophant s answer
- Down
- 1 Garden figure
- 2 Old Italian bread
- 3 Developed, as in a lab
- 4 Baseball’s Maglie
- 5 Magician’s word
- 6 Honest
- 7 Scoop
- 8 Scotch ____
- 9 Vane dir.
- 10 Revolt
- 11 Pain in the neck
- 12 Python
- 13 Circular waffle
- 19 Cast out
- 21 Register
- 25 Sternward
- 26 All there
- 27 Toe locales
- 28 Molten spew
- 29 Bay window
- 30 School assignment
- 31 Push up muscle
- 34 In an obedient way
- 35 English boys’ school
- 36 Bell sound
- 38 Little labs
- 39 Sprain site
- 41 V.P. Agnew
- 42 One-spot
- 43 Aleve alternative
- 44 Japanese cars
- 45 “Lorna”
- 46 Make giddy
- 48 Handhelds
- 49 A while back
- 50 Part of a Latin trio
- 51 Jumper
- 53 Actress Martha
- 54 Keatsian works
- 56 Purge
- 57 Guess: Abbr.



Answers

“Prepare the way of the Lord, Make straight his paths.”

Fr. Joseph E. Korf, Pastor
Church of Sacred Heart, Staples, Church of St. Michael, Motley

As you read this reflection Christians will have celebrated the First Sunday of the Advent Season. The above quote is taken from the Gospel for the Second Sunday of Advent. Luke uses this passage from the Prophet Isaiah to point out the legitimacy of John the Baptist as the voice that was to herald the coming of the Messiah. The message of John the Baptist was “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” John the Baptist’s voice was the one that changed the lives of many people who were going out to see him as he was baptized at the Jordan River. In many ways John’s voice was a voice of hope for the people who were coming to see him. They could hear that God did not abandon them even in their sinfulness. They were challenged to change their lives. Some accepted this with great hope that not all was lost for them. Others, such as the Pharisees and Sadducees, questioned John’s legitimacy as a prophet and as one who was the herald of the Messiah’s coming.

We, as human beings, cannot live without hope. Unlike animals, we are blessed with the ability to think about the future. So essential to humankind is this gift of hope that to live without it leads only to despair. It is in this context of hope that Christians share in this Advent Season with its two-fold character. The first portion of this season is from the First Sunday of Advent until December 16 during which time we are invited to look forward with hope to the Second Coming of Christ at the end of time and to prepare daily for that event to occur. From December 17 until Christmas Eve the focus of Advent, our hope is enriched by the immediate preparation for the celebration of the remembrance of the First Coming of Christ. For these two reasons, Advent can be referred to as a time of devout and expectant delight.

May these full four weeks of Advent be a time filled with renewed hope for all of us!

“Maranatha,” Come, Lord Jesus!

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Special school lunch



Students at Staples-Motley Elementary School were treated to a special Thanksgiving lunch Nov. 22, complete with turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, stuffing and pumpkin-spice yogurt dessert. Volunteers with the Staples-Motley Elementary PAC (Parent Teacher Connection) decorated the cafeteria and helped serve the meal. Pictured above, from left are: Miley Nordquist, Alea Holst, Abby Miller, Jackson Alexander, Jessica Alexander (Jackson's mom/parent volunteer); Mavis Johnson

(paraprofessional at Staples-Motley Elementary), Domanick Dause, Levi Larsen, Jessica Dukowitz. Pictured in lower photo from left are Ginger Stiner, kindergarten teacher; Hannah Holker, Henry Zimmerman, Ella Van Etten, Jackson Odden, Derek Gonzalez, Aubrey Lang. The students in both photos are kindergartners. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

Youth Concerto Competition applications now available

The Heartland Symphony Orchestra (HSO) invites students or any other young musicians to audition for the 2017 Youth Concerto Competition.

Auditions will be held Saturday, Jan. 28, from 9 a.m.-noon at the St. Francis Music Center in Little Falls. Up to two winners will perform with the HSO at its spring concerts:

- Friday, March 31 at 7:30 p.m. Pequot Lakes High School Auditorium, Pequot Lakes.

- Saturday, April 1, 7:30 p.m. Charles D. Martin Auditorium, Little Falls.

- Sunday, April 2, 2:30 p.m. Tornstrom Auditorium, Brainerd.

This season marks the 40th anniversary of Heartland Symphony Orchestra. The 2017 Spring Concert Series is "Destinations."

Students residing in the HSO's Central Minnesota service area may audition

on piano, strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion, and voice, and must prepare a work from the standard concerto literature with orchestral accompaniment. Instrumentalists are asked to prepare one movement of a concerto or the equivalent. Vocalists should prepare two contrasting songs or arias.

A winner will be selected from each of two age categories: grades 10-12 and grades 9 and under.

In addition to performing in concert with the Heartland Symphony Orchestra, winners will receive a recording of their performance and a \$500 award, thanks to a grant from Crow Wing Community Trust.

The application deadline is Friday, Jan. 13. The application form and rules may be found and submitted on www.heartlandsymphony.com. For questions

contact the Heartland Symphony Orchestra office at 1-800-826-1997 or by email at HeartlandSymphony@gmail.com.

The Heartland Symphony Orchestra is a 50-piece volunteer, non-profit, community orchestra, serving Central Minnesota areas of Brainerd, Little Falls, and the surrounding rural communities. Musicians, from amateurs to professionals, from all over the region rehearse weekly and perform three full-length orchestral music concerts each season.

Heartland Symphony Orchestra's Winter Concert will be held Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the Little Falls High School and Dec. 4 at 2:30 p.m. at Tornstrom Auditorium in Brainerd. Concert goers are invited to Conductor Chats with Alexander Corbett 45 minutes prior to each concert.



The 80's craze for Sadie Hawkins

The Sadie Hawkins dance held Nov. 23 at Staples-Motley High School had an 80's theme, with students playing Atari video games on a small-screen TV (center left) and wearing neon colored shirts with Zubaz sweats (Camryn Banaka and Mason Rychner, center right). In the top photo roller skaters take a break from their skating to film a mannequin challenge, where students stay still like mannequins while a video is recorded of their poses. In the bottom photo Staples-Motley eighth grade students rocked and rolled..... to music/fashion of the 80's. They roller skated laps around the gym, while others danced in the center of the track. Limbo challenges/fancy moves were also a part of the fun. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

MnDot's Statewide Freight System Plan released

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) recently released the 2016 Statewide Freight System Plan, which guides the agency and its partners in preserving and improving the state's freight transportation system.

The freight plan describes the state's current freight system and its role in Minnesota's economy, current and emerging trends, system performance and current and future issues and needs. The 2016 plan is one of MnDOT's transportation plans that support the Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan and the Minnesota GO 50-year for transportation in the state.

"Our freight transportation system allows Minnesota industries and businesses to move their goods and products to market, both within and

outside Minnesota, including internationally," said MnDOT Commissioner Charlie Zelle. "The freight system also serves our communities and Minnesota consumers; it needs to be reliable, safe and efficient."

Freight tonnage is expected to grow significantly by 2040, demanding improvements in the condition and capacity of freight infrastructure, including roads and bridges, rail lines and ports, according to Bill Gardner, Freight and Commercial Vehicle Operations director.

"From the beginning, the public-private advisory committee that guided the development of the plan made clear that its objective was a realistic action plan," he said. "The plan's action agenda outlines the next steps that MnDOT and its freight industry partners can take to keep pace

with the expected growth."

The action agenda addresses challenges and strategies that will improve performance for highways, rail, waterways and air. The highest priorities for future action are system reliability, safety, congestion, bridge and pavement condition and economic development.

The Minnesota Freight Advisory Committee was instrumental in helping MnDOT develop the plan and will oversee and help guide its implementation in the future, Gardner said.

"An efficient and effective freight transportation system will help us maintain our economic competitiveness in the national and global marketplace," said Bill Goins, MFAC chair.

The plan and a video explaining the plan development are online at www.mndot.gov/planning/freightplan/index.html.



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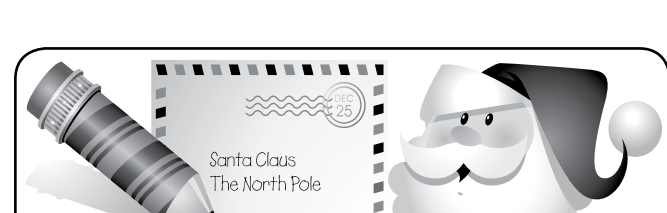
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Write your Letter to Santa and we'll publish it in our special Dec. 22 edition of the Staples World.

By Dec. 12 please bring it to our office at 224 4th St. NE, Staples, or mail it to us at PO Box 100, Staples, MN 56479

Then we'll send your letter on to Santa at the North Pole!



2 Tall Tavern now open in Cushing



John Brichacek is following his dream

John Brichacek, owner of 2 Tall Tavern in Cushing (the former Hitchin Rail), is pictured at one of the granite-top tables in the remodeled bar and grill he opened Nov. 1. Brichacek has worked a variety of construction jobs over the years, but said it had been his dream for quite some time to own his own bar/restaurant. When he learned that The Hitchin Rail was for sale, he decided to make his long-time dream a reality. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

The 2 Tall Tavern in Cushing is the place to go if you're looking for fresh food, cold beer and a family-friendly environment where you can kick up your heels for awhile and share some cheer (and a few too-tall tales) with friends.

John Brichacek of Motley is the owner of the Lincoln Lakes area establishment, formerly known as The Hitchin Rail.

"I bought it from Al and Renee Pomerleau Oct. 17 and opened Nov. 1," John said, adding that during the 13-day transition, extensive remodeling took place.

"We repainted the entire building, remodeled the bathrooms, added a waitress station, redid the kitchen and added eight TV's, so now there are 12," he said. "We also added neon (signs), a popcorn machine, pull-tab machine and a granite foot rail at the bar."

The foot rail isn't the

only sign of granite at the 2 Tall Tavern. All of the table tops are granite, as are the bathroom counters and portions of the bathroom walls. "I think the bathrooms turned out great," John went on, noting that each stall has its own private door.

He was able to do a lot of the construction work himself, along with assistance from family and friends.

"I've been in construction my entire life," John said, adding, "I worked with my dad (Lonnie Brichacek) for 13 years at his granite shop in Motley (Brichacek Stone); and then I had my own business for two years, JLB Handyman Service."

John pointed out that he and his dad built all of the tables for 2 Tall Tavern. "I designed the table bases... only one other bar in Minnesota has them."

The last remodel job he completed prior to working at the 2 Tall Tavern was at BRICKS Travel Plaza in Motley, owned by his relatives. "I'm proud of how that turned out," John said.

Although he enjoyed what he did and found it rewarding, "It was a lot of hard work" and not a career path he ultimately wanted to be on. "Working outside in the winter could be brutal," John said.

In the back of his mind, he couldn't let go of his dream to open his own bar and grill, something he had contemplated since graduating from Browerville High School in 2000.

"I actually first heard about this place four years ago," John said, sharing that he had taken steps to purchase The Hitchin Rail at that point. "The timing just wasn't right," he added.

Then, not too long ago, he decided to pursue his dream once again, inspired by a mishap at his construction job.

"I hit my finger with a hammer and said, 'I'm done,'" John said, adding that he went home and started making plans that day toward purchasing The Hitchin Rail.

Things came together fairly smoothly this time

around.

"I really have to thank Steve Gertken at First International Bank and Trust in Staples," John said. "He was a huge help in getting us off the ground."

Once the paperwork was complete, John went to work with the remodeling, as well as learning the in's and out's of restaurant ownership. "I had about four months worth of homework," he said.

"Al and Renee were awesome," John said of the former bar owners who spent time with him, offering their expertise. "The former owners of Pit 611 in Detroit Lakes, Jay and Beth Olness, also came down here to help train our staff. They were here all of November."

"There's still a lot to learn. I don't think I'll ever stop learning," John said, adding, "It's exciting."

John's eyes light up as he gives a guided tour of 2 Tall Tavern.

There is a Bose sound system throughout, programmed to play music videos and various sports games. "With 12 screens, we can have the Gophers playing on one screen and another game on the other," John said.

For those who like to play games, there is a pool table and several dart boards. "We have two in-house leagues formed," John said. Card players will enjoy the granite blackjack table.

It's the food and beverage selection, however, that John is most passionate about. "All of our burgers are fresh, with a special seasoning that gets mixed in," he said, adding that he is the only one who knows the recipe. "We have our own popcorn seasoning, too, which is great."

The menu (decked out in red and black, the tavern's theme-colors) features a number of appetizers, sandwiches, homemade soups and pizzas. "People can also order carry out or take-n-bake pizzas," John said.

Briana Fischer, the manager at 2 Tall Tavern, notes that, "All of our sauces and dressings are homemade, too," she said, mentioning their chipotle raspberry and buffalo sauces for the chicken wings. "People have told me they've never



2 Tall Tavern owner

John Brichacek, owner of the 2 Tall Tavern in Cushing, stands 6'6," which inspired the name of his new establishment. He is pictured next to the 2 Tall Tavern ruler, which has already become a favorite 'photo op' for customers wishing to see where they measure up. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

tasted a better ranch dressing."

John also pointed out that they have switched to all Coke products at 2 Tall Tavern. "And our beer is the coldest around."

"We have a kids menu, too," John said. "All of the meals are served in a frisbee, which they can take home, or bring back the next time and receive \$1."

There are incentives for adult customers as well, John went on, noting the VIP Mile High Club card option. "Every time you spend money you get points...depending on how many points you have you could get a free beer or maybe a sweatshirt."

He's looking forward to meeting local residents and hopes to offer package deals with the area resorts.

"This winter, I'd like to see us help get the ice fishing tournament going again."

"It's exciting," John said again about the launching of 2 Tall Tavern. "It wouldn't have been possible without the support of my family," he went on, mentioning his dad, Lonnie; his mom Theresa and stepdad Dave Lisson; and his 11-year-old daughter, Ilyse. "She's super excited about this place," John said of Ilyse.

2 Tall Tavern is located at 31723 Azure Rd. in Cushing. They are open Monday - Thursday, 4 p.m. - midnight; and Fridays and Saturdays, 11 a.m. - midnight. For more information, visit their website, www.2talltavern.com; facebook page, or call 218-575-3013.

George Sutton appointed to Center for the Arts Board

Gov. Mark Dayton recently appointed George Sutton, Cushing, to the Perpich Center for the Arts Board of Directors. His term will expire Jan. 7, 2019.

One adult, one child injured in ATV accident

Two people from Cushing were transported to the St. Cloud Hospital Nov. 26, following an ATV rollover on Azure Rd south of Motley.

According to the Morrison County Sheriff's Office (MCSO), 31-year-old Jeremy Olsen was traveling

north on Azure Road when he lost control, causing the ATV to roll. Jeremy and his passenger, seven-year-old Samuel Olsen, were transported to the hospital by Gold Cross Ambulance with unknown injuries.

Neither party was wearing a helmet, the report said.

The MCSO was assisted at the scene by the MN State Patrol, Scandia Valley First Response Team, Scandia Valley Fire Dept. and Gold Cross Ambulance.

Law enforcement reports

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

Nov. 21 - The MPD issued a speeding citation to James Dixon, 56.

Nov. 20 - The MPD responded to a report of a resident who had locked herself out of her house. Assisted her with the phone number of a locksmith.

Nov. 19 - The MPD responded to a call regarding a female walking westbound on the Hwy 210 bridge who appeared to be cold and shivering. Officer located her on the north side of the bridge, on the ground with injuries to her head. The officer requested an ambulance as he was unsure whether the woman had been hit by a car or not. State patrol assisted.

Nov. 19 - The MPD issued a citation to Michael Kasten, 20, for prohibited lights (his headlights were projecting green in color) and for a muffler violation.

Nov. 19 - The MPD responded to a welfare check of a female at the Eastwood Motel in Motley; and proceeded to arrest Kelly King, 31, for giving a peace officer a false name and date of birth. King also had two felony warrants out of St. Louis County.

Nov. 18 - The MPD assisted a driver who was stuck in the snow in front of the Countryside Restaurant in Motley.

Nov. 18 - The MPD responded to a report of a strong smell of marijuana at a unit in the Country Terrace Apartments, Motley. Responding officer subsequently arrested Nickolas Graffunder, 35, for having a small amount of marijuana.

Nov. 19 - The MCSO received a call from Cass County, reporting a power pole and tree on fire at Hwy 210 and 65th Ave. SW in Motley. Motley Fire Dept. was paged.

Nov. 18 - The MCSO received a call from a resident at Bear Rd. in Cushing reporting his mailbox had been hit by a tan colored car the previous afternoon.

Nov. 17 - The MCSO received a call from a resident at 260th St. in Cushing who reported her power pole was sparking and on fire. Randall Fire paged and the electric company notified.



Clearing the sidewalk

Pete Erickson of Motley worked to clear snow from the sidewalk along Hwy 10 and Cedar St. in Motley Nov. 23, following the recent snowstorm. Erickson said he enjoys shoveling and helping to do his part in providing a safe walkway for pedestrians. "I usually get a compliment from the mayor every year that this is the best looking sidewalk in Motley," Erickson said. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



'Tis the season

Highway 10 in Motley is decked out for the season, thanks to Bruce Brotherton, public works supervisor, and Bryan Stevens, maintenance assistant, who hung up Christmas decorations on Nov. 23, the day before Thanksgiving. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Reasons for thanks can be many, and simple

I'm a sucker for inspiring words. In a life where we can find plenty of cause to be disappointed and cynical, I'm always on the lookout for reasons to be hopeful and content. Words, spoken or written, sometimes point us in the direction of hope and contentment. I encountered a few such words while taking one of my frequent "strolls" around some favorite web sites. One of these destinations is the web site of the Duluth News-Tribune. I go there in part because the News gives a lot of space to outdoors topics. Sam Cook, who covers the outdoor "beat," is a particularly good writer, both as a newspaper journalist and as the author of several books.

In addition to its features on outdoor subjects, from time to time the newspaper's outdoor section will print quotable quotes. Typically, they come from the lips or the pen of some well-known person with links to the outdoors. Aldo Leopold, for example, who was a towering figure in the conservation movement, and widely acclaimed as the father of modern ecology and wildlife management.

Some quotes are unattributed, leading me to suspect they may come from the mind of their star outdoor reporter, Sam Cook. One that struck me recently was encountered as I was doing the typical Thanksgiving

encore, polishing off the homemade turkey noodle soup we'd made from the carcass of the 18-pound bird that had been the star of our feast. This quote was apropos of the holiday: "In the spirit of the season, sit quietly for a moment and be thankful for your life in the outdoors - frosted grasses, venison in the freezer, quiet paddles, good dogs, the Milky Way, mallards circling, a walleye nibble, moving water, old friends, spring peepers calling, and warm fires."

Before reading this, I had been wrestling with a mild funk, trying not to feel overwhelmed by a post-Thanksgiving weekend whose script looked like an impossible to-do list: holiday greenery to be hung over doors and windows; Christmas lights for the spruce tops in the window boxes; wrapping the small evergreens with burlap; rabbit-proofing the shrubs with wire fencing; installing a new mailbox. Thankful?!

Actually, I've come to see Thanksgiving as a holiday almost more pure and renewing than Christmas. If you can ignore the profit-minded merchants advertising for Black Friday shoppers - some going so far as to open for business Thanksgiving afternoon - this holiday's theme is really about appreciation. It's about appreciating those who are dear to us - including enduring our least favorite relatives - and appreciating the blessings that have come our way. Christmas, though still my favorite holiday, has been to a large extent hijacked by retail businesses, many of whose annual profitability is determined by the purchasing that people do for Christmas.

So there I was, just a couple of days after Thanksgiving, dwelling on burdens and obligations instead of blessings. But why? After all, hadn't I put off some of these to-do's in order to spend more time in duck blinds, and to wade autumn trout streams? Hadn't I tasted some of the best things that the Midwest out-of-doors has to offer, not only in autumn, but all year long? Didn't I spend a lot of quality time training the hunting dog in my life? Hadn't my son and I experienced new heights of fishing adventures together?

Besides, as the quote above suggests, it's not just the big adventures and exotic places that give us reason to be thankful. It's an unexpected glimpse of northern lights, or witnessing the biggest moon to be seen in almost three-quarters of a century. It's gratitude for 40 years of your spouse putting up with your fondness for shotguns, fishing rods, training dummies, wood smoke, and the smell of wet dog hair.

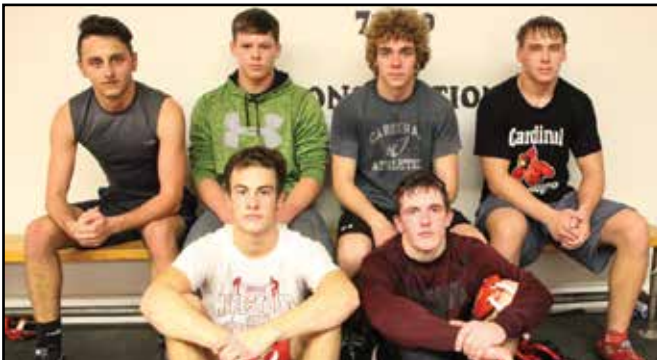
Gratitude, too, for an enduring hunting and fishing companionship of almost equal duration to that of my marriage; a friendship so durable that we could spend three days together on the eve of the most bitter election in recent memory, and yet speak not one syllable about it - despite the fact that we are on opposite sides of the political fence. That's a friendship.

A lot to be thankful for, and important to remember that it's a virtue to be practiced year-round, not just on the last Thursday in November.



Final five

Five seniors will lead the Staples-Motley boys basketball team, from left, Mason Rychner, Trey Skeesick, Jack Fietek, Hunter Carlson and Gavin Smith.



Wrestling seniors

Wrestling seniors, front row, Eric Lisson and Blake Gerard; back row, Jacob Suchopar, Jacob Bendson, Matt Miller and Alex Erpelding.

Petrich all-conference at Bemidji State

Blake Petrich, a senior fullback from Staples, was named to the All-Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference Honorable Mention football team.

Petrich was a key part of the Bemidji State Beavers' third ranked rushing attack in the NSIC. He

helped block for the third most productive rushing attack in BSU history with 2,514 team yards and Petrich accounted for one rushing touchdown. Petrich even completed one pass for a touchdown in the regular season finale.

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Salute to Staples-Motley Fall Sports Teams



Cardinal Football Team

-photo provided by Bruce Fuhrman

Front row, left to right: Izaiah DeMars, Gilberto Terones, Garrett Carlson, Dominic Hamman, Isaiah Ross-Bahn, Issac Kronenberg, Emmitt Winkels, Jayden Friedl, Cade Schmidt, Dakota Daye, Jackson Berg. Second row: Ryan Gerard, Scout Strickland, Coach Chris Kappler, Coach Nick Schultz, Jacob Bendson, Matt Miller, Alex Erpelding, Trey Skeesick, Hunter Carlson, Hunter Berggren, Erik Lisson, Mason Rychner, Coach Travis VanOverbeke, Coach Mitch Anderson, Blayne Dumphrope, Jordon Carlson, Manager Matt Miller.
Back row: Dalton Holmberg, Zac Carlson, Josh Lombard, Derek Kennedy, Matt Fischer, Braden Tyrrell, Shaine Guggenberger, Isaac Swendsrud, Beau Neiters, Luke Schmieg, Tristin Etzler, Nathaniel Rodrigues, Kyle Serich, Chase Davis, Mason Nyhus, Evan Nanik.
Not pictured: Jasiah Paskewitz, Nathan Trantina, Ryan Wick



Cardinal Girl's Cross Country Team

Front row, left to right: Abby Brown, Mackenzie Wilds, Emma Holmberg, Ashley Robben, Madysen Hull, Ameara Chenoweth, Kira Sweeney, Gavin Christensen (manager).
Back row: Assistant Coach Kristy Johnson, Kaitlyn Smith, Abby Lorber, Julia Trantina, Jorie Ihme, Taylor Yungbauer, Mikayla Sauber, Alex Miller, Head Coach Bruce Fuhrman.



Cardinal Boy's Cross Country Team

Front row, left to right: Alex Brings, Grant Johnson, Austin Johnson, Alex Vernon, Isaiah Tabatt (training assistant), Jacob Schmidt, Emmet Anderson, Tanner Robben, Hunter Klimek, William Thew, Conner Judd, Gavin Christensen (manager).
Back row: Assistant Coach Steve Fligge, Blake Gerard, Nicholas Tabatt, Bentley Christensen, Finn Erholtz, Coleman Klimek, Trenton Plopper, Braydon Christensen, Ben Bartczak, Jack Benson, Assistant Coach Kristy Johnson, Head Coach Bruce Fuhrman. Not pictured: Cael Sams, Jack Tyrrell



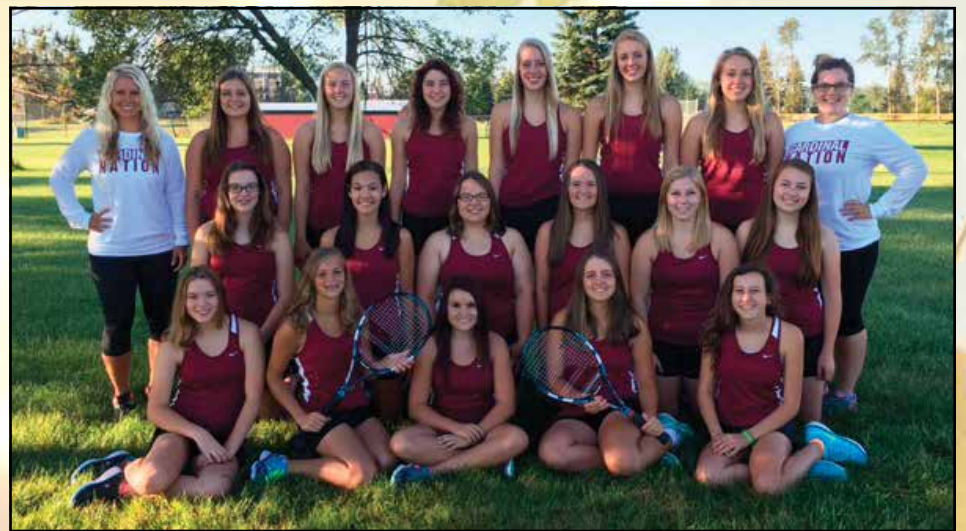
Cardinal Swimming and Diving Team

Hannah Hinman, Joelle Bounds, Adriana Dickey, Brianna Hinman, Emma Gerard, Cortnie Cottrell, Autumn Nelsen, Vienna Yang, Becca Stanley, Ari Brings, Emily Veronen, Jaden Engebretson, Lili Schneider, Cassidy Barthel, Aften Robinson, Breanna Jasmer, Evelyn Gonzalez, Aleah Halvorson, MiKayla Williams, Reyes Luengo



Cardinal Volleyball Team

Front row, left to right: Kiara Storry, Jenna Trantina, Chelsea Nanik, Camryn Banaka, Caitlin Becker
Second row: Mardi Opheim, Alex Davis, Taylor Heldman, Ashley Vasquez
Back row: Paige Kittelson, Mackenzie Zetah, Rayna Guzman, Kiera Dumphrope



Cardinal Girl's Tennis Team

Front row, left to right: Tiffany Achermann, Haylee Wold, Melissa Zetah, Kelsi Peterson, Bryn Williams.
Second row: Tasha Achermann, Brittney Lisson, Toni Brings, Lexi Johnson, Ashley Smith, Katie Benson.
Back row: Coach Kayla Janson, Haley Dietman, Sam Schimpp, Izabella Edin, Anna Willgoths, Claire Wolhowe, Kelsie Weite, Coach Katie Edin



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