



Holiday taste testers

The Kobliska cousins, Jayce, 11; Lizzy, 14; and Jorja, eight, enjoyed taste testing a few Christmas goodies Dec. 10, at their grandmother Mary Kobliska's house in Staples. The girls had spent the afternoon decorating dozens of cookies their grandmother baked that day. Although Mary Kobliska gives away most of what she makes each year, she makes sure there are enough treats for her family to enjoy as well. "The peanut butter bonbons seem to be a favorite of everyone's," Mary Kobliska said. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Making cookies with Grandma

How sweet the Christmas tradition is

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Baking cookies with her grandchildren is one of things Mary Kobliska of Staples enjoys the

most about the Christmas season.

"It gives me the opportunity to find out what's going on in their lives," Mary said of time spent baking with Lizzy, Jayce and Jorja Kobliska.

Mary does the majority of the baking and the girls help with the decorating.

"It's a lot of fun," said eight-year-old Jorja, who was frosting a Santa-shaped sugar cookie and adding colorful sprinkles during a recent afternoon at her grandmother's.

She usually starts her holiday baking around the first of December, Mary said. Each year she bakes dozens of cookies and bars (several varieties of each), as well as specialty breads such as lemon-poppy seed and cranberry orange.

Their favorites? "My son, Jerry, really likes the peanut butter bon-

bons," Mary said. And the grandkids always seem to request her fudge, she went on.

"I like when she adds chocolate chips in her cookies," Lizzy, 14, said. "She could add chocolate chips to anything."

She's not sure how many eggs, or how much butter, sugar and flour she goes through each Christmas season. "A lot," Mary laughs.

For the past several years, Mary has increased her holiday baking to include sharing with others in the community. Last year, she gave out 20 trays, each filled with a variety of Christmas goodies. "I really like doing it," Mary said, adding, "It's what the season is all about...giving."

Baking is good therapy. See **COOKIES** on page 10a

More than 'basic ed'

VanValkenburg touts technology, connections

By Mark Anderson, News Editor

Sunday in Long Prairie.

PCs for People

Adult Basic Education (ABE) is known as a place for adults seeking their GED or high school equivalency certificate.

Freshwater Education District's ABE Program Coordinator Amy Dinkel-VanValkenburg said that's just one of many services

"I'm here to help them meet their goals, not something I have set for them," said Dinkel-VanValkenburg.

The program helps people interested in continuing their education. They might just be rusty on their reading and writing, just started a new job and need to update their skills or a college student struggling with certain aspects of their courses. Help is available for reading, writing, math and technology skills. She also works with non-English speaking individuals and people with disabilities.

Classes are free; no tuition or books to buy.

Dinkel-VanValkenburg is incorporating other aspects of education into some of the programs and starting new programs. She said diversity and cultural awareness are part of the broader picture in education. She's also working on trying to end the stigma of people with disabilities and mental illness.

She's working on starting a Project Together group in Staples similar to one that's going in Long Prairie, which meets weekly to connect with others in the community. They also go bowling every other

Dinkel-VanValkenburg noticed many of her students were lacking in technology and digital literacy. "A huge challenge for my students has been access to technology and internet," she said.

That need led her to connect with PCs (personal computers) for People. The program allows refurbished computers to be purchased for very low prices.

A grant from the Blandin Foundation allowed the program to place 75 computers, with three months of free internet access with individuals/families in 18 communities, including; Staples, Motley, Long Prairie, Eagle Bend, Little Falls, McGregor, Garrison, Browerville, Clarissa, Osakis, St. Cloud, Cushing, Sartell, Brainerd, Sauk Centre, Pierz and Royalton. The grant allowed the program to expand beyond the ABE clients to others in need. The computers were given out at an event held in Long Prairie, Nov. 30.

Dinkel-VanValkenburg is teaming up with the Staples Public Library to hold digital literacy classes.

"Digital literacy and access to technology for all people, that's been my passion," said Dinkel-VanValkenburg. "It's a growing program, we can offer more of what people want if they just stop in and let me know."

Her office this year is located at Central Lakes College, Staples campus. She also travels to Long Prairie and other communities in the Freshwater District.



ABE offers technology

Amy Dinkel-VanValkenburg, coordinator of Freshwater's ABE Program is shown, in the computer lab with some of the computers students use. The ABE program is located at Central Lakes College, Staples campus. Dinkel-VanValkenburg has distributed more than 75 computers to people in need of technology. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Todd County Transfer Station hours reduced

By Karin Nauber
Todd County reporter

If you use the Todd County Solid Waste Transfer Station on Saturdays, you might want to check your calendar before you go.

During their regular meeting on Dec. 7, the Todd County Commissioners decided to reduce the hours of the transfer station to one Saturday per month December through March, starting in January 2017.

The designated day the transfer station will be open will be the first Saturday of the month from 8 a.m. until noon.

The solid waste department has been working to find ways to control costs and cutting the Saturday

hours was one way.

Saturday hours will resume to every Saturday in April through November.

Transfer Station Supervisor Jeremy Clasemann said this will save money as we're paying two people overtime each Saturday to have it open.

Bridge list

The commissioners approved the 2017 bridge priority replacement list.

County Engineer Loren Fellbaum said that the bridges listed are either structurally deficient or are a high priority for removal and replacement within the immediate future.

"State support for the replacement of bridges continues to be

crucial to maintaining the integrity of the local road system and is a necessary funding source for the county, townships and municipalities to proceed with replacements of the bridges on the attached list," noted Fellbaum.

Todd County will replace the bridges as soon as either state transportation bond funds or state townbridge funds become available.

Transportation plan

The board approved the 2021 Area Transportation Improvement Plan nomination of County State Aid Highway 12.

Fellbaum said that the funding for this project must be project specific and meet eligibility guidelines and qualifying criteria.

The project would include the parts of CSAH 12 from Highway 287 to Highway 28 and would be a bituminous mill and overlay project with aggregate shouldering.

Commissioner David Kircher said that they have talked about this and another road near Staples at the Lakewood Health System Hospital and wondered if this project - which will go past the new Long Prairie Hospital once completed - could be moved up on the plan?

Fellbaum said that they could move it up, but he feels that they would have a better chance of getting the project approved if they wait.

"The road condition is not failing."

See **TODD COUNTY** on page 2a

Hello, Readers,

On Dec. 20, 1957, while spending the Christmas holidays at Graceland, his newly purchased Tennessee mansion, rock-and-roll star Elvis Presley receives his draft notice for the United States Army. With a suggestive style-one writer called him "Elvis the Pelvis"-a hit movie, Love Me Tender, and a string of gold records including "Heartbreak Hotel," "Blue Suede Shoes," "Hound Dog" and "Don't Be Cruel," Presley had become a national icon, and the world's first bona fide rock-and-roll star; by the end of 1956. The following year, at the peak of his career, Presley received his draft notice for a two-year stint in the army. Fans sent tens of thousands of letters to the army asking for him to be spared, but Elvis would have none of it. He received one deferment-during which he finished working on his movie King Creole-before being sworn in as an army private in Memphis on March 24, 1958.

Where in the World?

Sale of public land: **8A**

Obituaries

Roberta Busker
Eugene Goble
Robert Mayhew
Mary Munger
Duane Osmonson
Sharon Plath

Thank you for subscribing!

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Ninety-three people were remembered at the 21st annual Season of Lights ceremony Dec. 6, held at the main campus of Lakewood Health System (LHS) in Staples.

The event, sponsored by LHS Foundation and Lakewood's Hospice and Palliative Care departments, honored Lakewood's hospice/palliative patients who passed away last year. During the course of the program, music, prayer and readings were offered; and ornaments with the names of the deceased were hung on a Christmas tree.

In attendance were family members and friends of the deceased, as well as some of the Lakewood medical staff who cared for them.



Remembering Grandpa

Brothers Dillan and Jared Eischeid of Motley attended the recent Season of Lights ceremony at Lakewood Health System Hospital in Staples and hung an ornament on the Christmas tree in honor of their grandfather John Eischeid who passed away Nov. 13, 2015, after a courageous battle with cancer. The ceremony "meant a lot," Dillan and Jared said, adding that their grandfather "was our hero." (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Dr. Julie Benson, the Hospice and Palliative Care Medical Director at LHS, gave the message, which encouraged people to allow themselves to grieve. She noted that after losing a loved one, it is important to surround yourself with people who love and support you. Don't isolate yourself, she added.

"We don't get over grief... we learn a new normal," Dr. Benson said. She went on to say that people grieve because they love; and what a gift it is to have loved.

Although the ceremony has always been near and dear to her heart, Dr. Benson said that this year it took on greater significance, having lost her own father this past spring. Because of that, she feels she is able to be a better doctor.

As part of her message,

Dr. Benson shared a poem by Henry Scott-Holland that she had read at her father's funeral. Entitled, "All is Well," it begins, "Death is nothing at all. I have only slipped away into the next room."

After the message, LHS Chaplain Daryl Jacobson read the names of those patients being honored. As each name was read, family members and friends were invited to hang their loved one's ornament on the tree. For those who had served in the military, a salute was offered by army veteran Charles Poulton.

When the last ornament was hung, a closing prayer was offered by the chaplain, followed by the singing of "Silent Night" led by Lakewood Home Care RN, Heidi Brings.

Monetary donations raised during this year's

See **LIGHTS** on page 10a



Footings in before the freeze

Workers waded through mud as Rudenick's Concrete Pumping of Staples poured concrete footings for the Lakewood Health System addition on Nov. 30. The new addition will add physician offices, exam rooms and procedure rooms. It will also allow for development of a mental health area. The \$20 million project also includes expansion of the clinic in Pillager. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

TODD COUNTY continued from page 1a

Land sale needs to be re-advertised, re-bid

ing, but it is getting to the point that it needs to be addressed," said Fellbaum.

Kircher said that when the new hospital opens it will get a lot more traffic, at least on a portion of it.

Property sale

The board rejected a bid for the sale of county owned parcels including the Impound Lot and Sentenced to Service Wood Sale Lot.

Todd County was approached by Long Prairie Packing Company, LLC to consider selling the two county owned parcels.

The county compiled a \$277,183 cost estimate to provide for full replacement of these lots and publicly advertised to accept bids for these parcels with a minimum bid requirement that equalled or exceeded the replacement cost of these parcels.

A sealed bid of \$277,185 was received from Henry Street Properties, LLC on Nov. 8, which contained additional documents (Purchase Agreement Addendum and Lease Agreement) that have caused the bid to be considered incomplete.

Fellbaum will now work on re-advertising with changes. The bid included a lease agreement which nullified the bid. The lease agreement was a kind of protection agreement for the packing plant because the county will continue to use the parcels for a period

of time - about Dec. 31, 2017.

The new bid specs will include the lease agreement and the purchase agreement addendum.

Fellbaum said that by the above date the county should have their new parcels ready from the city of Long Prairie.

Auditor/Treasurer Denise Gaida said that she had spoken with Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust in regard to the insurance issue and they are okay with the agreement.

The county will be leasing back the parcels at no cost to the county.

Ditch maintenance fund

The continuation of the County Ditch 19 maintenance fund was approved.

According to Ditch Inspector Nancy Uhlenkamp, the Ditch 19 Maintenance Fund was established in 1991 and was set at \$1 per benefited acre. This fund was in effect for tax payable years 1991-1996. "In 1997 the amount was increased to \$3 per benefited acre and that's the current amount per benefited acre. This has been renewed every five years," said Uhlenkamp.

Tax payable year 2016 was the end of the most recent maintenance fund agreement.

"In the past we have held a public hearing to renew the fund every five years.

After discussions with ditch inspectors in other counties and Kurt Deter, Ditch Attorney, we've been informed it's not necessary to incur the expense of a public hearing to continue the maintenance fund on a yearly basis.

"The ditch authority can approve the continuation of the fund by resolution at a regular board meeting with no need for a three-week public notice or letter to the landowners on the County Ditch 19 assessment roll," she explained in a letter to the board.

This will be brought to the ditch authority on a yearly basis for approval of its continuation at the existing \$4,410 per year.

The cost to hold a public hearing is approximately \$1,000.

Kircher said that this fund was very beneficial because if there was maintenance to be done, the money was there to do it.

In other business the board:

- Accepted the 2016 Federal Boat and Water Safety grant in the amount of \$4,100 to purchase one sonar device, one pair of binoculars, one boat prop and one boat cover.

- Approved a correction to the corrected plat for Michael's Subdivision. The adopted plat correction contained an error in the location of the point of commencement. This correction will bring the plat up to date.

- Approved the final plat of "Camacho Addition" subdivision.

- Adopted the 2017 Planning and Zoning Fee Schedule. The fees were not changed from last year.

- Rescinded the action to hire Mike Becker for the Wetlands Conservation Coordinator position. Becker no longer wishes to take the position because the family healthcare plan that must be purchased through the county is not affordable.

Soil and Water Conservation District Director Tim Stieber said that they have had three applicants decline offers since July because of the healthcare.

They will be interviewing three from the pool of previous applicants to attempt to fill the position.

- Approved the request to advertise for a used vehicle for SWCD. The board agreed that they should combine their 2016 and 2017 amounts saved for this and get a better used vehicle.

- Approved the rollover of the 2016 sign truck purchase expense to 2017 as the truck utilities are not ready yet and won't be ready until January of 2017.

According to Fellbaum, the truck and chassis has been purchased.

Meth arrests made after traffic stop

On Dec. 2, Staples Police were working a TZD (Toward Zero Deaths) shift county wide in Wadena County. Police stopped a vehicle in the City of Wadena for an equipment violation. While at the vehicle officers noticed signs of recent drug use from the occupants. Police asked the Wadena County Sheriff's Dept. to run their K9 around the vehicle. The K9 alerted to the odor of narcotics inside the vehicle. After searching the vehicle, police located seven grams of methamphetamine, two digital scales with meth residue, one hypodermic needle, five grams of marijuana and miscellaneous drug paraphernalia. Police arrested Dwight Kern, 44, of Staples, and Tuesday Weekley, 31, of Wadena and charged them with fifth degree possession of a controlled substance. Both parties were taken to the Wadena County Jail. Staples Police were assisted by the Wadena County Sheriff's Dept

Other reports taken by the Staples Police included;

Nov. 28; Staples Police arrested Stone Putnam, 18, on a domestic abuse no-contact order violation.

Nov. 28; Staples Police

located a chain saw lying on 6th St. NE by city hall. The chain saw is in the possession of the Staples Police.

Dec. 3; Staples Police responded to Lakewood Health System emergency room to assist in disposing of a narcotic prescription for a patient. Police took the medication and disposed of in the prescription drug drop box located at the Staples Police Department.

Dec. 6; Staples Police responded to a report of a verbal domestic on 7th St. NE. Police arrested Benjamin Dukowitz, 40, on domestic assault.

Dec. 6; Staples Police did extra patrol throughout the evening on 3rd St NE for a complainant whose vehicle had been stolen earlier in the day in Baxter. The complainant stated a lot of information including their address was inside the vehicle and they were concerned about the safety of their children.

Dec. 8; Staples Police responded to a domestic disturbance on McKinley St. SW. After investigation Joanne Geise, 31, was arrested for domestic assault and disorderly conduct.

Feasibility study grants available

Agricultural value-added businesses can apply

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is now accepting Letters of Interest for Value Added Feasibility Study Grants. Funds are available through the Agricultural Growth, Research and Innovation (AGRI) Program.

Value Added Feasibility Study Grants assist the development of profitable businesses that add value to Minnesota agricultural products. Grants may be used to fund up to 50 percent of the costs of a feasibility study for a new business, or for expansion or diversification of an existing business. Grant recipients must work with a third party consultant to determine whether a project or business venture is technically feasible, is feasible within the estimated cost, and will be profitable. Any Minnesota resident or business may apply, with a maximum award of \$35,000.

"Feasibility studies offer valuable insights to businesses of all sizes," said David Weinand, Grants Coordinator at the MDA. "There's a real interest in creating new markets and products for Minnesota

agricultural commodities, and feasibility studies can help businesses set themselves up for long-term growth."

The first step in this competitive grant process is submission of a Letter of Interest that will be reviewed by a committee. Letters of Interest will be reviewed in the order received until funding is exhausted. To learn more about the AGRI Value Added Feasibility Study Grant and to submit a Letter of Interest, visit <http://www.mda.state.mn.us/grants/grants/vafeasibilitystudy.aspx>.

The AGRI Program was established by the Minnesota Legislature to advance Minnesota's agricultural and renewable energy industries. The AGRI Program focuses on creating jobs and profitable businesses in the areas of livestock investment, value-added business and market development, crop production and processing research, and renewable energy. For more information about the AGRI Program, visit <http://www.mda.state.mn.us/grants/agri.aspx>.

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(except double headers Dec. 20, Jan. 17, Jan. 24)

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It's electrons! Open circuit dims bulb

Tech Mobile instructor Alicia Green demonstrates an open circuit by releasing the circle of hands and the light turns off in her other hand. Green helped Staples-Motley Elementary students learn how electrons move along electrical wires and how to complete a circuit, part of the Tech Mobile unit on electricity Dec. 5. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Completing the circuit

Landon King, Karter Lynch and Demairius Coon hold hands so they can complete the circuit, which allows them to tap bananas to make piano sounds, as wires connected them to a music program on a computer. Carsen Sweeney looks on at right.

Fun with electricity

Delilah Hart and Gavin Cowles are happy to see their lighting systems light up after hooking them up to batteries during the Tech Mobile unit.

In the photo below, Bryson Dumpprope, left, hooks up a battery while Hunter Vogt and Sam Hirschey enjoy getting a mini fan to spin.



Live Nativity

Inside at Faith Lutheran Church
430 12th St. NE, Staples
Sunday, Dec. 18, 5 p.m.

See the story of Jesus' birth portrayed by a host of players and live animals. Narration, Bible reading and carols
*Refreshments following the program
*Free admission *Donations accepted

Holiday Deadlines

For the	The deadline is:
Dec. 29 Staples World	5 p.m., Dec. 22
Jan. 5 Staples World	5 p.m., Dec. 29

The Staples World office will close at noon Dec. 23 and Dec. 30. We will be closed Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.

Staples World

WIP gives \$11,600 in grants to area groups

Through the generous donations received by the local Women in Philanthropy (WIP) group, \$11,600 was recently given to seven area children's programs as voted on by WIP members at the annual meeting in November.

- Staples Motley Arts Council received \$1,200 designated to be put towards children's summer theatre expenses.
- Staples-Motley School District received \$2,700 to help fund the activity days for students at Camp Shamaineau.
- Eagle Valley Schools/Early Childhood program received \$2,500 for large motor skills equipment for children.
- Browerville Schools received \$1,000 to help fund bowling for physical education classes.
- Central Minnesota Boys Choir received \$1,500 to help members by learning and viewing choral events in Minneapolis.
- Colla Voce Girls Choir received \$1,500 to help fund music and offset concert attire expenses and travel.
- Lamplight Community Theatre

received \$1,200 for Lamp Camp expenses in order to lower costs for children attending

The WIP group offers competitive grant dollars to surrounding communities in an effort to support needed health services, community education and preventative health programs and activities that contribute to the quality of life for children and youth in the five-county service area including Todd, Wadena, Cass, Morrison and portions of Crow Wing counties.

The WIP group is made up of area women who, through donations, hope to positively impact the overall health and wellness of children. Awarded grant funds will ultimately support the mission of the WIP group which partners with Lakewood Health System's community health initiatives. With a current membership of 59 women, the WIP group has received more than \$157,000 since it was founded in 2014.

To learn more about the WIP program, or how to become a member, contact Heidi Chapman, Foundation Director at 218-894-8503 or WIP@lakewoodhealthsystem.com.

Wadena County Board hears election recap

By Rin Porter
Wadena County reporter

As part of their Nov. 29 county board meeting, Wadena County Commissioners heard a report from Election Chair Rosalie Miller, of the Auditor/Treasurer's Office. Miller provided commissioners with statistics on the general election process in Wadena County last month.

According to county figures, 7,539 people were registered to vote in the county as of 7 a.m. on Nov. 8. Just over 1,000 people requested absentee ballots. At the final canvass on Nov. 10, it was determined that 7,011 people voted – a 93 percent turnout, according to Miller.

As has become routine, the county's voting returns were uploaded very late on election night. This time, the cause was telephone problems at the county, plus a discrepancy in uploading the data. Wadena County election officials had to remove all the data they uploaded on Tuesday night and reload it on Wednesday. The City of Staples was very late in reporting the votes in its precinct. A voting machine in Sebeka failed to work and had to be replaced.

Commissioner Sheldon Monson asked the board to publicly recognize the election staff for their hard work. A round of applause was offered, and the thanks

of the board.

In other business, the board

- Accepted the resignation of a Friendly Rider Transit driver and authorized hiring a current part-time driver to fill the full-time vacancy created by the resignation.

- Discussed the Public Health Building remodeling project and approved the bids that came in for Phase 1. County Attorney Kyra Ladd pointed out that the county's construction manager, Vercon, had not advertised for bids in the county's official newspaper. She recommended that this mistake not be repeated. The project was not required to go out for bids since it was estimated to cost under \$100,000, but since it was advertised, it should have been advertised in the official newspaper.

- Ladd and HR Director Curt Kreklau told the board that they believe that the county's telephone system problems have been fixed. The system had been composed of equipment from five different vendors, and their equip-

ment was not compatible. Effective immediately, only one vendor will operate the system, eliminating the incompatibilities.

- Approved the items presented by Public Health Director Cindy Pederson, who requested several changes in staff FTEs and 2017 budget lines, contract approvals for 2017 services to be provided and approval to order furniture for Phase 2 of the remodeling project.

- Approved the hiring of a witness coordinator for the County Attorney's Office. The position will be funded 80 percent by a five-year renewable grant obtained by Ladd.

- Approved the hiring of a deputy to fill a vacant position in the sheriff's department and the hiring/transfer of a deputy to fill the emergency manager position.

- Tabled the request of County Engineer Ryan Odden to add a department position to deal with drainage issues in the county. The position would be shared half with the Soil and Water Conservation District and half with the highway department.

Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies (EAAT) using Hippotherapy

We provide services for Pre-K - 5th grade who are diagnosed with physical disabilities, receive physical or occupational therapy and live in the Brainerd Lakes Area.

The gentle, rhythmic swinging of the horses back can help teach riders body how to walk.

Christmas is Coming

NEED A GIFT IDEA? Make a donation in someone's name and we will send you a official Acorn Hill (EAAT) Christmas Card to present to your honoree.

Purchasing a Program Pony up to \$3,000 Board. Vet/Farrier averages per month \$300, Family fee per session \$15, no amount too big or small

Sponsorship Levels available, be part of our Sponsor Awards, there are 4 Donor levels, beginning with Turquoise(\$200-\$400) and Copper (\$500-\$999)

Donations by check can be mailed to Acorn Hill EAAT, Inc. c/o Kelly Peterson, 7969 65th Ave. SW, Motley, MN. 56466 or easy online giving at www.acornhilleaat.org. donations are tax deductible



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We are grateful for a generous community

Tis the Season for Giving!

We have so many wonderful people in our community, along with their extended families. It warms my heart to share this news with our community: Recently, we sent home a fundraiser packet with our students, that was not a door-to-door selling opportunity. This was something we felt was a good fit, especially for our youngest students.

School Store is an organization that pools together businesses willing to support classrooms with financial donations. Family and friends that receive an email from a student at Staples-Motley Elementary can donate a certain amount of money that will go to the classroom teacher in the form of a gift certificate. Teachers can then redeem the gift certificate at the School Store website to purchase a variety of classroom supplies to help with educating our students.

• • •
Staples-Motley Schools



By **Kathy Johnson**
Staples-Motley Elementary Principal

• • •

Our teachers do their very best to stretch the budgets they have to buy needed supplies, and I know that they dig into their own pockets many times to do fun and cool things to enhance the education of our students. With our School Store fundraiser, our community raised \$3,700 - which was allotted to our teachers this past week.

What a Christmas present to be shared with ALL students of Staples-Motley Elementary. We are blessed to live in such a caring community that supports our young students as we all work so hard to help these kids reach for their dreams!

Thank you from our family at Staples-Motley Elementary to all of you who were able to give such generous donations in supporting our school.

Wishing you the happiest of holidays and a wonderful New Year!

To reduce gun violence, business community must lead the way

By Ingrid Christensen

Last April, a man with a lengthy criminal record, including a felony conviction for a drive-by shooting, stormed the second floor office of North Star Criminal Defense in Cathedral Hill. The disgruntled former client pulled out a .40 caliber semiautomatic handgun, aimed it at the law firm's 23-year-old office manager, Chase Passauer, and pulled the trigger eight times. The recent University of Minnesota graduate and aspiring lawyer died in his office chair, his young life cut short by a man who should have never had access to a gun.

As our state and country sink further into a gun-violence crisis, innocent Minnesotans like Chase are dying at the hands of dangerous people with guns.

How urgent is this crisis? Every day, someone in Minnesota is shot and killed, and more than 900 Minnesotans are shot every year. From 2002 to 2011, 3,503 people were killed with guns in Minnesota. That is more than the number of all U.S. combat deaths in the Iraq War.

We know too well the heartbreak these shootings leave in their tragic wake, but the destruction wrought by acts of violence have another, too-often overlooked consequence: severe economic damage to our state and local businesses.

Gun violence is a serious drain on Minnesota's economy. According to a new report, "The Economic Cost of Gun Violence in Minnesota: A Business Case for Action" authored by the Minnesota Coalition for Common Sense, a bipartisan coalition - which includes leaders from across sectors, including

the Minnesota business community - gun violence directly costs Minnesota's economy over \$764 million annually.

As a business owner in Minneapolis, I've seen how our state's gun-violence crisis unleashes fears that keep potential customers away and force businesses to limit their hours of operation. After a series of shootings outside my office made my customers and employees feel unsafe, I was forced to relocate my business. Every year, gun violence costs Minnesota \$50 million in lost business opportunities.

When you consider the millions of dollars in employer costs, health care, criminal justice expenses, and lost income, it becomes clear this is a crisis our state can no longer afford to ignore. And that's why our elected leaders need to act now and do more to reduce gun violence and keep guns out of the hands of dangerous individuals.

First, our lawmakers should close the dangerous loopholes that let convicted felons, domestic abusers, and the dangerously mentally ill buy guns from unlicensed individual sellers, at gun shows, and online without undergoing a criminal background check. That's a step we know saves lives: In states that require background checks for all handgun sales, 46 percent fewer women are shot and killed by their partners, 48 percent fewer on-duty police officers are shot to death, and 48 percent fewer people commit suicide with guns.

Second, our lawmakers should invest in our communities and address the environmental risk factors that help contribute to gun violence. By investing in programs that

reclaim public space for community use and clean up abandoned properties in impacted communities, Minnesota can reduce violence while also creating social and economic opportunity for local communities.

Third, our lawmakers should institute more violence intervention programs. Community-based strategies like hospital-based intervention programs which use case managers to reduce the probability of violence by and against impacted individuals can also help effectively address gun violence in at-risk populations.

While we know there is no single solution that will completely stop all acts of gun violence, when it comes to making our communities safer, we do know what works and saves lives.

For far too long, Minnesota and its business community have felt the direct and indirect consequences of too many shootings. As leaders, we must stand up and to do our part to end this epidemic that has such a large human and economic cost on our communities.

When we save lives, reduce the costs associated with gun violence and curtail employer expenses, Minnesota wins.

So together, guided by our pragmatism and civic obligation to improve the quality of our communities, we must call on our elected leaders to do more to reduce gun violence. Not just with words, but with action.

Ingrid Christensen is a member of the Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and president of INGO International.

Letter to the Editor

Duane Lund is also Mr. NJPA

I read with great pleasure last week's article on Dr. Lund. He certainly was "Mr. Staples." But did you know that among his many great accomplishments was also the birthing of NJPA!

The 1976 Minnesota Legislature passed enabling legislation calling for 50 percent of the eligible public school districts in each Governor's Development Region to sign a petition requesting that an Educational Cooperative Service

Unit (ECSU) be allowed to form in their region. The deadline to sign the petition was Sept. 1, 1977.

With only seven weeks to go and only 13 of the potential 28 school districts in Region Five signed on, Dr. Lund sent a letter to his fellow superintendents. He told them that one more district was needed or this opportunity would be lost. As a result, Little Falls Public Schools became the 14th district to sign the petition on July 12, 1977.

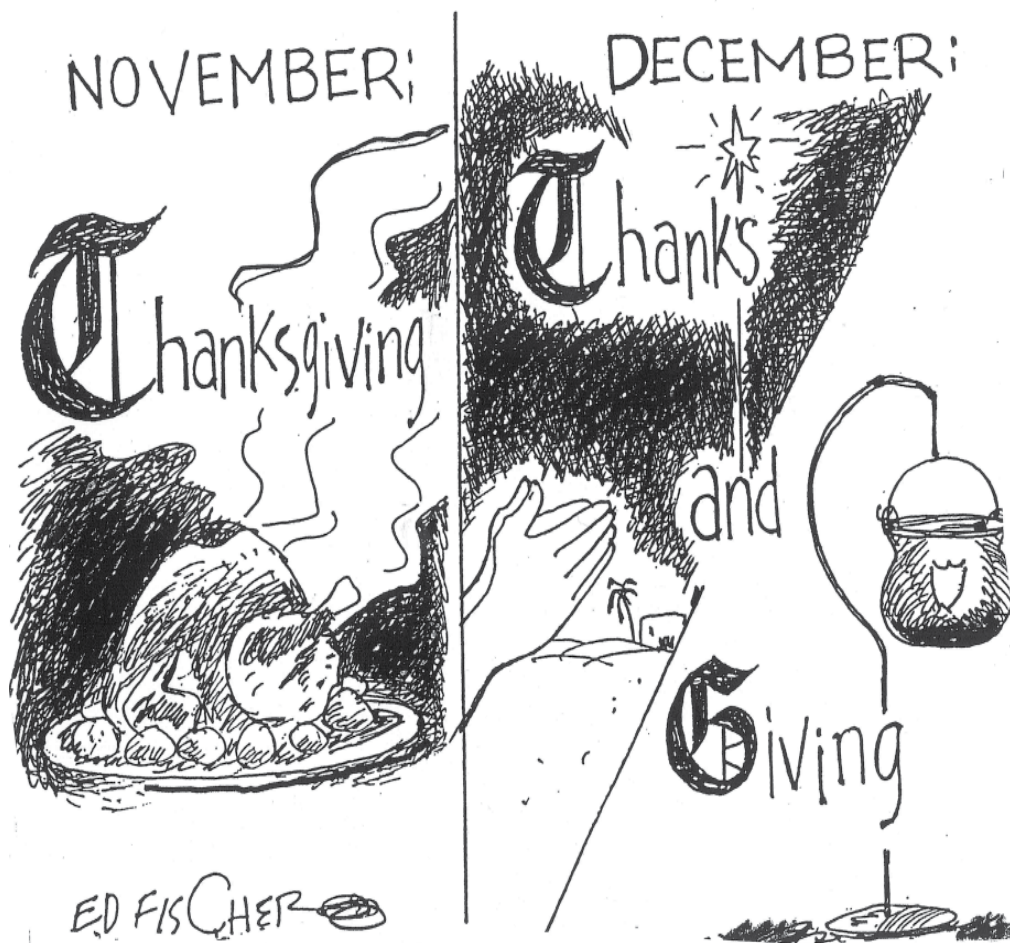
Even though Staples was no where near the largest public school district in Governor's Development

Region Five, Dr. Lund was instrumental in organizing the first Board of Directors and hosting the Organizational Meeting on Jan. 12, 1978. The Bylaws were adopted for ECSU-5 that night and Richard Hegre was hired as the first Executive Director. The Staples School District became the fiscal host and ECSU-5, later to be known as the National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) was born.

Today we read good things about NJPA every week. Annual sales on behalf of member school districts, cities, counties, states, other governmental agencies and non-profit organizations throughout the country are fast approaching \$2 billion. Without Dr. Lund's efforts, there possibly would be no NJPA, and if there was, it certainly would not be located in Staples.

Ever ask yourself why this huge new building with all of its employees is located in Staples? Now you know.

Gary Nytes
Staples, Minn.



Holiday Deadlines

<u>For the</u>	<u>The deadline is:</u>
Dec. 29 Staples World	5 p.m., Dec. 22
Jan. 5 Staples World	5 p.m., Dec. 29

The Staples World office will close at noon Dec. 23 and Dec. 30. We will be closed Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.

Staples World

Staples World

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Letters: Readers are encouraged to express their views by writing letters to the editor. Letters are verified for authenticity, so please include a name, address and phone number. Only the author's name and city will be published. Letters may be edited for spelling and grammar errors, libel, length and other factors. Private thanks, solicitations and libelous letters will not be published. Letters are printed on a space available basis. The editor reserves the right to reject letters.

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

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

Note to Advertisers: Advertisers should check their ad following first publication. This newspaper shall not be liable for failure to publish an ad or for the typographic error or errors in publication except to the extent of the cost of the ad for the first day's insertion. Adjustment for errors is limited to the cost of that portion of the ad wherein the error occurred. The publisher reserves the right to cancel any advertisement at any time.

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Saint Paul, MN 55155
651-296-4247 or 888-727-4612
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Live Drive-Thru Nativity in Pillager Dec. 21 - 22

The third annual 'Live Drive-Thru Nativity' has been rescheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 21 and 22, 6 - 8:30 p.m., at the Pillager Fairgrounds. Watch for traffic signs.

Sponsored by the churches of Pillager, the event features a live drama of the Christmas story...complete with live animals (including camels, sheep and donkeys) and a number of actors.

Dozens of actors, playing the parts of travelers, shepherds, angels, wisemen; and Mary and Joseph, will be involved in telling the Christmas story. The event is coordinated by Casino Assembly of God Church of Pillager.

It takes approximately 10 - 15 minutes to drive through the nativity, depending on traffic and attendees never have to leave their car.

There is no charge to attend the live nativity, but a donation bucket will be available at the end. For more information, 218-821-2276.

Programs at the Staples Public Library

The Staples Public Library is offering the following programs:

Read Down Your Fines

"Read Down Your Fines" Monday, Dec. 19 through Saturday, Dec. 31 at all 32 branches of the Great River Regional Library.

This is for children and teens younger than 17 who are unable to borrow library materials because of outstanding fines. It gives them the opportunity to regain library privileges just by reading at the library.

Since the program began in 2013, 924 children have taken part. Individuals record time spent reading at the library on coupons available at the library desk. They are allowed to read materials of their choice, but it must be physical print materials such as a book or magazine.

For each 15 minutes spent reading, they eliminate \$1 in fines. Parents will be allowed to read down the fines of their young children by reading to them in the library. Procedures at each library may vary. Minors who want to read down their fines should speak with library staff.

Read Down can only be applied to fines for late return of materials. It can't be applied to fines or processing fees for lost and damaged items. The program recognizes that children are not always at fault when materials are returned late. The program is also a response to research that says children who read often and are library users are more likely to be successful in

the classroom.

Read Down Your Fines is totally paid for through public donations. The average fine paid off is approximately \$5. An average of 24 branches have patrons taking part each time the program is offered.

Page Turners Tween/Teen Book Club

Teens and tweens ages eight to 18 are invited to join the Page Turners Book Club meeting at the Staples Public Library on Tuesday, Dec. 20, 4-5 p.m. Enjoy a fun hour of book chat, games, activities and snacks.

Book Club for adults

Teens and adults are invited to join the Book Club for adults meeting at the Staples Public Library on Thursday, Dec. 22, 6-7 p.m. Read the book and join the discussion. Contact the library for title information 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.

Great River Regional Library (GRRRL) provides library services for 32 public libraries in Benton, Morrison, Sherburne, Stearns, Todd and Wright counties. It also provides Central Minnesota residents with nearly one million books, CDs and DVDs, 250 public computers, programming and information services.



Licensed to serve

Three Staples-Motley High School students in Lisa Kajer's culinary basics course passed the ServSafe exam given by the National Restaurant Association. Pictured from left are Del Eckman, Jonah Johnson, Krystal Yoder and SMHS Principal Mike Schmidt.

ServSafe training and certification is recognized by more federal, state and local jurisdictions than any other food safety certification. Many Minnesota restaurants require this food safety and sanitation certification as a basic credential for their management staff. The cost of this exam was free of charge to the students as the Central Lakes Perkins Consortium provided the funds. (Submitted photo)

Mark Your Calendar

December 18

ANNUAL 'BILL BERNDT COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT' Sun., Dec. 18, 4 p.m., Motley United Methodist Church, 847 3rd Ave. So. Free. Featuring a variety of musical ensembles, soloists, instrumental performances.

LIVE NATIVITY AT FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH, STAPLES Sun., Dec. 18, 5 p.m., in the church's community room. The Christmas story will be told by narration and Bible reading; carols sung; refreshments served. All ages welcome.

December 19

STAPLES-MOTLEY HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERT Mon., Dec. 19, 7 p.m., Centennial Auditorium, Staples. Choirs, Bell Choir, Christmas Brass, Chamber Orchestra.

December 21

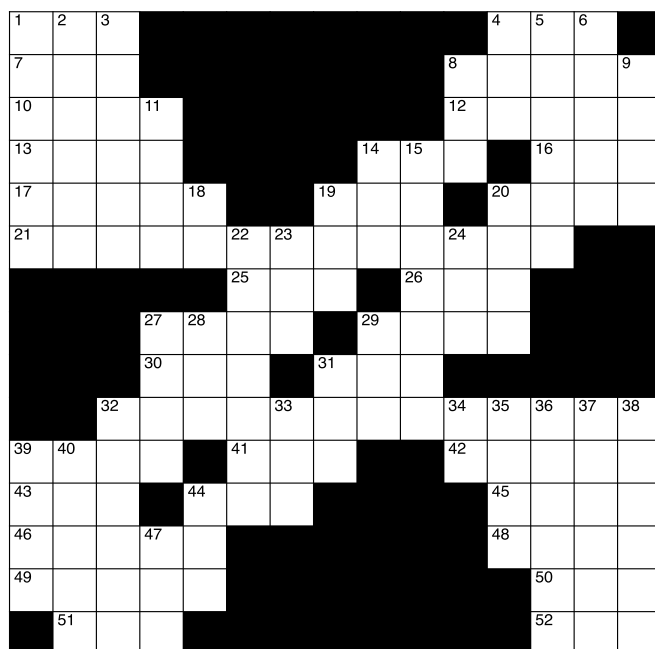
STAPLES ALL VETERANS AND COMMUNITY PARK ASSOCIATION Mtg Wed., Dec. 21, 5:30 p.m., Twisted Sisters in Staples, lower level. Public invited.

School board agenda

The Staples-Motley School Board will meet Monday, Dec. 19, at 7 p.m. at the Motley school media center. Tentative agenda items include:

- School/community forum - public discussion on the tax levy.
- Finance items including approval of the current school year budget and the 2016 tax levy, payable in 2017 and the resolution directing administration to make recommendations for reductions in programs.
- Personnel items include accepting retirement requests from Cindy Sorenson and Diana Reed; approve contracts for Kayla Vejtasa and Jeanne Odden; and approve maternity leave request from Kaycia Ellingsen.

Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

1. Large primate
4. Annualized percentage rate
7. Frictional horsepower
8. Alternate name
10. Incursion
12. Metrical feet
13. Musician Ingram
14. Swiss river
16. Text speak for annoying
17. Squelch
19. Will Ferrell played one
20. Close violently
21. Arrogant
25. Goddess of the dawn
26. Today (Spanish)
27. Ethiopian town
29. Speed
30. Kids take it to school
31. Bowling ball's adversary
32. 1988 NFL MVP

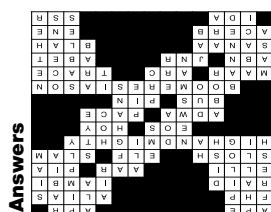
CLUES DOWN

1. Again
2. Erectile organs
3. Concluding speech
4. Pie __ mode
5. With pustules
6. Muslim calendar month
8. Need it to live
9. Thailand
11. Container to serve food
14. Boxing great

CLUES ACROSS

15. Woolen blankets
18. Expresses surprise
19. Emergency medical services
20. Inflamed swelling of the eyelid
22. Reporter
23. Arrived extinct
24. Ad __
27. Academic bill of rights
28. A pair
29. Pumpkin and apple are examples
31. China
32. Made illegal
33. Be mistaken
34. Stephen King's Pennywise
35. Semite
36. Martens with short tails
37. Large bodies of water
38. Lower in position
39. Dough used in Latin American cuisine
40. Calculating tools
44. Boxers do this
47. Macaw

Answers



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Staples World

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Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:15

MATINEES SAT. & SUN.
DEC. 17 & 18 AT 1:30 PM

Screen 3: Fri. thru Thurs. Dec. 16 - Jan. 12
FRI. & SAT. 2 SHOWS AT 7:00 & 9:30
SUN. THRU THURS. 1 SHOW AT 7:00

MATINEES SAT. & SUN.
DEC. 17 & 18 AT 1:15 PM

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Hello World

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL INCLUDED:

Born to Sam and Kayla Bloom of Little Falls, a baby girl, Abigail Florence weighing six pounds, 12 ounces on December 4, 2016.

Born to Nick and Brit-tany Hillman of Brainerd, a baby girl, Henley Rae weighing seven pounds, four ounces on December 5, 2016.

Born to Alyse Oswalt and Tyler Perry of Vern-dale, a baby girl, Sophia Grace weighing seven pounds, five ounces on December 6, 2016.

Born to Brandi Rian and Sam Kemp of Wadena, a baby boy, Ryker Roy weighing seven pounds, three ounces on December 6, 2016.

Born to Josh and Cassie Miles of Nisswa, a baby girl, Marley Lynn weighing six pounds, 12 ounces on December 8, 2016.

Born to Daniele Denny and Dan Butzin of Wadena, a baby boy, Owen Daniel weighing six pounds, 13 ounces on December 9, 2016.

Born to Cohl and Chas-tine Aschoff of Staples, a baby boy, Maverick James weighing six pounds, one ounce on December 11, 2016 at Tri-County Health Care Hospital in Wadena. Proud sister is Paisley.

Rita Stone and her family

would like to thank so many people for their many acts of kindness shown at the passing of their loved one: Pastor Romaine, the ladies of the Congregational Church, Ted & Gen's, the musicians, Color Guard, LHS Hospice, Brenny Funeral Home, and for all the flowers, food and memorials.

Our family has truly been blessed. Thank you again, so much.

w50p

Have You HEARD?

Presented by
Steve Trebil, BC-HIS



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When hearing-impaired individuals are first fitted with their new hearing instruments, they may be somewhat overwhelmed by the many sounds that have eluded them for so long. It may take a while for them to become adjusted to hearing words and sounds that they have yet to become accustomed to hearing more clearly. With this in mind, it is recommended that those with new hearing instruments limit their initial use to a few hours at a time. It's even important to wear a hearing instrument when it is quiet so that the brain can adjust to the sound. In fact, anywhere from two weeks to a month may be needed to get used to living with rediscovered background noises.

A successful hearing aid fitting is more than just selecting the correct device for your hearing needs. The hearing aids need to be properly fitted to your ears so that they provide the correct amount of amplification to maximize hearing aid benefit. To schedule a hearing assessment, please call **PREFERRED HEARING** at 1-800-458-0895. You will find us at 17274 State Hwy 371, Brainerd.

PS. It takes time for new hearing instrument users to get used to the sound of their own voices because hearing instruments change the way they hear themselves.

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Thank you for reading the Staples World

Obituaries

Sharon Plath

Sharon Jane (Goff) Plath, 55, of Cambridge passed away unexpectedly at her home on December 7, 2016.

A Celebration of Life will be held Friday, Dec. 16, at 11 a.m. at Cambridge Lutheran Church, 621 Old Main St. N Cambridge with visitation one hour prior to services at the church.

A continued Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, Dec. 17, at 11 a.m. at the Motley Free Methodist Church with Pastor Jim Johnson officiating. Visitation will be one hour prior to services at the church.

Sharon was born September 25, 1961, to Harold Edward and Jane May (Melchert) Goff in Bertha. She received her GED from Staples High School. In July 2010, she married the love of her life, Dick Plath. Sharon enjoyed spending time with her family, friends and especially her grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband; children, James (Angie) Goff, Motley, Tiffany (Bob) Sand, Trish (Eric) Nichols, Josh (Jenny) Plath; 12 grandchildren; three sisters, Geri Mertens, Staples, Carla (Rudy) Determan, Long Prairie, Cathy (Hans) Johnson, Pillager; one brother, Ed Johnson, Staples and many nieces, nephews and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers David Johnson and Terry Goff.

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Mary Munger

Mary Catherine Munger, 91, of Motley, formerly of Maple Grove, passed away December 12, 2016, at Lakewood Health System Hospital, Staples.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held Friday, Dec. 16, at 11 a.m. at St. Michael Catholic Church, Motley. Visitation will be one hour prior to the services at the church.

Burial will follow at 3 p.m. at St. Patrick's Cemetery, Corcoran.

Arrangements are with Kline Funeral Home, Pine River.

Mary was born on January 26, 1925 in Glasgow, Scotland. Her family immigrated to the United States when she was five, entering the country through

Ellis Island, NY. Mary was strong in her faith, enjoyed being a mother and kept a good house. She was an avid reader, enjoyed roller skating and bowling when she was younger. Her grandchildren were her pride and joy.

Mary is survived by one son, Steven Munger; three daughters, Bonnie (Harv) Graczyk, Marianne (Steve) Gerving, Lisa (Tom) Loneman; 16 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Everett; one son, James; one daughter, Sheila; one granddaughter and her siblings.

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Dr. Robert Mayhew

Dr. Robert James Mayhew, 97, passed away November 15, 2016, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Services will be held Saturday, Dec. 17, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Staples, with Father Lauren Germann and Father Joe Korf officiating. Visitation will be held one hour prior to services at the church.

Arrangements are with Brenny Funeral Chapel in Staples.

Robert was born on September 30, 1919 to Anthony (Tony) and Ruth (Darrow) Mayhew in Wakefield, Michigan. He grew up on the Minnesota Iron Range and graduated from Hibbing High School in 1937. He worked with his father at the Mesabi Range and enrolled at the University of Minnesota in 1938. Upon his graduation he was called to active duty in the U.S. Army in 1942.

On June 18, 1945 as a Lieutenant he was awarded a Purple Heart and the Silver Star for gallantry in action on the island of Okinawa. Here is a short extract of the official citation:

"By displaying leadership, Lieutenant Mayhew, without regard for his own safety, advanced upon the enemy soldiers who were well protected behind rocks and in caves. Although Lieutenant Mayhew was under constant enemy rifle and grenade fire he cleaned out numerous caves and captured many enemy soldiers.

During this action five men of this patrol were flanking the enemy when they were taken under fire crossing an open reef. They were pinned down by intense fire coming from behind rocks located immediately above the troops. Lieutenant Mayhew showed extraordinary heroism during the entire period. When one of his men was hit by enemy fire and dropped in such a position that rescue was only possible by the rescuer exposing himself to heavy fire, Lieutenant Mayhew without regard for his own safety, and although was previously wounded from grenade fragments, rushed forward to rescue the man. Upon reaching the man he



found him dead. Lieutenant Mayhew carried the body back from its position to the tractor that was in the water beyond the beach. It was necessary for him to swim part of the distance.

Lieutenant Mayhew's gallantry in action and his courageous leadership was an inspiration to all men present at the time."

Upon his release from the army in 1946 as Captain and Tank Unit Commander, Robert enrolled in the Dental School Program at the University of Minnesota and graduated with honors in 1950. He was called back to military service for the Korean War and served out of Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Robert moved his family to Staples in 1953, where he was a practicing dentist for over 30 years. He was a member of the Staples Lions Club, and served as President of the Staples School Board for 21 years. Robert loved the outdoors, was an avid fisherman and hunter. He returned to Lake Shamaineau where he lived with his family during the summers. In 1984, he retired to Peoria, Arizona. "Doc Mayhew" was a story and joke teller and was known for his kindness and generosity.

He is survived by three daughters, Eileen (Will) Moore, Elizabeth Mayhew and Jane Mayhew Barnard; three sons, Chuck (Mary) Mayhew, Paul (Trish) Mayhew and Chris (Colleen) Mayhew and 11 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Francis Mayhew; one sister, Eileen Mayhew Klauer, wife, Doris (Milnor) Mayhew and second wife, Betty (Fraser) Mayhew.

w50c A00006B2016DC15

Duane Osmonson

Duane O. Osmonson, 85, of Staples passed away November 27, 2016, at the St. Cloud Hospital.

A Memorial Mass will be held Dec. 16, at 11 a.m., at St. Augustine's Catholic Church in Austin. Visitation will be held one hour prior to services at the church Mass.

Arrangements are with Brenny Funeral Chapel of Staples.

Duane was born Dec. 7, 1930 in Manchester to Rufus and Valda (Boe) Osmonson. He married Betty Pump at St. Augustine's Church on Dec. 2, 1950. In 1952 he entered the U.S. Army, where he served for 21 years. He was the Maintenance Director for and Gerard School in Austin for many years. Duane was a member of St. Augustine's and attended Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Staples. He was a lifetime member of the VFW and the Eagles club. A hobby farmer, Duane enjoyed gardening, raising flowers, hunting, fishing, dancing and playing cards.

Duane is survived by



his wife of 65 years; three daughters, Cheryl Osmonson, of Rochester, Cynthia (Bruce) Whiteaker and Carolyn Osmonson, both of Austin; three sons, Greg Osmonson, of Staples, Brian (Lynette) Osmonson, of Pattonsburg, MO and Keith (Julie) Osmonson, of Hutchinson; 18 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; four brothers, James, Merlin, Errol and Craig and two sisters, Dorothy and Marilyn.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Lowell and Don and two infant brothers.

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Roberta Busker

Roberta "Bert" Busker, 92, of Cushing, passed away peacefully December 9, 2016, at Lakewood Health System Care Center in Staples.

Funeral services were held Dec. 14, at Faith Lutheran Church in Staples.

Interment will be in Oak Hill Cemetery in Deer Creek.

Arrangements were with Brenny Funeral Chapel, Staples.

Roberta was born Dec.19,1923, to Ralph and Stella (Kay) Williams in Staples. She was baptized in the Lutheran faith. She attended Lincoln Elementary School and Staples High School. She married Herman Busker in 1941. The couple was married for 51 years and enjoyed operating farms in Staples, Bertha and Cushing. Bert loved to read, solve word puzzles, play Aggravation and crochet.

She is survived by three sons, Lewis Busker, Henning, Richard Busker, Cushing, Bill (Vicki) Busker, Browerville; seven daughters, Darlene (Richard, Sr.) Gregerson, Cass Lake, Donna (Clif) Sadlo, Browerville, Grace (Cory) Jyrkas, Cushing, Beverly (Alan) Harrison, Junction City, KS, Gloria (Jan) Veiss, Bemidji, JoAnne (Randy) Dunn, Benton City, WA, and Verna (Kevin) Olmschenk, Browerville; several grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great great-grandchildren; three sisters, Ethel Bartylla, f Lauderdale, Mona Meech, Cambridge and Mary Williams, Minneapolis; and sister-in-law, Nita Williams, Staples.

She was preceded in death by her husband; three infant children; parents; five grandchildren; twin brother, Robert; three brothers, Charles, Eugene and James and one sister, Margaret.

w50c A00006B2016DC15

Eugene Goble

Eugene Goble, 70, of Ortley, SD, formerly of Staples, died October 29, 2016 in Webster, SD.

Funeral services were held Nov. 4, 2016 at the Ortley Free Lutheran Church, with Rev. Robert Grebel officiating.

Internment was held Nov. 5 at Evergreen Hill Cemetery, Staples.

Arrangements were with the Coester Funeral Home, Webster, SD.

Eugene was born on Sept. 2, 1946 in Staples, to Elmer and Marie (Bostrom) Goble. He graduated from Staples High School in 1964. Following high school he worked as a truck driver, driving for several different companies over the years. Gene married Carol Hoffman on June 21, 1969 in Shoreview. They resided in Staples from 1969 until moving to Ortley in 1999. He was a member of Ortley Free Lutheran Church and a life member of Ooida. He enjoyed spending time with his family and trucking.

He is survived by his wife; three sons, David (Susie) MN, Daniel of Montana, Darren of Ortley; two daughters, Dawn Goble of Staples and Darlene (Cory) Robinson of Webster; 12 grandchildren; two sisters, Nancy Campbell and Arlene Goble, both of Staples.

Gene was preceded in death by his parents and one son, Duane Isaac.

w50p A00006B2016DC15



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ssw50c

Todd County 4-H'ers receive awards

The 2016 Todd County 4-H Achievement Program was held Nov. 20 at the Browerville Community Center. More than 150 area organizations, businesses and individuals sponsored numerous awards to deserving 4-H'ers and their leaders. The awards listed here are for clubs and leaders in the northern part of Todd County.

Debra Durheim and Delvin Durheim, Wykeham Willing Workers, received the ruby pin for 30 years of adult leadership. Marcella Abrahamson, A-1, earned the emerald pin for 25 years. of adult leadership. The gold pin for 10 years was presented to Teresa Perish, A-1.

Receiving honorary pins for successfully completing ten years of 4-H work were: Rachel Paskewitz, A-1; Parker and Tanner Gjerstad, Hustlin Rustics; Josiah Cole and Kirstin Sudbeck, Independent 4-H'ers; Sara Carstensen, Lone Star; and Brian Kunerth, Wykeham Willing Workers.

Receiving awards for past officers of the leaders council were: president-Rebekka Paskewitz, A-1; treasurer-Rachel Paskewitz, A-1; and reporter-William Harrington, Lone Star. Receiving pin awards for serving on the executive committee were: Northeast District-Sara Carstensen, Lone Star; Northwest District-Haylie Wielenberg, Wykeham Willing Workers.

The 2016 Outstanding Youth Leader Award was presented to Rebekka Paskewitz, A-1. Paskewitz also received an educational scholarship for the Norman and Julie Krause family.

Crystal Halbersma, Hustlin Rustics, received awards for both champion and reserve champion needlework exhibit; Reserve champion child development award went to Taylor Perryman, Independent 4-H'er, and champion creative arts-fine arts award winner was Hailey Schleter, Independent 4-H'er. John Carstensen, Lone Star, received reserve champion Creative Arts-Crafts award.

Alexis Tweeter, A-1, received a food and nutrition award.

The Michael Wielenberg Family, Wykeham Willing Workers, were the recipients of the fruit sales award sponsored by the Todd County 4-H Leaders Council.

Livestock trophies were awarded to champion 4-H exhibits at the Todd County Fair. They included:

Sheep - Derek Pratt, Hustlin Rustics, champion sheep, champion ewe lamb and champion senior sheep showmanship; Parker Gjerstad, Hustlin Rustics, reserve champion sheep, champion market lamb and reserve champion senior showmanship; and Ella Claseman, Wykeham Willing Workers, reserve champion intermediate showmanship.

Swine - Zachary Lenz, Lone Star, champion swine exhibit and swine rate of gain; Wyatt Lenz, Lone Star, reserve champion swine; William Harrington, Lone Star, senior reserve champion showmanship; and Kaitlyn Bristlin, Lone Star, novice reserve champion showmanship.

Beef - Crystal Halbersma, Hustlin Rustics, champion beef, reserve champion beef, champion beef heifer, champion beef cow/calf-feeder calf and senior champion showmanship; Derek Pratt, Hustlin Rustics, champion market beef and senior reserve champion showmanship; Ellie Dukowitz, A-1, novice champion showmanship.

The Champion Premier Showmanship Award was presented to Rachel Halbersma, Hustlin Rustics.

Rabbits - Sara Carstensen, Lone Star, champion rabbit; Julie Trantina, A-1, champion senior rabbit showmanship; Jenna Kunerth, Wykeham Willing Workers, champion intermediate rabbit showmanship; and Blake Lenz, Lone Star, champion novice rabbit showmanship.

Rachel Halbersma, Hustlin Rustics, received one of the veterinary science awards.

4-H'ers receiving awards for outstanding work at the county fair 4-H horse show included: Brenna Thompson, Kirstin Sudbeck and Gabrielle Becker, Independent 4-H'er; Sheyanne Hemmingson, Wykeham Willing Workers; Shayla and Noelle Host, Hustlin Rustics.

Kirstin Sudbeck, Independent 4-H'er, received a horse-related and horseless horse award.

Cash awards included these: pets-Brady Perryman, Independent 4-H'er; cats-Mckenzie Bromeling, Lone Star; Robotics-Riley Deitering and Jason Trantina, A-1.

Photography and video awards included one presented to Brady Perryman, Independent 4-H'er.

Natural Science awards included one of Natalie Fisk, Lone Star, for indoor gardening champion.

Jasiah Paskewitz, A-1, received one of the potato awards.

Recipient of the Fishing Sports Award was Nicolas Claseman, Wykeham Willing Workers, and Rachel Halbersma, Hustlin Rustics received the Shooting Sports Award.

Recipients of the tractor awards was Jake Klim, Hustlin Rustics, and Jason Trantina, A-1.

Recipient of the Rodney Wolf Memorial Award given to a younger 4-H'er exhibiting a colored breed dairy animal was Haylie Wielenberg, Wykeham Willing Workers.

Jasiah Paskewitz, A-1, received a state fair dairy award.

Other dairy award recipients included: Parker Gjerstad, Hustlin Rustics, grand champion dairy exhibit, reserve champion dairy exhibit, champion Holstein and champion milking shorthorn; Wyatt Lenz, Lone Star, champion Brown Swiss; Zachary Lenz, Lone Star, champion Guernsey; Haylie Wielenberg, Wykeham Willing Workers, champion Jersey; Rachel Paskewitz, A-1, champion crossbred; and Marcus Kunerth, Wykeham Willing Workers, junior champion dairy animal.

Dairy showmanship awards included Champion Senior Showperson-Parker Gjerstad, Hustlin Rustics; Reserve Champion Senior Showperson-Rachel Paskewitz, A-1; Champion Intermediate Showperson-Alexis Tweeter, A-1; and Reserve Champion Novice Showperson-Haylie Wielenberg, Wykeham Willing Workers.

Goat award recipients included Marcus Kunerth, Wykeham Willing Workers, champion goat and champion dairy goat; Sara Carstensen, Lone Star, reserve champion dairy goat; Josiah Cole, Independent 4-H'er, reserve



Recognized for 4-H

Marcella Abrahamson, A-1 4-H club, and Jane Bailey, West Union Country Kids, were recognized as being 4-H leaders for 25 years at a recent Todd County 4-H Achievement program. At right, Rachel Paskewitz, A-1, and Sara Carstensen, Lone Star club, were among those who received pins for completing ten years of 4-H work. (Submitted photos)

champion market goats, champion market goat rate of gain, champion senior dairy goat showperson and reserve champion senior market goat showperson; Hailey Schleter, Independent 4-H'er, reserve champion senior dairy goat showperson and champion senior market goat showperson; Joshua Schleter, Independent 4-H'er, champion intermediate dairy goat showperson; Kaitlyn Bristlin, Lone Star, novice dairy goat showperson; Natalie Fisk, Lone Star, reserve champion novice dairy goat showperson; Nathan Trantina, A-1, champion intermedi-

ate market goat showperson; and Sheyanne Hemmingson, Wykeham Willing Workers, reserve champion novice market goat showperson.

A graduation certificate and a 4-H memento were presented to 4-H'ers graduating from 4-H this year. Those included Laura Becker, Independent 4-H'er; Rachel Halbersma, Hustlin Rustics; Amber Hlatky, Wykeham Willing Workers; Alex Lunemann, Hustlin Rustics; Karina Perish, A-1, Taylor Perryman, Independent 4-H'er; and Derek Pratt, Hustlin Rustics.

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance

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

Assembly of God

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

Church of Christ

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

Congregational Church, UCC

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

Faith Lutheran

430 12th Street. NE., Staples
218-894-1546
Emelie Enquist, Director of Youth, Family & Christian Ed.
Sunday Worship
Worship Service 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 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.....
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 Giesluk
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
.....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. Megarden
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 Giesluk
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.

Miracles everywhere

“Unless you people see signs and wonders,” Jesus told him,
“you will never believe.”
-John 4:48

If we take the time and effort to look closely, we will realize that miracles are all around us. Almost everything, when viewed properly, is a miracle. Life, the solar system and matter itself are miraculous. These things are awe-inspiring and defy easy explanations from almost any perspective. From a philosophical point of view it is impossible to answer the question why there is a universe in the first place, and once we begin to look at life and the material universe from scientific perspective we see that it is infinitely complex and always amazing. One doesn't have to be religious to be inspired by the world around us, and many scientists and students

of science wax poetic when they begin to grasp the miraculous intricacies of our wondrous universe.

Many people think of miracles as God doing something to violate the laws of nature, of God doing tricks for us, as it were. But, God is the very author of the laws of nature, if you want to see the miracle, just look around you. It's in the starry heavens above you, in the sand beneath your feet and in the beating heart within you, and perhaps most of all, in the mass of neurons which is your brain and which allows you to contemplate it all.

—Christopher Simon

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Staples True Value "Just Ask Rental"
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Staples, MN 218-894-3263



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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 Electronic 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 PROP-ERTY 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

NOTICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF MOTLEY TOWNSHIP

Affidavits of candidacy may be filed by appointment at the home of the clerk beginning Tuesday, January 3, 2017 and ending on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. for the following offices: one (1) supervisor for a 3-year term, one (1) treasurer for a 2-year term and a special election for supervisor to fill a vacancy in the term expiring March 12, 2019. Filing fee is \$2.00. Call the clerk at 218-821-0746 to set up an appointment.

Robin Johnson, Clerk Motley Township

50-51pnc

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE BY SEALED BID/PUBLIC AUCTION

The County of Todd, a political subdivision organized under the laws of the State of Minnesota will be accepting sealed bids until January 10, 2017, at 10:00 a.m., at the Todd County Commissioner's Room, 215 1st Ave. S., Suite 300, Long Prairie, MN, for the purchase and sale of the land and buildings at Co. Rd. 56, Long Prairie, MN 56347. This parcel has been used as a Sheriff's Impound Lot, Veteran's Service Garage and Sentence to Serve Wood Sale lot. The parcel will be sold "AS IS" with no warranty whatsoever. Additionally there is no warranty on boundaries or legal descriptions.

All bidders will complete, sign and submit a Purchase Agreement together with earnest money of \$10,000 in the form a cashier's check payable to Todd County. After opening of the sealed bids on January 10, 2017, at 10:00 a.m., any bona-fide bidder may raise their bid as in public auction until such time as a successful bidder is determined. The minimum bid which the Seller will consider is \$277,185 plus any and all expenses incurred by the county in selling the real estate. The successful bidder will also reimburse the county for attorney's fees incurred by the county up to a maximum of \$3,000.

The successful bidder will be required to complete the closing with full payment and possession in accordance with the terms of the purchase agreement. Todd County will issue a Quit Claim Deed as set forth in the Purchase Agreement. The Purchase Agreement and bidding instructions may be obtained from the following:

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

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

Sealed bids shall be clearly marked "BID FOR PARCEL NOS. 36-4013300 AND 36-4014300", and submitted to Denise Gaida at the Todd County Auditor/Treasurer's Office, 215 1st Ave. S., Suite 201, Long Prairie, MN 56347 or Sellnow Law Office, 229 Central Avenue, Long Prairie, MN 56347 on or before January 10, 2017 or presented on the date the bids are open.

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

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

Commencing at the northwest corner of Lot 2, Block One, BURLINGTON ADDITION, according to the recorded plat thereof; thence on a record bearing of North 74 degrees, 50 minutes 00 seconds West along the northwesterly extension of the northerly line of said Lot 2 a distance of 427.32 feet to the point of beginning of the land to be described;

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

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

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

thence South 71 degrees 40 minutes 30 seconds East 242.60 feet to the point of beginning.

Containing 1.32 acres more or less

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

Commencing at the northwest corner of Lot 2,

Block One, BURLINGTON ADDITION, according to the recorded plat thereof;

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

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

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

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

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

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

Containing 0.71 acre more or less.

Rod Erickson Todd County Commissioner Chairperson

50-52pnc

NOTICE COUNTY PRINTING TODD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners of Todd County, will receive sealed bids until 4:00 p.m. Friday, December 30, 2016 at the County Auditor-Treasurer's Office. Bids will be opened at the County Board meeting on Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 9:05 a.m. in the County Board Room, for publication for the year 2017 as may be required by the County of Todd, a municipal corporation, as follows:

Designation of the Official Newspaper

This requires the publishing of official proceedings by the Todd County Board, and other legal and public notices required by all Todd County Departments, publication of the financial statement and publication of the list of lands in Todd County, delinquent in taxes for the year 2016, which have not been attached to prior judgment.

The successful bidder will be required to furnish a performance bond in such amount as may be determined by the County Board. The County Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids if in its judgment of the public interest so require pursuant to M.S. 279.07, and to waive any informalities therein.

Denise Gaida Todd County Auditor/Treasurer

50-51pnc

PUBLIC NOTICE TODD COUNTY SOLID WASTE FEES

Notice to the Public: on Tuesday, December 20, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners Room, Todd County Courthouse (215 1st Avenue South, Long Prairie, Minnesota) the Todd County Board of Commissioners will hold a Fee Hearing to determine whether or not it should increase the fees for disposal of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) at its solid waste transfer station from the current rate of \$0.05 per pound to \$0.07 per pound and from \$90 per ton to \$94 per ton.

The Todd County Board of Commissioners will also consider at the Fee Hearing whether or not it should modify its current Solid Waste Service Fee by implementing a Solid Waste Service Fee based on the volume of waste generated on all commercial/industrial coded properties in Todd County. The current rate is \$46 per improved parcel. The proposed modified service fee would be implemented over the next four years and would modify the current rate for commercial/industrial properties by assessing a rate of \$46 for the first ton of waste generated plus \$40 for each additional ton after the first.

49-50pnc

Denise Gaida Todd County Auditor/Treasurer

Todd County Commissioners Minutes

MINUTES TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OCTOBER 4, 2016

Public Comment

Steve Beck addressed the County Board on the areas of budget preparation transparency compli-ments and Coordinator/Administrator concerns.

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 4th day of October, 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 with Commissioner Kircher absent.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote. To approve the agenda with the addition of 4.6 Excluded Bingo Permit.

Routine Business

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Auditor Warrants number 228066 through 228213 in the amount of \$994,521.53.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number 44390 through 44481 in the amount of \$119,173.88.

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 69253 through 69407 in the amount of \$89,083.33 and number 511699 through 511724 in the amount of \$31,776.47.

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 July 5, 2016 and July 19, 2016 as read.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the Todd County Election Emergency Plan as presented with future revisions made as deemed as necessary by the Todd

County Auditor-Treasurer. A copy of the plan is on file in the Auditor-Treasurer's Office.

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

EXCLUDED BINGO PERMIT - TODD COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for an Excluded Bingo Permit for the Todd County Council On Aging through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a one day Excluded Bingo Permit for the Todd County Council On Aging to hold bingo at The Clarissa Ballroom in Eagle Valley Township at the address 19281 Kottter Road, Clarissa, MN on October 30, 2016.

Auditor-Treasurer's Office

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE AND SALE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2016

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners (the "Board") of Todd County, Minnesota (the "County"), as follows:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE.

It is hereby determined to be in the best interests of the County to issue its General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2016 (the "Bonds"), pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 475, to refund all or a portion of the 2019 through 2026 maturities of the County's General Obligation Bonds, Series 2011, dated, as originally issued, as of May 12, 2011 (the "Refunded Bonds").

SECTION 2. TERMS OF PROPOSAL.

Public Financial Management, municipal advisor to the County, is hereby authorized to prepare a form of Notice of Sale for the Bonds and solicit bids for the Bonds on behalf of the County on a competitive basis.

City of Long Prairie

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson,

See TCC on page 9a

Public Notices

COUNTY PRINTING TODD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Designation of Extra Printing

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Commissioners of Todd County, Minnesota will receive sealed bids for the extra publication of the Financial Statement for the year 2016 as required by law until 4:00 p.m., Friday, December 30, 2016. Bids will be open at 9:05 a.m. on January 3, 2017 in the County Board Room.

This requires the extra publication for distribution of the Financial Statement to the remaining parts of the county not covered by the distribution of the official paper. The successful bidder will be required to furnish a performance bond in such an amount as may be determined by the County Board. The County Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids if in its judgment of the public interest so require pursuant to M.S. 279.07, and it waives any informalities therein.

Denise Gaida Todd County Auditor/Treasurer

50-51pnc

NOTICE THOMASTOWN MEETING CHANGE

The regular monthly meeting of Thomastown Township will be held on Monday, January 9 at 7:00 p.m. at the town hall.

Joy Weyer, Clerk Thomastown Township

50pnc

NOTICE OF FILING FOR STAPLES TOWNSHIP

Staples Township is accepting filings for:

Supervisor for a three (3) year term

Treasurer for a two (2) year term

The filing period for these offices opens at the home of the Clerk on January 3, 2017 and closes at 5:00 p.m. on January 17, 2017. Filing fee is \$2.00.

Please contact Bonnie Thoele at 218-894-3638 to file for office.

Bonnie Thoele, Clerk Staples Township

50-51pnc

PUBLIC NOTICES: Your Right to Know

STATE OF MINNESOTA DISTRICT COURT
COUNTY OF TODD SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Court File No.: 77-PR-16-1158
In Re: Estate of George R. Kuhlmann
a/k/a George Kuhlmann, Decedent.

NOTICE OF AND ORDER FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION OF INTESTACY, DETERMINATION OF HEIRS, FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on January 30, 2017, at 11:00 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at 221 First Avenue South, Long Prairie, Minnesota, on a petition for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of Decedent's heirs, and for the appointment of Josh Kuhlmann, whose address is 314 8th Street SE, Freeport, MN 56331, as personal representative of the Decedent's estate in an unsupervised administration.

Any objections to the petition must be raised at the hearing or filed with the Court prior to the hearing. If the petition is proper and no objections are filed or raised, the personal representative will be appointed with the full power to administer the Decedent's estate, including the power to collect all assets; to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes, and expenses; to sell real and personal property; and to do all necessary acts for the Decedent's estate.

Notice is further given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the Decedent's estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court within four (4) months after the date of this notice or the claims will be barred.

BY THE COURT Dated: 12/06/16
/s/ Daniel Benson, **Judge of District Court**
/s/ Rhonda Bot by Patti Johnson, Court Administrator
Mark F. Uphus, MN #141136, 310 East Main Street, P.O. Box 158
Melrose, MN 56352 Telephone: 320-256-7491
Facsimilie: 320-256-7612 Email: manager@uphuslaw.com
ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER

50-51pnc

TODD COMMISSIONERS continued from page 9a

the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To decline the written request from the City of Long Prairie to abate the County's portion of taxes on 16 taxable parcels located within the City in support of the City's 2016 FTTH Broadband Communications Network.

Hands of Hope
On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl the following resolution was adopted by unanimous vote:

2016 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION FOR TODD COUNTY
W H E R E A S , Our homes should be a place of warmth, love, safety, and security, and for most of us, home and family are indeed among our greatest blessings;

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious crime that terrorizes one's home which affects people, regardless of race, age, religion, income level gender or occupation, and is happening in Todd County;

WHEREAS, The crime of domestic violence violates an individual's privacy, dignity, security, safety, and humanity, due to the systematic use of physical, emotional, verbal, sexual, psychological, and economic control and abuse;

WHEREAS, Domestic violence costs the nation over \$12.5 billion annually in medical expenses, police and court costs, shelters and foster care, sick leave, absenteeism, and loss of productivity. In Todd County, Hands of Hope Resource Center has served over 320 men, women and children to date in 2016.

WHEREAS, A coordinated community effort is needed to address this crime; a coalition of organizations including law enforcement, prosecution, victim services, health care providers, the clergy, social services and concerned citizens to address this recurring crisis;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, In recognition of the important work done by Hands of Hope Resource Center, we the commissioners of Todd County do hereby proclaim the month of October 2016 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and urge all citizens to work with Hands of Hope Resource Center in eliminating domestic violence in our communities.

Central Minnesota Housing Partnership

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Subordination of the Todd County Mortgage (recorded as document #398753) on the Reichert Place Apartments.

Planning & Zoning

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

FINAL PLAT APPROVAL - "SUNSET VIEW DEVELOPMENT" SUBDIVISION

WHEREAS, Applicant Michael and Pattie Tie-mann applied to subdivide a property that is part of Govt. Lot 7 in Section 26 of Birchdale Township with the plat to be known as Sunset View Development,

WHEREAS, The Sunset View Development Plat consists of one residential lots of 1.17 acres located in the Shoreland Zoned District of Little Birch lake,

WHEREAS, On June 2, 2016 the Todd County Planning Commission recommended the following property be considered for Subdivision pursuant to Todd County Subdivision Regulation and Ordinance: Section 26 TWP-127 Range - 33 That part of Government Lot Seven (7) of Section Twenty-six (26), Township One Hundred Twenty-seven (127), Range Thirty-three (33) described as follows: Commencing at the Northeasterly corner of Lot 6, Beaver Point Lakeshore Lots Second Addition, according to the plat thereof recorded in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thence North 36 degrees 29 minutes 00 seconds East (assumed bearing) along a line being the Northeast-

erly extension of the East line of said Lot 6 a distance of 129.00 feet; thence North 08 degrees 12 minutes 00 seconds East a distance of 119.76 feet; thence North 25 degrees 05 minutes 00 seconds East a distance of 86.00 feet to the point of beginning of the land to be described; then continuing along said line North 25 degrees 05 minutes 00 seconds East a distance of 86 feet; thence North 59 degrees 57 minutes 53 seconds East a distance of 79.56 feet; thence North 56 degrees 35 minutes 00 seconds East a distance of 150.00 feet; thence South 30 degrees 18minutes 35 seconds East a distance of 189.94 feet; thence South 35 degrees 09 minutes 23 seconds West a distance of 135.11 feet; thence South 88 degrees 36 minutes 39 seconds West a distance of 122.23 feet; thence North 54 degrees 20 minutes 12 seconds West a distance of 103.12 feet; thence North 68 degrees 17 minutes 35 seconds West a distance of 45.87 feet to the point of beginning, Todd County, Minnesota ("the Premises"). Total of 1.17 acres

WHEREAS, On June 21, 2016 the Todd County Board of Commissioners considered the Preliminary Plat for the above described property and approved the Sunset View Development Preliminary Plat (Subdiv. 2016-04) with no conditions.

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

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the final plat of "Sunset View Development" subdivision be approved as presented.

South Country Health Alliance

Leota Lind presented a report on South Country Health Alliance activities to the County Board.

Health & Human Services

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the purchase to expand the existing Todd County electronic data management system to the Family Services Unit.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To accept the intent of Kali Christensen to retire effective December 31, 2016.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the request for TCHHS to recruit and hire a Social Worker, to fill the position that will be left vacant by the retirement of Kali Christensen.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To accept the intent of Barb Wessel to retire effective date to be determined in the near future.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the request for TCHHS to recruit and hire a Social Worker, to fill the position that will be left vacant by the retirement of Barb Wessel.

Human Resources

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve purchasing NeoGov recruitment software license for the initial cost of \$7,250, and the subsequent annual cost of \$4,250.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the County General Records Retention Schedule-Human Resources Records.

Closed Session

Chairperson Becker announced that the meeting would 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.

The meeting was closed at 10:27 a.m. Closed Session was held within the small Commissioner's Room.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the meeting was reopened at 11:30 a.m.

Auditor-Treasurer Report

Reminder of the AMC Fall Meeting on October 28. Discussion of potential TNT date selection.

Commissioners' Report

The Commissioners reported on the meetings they had attended.

Coordinator's Report

Discussion with the County Board on inquiring about implementing an electronic timeclock system.

Adjourn

Commissioner Becker recessed the meeting until October 18, 2016.

AUDITOR WARRANTS	
Vendor Name	\$ Amount
AMERICAN HERITAGE BANK	\$3,108.00
COMPUTER PROS	4,473.00
LONG PRAIRIE SANITATION INC	3,261.79
NO NAME CONSTRUCT	2,000.00
PHEASANTS FOREVER	2,750.00
ROBERT R. SCHROEDER CONST. INC.	121,780.01
STRUCTURAL SPECTALITES INC.	106,962.93
TODD SOIL & WATER CONS DIST	55,973.00
Payments less than \$2,000	10,565.60
AMERICAN HERITAGE BANK	63,396.67
BIG BIRCH LAKE ASSOCIATION	5,265.06
CARD SERVICES COBORNS	3,905.04
EISNER (HINNENKAMP)/ ROSALIE	5,871.60
FLEET SERVICES/ WEX BANK	5,290.20
GENE-O'S COUNTRY-SIDE REST LLC	7,387.01
GOULD/RHONDA M	2,412.00
HILLMER/DAVID	5,644.43
LONG PRAIRIE OIL COMPANY	2,916.25
MADDEN GALANTER HANSEN, LLP	2,044.68
MN DEPT OF FINANCE	8,098.00
MORRISON COUNTY	28,622.75
PRAIRIE LAKES MUNI. SOLID WASTE AUTH	59,924.32
STEP	5,525.50
Payments less than \$2,000	7,126.22
ALLIANCE BUILDING CORP	22,691.18
FARMERS STATE BANK	30,364.25
GREAT RIVER REG. LIBRARY	85,418.50
HARDRIVES INC	3,853.13
MINNESOTA POWER & LIGHT	13,938.32
PETERS & CHURCH-WELL	3,281.00
SANOFF PASTEUR INC	3,969.37
STAPLES ADVANTAGE	2,755.63
VOYANT COMMUNICATIONS, LLC	3,525.75
WATERGUARDS, LLC	14,994.00
WONDERLICH/ SCOTT A	4,351.50
Payments less than \$2,000	10,338.03
AMERICAN HERITAGE	7,332.05
BIG BIRCH LAKE ASSOCIATION	4,670.32
CITY OF ST CLOUD	4,531.17
HOLECEK/ESTATE OF HELEN	5,100.18
LARSON/JEFF	7,689.00
LONG PRAIRIE OIL CO	3,988.75
RESOURCE TRAINING AND SOLUTIONS	230,239.50
Payments less than \$2,000	7,235.84
Total	\$994,521.53

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS	
Vendor Name	\$ Amount
CENTRACARE HEALTH	
LONG PRAIRIE	\$2,767.25
CENTRAL SPECIALTIES INC	2,703.98
HILLYARD	2,714.11
IMPACT TECH	2,547.00
M-R SIGN CO. INC	2,866.13
MORRISON CO PUBLIC HEALTH SERV	4,417.82
MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS CREDIT CO LLC	57,330.30
RELANCE TELEPHONE INC	2,605.61
SUMMIT COMPANIES	5,538.00
TODD CO PUB. WORKS	6,600.00
TURNKEY/THREE SQUARE MARKET	2,570.43
Payments less than \$2,000	26,513.25
Total	\$119,173.88

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS	
Vendor Name	\$ Amount
BRENNY FUNERAL CHAPEL, STAPLES	7,000.00
CDW GOV'T INC	3,625.28
DHS - MSOP- MN SEX OFFENDER PROG.	6,845.00
DHS - SWIFT	16,086.53
RURAL MN CEP INC	16,071.34
150 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	39,455.18
Total	\$89,083.33

Vendor Name	\$ Amount
CENTRAL MN MENTAL HEALTH CTR	3,960.00
KINDERCARE ED. LLC	3,010.00
MERIDIAN SERVICES INC	4,000.07
MID MINNESOTA DRUG TESTING INC	3,060.00
NORTH HOMES CHILD. & FAMILY SRVS.	6,939.35
NORTHERN PINES MENTAL HLTH CTR	3,854.00
Payments less than \$2,000	6,953.05
Total	\$31,776.47

On a motion by Erickson and seconded by Kircher, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held October 4, 2016 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on December 7, 2016.

Witness my hand and seal:

Barb Becker, Todd County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

50pnc
MINUTES
TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OCTOBER 18, 2016

Public Comment
John Poston, Republican Candidate for State Representative 9A, presented campaign issues to support on behalf of Todd County.

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 18th day of October, 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 with Commissioner Erickson absent.

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 Kircher and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number 44482 through 44617 in the amount of \$192,106.20.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Warrants number 511725 through 511819 in the amount of \$153,182.80.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for August 2, 2016 and August 16, 2016 as read.

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

GAMBLING PERMIT FOR BROWERVILLE SPORTSMAN CLUB

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for the Browerville Sportsman Club through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a one day Gambling Permit for the Browerville Sportsman Club to hold a raffle at Clarissa Ballroom in Eagle Valley Township at the address 19281 Kotter Road, Clarissa, MN on March 5, 2017.

Auditor-Treasurer's Office / PFM Group

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To authorize issuance, awarding sale, prescribing the form and details and providing for the payment of \$3,140,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2016. (Copy of full file available in the Auditor/Treasurer's Office.)

Assessor's Office

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Neumann the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To reappoint Christopher Odden as Todd County Assessor.

Staples Township Board

Members of the Staples Township Board were present to address concerns with Zoning & Permits within their township boundaries.

Todd County Ag Society

Deb Nelson, Todd County Ag Society President provided a summary of 2016 activities for the

County Board to review.

Planning & Zoning

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Preliminary Plat for Rachels Grove with the condition that the plat map be amended to correct street labeled as Douglas Street to be changed to Douglas Drive for Thomas and Kathleen Detloff Site Address: 16295 County 102 Parcel #06-0041300.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Preliminary Plat for Camacho Addition with no conditions for Christopher and Holly Camacho Parcel #25-0024402.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the zoning amendment request by Rudy Miller to rezone parcel 28-0022600 from R10 to AF-2.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To appoint Arnold Boie as Planning Commission representative for District 1 starting November 2016.

Item 10.1 Land Stewardship Award will be moved to a future meeting.

Health & Human Services

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: - To approve the Memorandum of Understanding with NJPA for Contracting Services effective 1/1/2017 -12/31/2017.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: -To approve the hire of Jennifer Swanson to fill the open Support Enforcement Aide position Grade 5, Step 1 - \$17.38/hr contingent upon successful completion of required background check and/or employee physical.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the hire of Natalie Mejia to fill the open Eligibility Worker position at Grade 6, Step 1 - \$18.42/hr. contingent upon successful completion of required background check and/or employee physical.

Human Resources

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To authorize County Coordinator to sign NeoGov order form as presented and reviewed by the County Attorney.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the transfer of \$7,250 from Wages line item to Tax, Financial, Payroll, & PC Support line item.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by roll call vote: To approve filling the full-time position of County Coordinator in County Administration. Becker, yes; Erickson, absent; Neumann, yes; Kneisl, yes; Kircher, no.

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 Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the meeting was closed at 10:30 a.m. Closed Session was held within the small Commissioner's Room.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the meeting was reopened at 10:49 a.m.

Auditor-Treasurer Report

Real Estate Tax Day processes are wrapping up. Update provided on current Absentee Voting statistics for the upcoming General Election. The facilities committee will be having a meeting on October 28 where persons with interest on the expo building's future are welcome to attend.

Commissioners' Report

The Commissioners reported on the meetings they had attended.

Coordinator's Report

The review of applicants for the Payroll Specialist position is underway. Discussion of potential attendance reservations for upcoming AMC Conferences for the Commissioners.

Adjourn

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

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS	
Vendor Name	\$ Amount
BLOMBECK CONSTRUCT. CO. INC	7,362.50
BROWERVILLE TRUCK WASH/BIG BOYZ	2,822.32
CELLULAR CONCRETE INC	11,636.00
CENTRAL APPLI-CATORS INC	13,598.05
EMERGENCY AUTO. TECH	10,903.91
EPIPHANY COMM. SERVICES	4,250.00
FARMERS STATE BANK	30,388.75
JOHNSON CONTROLS	2,974.00
M-R SIGN CO. INC	4,060.00
MN ELEVATOR INC	2,775.00
NO NAME CONSTRUCTION	45,800.00
REACHING SOFTWARE, LLC	2,000.00
RTVISION INC	2,410.20
STAPLES WORLD	4,455.95
STREET STYLE	3,422.02
TASER INTERNAT'L	2,197.79
Payments less than \$2,000	41,049.71
Total	192,106.20

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS	
Vendor Name	\$ Amount
#14471	\$2,007.30
COMMUNITY AND FAM. SRVS LLC	12,726.95
#4453	5,100.00
GERARD TREATMENT PROGRAMS	3,121.00
HEARTLAND GIRLS RANCH	9,115.50
HOLISTIC FAMILY ED. SRVS	5,219.37
#1911	2,581.24
KINDRED FAMILY FOCUS	2,801.10
LUEBESMIER/HEATHER	2,090.00
#10746	3,062.70
MCMAHON COUNSELING & CONSULT. SRVS	2,250.00
MINNESOTA CONSTRUCT INC	6,600.00
NORTHERN PINES MENTAL HLTH CTR	24,135.00
#14162	2,419.56
PORT OF CROW WING GIRLS HOME	5,340.00
STEP	6,748.04
# 14203	2,604.00
Payments less than \$2,000	55,261.04
Total	\$153,182.80

On a motion by Erickson and seconded by Kircher, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held October 18, 2016 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on December 7, 2016.

Witness my hand and seal:

Barb Becker, Todd County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

50pnc

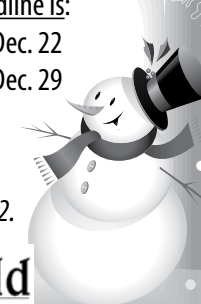
Holiday Deadlines

For the
Dec. 29 Staples World
Jan. 5 Staples World

The Staples World office will close
at noon Dec. 23 and Dec. 30.
We will be closed Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.

Staples World

The deadline is:
5 p.m., Dec. 22
5 p.m., Dec. 29





Decorating Grandma's cookies

Jayce (left), Lizzy (center) and Jorja Kobliska, granddaughters of Mary Kobliska, all of Staples, spent the afternoon at their grandma's house Dec. 10, helping to decorate Christmas cookies. It's an activity that's become a favorite tradition for the Kobliska family. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

COOKIES
continued from page 1a

A tradition to be carried to new generations

apy, too, Mary says. It's a time to clear her mind of the cares of the day and turn her attention to her grandkids, as well as those she plans on sharing her baking with. The smell of cookies baking, along with the Christmas decorations adorning the house, help get her in the holiday spirit, Mary said. "We usually have Christmas music playing, too, when we start our baking."

She hopes that the tradition of baking Christmas cookies with her granddaughters is one that will continue for a long, long time, Mary said. "I hope someday that this is something they will do with their own children and grandchildren."

"We love doing it," Jayce says. "Especially when we get to taste the fudge. Grandma's fudge is the best."



Ready to be frosted



Mary Kobliska, Staples, pulls another tray of sugar cookies out of the oven (above), ready for her granddaughters to frost. At left, Kobliska is at work rolling out some more dough for the cut-out Christmas cookies. Kobliska makes several dozens of Christmas goodies each year (cookies, bars, breads), many of which she gives away.

LIGHTS continued from page 1A

New suites will be available for respite care for families as well as for hospice care



Honoring veterans

Army veteran Charles Poulton hung ornaments and provided a military salute to all veterans who received palliative/hospice care at Lakewood Health System and passed away during this past year. Among those honored was navy veteran Arlyn Welling of Staples, who was stationed at Pearl Harbor during the attack on Dec. 7, 1941. Welling died June 19, 2016.

Season of Lights ceremony are going toward the new hospice/respite suites which will be located at Lakewood Pines in Staples.

According to Foundation Director Heidi Chapman, two suites will be created at Lakewood Pines for this service. At this time, one suite is in the process of being renovated, thanks to dollars raised during the LHS employee giving campaign.

Renovation on the second suite will begin after additional funds are raised. The Foundation is hoping to have both of the suites, as well as a patio for family gatherings, completed by the fall of 2017.

This new service will provide much needed, short-term, respite/hospice care services for the community, Chapman noted.

To make an online donation toward the respite/hospice suites, visit www.lakewoodhealthsystem.com.



Speaker

Dr. Julie Benson gave the message at the Season of Lights ceremony at Lakewood Health System Hospital in Staples Dec. 6. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

com and click on the 'Foundation' tab. Donations can also be sent to Lakewood Health System Foundation, 49725 Cty 83, Staples, MN 56479.

Wadena County Truth in Taxation draws usual crowd

By Rin Porter
Wadena County reporter

At the Truth in Taxation meeting held Nov. 29, Wadena County officials spoke with 23 citizens who were in attendance at the courthouse in Wadena.

As has become customary, most of the citizens had come to the wrong meeting. The Truth in Taxation meeting is not about property assessment for 2016, payable in 2017, property taxes. It's about the county budget and levy setting process.

Most of the people who came to the meeting wanted to discuss the assessment of their property. Those conversations need to be with County Assessor Lee Brekke during normal business hours at the courthouse, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

In addition, each city and township holds a local property tax meeting in April, the date of which is printed on the annual property tax form that each property owner receives. Property owners must attend those local meetings before coming to the annual June Board of Adjustment meeting held at the courthouse to dispute their proposed property tax amounts.

All the information

citizens need regarding their property taxes can be found on the county's website: www.co.wadena.mn.us/228/Assessor.

Each year valuation notices are sent out in late March, local Boards of Appeal and Equalization are held in April; with the County Board of Appeal and Equalization held the third Monday in June. The State Board is held the beginning of June.

County Board Chair Jim Hofer made the announcement about the purpose of the Truth in Taxation meeting and told property owners that the assessor's office is located in the lower level of the courthouse, where they could make an appointment with Wadena County Assessor Lee Brekke. Most of the people left the Truth in Taxation meeting to do that.

Auditor/Treasurer Judy Taves gave a brief overview of the county's budget process and the levy of taxes to support the portion of county expenses that are not paid by the State of Minnesota or the Federal Government.

The proposed county budget for 2017 is \$22,488,681, of which, county taxpayers provide \$8,768,591 or about 26 percent. The remainder, 74 percent is paid by the State

of Minnesota and the U.S. Government.

Commissioner Bill Stearns told the few members of the audience that the county budget is composed of seven funds, five of which (General Revenue, Road and Bridge, Public Health, Building, Social Services) contain tax dollars and two (Transit and Solid Waste) do not contain tax dollars.

Stearns told the group that the total budget of \$22 million to run the county is used to administer the programs that the state and federal government require. "County government is a function of the state government," he explained. "We do what they tell us to do," because by law, that's what commissioners, elected officials and appointed officials must do.

A county can't decide not to maintain its roads or care for its vulnerable citizens or provide for public safety.

Several citizens asked questions about land assessments, property tax levy increases and the problems that retired people have when taxes increase along with other expenses like health insurance premiums.

The meeting was adjourned at 7 p.m.

Comments sought on Buffer Law policies

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) oversees the program's implementation of the buffer law. The agency is currently seeking public comment on key components of its buffer program.

The Requests for Comment and supporting docu-

ments are available on the BWSR Buffer Program website: <http://bwsr.state.mn.us/buffers/>. BWSR is looking for feedback on the following policies and model rules:

- Initial election of jurisdiction policy
- Enforcement proce-

dures and administrative penalty order plan

• Model county ordinance as an option for counties electing to exercise jurisdiction.

• Model watershed district rule as an option for districts electing to exercise jurisdiction.

Comments from stakeholders are a key part of the process, and will be considered during policy development. Anticipated action on these policies is expected at the January 2017 BWSR Board meeting.

Information and comments on the policies and model rules will be accepted until 4:30 p.m., Jan. 9, 2017. Comments may be submitted via email to buffers.bwsr@state.mn.us or via U.S. mail to David Weirens, Asst. Director for Programs and Policy, BWSR, 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155.

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LOCAL BUSINESS UPDATE

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Motley's final 2017 levy up 3.4 percent over last year

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

At their regular meeting Dec. 12, the Motley City Council approved the total levy for 2017 (\$358,206), a 3.4 percent increase from last year's certified levy of \$346,428. They also adopted the final budget for 2017 as presented.

Prior to voting on the levy and budget, the public was given an opportunity to speak and ask questions. No comments were voiced.

Highlights of the 2017 budget are included below.

Expenses

- The final expenditure budget for 2017 is set at \$2,114,001.96, up \$56,095.96 from last year's adopted budget of \$2,057,906.

- Wages and salaries in the police protection dept. show an increase of approximately \$4,020; and in the administration dept., a decrease of \$6,373.

- There is an overall decrease in the area of employee benefits.

- City Clerk/Treasurer Lacey Smieja noted that funds have been budgeted in both the police and administration departments to allow for the hiring of additional staff.

Revenue

- The final 2017 revenue budget is \$2,177,327, down \$1,279 from last year's adopted budget of \$2,178,606. Some notable changes in revenue include:

- In the general fund, general property taxes are \$173,056, down \$1,461 from 2016.

- Local Government Aid (LGA) is \$160,297 in 2017, up \$443 from last year.

- The city will not be dipping into reserve funds to balance the budget in 2017, as was the case in 2016.

- In other matters the council:

- APPROVED an application to rezone a property at 297 Ash St. E, from Public Use (PU) to Residential - High Density (R-E), as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

- APPROVED zoning ordinance amendments as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission. Of note is a change to the definition of "Principal Structure of Use" to clarify that recreational vehicles used as dwellings shall not be considered a principal structure or use.

- TABLED voting on the 2017 proposal and contract from Ben Oleson with Hometown Planning, the city's current planning and zoning administrator. Per their discussion, the council feels Oleson has been doing a great job; but they are wanting to get a proposal from NJPA (National Joint Powers Alliance) as well. Lacey Smieja, city clerk/treasurer, noted that the city has 24 banked/carryover hours of service from Hometown Planning.

- DISCUSSED whether or not the city should be collecting a percentage of building permit fees, which it currently does not. According to building inspector David Barsody, the city has always waived their fee in the past but he wondered

if they would like to change that. The council voiced mixed feelings about this, indicating a desire for the city to recover its expenses, but not wanting to burden residents or discourage them from doing building projects.

- APPROVED contract from the Township of Motley regarding road sanding services. The township rate for sanding East River Road will be \$85 each time.

- LEARNED that Young Excavating, contractors for the Cimarron Dr., Postel Dr. and Lil St. Streets Improvement Project, did more work than was required of them and would like to be paid an additional \$3,287. Bruce Brotherton, public works supervisor, noted that they did a very nice job in a timely manner. He also noted that the final cost of the project is \$129,500, which is below the engineer's estimate of \$137,500. After some discussion, the council approved a motion to offer Young Excavating 50 percent of their requested \$3,287.

- APPROVED the Motley Fire Department's recommendation for the following officers: Chief, Todd Judd; 1st Asst. Chief, Chuck Gerads; 2nd Asst. Chief, Nick Dille; Safety Officers, Kyle Frisk, Mike Zimmerman, Randy Nelson; Training Officers, Birt Hermann, Jim Uhlman, Lonna Dille; Medical Officer, Lonna Dille.

- APPROVED a yearly compensation of \$250 for the fire department's Medical Officer position.

- APPROVED a motion to allow the fire department to proceed in hiring additional firefighters. They currently have 16 firefighters on their roster and are allowed up to 23.

- APPROVED sending two MFD firefighters to a fire-training session.

- APPROVED a request from Motley Police Chief Ron Smith to hire current part-time MPD officer Jason Borash on as a full-time officer. Smith noted that Borash is doing a great job, is well-liked by the community; and has expressed a desire to have this be his full-time job.

- APPROVED reimbursing Officer Borash for motel fees and mileage when he attends a free training for officer certification. The council also approved reimbursing Officer Borash for uniform reimbursement that is owed him for the year 2016.

- LEARNED that city hall will be closed for half a day on Friday, Dec. 23; and all day on Monday, Dec. 26 and Monday, Jan. 2, for holiday hours.

- LEARNED that the Oath of Office for newly elected officials will take place Tuesday, Jan. 3. Time still to be determined.

- HEARD from outgoing Mayor Nancy Nieken, who expressed her thanks for the opportunity to serve the City of Motley. Nieken has served on the city council a total of 14 years; the past six as mayor.

- SET next regular council meeting for Monday, Jan. 9, 6:30 p.m.



Passing the gavel

Outgoing Motley Mayor Nancy Nieken (right) passed the gavel on to Mayor-elect Al Yoder at the close of the Motley City Council meeting Dec. 12. Nieken has served on the council a total of 14 years; the last six as mayor. She thanked the council for the opportunity to have served the City of Motley. Nieken said she is looking forward to traveling south with her husband, Gary and spending more time with her children and grandchildren. Yoder, who is currently a council member, will take the Oath of Office on Jan. 3; and will preside as mayor for the first time at the Jan. 9 council meeting. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Lighting the Advent candle

December 11 marked the third Sunday in Advent, a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the nativity of Jesus at Christmas. Pictured above at Motley United Methodist Church, Connie and Harvey Macheel light the third Advent candle of the season and lead the congregation in a call and response liturgy. The fourth Advent candle will be lit Dec. 18 and all of the candles will be lit on Dec. 24, Christmas Eve. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Middle School Christmas Concert



Standing room only

The Motley gym was packed wall to wall for the Motley-Staples Middle School Christmas Concert on Dec. 12. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



Junior high choir entertains

The Motley-Staples Middle School sixth and seventh grade choirs performed at the Christmas concert Dec. 12. The two choirs combined for a final song to end the concert. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Motley Police, Sheriff's reports

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

Dec. 5 - The MPD assisted the Minnesota State Patrol with a one-vehicle rollover at mile marker 103 on State Hwy 210 in Motley.

Dec. 3 - The MPD responded to a call regarding an unruly person at the Eastwood Motel in Motley.

Dec. 2 - The MPD issued a speeding citation to Ian Macheel, 18.

Dec. 7 - The MCSO received a call regarding a shed that was on fire at the 35000 block of 70th Ave. in Cushing. Scandia Valley Fire Dept. was paged.



Motley Lions care, share

The Motley Lions recently donated \$2,000 to the Motley Area Food Shelf (MAFS) with funds used to purchase Thanksgiving turkeys. A total of 92 turkeys were given out at the food shelf during the Month of November. Pictured at the food shelf, from left, are Sherry Miller Frisk, MAFS Director; Lion Pat O'Regan, MAFS Chair. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Phone scam reported in Morrison County

The Morrison County Sheriff's Office wants residents to be aware of another scam that is circulating.

According to Sheriff Shawn Larsen, the most recent case involved a person who posed as a representative from Dish Network, advising the caller that they

needed to change their receiver in order to get better service as well as a clearer picture. In this particular case, the victim's personal information was not given out. In addition, Dish Network was contacted and they advised that this was indeed a scam.

Sheriff Larsen reminds residents that if they receive an offer that seems too good to be true, more than likely it is a scam. Residents have many options, including getting a call-back number from the party and having it researched.



Truck rolls, crashes on icy Hwy 10

Icy roads were a contributing factor in a one-vehicle rollover on Hwy 10, just west of Motley Dec. 12. According to the Minnesota State Patrol, John Bible, 50, of Staples, driving a Ford Ranger, was traveling west when he lost control of his vehicle, rolling into the north ditch. Responders at the scene included the Motley Police Department and Motley Fire and Rescue, pictured above; state patrol; and the Staples Ambulance. Bible was transported to Lakewood Health System Hospital in Staples and treated for non-life threatening injuries. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

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Early ice fishing preparations



Getting out on the ice

The choices for today's modern angler give him/her the flexibility to outfit themselves with equipment that match their style of ice fishing. (Submitted photo)

By Steve Carney

The cold weather has finally hit and the balmy, easy-going Fall has been replaced with a dose of reality ! We are now looking forward to the ice fishing season and from the look of the extended forecast, ice is on the way. As we make the change from the Fall hunting seasons, early December is the time to get your ice fishing gear in order and make preparations for hitting the ice within a couple of weeks.

Here are some thoughts for the early ice angler:

- Auger Options

Ice augers have come a long way in the past two years. In my opinion, the gas auger is on the way out. New technology has come along with the advent of the lithium battery which is now durable and reliable in cold weather. This battery creation has changed the auger market considerably. Another option is the K-Drill by Vexilar which features a brushless hand drill that powers a lightweight auger blade which is quiet, efficient and smooth. There are more options in electric ice augers coming down the road as well and the demise of the old fashioned gas powered auger is inevitable.

- Ice houses on wheels

Innovations in wheeled ice houses have come fast and furious as the market is now flooded with options. There are new manufacturers showing up every year and the competition is widespread. The creature comforts now in these modern wheel houses include heat, air conditioning, lift axles and plush bedrooms. My style of ice fishing is more the portable flip up style and where I go, the wheel houses just aren't practical. For those that wish to park their house on a spot for the winter season, you can get a lot of use out of a modern wheel house. Keep in mind we have had a few seasons since 2010 where the ice wasn't good enough to get those big houses out. You stand the risk of having it in your driveway instead of on the ice when you are dealing with a heavy ice house.

- Flip Style Portables

Flip style houses are in my opinion, the best way to go day in and day out. I hop from one lake to another throughout the whole season and I need the portability of the lighter, pull behind style house. I use a single person house for just myself and have a couple other larger portables for 2 to three anglers. The beauty of these lightweight portables is that they can be pulled by hand or easily towed with a snowmobile or ATV.

No matter what the ice conditions happen to be, you can always improvise and adapt with a portable shack.

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Support walleye fishing

Ice thick enough for fishing may be on the wish lists of many anglers heading into the holiday season, but there is another present anglers can give themselves that makes fishing better all around the state – a walleye stamp.

“Walleye stamps can be purchased any time of the year, even if you already have a fishing license,” said Neil Vanderbosch, fisheries program consultant for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. “We use the funds from stamp sales to support walleye stocking.”

A walleye stamp validation costs \$5 and can be purchased wherever Minnesota fishing licenses are sold. For 75 cents more, the DNR will mail the stamp as a collector's item. A walleye stamp is not required to fish for or keep walleye.

The DNR uses walleye stamp proceeds to buy walleye from private producers, which are stocked in lakes that don't have naturally reproducing walleye populations. Stocking lets anglers catch walleye in a more geographically wide range of the state.

Because of stocking, walleye can be found in around 1,300 Minnesota lakes spread throughout the state. However, most walleye are caught in large rivers or about 260 large walleye lakes where they naturally reproduce.

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SW 2016 wk.#48



Erpelding, Bjerga win tournament titles

The Staples-Motley wrestling team had two champions at the Paul Bunyan tournament in Brainerd on Dec. 9-10. Owen Bjerga won the 132 pound title and Alex Erpelding won at 182 pounds.

Erpelding scored two pins in his first two rounds, then won 6-1 in the final. Bjerga had two close matches to start out, winning 1-0 and 5-3, then won 5-2 in the final.

Spencer Miller also made the finals at 120 pounds, but lost 16-6 to finish second.

The Cardinals finished seventh as a team even though they had five

weights with no wrestlers entered. They will enter another tough tournament filled with ranked wrestlers in the Big Bear at Cass Lake-Bena Dec. 16-17.

The Cardinals also defeated Crosby-Ironton 59-9 in a dual meet on Dec. 6.

Team results
Staples-Motley 59, Crosby-Ironton 9
106 - Sam Jennissen W ff; 113 - Brayden Christensen W ff; 120 - Spencer Miller W 9-6; 126 - Blake Gerard L 1-0; 132 - Blayne Dumphre W 5-3; 138 - Owen Bjerga W tf; 145 - Eric Lisson W fall; 152 - Dalton Holmberg W fall; 160 - Jonathan Lisson W 6-0; 170 - Brandon Szymkowiak L fall; 182 -

John Statema W 4-3; 195 - Alex Erpelding W fall; 220 - Shaine Guggenberger W ff; 285 - Kyle Serich W fall

Paul Bunyan tournament, Brainerd
Foley 246.5, Frazee 180, Pierz Healy 146, Moorhead 141, Brainerd 109.5, Little Falls 101, Staples-Motley 100, Bemidji 99, Grand Rapids 89.5, Aitkin 76, Cloquet 62, Mound Westonka 52, Chisago Lakes 50, Amery 20.5, Minneapolis Southwest 0

Staples-Motley wrestlers:
113 - Christensen 2-2, 7th place; 120 - S. Miller 2-1, 2nd place; 126 - Dumphre 3-3, 6th place; 132 - Bjerga 3-0, 1st place; 138 - E. Lisson 4-2, 5th place; 152 - J. Lisson 1-2; 182 - Erpelding 3-0, 1st place; 285 - Serich 2-3, 6th place



Outside shooting leads to first hoops loss

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

The Staples-Motley girls basketball team picked up their third win of the season, beating Crosby-Ironton 57-34 on Dec. 6, but then had their first loss, falling to Osakis 73-48 on Dec. 8.

The Cardinals limited C-I to six offensive rebounds. “That was one of our goals,” said Coach Craig Wolhowe. “Crosby is very young and I thought our experience made a difference. We were in control the whole way.”

Going in to the Osakis

game, Wolhowe said the team had to stop their top outside shooters and defend the post. “We didn’t get the job done,” said Wolhowe.

Foul trouble forced the Cardinals to play zone. “We missed some assignments and the shooters got some open looks and knocked down three pointers,” said Wolhowe. Meanwhile Staples Motley shot 21 percent from three point land.

“This was not one of our better games so we will need to polish things up,” said Wolhowe.

Claire Wolhowe led the

team with 14 points and also had nine rebounds. Kelsie Weite also pulled down nine rebounds and Amber Robben had six assists.

Team results
Staples-Motley 57, Crosby-Ironton 34
Scoring: Kelsie Weite 18, Claire Wolhowe 13, Amber Robben 9, Sam Schimpp 7, Chelsea Nanik 4, Kaitlyn Longworth 4, Alix Peterson 2

Staples-Motley 48, Osakis 73
Scoring: Wolhowe 14, Nanik 9, Weite 6, Robben 6, Schimpp 6, Ashley Smith 3, Emma Gerard 2, Longworth 2

Taking it strong to the hoop

Hunter Carlson, left, gets fouled while putting in a basket in the game against Wadena-Deer Creek. At right, Derek Kennedy glides in for a layup. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Boys basketball team improves after dropping first game

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team went 1-1 in their first two games of the season. They suffered cold shooting in a 62-55 to Verndale on Dec. 6, then started clicking in the second half of a 69-35 win over Wadena-Deer Creek.

At Verndale, Trey Skeesick had a good start but then sat much of the game with foul trouble. “Without him we got too one dimensional and struggled to make baskets,” said Coach Micheal Poncelet. “But it was a good start to the season, we saw some encouraging things.”

At home against W-DC, the Cardinals quickly turned a 15 point halftime lead into more than 30 points ahead with steals and fast break baskets. “We played defense at a really high level,” said Poncelet.

Poncelet mentioned a few players who stepped up their game: “Gavin Smith got going and was really distributing the ball well. Max Giza was really efficient scoring and Derek Kennedy hit a couple of threes that were missing from the Verndale game.”



Team results
Staples-Motley 55, Verndale 62
Scoring: Gavin Smith 14, Trey Skeesick 13, Jack Fietek 11, Mason Rychner 9, Hunter Carlson 3, Max Giza 3, Brayden Losh 2

Staples-Motley 69, Wadena-Deer Creek 35
Scoring: Smith 17, Skeesick 10, Giza 10, Derek Kennedy 9, Rychner 6, Josh Lombard 4, Reid Busker 3, Carlson 2, Losh 2, Isaiah Ross-Bahn 2

Warm up to winter at state parks and trails

Upcoming events at Minnesota state parks and trails provide many ways to get out and enjoy winter.

Starting Dec. 31: Candlelight Events
Few views soothe the soul like candlelight flickering on snow. Dozens of candlelight events, some of which draw crowds of more than 1,000 people, will take place at Minnesota state parks and trails this winter. These events feature trails lit up at night with candles, lanterns and other luminaries. Depending on the location of the

Drive to the basket

Jack Feitek takes the ball through the lane in the game against Wadena-Deer Creek. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

na-Deer Creek 35
Scoring: Smith 17, Skeesick 10, Giza 10, Derek Kennedy 9, Rychner 6, Josh Lombard 4, Reid Busker 3, Carlson 2, Losh 2, Isaiah Ross-Bahn 2

Season’s end is like goodbye to a friend

The post-mortem or “mop-up” after the end of an angling or hunting season can be accompanied by a certain amount of melancholia; at least for a while. There are so many different things that outdoors lovers can do year-round in Minnesota that it’s hard to feel sorry for anyone who lets post-season blues keep him down for long.

Still, the end of a favorite season is not so unlike what we feel at the bon voyage of a good friend with whom we may not share company for many months to come.

- O -
Inside the Outdoors



Mike Rahn

Only a matter of days ago I drove the half hour to the family cabin where so many hours of good memories have begun and ended. It’s there in a garage that I over-winter the Battleship Bluebill, an informal and optimistic name for the duck boat that my hunting partner and I use for several weeks each fall.

“Battleship” in the sense that it’s a 14-ft craft meant to safely handle the bigger waters where we hunt, important because – while on those waters – she’s armed bow to stern with the usual superabundance of duck hunting paraphernalia. “Bluebill,” since that is our favorite duck, a not-too-colorful, not-too-gourmet, but oh-so-exciting waterfowl to see and hear in its erratically-fluid and jet-whisper flight. The season for this favorite activity officially ended in late November or early December, varying by the three zones into which our state – at least this year – is divided.

I and my Labrador Bella were there at the cabin to drain and replace the gear-case lubricant in the boat’s eight-hp outboard, lest any errant water in its lower unit freezes and does some

expensive damage over the winter. The trailered boat had been quickly wheeled into the cabin’s garage when we returned from our last weekend of hunting. Wheeled in by two worn-out hunters who still embrace the laborious, sleep-depriving, weather-fraught rigors of duck hunting, but most definitely appreciate the recovery time that comes afterward.

Wheeled into the garage and left pretty much as things were when we loaded Battleship Bluebill after the last day’s hunt, a condition not quite as orderly as when one knows that the next morning will see another deployment on a lake or marsh. Some decoys had escaped the bags in which we store them between the boat’s seats; their glass eyes reflecting the overhead garage lights gave them a life-like glimmer that’s probably not appreciated as much by the real ducks as it is by hunters.

The hulls of several empty shotgun shells still rested more or less where they were ejected in the heat of our taking a shot at a bluebill, ringneck or red-head, when such birds mistakenly determined that our flotilla of plastic decoys was a safe haven and a place to rest and feed. Most of the ducks that our decoys and well-camouflaged boat had fooled managed to make an escape, due either to poor shooting, to our determining that they were beyond range, or – as too often happens – to our being taken off-guard and failing to fire a shot. Not all escaped, but we certainly had made ample contributions to next spring’s nesting prospects.

Still in the boat, too, were the life jackets that always accompany us, but admittedly are not worn as religiously as they should be when we’re motoring between boat landing and destinations. Oars, push-pole, anchor, motor tool kit and various and sundry other items that accompany us on our hunts were there, too. Time to take

them from the boat and put them into proper storage; then clean the boat of cat-tails and other vegetation that are part of the camouflage process.

How about that trailer light that malfunctioned on the last trip home? Must make a note to get the bulb replaced. A note, too, to make some phone calls during the off-season to see if there is a better prop for the outboard – one that won’t gather as much vegetation and threaten to stall the outboard when we’re motoring through shallow-growing vegetation. Maybe my hunting partner and I could fabricate a weed-guard that would really work; or raise the transom to make the outboard run shallower. So much to consider.

When I’m buttoning-up after the end of a season, whether it be hunting or fishing, I find myself replaying its events in my mind, and plotting for the future – “future” of course being the next season. Along with any sense of loss or melancholy, there’s also the beginnings of anticipation, even though it may be anticipating something that will not return for nearly 10 months.

Wistfulness for this season’s end will soon pass. What lies ahead is December’s remains for late season grouse, pheasant or archery deer hunting, and more than two months of rabbit hunting for those so-inclined. And of course, a winter’s worth of ice fishing, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling; among other things. If we need a “fix” of gunpowder scent we can get out for a round of trap or “clays” at one of the all-winter shooting clubs, to keep our hand in and to perhaps rectify some of this year’s poor shooting. We should also pledge to give our canine collaborators enough exercise to keep them in-shape; maybe even a semblance of real training.

Little to be gained by dwelling on what has ended; lots to do and enjoy in the winter ahead.

Thursday Twilight League Bowling Wadena Lanes		
DECEMBER 8, 2016		
1. Mason Bros.	12-4	
2. Spectrum Marketing	10-6	
3. Ted and Gen's	9-7	
4. Staples Vet Clinic	6.5-9.5	

5. Lefty's	6.5-9.5
6. Ghost Team	4-12
HIGH TEAM SERIES- Staples Vet. Clinic	1692
HIGH TEAM GAME- Staples Vet. Clinic	610

HIGH IND. SERIES/	HIGH GAMES
Tia Freitag	582 215-186-181
Marge Harrison	505 190
Judy Tiede	482 167
Amber Block	475 188-168
Deb Pundt	465 176
Betty Klingaman	461 175
Deanna Gould	169
Jody Wilson	150