



Weather

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
July 14	81°	61°	M. Cloudy
July 15	83	58	P. Cloudy
July 16	89	61	M. Sunny
July 17	91	62	Sunny
July 18	91	64	Sunny
July 19	93	64	Sunny
July 20	92	65	Sunny

Last Year, 2020

	High	Low	Cond.
July 14	72°	63°	Cloudy
July 15	79	54	Sunny
July 16	80	60	Sunny
July 17	80	55	Rain
July 18	80	64	Sunny
July 19	74	61	Sunny
July 20	75	54	Sunny

Average Temps:
H = 84° Low = 62°
July total rain:
1.25" (amounts vary)
Current year to date:
9.46"
Accumulated Daily Normal Precipitation:
15.35"
Wettest year (2012):
25.30"
Driest year (1987):
5.87"
Have a great week.

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Todd BOA: 8A

Obituaries

Kathryn Fiemeyer
Genevieve Johnson
Darrel Neal
Debra Olson
Calvin Robertson
Erna Schmidt



COVID numbers falling

COVID-19 infections have dwindled down to almost nothing in the area, with zero cases reported in most communities over the past week and just one reported in Staples and one in Wadena, according to zip code statistics from the Minnesota Department of Health.

During June, the Wadena area had seen a rise in cases, with 35 new cases reported from the last week of May to July 1. Other area communities averaged one or two cases per week during June.

The number of deaths attributed to COVID-19 has also declined but is still present. Over the past three months, Todd and Wadena County averaged one death per month, while Morrison County had five deaths in those three months and Cass County had six.

State park pass can be checked out at library

Library cardholders in Staples will now be able to enjoy Minnesota state parks thanks to a new partnership through the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN. DNR).

The library program allows Minnesotans to visit our state parks free of charge, providing increased opportunities for individuals and families to enjoy the health and social benefits of time at state parks. This is especially important right now, after the COVID-19 pandemic has plagued our mental and physical health; and time in nature is vital to maintaining our well-being.

The application process for the Minnesota State Parks Library Program was competitive. Due to the median household income and free and reduced-price lunches in Todd county, Staples Public Library (branch of Great River Regional Library) was selected to be a part of the program.

According to the MN DNR, in 2017 and 2018, Minnesota State Parks and Trails tested two pilot library programs at White Bear Lake and St. Peter libraries. These pilot programs followed a national trend of state parks collaborating with libraries to offer free entry for library patrons. There is notable demand in Minnesota for a similar program. After learning what works and

See **LIBRARY** on page 10a

52 years ago, Staples native helped put men on the moon

On April 24, Darrel Neal passed away in a hospital in Seattle, Washington following a short illness. Darrel was one of the unsung heroes of the cold war and ensuing space race. Darrel worked as an engineer at Cape Kennedy from 1964 to 1972.

Born December 7, 1935, Darrel grew up on a farm eight miles northwest of Staples. While his four older brothers and sisters graduated from Verndale High School, Darrel felt Staples had a better math program and his father, Willard, was able to get him transferred. He was the president of the Staples Future Farmers of America chapter his senior year, graduating in 1954.

Darrel attended Indiana Technology Institute, in Ft. Wayne, Ind., earning

a degree in Aeronautical Engineering. He worked initially for Honeywell, in Minneapolis. In 1958 the Soviet Union deployed the first intercontinental ballistic missiles. The space race was on and Darrel was in on the ground floor. He married his wife, Velva Oertwich of Karlstad in 1959. Little did she know what she was letting herself in for. Six months after they were married, Darrel hired on with General Dynamics deploying the first operational U.S. intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) system at bases across the U.S. Over the next four years they would live in Kansas, New Mexico, Nebraska, Oklahoma, California, New York and Alabama; having three sons, Kevin (1961), Terry (1963) and Brett (1964); no



Darrel Neal

two born in the same place.

On May 25 President Kennedy committed the U.S. to putting a man on the moon by the end of the decade. This launched the Apollo program consisting of 11 total spaceflights; six of which landed men on the moon.

As the ICBM deployment

began to wind down in 1964 Darrel was hired by Boeing and moved his wife and three sons to Titusville, Fla. where he worked at Cape Kennedy until the Apollo program ended in 1972. He was initially in charge of the operation of the giant doors on the vehicle assembly building, which had to be raised to let the 363 foot tall Saturn rocket transport to the launch pad. Later he oversaw the hydrogen refueling system, located at the launch pad (his office was actually in a trailer at the pad). Hydrogen was used to fuel the third stage of the Saturn rocket, which was fired twice for lunar missions: first for Earth orbit insertion after second stage cutoff, and then to put the

See **NEAL** on page 10a



A beautiful evening for music in the park

Dozens of people set up lawn chairs at Northern Pacific Park in Staples July 11, enjoying the music of Nathan's Old Time Band from the St. Cloud area. The concert was the kick-off to the Music in the Park series hosted by the Staples Motley Area Arts Council. Audience members enjoyed the sounds of accordion, trumpet and keyboard, and at least one couple danced during one of the band's polka numbers. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Public health clinic at Todd County Fair

On Friday, July 16, from 3-6 p.m., Todd County Health and Human Services will host a public health clinic at the Todd County Fair.

Staff will be offering dental varnishing to any child. Fluoride varnish is a dental treatment that can help prevent tooth decay, slow it down, or stop it from getting worse. Fluoride varnish is made with fluoride, a mineral that can strengthen tooth enamel (outer coating on teeth). Fluoride var-

nish is painted on the top and sides of each tooth with a small brush. It is sticky but hardens once it comes in contact with saliva. Your child may feel the hardened varnish with his tongue but will not be able to lick the varnish off.

Additionally, a nurse will be available to provide the Johnson & Johnson/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine. This vaccine is available for those age 18 and over and is a single dose vaccine.

The J&J/Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine was 66.3 percent effective at preventing laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 infection in people who received the vaccine and had no evidence of being previously infected. People had the most protection two weeks after getting vaccinated. For more information visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/janssen.html>.

Thank you for subscribing!



Ring the bell at the paver dedication

A number of veterans were recognized during the paver dedication at Staples All Veterans and Community Park held as part of the July 4 celebration. Above, Amy Klose of Staples rang the bell as the name of one of her relatives was read by her dad, U.S. Army veteran Ken Klose of Staples (far right). A total of 28 granite paving stones, engraved

with the names of area veterans, were dedicated that day, with family members invited to ring the bell in honor of their loved one(s). Amy Klose rang the bell several times, as the names of her relatives (Klose and Opdahl) were read by her dad. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Central Lakes College 2020 - 2021 graduation

Central Lakes College, Brainerd and Staples, has announced its 2020 - 21 graduates. These students have completed degree, diploma or certificate programs. The list includes all but those students with data privacy requested. Local students named includes:

Motley

Tiffany Achermann, Payton Bjerga, Brady Bordwell, Joshua Carlson, Holly Cuffe, Mark Danilyuk, Abigail DiGiovanni, Matthew Iaquinto, Sarah Kossan, Kali Mammenga, Samantha Mrazek, Rebecca Nemitz, Torii Nienow, Hailey Owen, Karlee Poynter.

Pillager

Dylan Christensen,

Staples

James Barrett, Michelle Boyer, Rebecca Brown, Brandon Christensen, Melissa Cory, Tyler Davidson, Angella Eychaner, Arlene Flickinger, Jordan Kirscht, Chloe Kramer, Brittney Lisson, Jonathon Lisson, Nancy O'Rourke, Rylie Julianna Rau, Matthew Schluttner, Heidi Storry, Gilberto Terrones.

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

July 1 - 7

July 7 - The MPD received three reports of gas drive-offs at the Holiday station in Motley, with the amounts being \$50.49, \$40; and \$40.94. July 7 - The MPD issued a citation to Lorilee Arnold, 61, after observing a projecting load of lumber from her vehicle that was traveling south on Hwy 10 near Aztec Rd. in Motley. She stated she had been traveling from Walker and was headed to Lake Shamaineau. July 5 - 7 - The MPD issued speeding citations to Alec Coil, 29; Carol Taffe, 61. July 6 - The MPD responded to a report of a one-vehicle rollover on Hwy 10 near 330th St., Motley. The driver stated she was not injured, but was checked



Pillager Fair's medallion winner

Gage Siewert, a 2021 Pillager High School graduate, was the winner of \$1,000 after finding the medallion hidden at the Pillager Fairgrounds. Siewert said he started searching for the medallion at 8 a.m. July 10 and found it about 2:30 p.m. behind a post near the bleachers while watching his buddy play beanbags. He only stopped once during the day, for a short water break, Siewert said. He went to share that he currently works at Trident Seafoods in Motley and recently moved to Staples. He plans to use the money towards his rent.

Pictured at top, from left, are Ron Hines, Pillager Fair Board member; Siewert; and fair board members Donna Klimek, Shane Peterson and Lisa Fletcher. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

Additional photos from the Pillager Fair will be included in next week's edition of the Staples World.



Law enforcement reports, Motley area

out by first responders and Mayo Ambulance anyway. July 6 - The MPD received a report of a burglary at a storage unit near the 200 block of Hwy 10 S., Motley. July 5 - The MPD responded to a report of suspicious activity at the 200 block of Hwy 210 W., Motley. July 5 - While patrolling, the MPD observed that someone had dumped two old tires at the boat landing area near 149 Riverfront Ln, Motley. A message was sent to have MnDOT pick them up. July 5 - The MPD received a report of an injured black bear near Hwy 10 and Cty Rd. 28 in Motley. The responding officer tracked the bear through the grass and woods for a distance but was unable to locate it. The MPD spoke with a DNR Conservation Officer regarding the matter and advised them of the possi-

ble safety concerns as the bear has been seen multiple times in the area. The MPD also spoke with nearby residents, advising them to call law enforcement if they see the bear in the future, so it can be put down. July 5 - The MCSO responded to a report of a gas drive-off at Lincoln Gas & Bait in Cushing. July 5 - The MCSO received a call from a driver who hit a deer while northbound on Dove Rd. near Pillager. July 5 - The MCSO responded to a report of a burglary at the 7000 block of 320th St., Cushing. July 5 - The MCSO responded to the scene of a single vehicle accident at Dove Rd. and 330th St., Cushing. The driver was extricated from the vehicle by Scandia Valley Fire and transported to the hospital by ambulance. July 4 - The MCSO issued

a speeding citation to Sherman Martell, 26. July 4 - The MCSO was dispatched to a suspicious vehicle complaint at the 35000 block of Hwy 10, Motley. July 2 - The MCSO responded to a report of theft at the 33000 block of Aspen Ln., Motley. July 2 - The MCSO assisted state patrol with a multi-vehicle crash at the 200 block of Hwy 10 in Motley. July 2 - The MCSO observed the listed subject, Stefan Scott Tucker, driving the listed vehicle at the 5000 block of 260th St., Cushing. Dispatch advised that Tucker had a warrant out for his arrest. The subject, who said he pulled into the residence in attempts to "ditch" law enforcement, was arrested without incident.

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

Front L to R: Jami Griffin, Kristen Ronneberg, Nicole Logajan Back L to R: Don Reigstad, Paul Johnson. Missing: Scott Maney

Jami Griffin, RN, Occupational Health
Nominated by Cassie Roberts – Trident Seafoods
"Jami has developed a strong level of trust with our employees at a plant Lakewood provides occupational health services to in the short year she has been here. From day one she has provided service above and beyond our expectations and contract. She has offered up the option to call her at home in case of medical emergencies. She completes her job with enthusiasm each day and offers to help in other areas. She has recently taken on our health and wellness board with monthly updates. She also started to help out during new hire employee orientation with the fitness room. Her follow up is incredible. She is adamant about seeing her patients care completely through until they are back at 100%."

Kristen Ronneberg-RN, Nicole Logajan-RN and Scott Maney, CRNA - Surgery
Nominated by Karen Trosen, RT, Radiology
"I work in radiology and was in surgery for a lap chole. As they brought the patient in she stated that she was very nervous and anxious. With all the restrictions of Covid, patients don't always have close family with them, especially when they go back for surgery. Kristen, Nicole and Scott rallied around and relieved her nervousness. I could visibly see her shoulders relax and start conversing with the staff. They took the time necessary to make sure she felt like family. They stopped and slowed down and were so compassionate and caring that it should make Lakewood proud. Thanks for all you do."

Don Reigstad and Paul Johnson, Chaplains
Nominated by Heather Montonye, Activities Manager
"Paul and Don have been supplying our residents with the love and support needed to bring them closer to the Lord. They make special visits, provide music, hold worship services and provide communion for the residents. They provide that loving and open shoulder to anyone that needs it. We were able to have Ash Wednesday Services because we worked together to figure out a way to make that happen. The residents that were there were very moved by the service that was provided. We have been through a lot this last year and I truly believe that Paul and Don have been here to help us all through their ministry. They are truly a blessing to each of us here at Lakewood."

Lakewood HEALTH SYSTEM
218-894-1515 lakewoodhealthsystem.com

JUNE FEST MOTLEY MN 2021

The June Fest Committee would like to thank all of the sponsors that contributed to June Fest 2021. It is because of YOU that June Fest is growing and will continue to be a successful community event for all to enjoy. Please help support the following businesses that make this event happen!

Platinum Sponsors City of Motley Motley Lion's Club Staples Motley Area Community Foundation 2 Tall Tavern Brichacek Electric Brick's Travel Plaza Artesian Homes Trident Seafoods First International Bank & Trust	Jordahl Concrete & Masonry Morey's Fish Market Jordahl Hardware Ten-Hi Bar Diamond Industrial Cleaning Equipment CTC	Staples True Value Motley Dairy Queen Eastwood Inn Staples Chamber of Commerce Y-Knot Liquors American Legion Post #124 – Motley
Gold Sponsors Bjerga Feed Store Motley Free Methodist Church Enberg Logging Brichacek Stone	Silver Sponsors Central Building Supply Mid-Minn Excavation Motley Discount Liquor Malark Foundation PHB Excavating Lakes Country Insurance – Motley DHC of Lakes Area Holst Acres	Bronze Sponsors TRB Sewing Patrick O'Regan Antiques Markus Hair Design Ideal Construction Old Tyme Trading Post Silo Ice Cream Laundry on 10

ATV accident near Hewitt

An ATV accident was reported to the Todd County Sheriff's Office on July 5 at 1:09 p.m. Dylan Becker, of Rice, was riding a 2005 Polaris 500 ATV when he lost control and rolled near 470th St. south of Hewitt.

Becker was wearing a helmet at the time. He was transported by the Bertha Ambulance to Tri-County Hospital, Wadena. Hewitt rescue and the Wadena Police Department assisted at the scene.

Hay bales catch fire

At approximately 2:30 p.m. on July 2, the Wadena County Sheriff's Office received a report of a grass fire in Section 11 of Lyons Township, southeast of Nimrod. Deputies arrived at the scene to find a grass fire and numerous round hay bales on fire. Minnesota DNR Forestry arrived and contained the fire to keep it from spreading. Sebek Fire Department worked to extinguish the round bales. Bulldozers and an excavator were brought in to bury the bales in order to extinguish the flames.

The sheriff's office learned the property owner had been using a tractor to cut grass and noticed the

fire in an area he had previously been working. He worked at trying to stop the flames from spreading before a call was placed to 911.

The property owner was checked and cleared by paramedics on scene. No injuries reported.

The exact cause of the fire is unknown. The tractor's exhaust is suspected of causing the grass fire. An estimated 400 plus round hay bales were lost in the fire.

Menahga, Verndale and Staples Fire Departments assisted with mutual aid. Also assisting was Tri-County Ambulance Service.

Three new veterans homes move forward

Veterans Notes
By David A Anderson
Wadena County Veteran Service Officer

In late March, MDVA learned that federal funding would be provided to build three new State Veterans Homes projects to be located in Bemidji, Montevideo and Preston. The U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced its State Home Construction Grants FY 2021 Conditional Approvals. This investment will allow MDVA to expand State Veterans Homes into three new communities to serve elderly Veterans living in all corners on the state.

MDVA has pursued federal funding for these important projects since 2018 when the Minnesota Legislature allocated \$33 million toward the cost of the projects. The funding plan is a combination of federal-granted (65 percent), state-bonded and community-provided monies (35 percent).

The Minnesota Legislature's continued support of Veterans was key to the success of these projects. The approval of federal funds allows the construction process to proceed. The planning and design process is nearly complete and with this exciting news, final touches can be made.

The three new Minnesota Veterans Homes projects are slated to receive more than \$80 million in Federal VA funds. By June 30, MDVA will complete the Federal VA grant application process to obtain the funds.

MDVA leaders have worked closely with local elected officials and Veterans' stakeholders for years on the planning for the new Veterans Homes. The communities of Bemidji, Montevideo and Preston have been very engaged in the process, donating land for the building sites and raising additional funds to support amenities for their new Homes.

In Bemidji, the proposed facility reflects a North Woods cabin design for both the public spaces as well as the 72 residential units that are split into two sections, avoiding long institutional-feeling hallways. The project cost is estimated at \$41.5 million and a total of 105 FTEs will be needed to operate the facility.

The Montevideo facility blends into the local prairie style environment with 72 residential units as well as a large community meeting room. The project cost is estimated at \$48 million and a total of 105 FTEs will be needed to operate the facility.

In Preston, the facility will enjoy fantastic views from its hilltop location that includes 54 residential units. The project cost is estimated at \$32.2 million and a total of 79 FTEs will be needed to operate the facility.

Construction could begin as early as early fall 2021 with an anticipated 18-month construction schedule. [Source MDVA Website 04/14/2021]

You can contact your local VSO at (218) 631-7617 or by email at david.anderson@co.wadena.mn.us.

Zebra mussels found in Cass County

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has confirmed a report of zebra mussels in Pine Mountain Lake, adjacent to Backus in Cass County.

A swimmer contacted the DNR after finding a zebra mussel attached to a native mussel on a sandbar along the southern shoreline of the lake. DNR invasive species specialists found three more zebra mussels during a snorkel search in the same area.

"It's helpful when lake users contact us if they find what might be an invasive species that's new to a lake," said Heidi Wolf, DNR invasive species unit supervisor.

"Early detection is important, because it can help prevent spread to other lakes."

Whether or not a lake is listed as infested, Minnesota law requires boaters and anglers to: clean watercraft and trailers of aquatic plants and prohibited invasive species, and rain all water by removing drain plugs and keeping them out during transport.

Zebra mussels can compete with native species for food and habitat, cut the feet of swimmers, reduce the performance of boat motors, and cause expensive damage to water intake pipes.

75 Years Ago - 1946

• July 11, 1946 - A great deal of activity has been seen at the tennis court located in the park near the hospital of late- in fact, so much so that an hour's time has been allotted to two or four players, in order that more people may have use of the court during the day-time.

The courts on the southside have not been in operation for at least three years, and at the present time are in a deplorable condition, being full of weeds, no wire

- 0 -
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
- 0 -

netting around the court, and they are badly in need of repair; in order that more tennis enthusiasts may have the opportunity of playing the game, thus alleviating the crowded condition at the northside park.

With the return of many servicemen to Staples, the playing of tennis has again staged a "comeback" and hardly a minute of the day passes but what the one court is in use.

The proposition was brought before the city council at its meeting this week, and the council approved the repairing of the southside court. New standards will be put in, a new wire netting and new nets for all three courts.

• July 11, 1946 - During a 20-minute period Friday afternoon of last week a check was taken on Second Ave. in Staples of the number of foreign cars which were passing through Staples, and the figures herewith quoted are astounding.

During that 20-minute period, a total of 18 foreign licenses were noticed either parked on Second Ave., or passing through the city.

The foreign cars were from Illinois, Ohio, California, Pennsylvania, Montana, New York, Wisconsin, Iowa, North Dakota, Nebraska, Texas, Washington, Manitoba, Canada; Nevada, Louisiana, Michigan, South Carolina and Saskatchewan, Canada.

A good many of these tourists stop over in Staples for their meals or for gasoline, oils, etc., and consequently spend some money within the city.

Although there are no resorts real close to Staples, the city seems to be getting her share of the tourist trade this year.

• July 11, 1946 - There is a drastic situation existing in the Staples area in that the hay crop loss in this community will run into the thousands of dollars this season, due to the excessive rain and unfavorable weather conditions which have been prevalent here most of the spring and summer.

Local hay and feed dealers state that the loss to them will run into the thousands of dollars as there is no hay available for purchase and they, like others who had hay land, have either been flooded, or the hay which was already cut had been swept away by the raging flood waters.

50 Years Ago - 1971

• July 15, 1971 - Rain-fall and warm weather have put row crops in the area far ahead of normal. Verde Pepin, Motley school teacher and farmer, shows his corn to be waist high on July rather than the traditional knee high by the Fourth of July.

• July 15, 1971 - Two Staples residents have leading roles in "The Fantasticks," a production of the Brain-



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our July 15, 1971 edition. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photo? Email your answers and where you are from

erd Area Community Theatre, which opened a 12-day run July 13.

Stan Carlson, vocal music instructor in the Staples schools, plays the lead of El Gallo. Becky Finn, a 1971 graduate of Staples high school, plays the role of Louisa. Becky is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Finn.

• July 15, 1971 - Gerald Duenow of California has purchased the TV Repair and Sales business from Alfred Grewe of Verndale and has opened for business in Staples this week.

Duenow will operate his business under the name of Jerry's TV and Radio Sales and Service and will headquarter at his home located at 131 Dakota Ave. for the time being.

A 1956 graduate of Staples high school, Gerald is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Armin Duenow, former residents of this city. For the past three years, he has been employed in electronics with Westinghouse, Inc. in California. Duenow and his wife, Jackie, are the parents of two children, James, age 8; and Robert, age 4.

25 Years Ago - 1996

• July 11, 1996 - A Staples veteran of World War II, who was injured in action in France in August, 1944, Monday night received his Purple Heart award, nearly 52 years after it was earned.

Allen 'Pooley Ball' Tyndall, who suffered a broken leg and ankle in southern France on Aug. 16, 1944, was honored Monday night at the Staples VFW clubrooms. Members of the Staples VFW Robert W. Hand Post 1910, along with members of his family and friends, gathered to watch as Harlan Guse, Todd County Veteran Service Officer, presented the Purple Heart to the retired shoe repair shop owner.

• July 11, 1996 - A senseless tragedy last week near Cold Spring involved a woman from the central Minnesota area.

A father murdered his two young sons with a butcher knife Wednesday, July 3, shortly after picking them up from the mother's home.

Kurt J. Frank, has been charged in Stearns County District Court with causing the deaths of his two sons, Brandon, age 4, and Alex, 5. They were found dead at their father's home in Cold Spring late Wednesday night.

The mother, Angela (Borg) Frank, had three

months earlier left her Cold Spring home with her two sons and moved to her home area around Brainerd. She was a member of the 1988 graduating class at Pillager High School.

10 Years Ago - 2011

• July 14, 2011 - Nearly 50 local young people will take the stage with two professional actors from the Prairie Fire Children's Theatre, in an original musical production of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs July 15, at Centennial Auditorium in Staples.

• July 14, 2011 - Orvs Avenue, a rock n' roll band from Staples Motley High School, will present a concert in the Staples Music in the Park series on July 17, at 7 p.m. Band members include Logan Swends-

rud, Erik Nelson, Andrew Nelson and Chandler Trout.

• July 14, 2011 - The old neon 'Ernie's' sign - a fixture in Staples for at least 70 years - is now at home at the new grocery store located along Hwy 10 in Staples. With some coaxing from his wife, owner Al Erbe decided to have the old sign restored and brought to the new store which was built about a year ago. Erbe recalled that the original owner of the grocery store, the late Ernie Weber, bought the sign in the late 1940s or early '50s when his store was located on 4th St. NE in Staples. The sign was first moved when Weber expanded his business and built a store along 2nd Ave (now Hwy 10) and 5th St. NE in Staples; and its neon light continues to greet travelers through town.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo, published in the July 9, 1992 edition of the Staples World, featured six Staples High School students who were headed for All-State Choir camps later in the summer. Pictured, from left, are Mark Anderson, Heidi Wolak, Ben Busker, Bethany Tollefson, Justin Edwards and Heather Schimpp. All six are students of SHS Music Director Stan Carlson.

Jean Hayenga of Staples correctly identified all, noting that they were all in the same class as her daughter Jen Hayenga, Class of 1993. Heather (Schimpp) Thompson, a member of that class and now of Burnsville, said the picture brought back great memories from that choir experience. Judy Wolak of Staples also correctly identified all. Judy went on to share that all six were selected for membership in Minnesota Music Education Association's All-State Mixed Choir, Men's Choir, and/or Women's Choir for the 1992-1993 school year. "They attended summer music camp at Bemidji State University, culminating with a concert on Aug. 8, 1992. They also performed with the All-State Choir on Feb. 13, 1993, at Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis for the Mid-Winter Clinic of the MN Music Educators Association," Judy noted. Thanks for participating in our Mystery Photo.



Road fatality in Backus

On Saturday, July 10, at 2:08 a.m., the Cass County Sheriff's Office received a report of a single vehicle rollover on Pine Mountain Lake Road, rural Backus. Deputies and responders learned that a 1994 Chevrolet Suburban had left the roadway, rolling over. Responders located the driver, a male, age 26 of Maple Grove, with

severe injuries. Lifesaving efforts were attempted on scene, but the male was pronounced deceased. An autopsy is scheduled with the Ramsey County Medical Examiner's Office and the crash investigation continues.

Assisting at the scene were Backus Fire and North Memorial Ambulance.



Letter to the Editor

Be careful with power mowers

I awoke May 26 at 6:02 a.m. I saw young people wearing shorts and tennis shoes mowing lawns and I was concerned they might trip or more. Then quickly I saw little people playing in

the yard and dad mowing and maybe daydreaming and forgetting that little one. Maybe he stops to back up and then, oh no, he does what never happens.

Let's be extra careful, praying for a safe summer, always alert. I will pray.

Dennis Gordon
Staples, Minn

Senate undermines environmental progress

From Minnesota
Environmental Partnership

Pollution Control Agency Commissioner Laura Bishop recently resigned after Senate Majority Leader Paul Gazelka informed her that the Senate would vote against confirming her, effectively removing her from her position. The Senate planned to oust Bishop in apparent retaliation for the PCA's actions to confront climate change, including the Minnesota Clean Cars Rule. The Minnesota Environmental Partnership (MEP) condemns the Senate majority's action as a clear example of partisan posturing getting in the way of what's most important to the future of Minnesota families.

"At this critical time, Minnesota needs big steps forward to protect our climate, our water, and our communities, not this type of retribution," said Steve Morse, MEP's Executive Director. "The Minnesota Senate has dodged their responsibilities to take meaningful action on climate for years, rejecting most of the positive steps passed by the

House recently. Now they're retaliating against Commissioner Bishop and the Walz Administration for the modest progress they have achieved."

Bishop served as Commissioner for two and a half years. During that time, the Senate has had three full regular and numerous special sessions in which it could have acted on her appointment.

"The Senate leadership failed to exercise their power of advice and consent for more than half of the Governor's term," said Morse. "Forcing Commissioner Bishop out of office at this time, after failing to block the Minnesota Clean Cars rule in the recently completed legislative process, is an abuse of power that doesn't serve the people of Minnesota, the air we breathe or the bright future we like to imagine. We thank Commissioner Bishop and the Walz Administration for the work that they have started, and ask them to stay the course and ramp up the scale and pace of their climate work to meet this crisis of our time."

High mortality is an inconvenient truth of nature

Humans, the dominant creatures on our planet, have come to expect virtually all of our offspring to survive. Modern medicine, and the post-natal care and attention we give them, have made it so. There are unfortunate exceptions—found chiefly in impoverished, under-re-

o
Inside the
Outdoors



Mike Rahn

sourced parts of the world—but these basically prove the rule that most newborns will survive their first year of life and well beyond. But that's not the case with most wild creatures. With some exceptions, the probability of a newborn being an early casualty—from predation, disease, starvation, or another mortality factor—is high. Birds are among the most visible wild creatures whose lives intersect with ours, and they recently provided me with starkly contrasting examples of the uncertainties of offspring survival. Evidence, too, that the good fortune of survival is not evenly distributed.

I was returning home from an errand, slowing down as I often do when rounding a broad curve that follows the edge of "Twin Ponds," a wetland that—from spring through fall—is home to or visited by many kinds of ducks, Canada geese, tundra swans, herons, sandhill cranes, songbirds, and more. On the seat beside me was a camera with a telephoto lens. I've been known to decelerate to a slow crawl along the road's shoulder—my vehicle's hazard flashers on—

scanning for anything photogenic within telephoto lens range.

Some creatures are extremely visible and stand out; a snow white tundra swan, for instance. Others are masters at being inconspicuous. But even so, there are tipoffs that can be picked up by an experienced eye. Like the unmistakable, statue-still silhouette of a great blue heron standing in the shallows, where it watches for any movement that spells opportunity for a lightning-quick stab with its dagger-like bill at a frog, a fish, or maybe even an immature muskrat.

Hérons seem to be among the creatures least tolerant of human intruders, and this one took to the air as I brought my vehicle to a stop and attempted to aim the camera in its direction: too late. But with the ruckus of its departure and my sudden arrival, three tiny wakes appeared on the surface of the pond. I had also startled a hen hooded merganser and a pair of very small ducklings.

As I watched, mama and one of her young dove beneath the surface. This is the way that mergansers—the hooded species being one of three common to North America—feed, mostly on small fish, aquatic insects, mollusks, and the like. The two bobbed back up and began paddling away, heads turned to keep an eye on me, while the second youngster hustled in their direction to catch up.

I was struck by the fact that there were only two ducklings in the hen's company. I knew that a typical clutch of eggs for most ducks we see here in Minnesota is much larger. My bird reference books (I'm old-fashioned enough to still use them) say the typical clutch of eggs for a hooded merganser is 8-12. Most

likely they were laid in a down-lined cavity in a tree somewhere in the vicinity of the pond, or perhaps the hen occupied a nesting box that was intended for a wood duck.

What surprised me was the scarcity of young, as I've more commonly seen hooded merganser hens with a half dozen young in tow, give or take. Some of her young could have been lost in the egg stage to a nest-raiding weasel, mink, crow, or even a snake, and young ducklings on the water fall victim to snapping turtles, herons, and bass or northern pike if they're present.

At the edge of this particular pond are several tall trees where I've often seen a bald eagle perched. Eagles are used to finding meals near water, where they commonly scavenge fish. I've also seen them take a harvested, motionless duck that was floating at the edge of a hunter's decoys, and on another occasion exhaust a wounded duck by forcing it to dive, and eventually capturing it. Eagles are even believed to be a factor limiting the reproductive success of some ducks in the East, like the seagoing eider. Whatever the causes, this hooded merganser had little to show for her efforts.

That same evening, descending the steps to the dock at the family cabin, a hen mallard surprised me with her squawks of alarm, as she and a gaggle of young erupted from where they were feeling in the shallows. I carefully counted 11 youngsters, several of them taking to the air and proving that they were fledged, while the rest created little wakes as they practically walked on water to put distance between them and me.

Mallards commonly lay clutches of 8-10 eggs, so this hen was clearly an

over-achiever, or had somehow acquired one or more ducklings in addition to her own. More to the point, this demonstrated that the math that makes up the law of survival averages includes exceptions and outliers, just like this one. There's no guarantee that most of these young mallards will live to full adulthood, much less make the journeys south in fall and back north in spring, mate, and successfully produce offspring. But they have a good start.

More sobering are the survival numbers for some other wild creatures. It's believed that up to 90% of snapping turtle nests are found and destroyed by raccoons, mink, foxes or skunks. Fish, and even other snapping turtles, will eat many of those that do hatch and find their way to water. Only a quarter of the young robins that fledge will survive to November, when the time comes to migrate. And only about half the robins alive in one year will survive to the next.

According to data published by Pheasants Forever, only about 50 percent of pheasant nests produce any chicks, the rest raided and destroyed by raccoons, skunks, foxes, and feral cats; some are destroyed by agricultural practices, too. Of those nests of 12 or so eggs that do produce young, chick survival is about 50 percent, the losses commonly owing to predation by foxes, hawks, owls, as well as human activity, such as mowing of grassland cover before the young can mature.

And so it is with most wild creatures, their abundance dictated by an unsparing law of survival of the fittest, intertwined with the law of averages, and just enough chance and randomness thrown in to keep us guessing.

Quote of the week
"It is always the simple that produces the marvelous."
—Amelia Barr

Emergency lifted but virus still a threat

By Marilyn Peitso, MD
President, Minnesota
Medical Association

Minnesota's 15-month long peacetime emergency to address the devastating COVID-19 pandemic has ended.

In recognition of this significant milestone, the Minnesota Medical Association, on behalf of its more than 12,000 physician and physician-in-training members, extends its thanks to state leaders, public health professionals, essential workers, and all of our fellow healthcare workers for their tireless work and dedication. We are grateful for

the progress our state has made.

But the virus and its variants remain a serious issue which could undermine our return to normal, which is why getting vaccinated, if you are eligible, is so important. Let's build on our progress, Minnesota. Remember that children under the age of 12, and those with immune deficiencies, are unable to get the vaccine and remain vulnerable to COVID-19. For those who haven't rolled up their sleeve yet, we urge you to get the shot to protect yourself, your family, and your community.

By Congresswoman Michelle Fischbach

I visited Minnesota's Northwest Angle last week, which is the only point in the mainland United States above the 49th parallel. Surrounded by Canada on one side and Lake of the Woods, Minnesota, on the other, the only way to reach the Angle by land is through Canada. However, due to COVID-19 restrictions, the border has been closed to non-essential travel since March 2020.

The border closure has devastated the Northwest Angle, which relies heavily on cross-border travel and tourism. Along with State Senator Paul Utke and State Representative Matt Grossell, we visited with community members, workers, and resort owners about the many challenges they continue to face due to the border closure. We saw a resilient community that simply wants to get back to doing what they love.

I continue to implore the United States and Canadian governments to engage on ending the border restrictions. I will keep you posted.



Border meetings

From Rep. Fischbach: "We held a meeting on Flag Island with area resort owners. They said they normally have 80-plus boats at the docks; now, they're happy if they have 20 boats. They're understandably frustrated and anxious not knowing what their future holds. As they pointed out, there's nothing on the road to the Northwest Angle through Canada, so why does it remain closed?"



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Mark Petersen Band performing at Music in the Park July 18

Mark Petersen and his band will perform at the Music in the Park Series in Staples on Sunday, July 18, at 7 p.m.

In a Brainerd Dispatch article from May of 2020, reporter Jennifer Kraus wrote that, "Petersen is a singer/songwriter who is nationally known for writing songs such as "Cadillac Style" and "I Can't Reach Her Anymore" sung by Sammy Kershaw. "Refried Dreams" sung by Tim McGraw; and songs sung by Waylon Jennings and Willie Nelson."

Along the way Petersen's also gained a following in the Midwest among classic country fans who love to hear him and his band perform their favorite songs. In addition to his own vocals and guitar work, Petersen's band includes Arlin Britz, bass guitar and vocals; Ernie Renn, pedal steel guitar and lead guitar; and Wayne VerValen, drums and vocals.

Kraus went on to share that according to his Facebook page, Petersen was raised in a musical family. His aunts, "The Petersen Sisters" performed for area dances in the 1950s and it was their group that in-



Classic country music

Classic country artist Mark Petersen and his band will perform at Music in the Park Series in Staples on Sunday, July 18, at 7 p.m. (Submitted photo)

spired Mark to pick up the bass and guitar.

When he was 17, Petersen joined a local pop country rock band called "Black Gold," playing guitar; and when he turned 19, he was hired to play bass with the professional road group,

"The Blackwater Band." At 21, Petersen joined "Steve Hall & The Southbound '76," helping them win first place in the "Seagrams Seven International Battle of the Bands" for Minnesota in 1981, and North Dakota in 1982.

Drummer Steve Hall's comedic puppet "Shotgun Red" ended up paying the way for the band to leave the nightclub scene, going on to play arenas, stadiums, state fairs and cruise ships. In 1990, the band was offered a year-long theater stint in Branson, Missouri; and later had a 12-year-run as the matinee headliner aboard the General Jackson Showboat at the Opryland USA. In 2011, Petersen served as acoustic guitarist and band leader for the debut of RFD-TV's "Shotgun Red Variety Show."

Kraus went on to note that Petersen's songwriting career took off in 1991, with the help and guidance of Buddy Kalb at Ray Stevens Music, the publishing company where he also received valuable music business tips from Ray Stevens himself, Ray's manager Don Williams (brother of singer Andy Williams), and Nashville producer and legend guitarist Chet Atkins.

A year later, Petersen joined the writing staff at

Harold Shedd's Music Mill, where he wrote or co-wrote more than 180 songs, the Dispatch article said. The writing staff at that time included Jimmy Stewart, writer of the Earl Thomas Conley/Keith Whitley song, "Brotherly Love;" Tony Haselden of "Mama Knows," "A Little Less Talk" and "You Know Me Better Than That;" Don V Tress of "Achy Breaky Heart;" and DeWayne Blackwell of "Friends In Low Places."

Petersen currently lives in Brainerd with his wife and their five adopted cats.

The Music in the Park Concerts are held in the Northern Pacific (NP) Park on Sunday evenings at 7 p.m. and will run through August 8. Bring your lawn chair. For more information on the Music in the Park series, check out www.staplesmotleyarts.org.

Northern Pacific (NP) Park is located at 625 6th St. NE. Go north on 6th St. at the junction of Hwy 10 and 210 and go six blocks. In case of rain, the concerts will be moved to the Staples Community Center.

The Music in the Park Series is funded by the Staples Host Lions Club. The Series is organized by the Staples Motley Area Arts Council, with the assistance of the City of Staples.

Staples-Motley School Board agenda

The Staples-Motley School Board will meet Monday, July 19, at 6 p.m. at the District Office, 905 4th St. NE.

Any individual or groups who wish to be on the Community Forum, must contact the board chair or superintendent by noon the Friday prior to the board meeting date.

On the agenda is a public hearing to consider granting property tax abatement.

Activities Director Josh Lee will play a Minnesota State High School League "Why We Play" video.

Items on the consent agenda include:

Sponsorship with Community Concern for Youth Program with Todd-Wadena Community Corrections; Inter-district Agreement for Health Occupation Services with Browerville; resignation of Nolan Coyle, Special Education

Finance Items include: LTFM ten-year plan document; Resolution Granting Tax Abatement; Resolution to issue Facilities Maintenance Bonds and Tax Abatement Bonds, including participation in State's Credit Enhancement Program; Publication of the RFP requesting proposals for the guaranteed energy savings contract; School Meal Prices/Fee Schedule; Review of mandatory policies with no changes, or minor changes; Student Medication Policy # 516 with MSBA revisions

Todd County Council on Aging

Volunteer recognition July 16

Todd County Council on Aging will meet July 16 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Todd County Fairgrounds by the church food stand. This will be the 2021 Volunteer Recognition Celebration with cake, bingo and a meeting.

The meeting will include an update on center events followed by Jode Freyholtz-London, Executive Director of Wellness in the Woods speaking on Warm-line and Virtual Support Network Programming. There will be an overview of Meals to Go and bundled meals; coordinator's report, Hilltop Regional Kitchen report; Tech Cart; housing report; fundraising/allocations for the Echoes production; education Lama Forum; Conference on Aging and Juniper classes. Upcoming dates include the Wellness in the Woods annual conference.

"This is the invocation delivered by Pastor Barry Klein at the Veterans Park in Staples on Memorial Day. I feel it deserves to be placed in print for others to appreciate who may not have been able to attend. Thank you for your God given wisdom, Pastor".

May 31, 2021 Veterans Park Prayer

Father, Son, Holy Spirit God, thank You that You are.
On this May 31st Memorial Day Monday, we thank You that on planet earth, we have this beautiful place here at the Staples Veterans park.
Thank You for the men and women, surrounded by the support of the Staples Motley communities, who have poured Your gifts of a dream, resources and hard work into this serene gathering place of history and sacrifice.
All sacrifice in history is eternally measured by the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross in each of our places almost 2,000 years ago. The Bible that our forefathers of this country leaned heavily upon, records that death clearly in its pages.
Jesus, the One Who alone unlocks the meaning of history in Revelation 5:5, is alone our Hope in every generation. Forgive us and change us, Lord, when we have strayed from these truths.
As we ask for the living blessing in the song, "God Bless America," may we also sing and mean the words, "God Change America." We confess that we have moved away from our moorings in You and Your Word. We are in the midst of historical revisionism when we, as a country, have dangerously attempted to see life and history apart from You.
Ivy League schools and others, who once saw You front and center in the very reason for their purpose, have marginalized, if not thrown You out, thinking foolishly that "all is well" when it is not.
Governing officials and revisionist laws that have spurned You move us away from You and not toward You. Forgive us, Lord.
Nothing can change the fact that You alone are the Way, The Truth and the Life. We want to come back to You based on that life giving reality.
The apostle Paul is right in asking, "What do we have that we have not received from You?"
O God of the heavens and earth as revealed graciously in the Bible, transform us to "live what is true in You." We owe our very lives: mind, body and spirit to You. May we live accordingly. We hear our country's forefather John Adams declare, "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." Oh that we would become and be that kind of people, in the Staples/Motley area and beyond, O God.
In the Name above all names, Jesus the Messiah, Amen
(Paid for by an old Navy veteran)

50 YEARS of Collectibles

Guns Crossbow AUCTION *Rare and Collectible Items*

Motley Fairgrounds, Motley, MN indoors if rain.

Saturday, July 17, 2021

SALE TIME: 9:00 A.M. RESTROOMS AVAILABLE LUNCH ON GROUNDS

Summit 150 Crossbow with scope, hand crank loading 10/22 Ruger 50th Anniversary, new in box, never shot Model 53R17 Savage, bolt action with scope, 3x9 varmint, new in box Misc. ammo.	Large amount of scale Model Toys: 1/64th to 1/16th, John Deere, Farmall, hit & miss engines, etc. (100 plus) Cast Iron seat Cast Iron 12" bell Metal Advertising signs, approx. 50 Shell, Our Own Hardware, etc. John Deere, McCormick - Deering Farmalls, Winchester, Corvette Large items Many wood planers 1980s Playboys	MANY TOOLS AND WOODWORKING TOOLS Milwaukee sawsall Staplers 6/2 amp battery charger 10" table saw Large amount of nuts, screws, bolts Many clamps Floor model Delta drill press Bench top drill press Old hand saws Lg. amount of hand tools Lg. amount of wood planes 12" band saw & sander, Craftsman Hole saws Router bits Misc. lumber 2x4's, 2x6's, 2x10's etc. Craftsman belt sanders, more sanders Craftsman router & table Lots of woodworking tools Much misc. wood working stuff 18 volt DeWalt drills Craftsman planer, 6" Ryobi drill & saw, battery Craftsman, like new air compressor, 5 hp, 25 gal. 2-wheel cart B&D 10" DeWalt 7730	Pail full of keys Pickup ramps Extension ladder Galvanized tubs & pails Lots of wood clamps Table planer & jointer, 4" Lg. amount of wrenches & sockets Lots of long handle tools Large amount of oil cans Two man regular saws Quaker State case of oil OLDER ITEMS, ANTIQUES Old wooden boxes Sleigh bells Thrashing machine oil can Bull horns Old license plates Old rope pulleys Old whiskey jugs Old rods & reels Old walking plow Old fishing reels Brass spoon Stuffed offer on a board Glass ball foot table Wooden butter churn World War I and World War II books Occupied Japan pieces Lg. amount of wildlife prints and western prints Sleigh bells Large and small Red Wing crocks, 3 gal. & 20 gal. Planters Peanut jar Jugs	Band saw blades Lots of tarps Gas cans Old rocker Crystal glass Lg. amount of movie posters Washboard Milk buckets Beer mugs Lots of canes SPORTING AND MISC. Kid's trike Little wooden wagon Outboard motors, Johnson & Champion Minnow screen Lots of tackle boxes 12x12" screen porch Portable air conditioner Metal vintage wall hanging stuff Coleman lantern Fishing lures Fish and duck decoys, some old Camping stuff Camp stove Misc. hunting stuff New Wolverine boots Lanterns, approx. 10 Garden hose Charbroil gas grill MANY MORE MISC. ITEMS TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION	Sausage stuffer Bull horns Old books, back to 1864 Old rocker Crystal glass Lg. amount of movie posters Washboard Milk buckets Beer mugs Lots of canes SPORTING AND MISC. Kid's trike Little wooden wagon Outboard motors, Johnson & Champion Minnow screen Lots of tackle boxes 12x12" screen porch Portable air conditioner Metal vintage wall hanging stuff Coleman lantern Fishing lures Fish and duck decoys, some old Camping stuff Camp stove Misc. hunting stuff New Wolverine boots Lanterns, approx. 10 Garden hose Charbroil gas grill MANY MORE MISC. ITEMS TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION
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Hewitt Pickle Days
July 17, 2021 | Hewitt United Methodist Church

8:00 a.m. Rummage Sale
Morning Rolls with Coffee, Milk & Juice
For any questions please contact: Bev Blaske: 218-639-7954

11:00 a.m. Sloppy Joe Luncheon
Sloppy Joes, Baked Beans
PICKLES
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137th Annual 2021 TODD COUNTY FAIR
Long Prairie • FREE Gate Admission & Parking

JULY 15-18, 2021

Thurs., July 15
5:30 p.m. - Talent Contest Registration
6:00 p.m. - Talent Contest
7:00 p.m. - Family Fun Night
Cline Band following Talent Contest

Fri., July 16
1-3 p.m. - TC Senior Citizens Event
3-6 p.m. - Cline Connection
7:00 p.m. - Demolition Derby
Contact Josh Stock 218-770-0041
8:30 p.m. - Band "The Honky-Tonk Stardust Cowboys"

Sat., July 17
1-3 p.m. - BINGO
3-6 p.m. - Slew Foot Family Band
3-7 p.m. - Axe Throwing by US Axe
4-7 p.m. - FREE Sweet Corn Feed
7:00 p.m. - Bulls & Barrels Rodeo
Mini Bulls, Mutton Bustin/Barrel Racing
8:30 p.m. - Band "Live Wire"

Sun., July 18
11:00 a.m. - Interdenominational Church Service
1:00 p.m. - Todd Co. Outstanding Sr. Citizens
1:15 p.m. - TC Century Farm Recognition
1:45 p.m. - TC Farm Family of Year
2-5 p.m. - Red Letter Band
2 p.m. - Truck & Tractor Pull
Contact Jason Mann 612-490-8045

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Obituaries

Debra Olson



World traveler Debra Olson began her final journey home about 9:30 a.m. Monday, July 5, 2021, after dying of complications from ALS at N.C. Little Hospice in Edina.

A memorial service is pending.

Deb was born June 2, 1949 to Albert and Beatrice (Zakariasen) Olson in International Falls. She graduated from Washington High School in Brainerd in 1967 and Lutheran Deaconess Hospital School of Nursing in 1970. She worked as a mental health nurse for almost a decade while pursuing a BA in Liberal Arts with an emphasis on writing and photography from Metro State University. She then embarked on a 12-year journalism career working at several daily newspapers around the state including the St. Cloud Times. She won numerous awards for her writing and photography.

Traveling was a lifelong passion. In her early 20's she backpacked through Europe for five months with two friends, camped with her sister across the western U.S. and Canada for three months and traveled solo throughout Mexico for two months avoiding tourist areas. She visited dozens of countries on five continents including USSR, China, Peru, Namibia and South Africa.

She returned to nursing in 1991 working in Willmar and at Fairview Riverside Hospital in Minneapolis. While working in several areas of nursing she pursued a masters degree in Transcultural Nursing at Augsburg University. As part of the program, she studied in Mexico and Namibia.

She was grateful to her parents for giving her a solid foundation by pro-

viding her with a stable, loving, Christian home that sparked her life-long pursuit of social justice. She was an outspoken, opinionated feminist and peace activist with an irreverent sense of humor.

As one friend said her "Christmas letters were legendary, filled with wry (political) humor and deep truths." Four words that guided her were "Be courageous and kind."

By far what she treasured most were her relationships with family and friends. Whether the friendships were new - with her caregivers at the hospice - or close to six decades long they were what brought joy to her life and sustained her through the hard times including her father's death and breast cancer.

She had big plans for retirement including traveling, tracking down ancestors in Scandinavia, volunteering, spending a lot of time with her mom and other family and friends and haranguing politicians. But fate conspired to keep her in health care - as a patient.

There were fun times, too. She and her sister Cindi threw the Queen Bea a 100th birthday party and she was able to visit friends and family in Arizona.

Deb is survived by her 102-year-old mother, Beatrice (Bea) of Staples; one sister and brother-in-law, Cindi and Larry Mertens; two nephews and their families, Jacob and Kelly Mertens and their children, Memphis, Mack and Boyer; Dustin and Erica Mertens and their sons, Trey and Ty, all of Roseau; uncles and aunts; 41 first cousins and many treasured friends who were her family, too.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Cara and Louis Zakariasen; Vendia and Gustav Olson; her beloved father, Albert Olson; many treasured aunts and uncles; one first cousin and several special friends.

Memorials are preferred to Women Against Military Madness (WAMM); The Minneapolis Indian Womens Resource Center and the ALS Assoc. of MN/ND/SD.

w29p A00006B2021JY14



Erna Schmidt

Erna Ella Schmidt, 91, of Sartell and formerly of Motley, passed away July 5, 2021, at the St. Cloud Hospital.

Funeral services were held at the Motley United Methodist Church.

Interment will take place at Evergreen Hill Cemetery in a private family service.

Erna was born in 1930 in Fredonia, North Dakota to Gotthilf and Olga (Theide) Janke. Erna pursued many careers as well as being a homemaker and an exceptional wife and mother. Erna and her husband, Theodore (Ted) Koenig, moved to the Motley area in 1973. She was a member of the Motley Methodist Church. She enjoyed crocheting, playing cards, especially cribbage, flower gardens, birds, traveling and going to the casino with her many friends. Erna will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

She is survived by four children, Brenda (Bruce) Belland, Bruce (Jaye) Koenig, Lorna (Dale) Bjerga and Mark (Joel Vogel) Koenig; one sister, Violet Kureger; one brother, Hugo (Judy) Janke; one grandchild, Misty (Jerome) Hanson and many step-children, step-grandchildren and nieces and nephews.

Erna was preceded in death by her parents; husbands, Theodore Koenig and William Schmidt and three brothers, Arven, Paul and Roland Janke.

Arrangements were by the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel- Staples.

w29c A00006B2021JY14

Calvin Robertson

Calvin Robertson, 77, of Motley, passed away July 6, 2021.

Services will be held Friday, July 16 at 2 p.m. at the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel in Staples.

Arrangements are by the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

w29c A00006B2021JY14



Retirement Party
FOR
Clyde Mertens
Sun., July 18,
2021, 2 to 6 p.m.
Pine Grove Park,
Staples.

Clyde worked for the City of Staples for 35+ years. Come help him celebrate!

Meal, refreshments provided.

Questions:
\$218-296-2160, Lori

w29p



A heartfelt Thank You
to all who shared in the care and remembrance of our brother, father, and grandfather, Dean. Especially Dr. Albrecht, Care Center staff, Barry and the Church of Christ cooks and friends. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

THE FAMILY OF
DEAN PASKEWITZ

w29p



Genevieve Johnson

Genevieve Violet (Ostlund) Johnson, 94, of Motley, died July 2, 2021 at her home on Lake Shamineau.

Services were held July 8 at Lincoln Evangelical Free Church in Cushing.

Interment was at Scandia Valley Cemetery.

Gen was born February 26, 1927 to Francis and Ruth (Nelson) Ostlund in Tioga, North Dakota, the fourth of seven children. She grew up in Tioga on a potato farm and graduated from high school in 1945. Upon graduation she attended Trinity Bible Institute in Minneapolis before working at various jobs in the Twin Cities.

On July 13, 1957, Gen married Lloyd Johnson of Motley, at the Salem Evangelical Free Church in Minneapolis. After a honeymoon in the Canadian Rockies, they made their home south of Motley where Lloyd and his father, Dave had a gas station, a school bus business and a gravel hauling business. After Lloyd's passing in 1976, Gen ran the school bus business for the next 20 years before selling the business to her son-in-law, Mike Auger.

Gen was a devoted follower of Jesus Christ and served the Lord in various ways at neighborhood Bible studies and at Lincoln Evangelical Free Church where she was a Sunday School teacher and director, as well as serving on many boards and committees. Second only to God, she loved her family and was a devoted grandmother and great-grandmother.

Gen is survived by her children, son, Denny (Sue) Johnson, daughter, Elaine (Mike) Auger and son, Kevin Johnson, who faithfully cared for her during the last years of her life; eight grandchildren, Krista, Seth, Bethany, Anna, Carrie, Kelly, Natalie and Andrew; 11 great-grandchildren and one brother, Vernon Ostlund.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Lloyd; one daughter, Marilyn; parents and five siblings, Ruth, Francis, Eunice, Franklyn and Sandy.

Arrangements were by the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Baxter.

w29c A00006B2021JY14

Student Achievements

IZABELLA EDIN, Staples, recently graduated magna cum laude from Ottawa University, Arizona with a Bachelor of Arts degree.

MICHELLE FENTRESS, Motley, has been named to the 2021 Spring Semester President's List at St. Cloud Technical & Community College. To qualify, students must earn a grade point average of 4.0.

Needing/Wanting a Granite Memorial FOR YOUR FAMILY?

I can help!

Diane M. Hahn
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Rep. for Fergus Falls Monument Co.

Call 218-445-5685 or 218-640-2341



Kathryn Fiemeyer

Kathryn Fiemeyer, 88, passed away peacefully on July 9, 2021, at the Sanford Medical Center in Fargo, North Dakota.

Memorial services will be held at 1 p.m. Thurs., July 15 at the Courtland Evangelical Lutheran Church in Courtland, with Pastor David Linn officiating. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. until the time of services at the church.

Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

Kathryn Evelyn Ulrich was born March 10, 1933 to Adolph and Evelyn (Hagberg) Ulrich in Lafayette. She was baptized in 1933 and confirmed in 1947 at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church. She graduated from New Ulm Public High School in 1951. After graduating, Kathryn was united in marriage to Marvin Fiemeyer on October 19, 1952 at Courtland Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Kathryn was a good homemaker in her married life, raised five good children and spent a lot of time with the grandchildren and great-grandchildren, who were her pride and joy. She also worked at Fiemeyer's Gas Station, the Courtland Hardware Store, the Courtland Post Office and was an Avon Lady. Kathryn worked alongside her husband at the ball park all the years at the annual fish fry, making as much as 600 pounds of German potato salad in her kitchen. Kathryn was always ready to help Marvin with his meetings, hauling kids to games, watering the ballpark, hosting board meetings and more. She enjoyed going along to the deer camp and was the camp cook, cooking what everybody wanted like Sauerkraut, pork hocks and



homemade dumplings.

She loved her family and will be dearly missed by those that knew her. Blessed be her memory.

Kathryn is survived by her husband, Marvin Fiemeyer of Staples; five children, Myron (Joan) Fiemeyer of Courtland, Mark Fiemeyer of Staples, Dawn Fiemeyer of Staples, Craig (Gretchen) Fiemeyer of Fort Atkinson, WI and David Fiemeyer of Staples; six grandchildren, Michael (Sarah) Fiemeyer, Angela (Jacob) Emmeck, Brent Fiemeyer, Abigail Fiemeyer, KatieRae Fiemeyer, Anna Fiemeyer; six great-grandchildren, Samantha Fiemeyer, Emmalee Emmeck, Zachery Emmeck, Bradley Emmeck, Morgan Fiemeyer, Devin Fiemeyer; one sister, Sue (Gary) Zimmerman; two brothers, Harold (Vivian) Ulrich, Orval (Nancy) Ulrich; one brother-in-law, Duane (Marjorie) Fiemeyer; and 16 nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one granddaughter, Jane Fiemeyer and two brothers-in-law, Orval (Helen) Fiemeyer and Armin Fiemeyer, Jr.

To leave an online condolence for the family, or to sign the guestbook, visit: www.mvfh.org.

w29c A00006B2021JY14

Darrel Neal

Darrel Neal, 85, Seattle, Washington and formerly of Staples, passed away April 24, 2021 in Seattle following a short illness.

Darrel was a graduate of Staples High School, Class of 1954. He was an engineer at Cape Kennedy from 1964-1972.

He is survived by his wife, Velva, one son, Kevin (Sharon) and two grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two sons, Terry and Brett.

Friends and family will gather Sunday, July 18 at the Timber's Restaurant & Event Center in Staples at 2 p.m. to remember Darrel's life.

w29x A00006B2021JY18

Hello World

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:

Born to Salyna Murray and Levi Wittner of Brainerd, a baby girl, Kinlee May weighing nine pounds, nine ounces on June 25, 2021.

Born to Megan and Nathan Beard of Staples, a baby boy, Jude Michael weighing seven pounds on June 25, 2021.

Born to Tasha Koering and Eugene Evenson of Fort Ripley, a baby boy, Reznor William weighing six pounds, three ounces on June 28, 2021.

Born to Amanda and Erick Larson, of Breezy Point, a baby boy, Isak Anthony weighing eight pounds, 14 ounces on June 28, 2021.

Born to Rikkia and Spencer Lubbers of Little Falls, a baby girl, Ellie Lou weighing eight pounds, one ounce on June 29, 2021.

Born to Jenna and Joe Reycraft of Motley, a baby girl, Quindelyn Marie weighing eight pounds, one ounce on June 30, 2021.

Born to Alyssa Olson and Lukas Peterson of Pil-lager, a baby boy, Jonah Lee weighing eight pounds, 15 ounces on July 1, 2021.

Born to Kaitlin and Josh Sweere of Wadena, a baby boy, Rudy Marvin weighing seven pounds, five ounces on July 1, 2021.

Born to Vivian and Cody Springer of Wadena, a baby girl, Vyola Piper weighing nine pounds, four ounces on July 2, 2021.

Born to Kelly Cairra and Allen Bittner of Crosby, a baby girl, Lydia Elaine weighing seven pounds, three ounces on July 3, 2021.

Born to Jonna and Landon Ament of Verndale, a baby girl, June Evelyn weighing seven pounds, six ounces on July 6, 2021.

Born to Kara and Brenen Brockpahler of Sebeka, a baby boy, Waylon Robert weighing seven pounds, seven ounces on July 7, 2021.

Born to Paulette and Eric Torkelson of Pequot Lakes, a baby boy, Carter Michael weighing seven pounds, two ounces on July 8, 2021.

HELP WANTED

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- Fab – Wage \$22.78 – \$25.30/ Hour
- Weld – Wage \$22.78 –\$27.31/ Hour
- Paint – Wage \$22.19 –\$26.20/Hour
- Assembly – Wage \$20.62 – \$24.23/ Hour
- Material Handling – Wage \$20.62 – \$24.23/Hour

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1st Shift • Mon-Thur 6 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
2nd Shift • Mon-Thur 4:30 p.m.-3 a.m.
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\$5,000 Relocation Assistance

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Other Benefits: [Medical, Dental, Vision] – 30 days after hire, 401K, Shift Differential – 2nd Shift \$1.50/Hour, Continental \$2.50/Hour. All Positions Available
Located in Benson, MN • Apply Online www.cnhindustrial.com
Call 320-226-7092 for Questions • EOW



Staples World

DEADLINES
Newspaper deadline for copy and advertising: **12 noon Fridays**



All Veterans and Community Park, Staples

The Motley American Legion Post #124 provided the Color Guard and 21-gun salute.



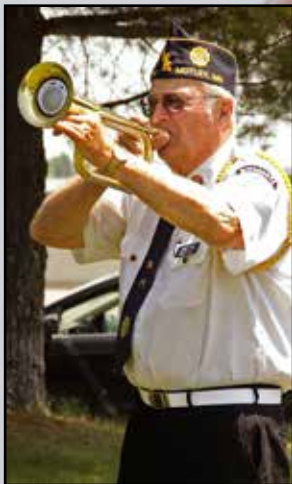
Huck Holst, Master of Ceremonies



Veteran Jack Giza, guest speaker.



The Timbs and Schimpps sang patriotic music.



Floyd Griffith played "Taps".



Pastor Barry Klein gave the invocation.



Amy Klose rang the bell as her dad, Ken Klose read names of Veterans who had pavers dedicated that day.



Deb Otteson sang "The National Anthem".



Tristan Jenkins sang patriotic "Hallelujah".



A meal was provided following the July 4 ceremony.



Family members lining up for the Veterans paver dedications.

Photos by
Ken Klose
and
Dawn Timbs



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Stern Rubber**

**Prudential Financial,
Bob Mueller
Lakewood Health
System
Mid-Central National
Bank
American Family
Insurance,
Trisha Larson
Staples World**

Staples-Motley School Board Minutes

**ISD #2170
STAPLES-MOTLEY
SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING #19 WITH
CLOSED SESSION
May 24, 2021, 6 p.m.,
District Office**

MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order with Members Winkels, Freeman, B. Anderson, Lund and Reeck (comprising a quorum). L. Anderson was absent. Also attending: Supt. Tappe; Business Services, Herdegen and Regan; Principals Schmidt and Johnson; several employees and community members; Staples World Reporter, Timbs; and Recording Secretary, Madson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Freeman, seconded by Lund, to delete items 4, 5, 6 and 27; and to add agenda item 19.2. MC

Motion by B. Anderson, seconded by Reeck, to adopt

the agenda with noted revisions. MC

Chair Winkels recognized the public and thanked everyone for attending.

School/Community Forum

- none

Facilities Update

– Mike Hubbard, ICS
Mike Hubbard gave the Board an update on the proposed facility project and reviewed funding areas. An update and discussion will be given at the June 7 Work Session and the Board will be asked to make a decision at the June 28 Board Meeting.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Freeman, seconded by Winkels, to approve the Consent Agenda. MC

Motion by Lund, seconded by B. Anderson, to approve the Resolution to accept In-Kind Donations and Grants in the amount of \$4,610.48. MC

Motion to move into

Closed Session, pursuant to MN Statute 13D.05 for attorney client privileged communication regarding pending or threatened litigation.

Motion by Freeman, seconded by B. Anderson, to move into Closed Session, pursuant to MN Statute 13D.05 for attorney client privileged communication regarding pending or threatened litigation. MC

Reconvene in Closed Session

Update on details and discussion

Reconvene in Open Session

Motion by Freeman, seconded by B. Anderson, to reconvene in Open Session. MC

Finance Items

Motion by Lund, seconded by B. Anderson, to approve the Settlement Agreement with a former district employee. MC

Regan presented the Financial Report

Motion by Reeck, sec-

onded by Freeman, to authorize payment of the vouchers. MC

Motion by Winkels, seconded by B. Anderson, to approve the Bergan KDV contract for interim payroll services at \$1,200 per week with additional time at \$125 per hour through June 30, 2021. MC

Motion by Reeck, seconded by Winkels, to approve the 2021-2022 Reduction List. MC

It was noted that some reductions are being accomplished through attrition.

Personnel

Motion by Lund, seconded by B. Anderson, to approve the Resolution Nonrenewing Probationary Teacher, Daniel Spandl at the end of the 2020-2021 school year. Voting in favor: B. Anderson, Freeman, Reeck, Winkels and Lund. Opposed: none. L. Anderson was absent. MC

Motion by Freeman, seconded by B. Anderson, to approve the Resolution

Nonrenewing Probationary Teacher, Marn Elvehjem, at the end of the 2020-2021 school year.

Voting in favor: B. Anderson, Freeman, Reeck, Winkels and Lund. Opposed: none. L. Anderson was absent. MC

Facilities

Approve the recommendation to realign the school sites to PreK-5th grade at Staples-Motley Elementary and grades 6-12 at the Middle/ High School based on the School Improvement Plan.

Motion by Freeman, seconded by Reeck, to approve the recommendation to realign the school sites as PreK-5th grade at SM Elementary and 6-12 at the MS/ HS, beginning the 2022-2023 school year; **PENDING** the completion of construction projects. MC

Approve the recommendation to close Little Cardinal Academy on or before August 27, 2021

Motion by Freeman, seconded by Lund, to approve closing Little Cardinal Academy on, or before, August 27, 2021. The goal of the program had been to increase and retain enrollment and that goal has not been met. Voting in favor: B. Anderson, Freeman, Reeck, Winkels and Lund. Opposed: none. L. Anderson was absent. MC

Reports:

School Board: FED - 3/24/21 Minutes; Sourcewell - 3/16/21 Minutes

Principals – written reports were included

Superintendent Tappe reported that the summer enrichment sessions are filling up - activities in the morning and academic based in the afternoon; and that an additional REACH position had been added at the HS. The District is still waiting for legislation to finalize funding numbers.

Community Ed Advisory Council - 5-13-21 Minutes were included; a full summer recreation schedule is planned for the summer.

SMEA - Staff are looking forward to a COVID free year. Negotiations will most likely begin during the summer; and SMEA has recognized their retirees.

Adjournment

Motion by B. Anderson, seconded by Reeck, to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 p.m. MC

Complete minutes may be viewed at www.isd2170.k12.mn.us

29pnc

**ISD #2170
SCHOOL BOARD
WORK SESSION
MEETING #20
June 7, 2021, 6 p.m.,
District Office**

**TODD COUNTY
BOARD OF
ADJUSTMENT
215 1st Ave. South,
Long Prairie, MN 56347
320-732-4420**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on **Thursday, July 22, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**, the Todd County Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing in the Commissioner's board room, 215 1st Ave. South, Suite 301, Long Prairie, Minnesota.

NOTE: This meeting is again being held in-person and the public is encouraged to attend, but Zoom and phone options are still available for those who are unable to attend in person. If you wish to join via Zoom, please contact our office for the call-in information.

Questions? Call or email 320-732-4420 or toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us

AGENDA

- Call to Order
- Approval of June 24, 2021 Minutes
- Board introduction and process review
 - o The applicant is introduced
 - o Staff Report
 - o Applicant request if staff report accurately represents the request
 - o Public Comment
 - o Board review with applicant, staff, and public
- 1. **Dennis and Maureen DesMarais:** Lots 6-9, Krouse's First Addition to Mound Lake Heights, Sec-

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order with Members Winkels, B. Anderson, Lund, Reeck, L. Anderson and Freeman present. Also attending: Supt. Tappe; Principals Schmidt and Johnson, Financial Services, Herdegen and Regan; ICS, Hubbard and Bergeron, and Construction Manager, Damien Williams; JLG, Leopold and Barnett; Communications, Ehlers, Greg Crowe; Walz; Todd Rapp; LeRoy Peterson, Staples World Managing Editor, M. Anderson and Recording Secretary, Madson

Motion by B. Anderson, seconded by Lund, to adopt the agenda. MC

I. Facilities -

School Improvement Plan - Phase I

Mike Hubbard presented the proposed project scope of work which includes:

- Building Safety & Security
 - Deferred Maintenance
 - o Ventilation and Indoor Air Quality upgrades
 - o Roofing replacements and/or restorations
 - o Tuck-pointing, caulking, brick replacement
 - o Exterior doors and window repairs or replacement
 - o Parking lot repair or replacement
 - o Interior finishes (replacing any asbestos tile or carpet)

- Elementary Cafeteria / Full service kitchen/ Music room renovation
- Elementary activities and wellness addition
- Refresh of existing elementary classrooms

Funding Sources with no additional tax impact include: LTFM Bonds Deferred Maintenance; Energy and Operational Savings; General Fund; ESSER I & II Funds; Community Partnership

Funding Sources with an additional tax impact: Lease Levy; Abatement Bonds; and LTFM Funds Indoor Air Quality.

Total amount needed for the project is \$28.0 M

Discussion included the length of Bonds and the importance of keeping the tax impact flat (no spikes) as the district moves from Phase I to Phase II and beyond. A preliminary timeline was also presented.

At the June 28 meeting the Board will be asked to approve this project.

I. Adjournment

Motion by Lund, seconded by B. Anderson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m. MC

29pnc

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance
1512 8th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2891
Associate Pastor Zach Jones
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday School.....11:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
AWANA.....6:00 p.m.

Assembly of God
914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples 218-894-1081
Pastor Roy Miles
Small Groups (Bible classes for all ages).....9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship Service.....10:30 a.m.
Children's Church (Kids start in main worship service).....11 a.m.
Prayer Meeting.....5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Sonlight (kids ages 4 yrs.-6th grade).....After school to 5:30 p.m.
Youth Group (Teens, 7th-12th grade).....After school to 5:30 p.m.

Church of Christ
27343 490th St., Staples.....218-894-2609
Pastor Barry Klein
Facebook Live
Bible School (youth and adult).....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY:
Teen Youth/Adults Bible Study.....7-8 p.m.

First Congregational Church, UCC
firstcongouccstaples@gmail.com
204 5th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2571
Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Fellowship, refreshments following service

Faith Lutheran
430 12th Street. NE., Staples.....218-894-1546
Pastor: Carl Larson
Sunday Worship Service.....9:00 a.m.
Sunday School and Coffee Fellowship.....10:05 a.m.

Sacred Heart Church
310 4th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2296
Church.....
Pastor Fr. Gabriel Walz
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
Saturday Worship.....9:30 am.
Sabbath School.....10:45 a.m.

Thomastown Covenant
15940 251st Ave., Staples.....218-894-3923
Pastor Scott Jorgenson
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH.....6:30 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.....10:30 a.m.

United Methodist
310 5th St. NE, Staples.....218-894-2248
Pastor Greg Leslie
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

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
Pastor Carl Larson
www.bethanylutherancushing.org
Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.
Communion.....1st and 2nd Sunday of each month

Lincoln Evangelical Free
1354 320th Street, Cushing, MN 56443
Phone: 218- 575-2449
www.lincolnefree.org
Facebook Lincoln E Free
Office Hours: Tues. - Thurs. , 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Senior Pastor: Don Reigstad
Community Life Pastor: Jim Brown
Associate Pastor: Joe Reigstad
SUNDAY
Church Worship Gathering.....10:00 a.m.
YouTube Channel.....10:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Community Meal.....5:30 p.m.
Family Night.....6:00 p.m.

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

Leader
Swan Valley Lutheran
Leader.....218-397-2470
Sandy Knight, Synodically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament
Sunday Worship
January - July.....9 a.m.
July - January.....11 a.m.

Maple Hill Lutheran
Sandy Knight, Synodically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament
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
Jim Johnson, Senior Pastor
Charles Mallory, Associate Pastor
Sunday Worship.....9:00 and 10:30 a.m.
facebook live.....9 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Youth Group.....6:00-8:00 p.m.

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

St. Michael
1st St. and Birch, Motley.....218-894-2296
Pastor Fr. Gabriel Walz
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 Leslie
www.motleyumc.net
Sunday Worship Service.....9:00 a.m.
Monday AA meeting.....8:00 p.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
Pastor Mathew Sundquist
717 River Street S, Pillager, MN
218-746-3775
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 Jake Anderson
218-746-3768
curious@fbcpillager.com
Worship Gathering.....10:00 a.m.
Connection Point.....9:30 a.m.

Hewitt

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

Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS)
524 Front Street, PO Box 116, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Robin Fish
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.

United Methodist Church
Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Kenneth Uhren
Sunday Services.....10:30 a.m.
Sunday School.....9:30 a.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.

Family Life Church
402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale 218-445-5568
VerndaleFLC@gmail.com
Pastor Amos Self.....218-371-7189
Children's Pastor Kenneth Kjeldergaard
SUNDAY
Sunday School.....8:30 a.m.
Worship Service.....10:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting.....5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Night Life Groups.....6:30-8 p.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.

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Bartlett Township (LCMS)
17097 460th St., PO Box 37, Verndale
Pastor Robin Fish
Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.

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.

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

"Drawing Near"

Charles Mallory, Associate Pastor, Motley Free Methodist Church

When my family lived in Kansas, our home came with a "safe room." This room was designed and built to withstand a tornado. It was reassuring to know we had a convenient place in which to go for shelter and safety from horrific storms.

The same is true for our spiritual lives. In this fallen world, we are always in need of shelter from the tempest of "spiritual storms" that are raging around us in the heavenly realms. The "shelter" is, none other than, God our Heavenly Father.

Proverbs 18:10, "The name of the Lord is a strong fortress; the godly run to Him and are safe." These words reflect a quick and expedient decision to stay grounded in the presence of God.

How do we do that? **James 4:8**, "Come near to God and He will come near to you." We must deepen our relationship with God. We must make

the effort to remain close to God. We must get comfortable with spending time with God.

The Greek word James uses for "come near" means to "draw" or "to approach." It can also be translated "to join one thing to another." One way to "draw near" to God is to work at getting comfortable with silence and sitting still to enter into God's presence.

Try reading aloud **1 Samuel 3:10**, "... "Speak, for your servant is listening." Say that out-loud several times and then allow your spirit to start listening for the voice of God as He speaks to you.

If we will put away our distractions and willingly make the concentrated effort to seek after and draw near to God, He will join you... meet you... speak with you. He longs for such a relationship. Let these moments begin to shape and mold everything you do each day.

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 National Bank
Fully Insured to \$250,000
Staples, MN 218-894-3900

Central Building Supply
Hwy. 10 West, Staples, MN
218-894-3794

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

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

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

The Church Directory is supported by the advertisers listed above and the Ministerial Association.

***To update your church information or to advertise on the Church Directory, call 218-894-1112 for Jan or email: jwinter@staplesworld.com. Please continue to email your Ministerial pastoral message to: jwinter@staplesworld.com

Todd County
Board of Adjustment
Richard Johnson, Chair

29pnc

[illegible]



Staples Rotary President

Outgoing Staples Rotary Club President Jerel Nelsen, left, presented the gavel to incoming President Jim Hofer. Rotary is a global network of 1.2 million neighbors, friends, leaders and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves. (Submitted photo)

LIBRARY continued from page 1a

Library passes are limited

what doesn't through these pilot projects and interviews with other states, MN DNR is taking the next step to expand this offering in 2021 to provide seven-day permits for checkout at libraries in low-income communities, where financial need for free entry is greatest. Because DNR can only provide a limited number of passes due to budget and capacity constraints, not all libraries that applied were selected.

To check out a library park pass, you will need a Great River Regional Library card. (Sign up at your local library or online at griver.org/card-application) Staples Public Library is granted one pass by DNR for checkout now through June 30, 2022. The park pass can be checked out for seven-day periods. The library is offering the pass on a first-come, first-serve

basis. Once checked out, the pass expiration date will be written on a receipt and attached to a DNR branded place card by library staff for display in the patron's vehicle dashboard.

Minnesota State Parks Library Pass users are encouraged to take a survey after their trip. The survey can be found at mndnr.gov/librarypass.

Visit the Staples Public Library to check out your Minnesota State Park Pass.

Staples Public Library is located at 122 6th St. NE. Summer hours include: Monday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Tuesday 2 - 8 p.m.; Wednesday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Thursday 2 - 8 p.m.; Friday 1 - 5 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Contact the Staples branch at 218-894-1401 or visit the Great River Regional Library website at griver.org.



From Staples to the Moon Mission

Staples native Darrel Neal was one of the engineers in the control room for the Apollo 11 mission that landed the first human to walk on the moon. (Submitted photos)

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After moon mission, Neal worked for Air Force

spacecraft on a trajectory to arrive at the Moon. After the second firing, the third stage was jettisoned.

During launches, Darrel worked at one of the consoles in the launch control room. As he explained, much of the hydrogen fueling was done by automated systems, but the computers of that time were not advanced enough to top off the tank, so during the last few minutes of each countdown he would manually top off the 66,900 gallon fuel tank, ensuring that it was exactly 100 percent full at the moment of liftoff. During these launches he said he never actually witnessed a liftoff. As the countdown reached T Minus zero, the blast shutters on the launch control room windows would slam shut in the event there was an explosion on the pad. All he could do was watch the rocket clearing the gantry on a small black and white TV located above the

instrument console.

In 1973, Boeing moved Darrel, his wife and three sons to the Seattle area to work on an Air Force program. After the excitement of the Apollo program he found the work boring and repetitive and soon took an early retirement. He tried a variety of ventures including real estate agent, trophy and awards business and underground construction (water/sewer/storm water), before starting a successful adjustable bed business that he ran until he retired.

In his later years he and his wife, Velva, purchased a condo in Sun City West and spent their winters in Phoenix. They were frequent visitors to the Staples area, attending numerous family and high school reunions. He particularly enjoyed fishing in the nearby lakes and rivers.

Throughout his life, he looked the

part of a NASA engineer, with his short, cropped hair and light blue, short-sleeve shirts with collar and pocket (he did give up the pocket protector). For the man who was at the cutting edge of technology in the 1950s and 60s, he deliberately avoided technology of nearly every kind after leaving Boeing; never using a computer, smartphone, or tablet. The only cell phone he ever owned was a flip phone.

Darrel was preceded in death by two sons; Terry and Brett. He is survived by his wife, Velva, son, Kevin, Kevin's wife, Sharon and grandkids, Ryan and Kristin.

This coming Sunday, July 18, friends and family will remember Darrel's life in a tribute to be held at the Timber's Restaurant & Event Center at 2 p.m. in Staples.



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Lunar launch

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