



Wednesday, April 20, 2022

Staples World

Staples, Minnesota

\$125

The Last Supper The Last Supper was portrayed during the Maundy Thursday service at Faith Lutheran Church in Staples April 14. Left to right: Bob Koll (Matthew), Keith Porter (Simon the Zealot), Jim Vollegraaf (Judas), Brian Bates (Thaddeus), Mike Heier (James) back, Kerry Lindgren (Bartholomew) hidden, Pastor Chris Mathiason (Jesus), Wayne Berry (Peter), Paul Johnson (John), Bob Hamann (Philip), Steve Sing (James the Less), Rick Otteson (Andrew), Bob Schafer (Thomas), Deb Otteson, narrator. (Photo by Janice Winter)

Weather

This Week's Forecast

High	Low	Cond.
Apr. 20 43°	32°	Rain
Apr. 21 49°	36°	P. Cloudy
Apr. 22 51°	45°	Showers
Apr. 23 64°	37°	Rain
Apr. 24 42°	30°	Cloudy
Apr. 25 36°	27°	Cloudy
Apr. 26 43°	23°	Cloudy

Last Year, 2021

High	Low	Cond.
Apr. 20 36°	24°	Sunny
Apr. 21 43°	26°	M. Cloudy
Apr. 22 61°	36°	Sunny
Apr. 23 50°	45°	Cloudy
Apr. 24 44°	29°	Sunny
Apr. 25 39°	33°	Cloudy
Apr. 26 49°	34°	Cloudy

Average Temps:
H = 54° Low = 32°

Compiled by Dale Hausmann, WCCO's Staples area Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

City of Staples: **9A**

Obituaries

Virgil Crawford
Elnora Dempsey
Kathlyn Hanson



One objection to closing Motley school building

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

One citizen spoke against closing the Motley school building during a public hearing on April 11, there were no other comments from the public. Nine district residents attended the hearing, along with the school board and school administrative staff.

Former school board member Dave Hoemberg objected to the process of closing the school building, saying it does not meet the state statute requirements for closing a school.

Hoemberg said the school had already been closed in 2019, when the board approved the decision to move all elementary and middle school students to the buildings in Staples. There was no hearing to close the building prior to that decision.

Hoemberg said the board is effectively closing a school, not just a school building.

"The board has no right or authority to take that school out of Motley," said Hoemberg. "Get the school back open in Motley the way it is supposed to be according to the consolidation agreement."

At the hearing, school administration presented their reasoning for closing the Motley school building.

Superintendent Shane Tappe said the district has both financial and educational reasons to close the building, and the move fits with the district's long-term facilities planning process.

Attorney Marc Sugden of Pemberton Law said he feels the school's process

meets the state guidelines for closing the schoolhouse. He said the school needs to show the necessity and practicability of closing the school. He said those standards are met because the school district has seen declining enrollment for the past two years, showing that keeping the building isn't supported by student numbers. The Motley school needs significant repair and the benefits of selling the school would outweigh the costs of keeping it.

Business Manager Jon Regan said the cost savings to the district were about \$500,000 during the first year that students were moved to the schools in Staples. There are also operational costs and deferred maintenance associated with keeping the school. Regan said the deferred maintenance is between \$9.6 million and \$13 million, depending on construction costs.

Tappe said the school has realized programming benefits from moving to two buildings instead of three. He gave an example of middle school students taking shop classes that they would not have been able to offer with the previous three building system. He said there is also a saving in staff time when they don't have to go between buildings.

The school board did not discuss closing the building at the hearing, but were expected to vote on it at the April 18 board meeting, held after this newspaper went to press. Closing the building is the first step in the district being able to sell it. Tappe said there is more than one entity interested in purchasing the building.

Staples council cuts lot price to spur development

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples City Council agreed to sell Valley View subdivision lots for \$10,000, which is less than the \$19,000 they have invested into each lot, in order to assure that multiple new homes are built in the next two years.

The council reviewed two proposals from construction companies to build single family homes on the lots. Both proposals asked for a reduced lot cost. One company said they would build seven homes over a two year period if each lot cost was \$10,000. The second company said they would build one home if they could get a lot for \$14,000 and possibly two homes if the lot cost was less than that.

City Administrator Jerel Nelsen showed the council that the proposals were to build homes around 1,600 to 1,700 square feet, which currently has a market value of around \$230,000. He said that would equate to around \$1,600 in property tax revenue per year for the city, based on current estimates. At that rate, the city would recoup their lot costs within five and a half years, then would start making a profit because of

the increased taxes. That tax estimate doesn't include the increased county and school district property tax revenue that would start right away. Nelsen also said the homes would bring in families that would benefit local businesses and schools.

"They will go to church, buy groceries ... all the things that we don't get if they don't live here," said Nelsen.

On the other hand, Nelsen said if they kept the lot prices at \$18,000 to \$19,000, the proposals might get dropped and they might not get any development at all.

The Valley View subdivision is on the northern end of the city, in Wadena County, near Central Lakes College. There are seven homes currently built in the subdivision, but new home construction has been slow since the housing crash in 2009. Some of the lots went into tax forfeiture and were purchased by the City of Staples.

Council member Mary Theuer said "We've talked for a long time about the great need for single family houses." She felt that five and a half years was not a long time to recoup the dollars lost by cutting lot prices.

Council member Doug Case questioned if it was fair to the current property owners who paid full price for the lots. Case also pointed out that the city declined to lower lot prices a few years ago when a developer wanted to build a home.

Nelsen said the city could not have legally lowered the price at that time because it was a private transaction and the infrastructure costs had already been assessed to the property.

Council member Ron Murray asked if the council should give a counter-offer of \$11,000 per lot, which would reduce the payback period to less than five years. After discussion, Murray said "If we don't (go with the \$10,000 offer), could it backfire and come back to something we would regret?"

Mayor Chris Etzler pointed out that if all the proposed homes were built, it would pay back about one percent of the city's tax levy each year, which he considered a major benefit.

Theuer also said that with new single family homes being constructed, there could be renewed interest in building on the twin home lots that are plat-

See **COUNCIL** on page 3a

Staples recognized for reliable electric service

The City of Staples has received national recognition for achieving exceptional electric reliability in 2021. The recognition comes from the American Public Power Association (APPA), a trade group that represents more than 2,000 not-for-profit, community-owned electric utilities.

APPA helps electric utilities track power outage and restoration data through its subscription-based eReliability Tracker service. Once per year, APPA's Reliability Team compares this data to national statistics tacked by the U.S. Energy Information Administration for all types of electric utilities.

At the April 12 Staples City Council meeting, Public Works Director Scott Grabe said Staples averaged 2.4 outage minutes per incident while the average in Minnesota is 84.7 minutes.

"This is a testament to the reliability of

our electric system, but most of all to our knowledgeable and dedicated linemen," said Grabe. "They're quick to respond and they know what they are doing."

"Once again, public power utilities have demonstrated their commitment to providing highly reliable power to their customers," said Alex Hofmann, APPA's Vice President of Technical and Operations Services. "We commend these utilities for their hard work when it comes to keeping the lights on in their communities."

Nationwide, the average public power customer has their lights out for less than half the amount of time that customers of other types of utilities do.

"We are proud of this recognition. This is a testament to the dedication of our staff, and a to the value of our municipal utility", said Mayor Chris Etzler.

Cleanup help available

Cleanup Day May 20; assistance deadline May 1

Staples homeowners who need help removing junk from their property can apply for the Community Cleanup Support day, sponsored by Staples Motley Beyond Poverty.

Applications are due May 1 and can be picked up at Staples City Hall or found on the City of Staples website. Area churches and other locations in Staples

will also have applications.

The cleanup support is in conjunction with the Staples city wide cleanup day on May 20. On that day, volunteers can help load and haul junk items that the homeowner is unable to do themselves.

Applicants can also apply for financial assistance to pay for items that have a disposal cost. Applicants don't

have to fill out the financial assistance if they only need help loading or hauling.

Items that are commonly hauled include scrap metal, refuse and junk, appliances, car batteries, furniture, couches, chairs, dressers, tables, mattresses, TVs, electronic items, fluorescent tubes, car tires and household hazardous waste.



This is April?

While it is not uncommon to have a snowfall in April, it is uncommon for the snow to last all through the month in this area of Minnesota. Cold weather and consistent snowfalls mean we still have unmelted snow drifts and children who rode their bike one day wake up the next to find it covered in snow. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Thank you for subscribing!

Looking back

75 YEARS AGO - 1947

• April 17, 1947 - Mr. and Mrs. Reynold Martini had the misfortune on Monday morning of this week of losing their brooder house with over 500 baby chicks which they had purchased the day previous.

Just how the fire started is not known. The house was 12 by 14 feet. The loss is a severe blow to Mr. and Mrs. Martini.

• April 17, 1947 - The Minneapolis Scottish Rite Choir will present a Vesper Concert at Staples High School Auditorium Sunday, April 20, 3:30 p.m. Elmer H. Sodergren is the Conductor, with

Compiled by
Dawn Timbs



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our April 19, 2012 edition. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photo? Do you have a memory to share? Email your an-

swers and where you are from to dtimbs@staplesworld.com by Friday, or call 218-894-1112. The answers will be published in next week's paper, as well as a new mystery photo.

Harpist Lorraine King the Guest Artist. This event is sponsored by Crescent Lodge, No. 207 of Staples. No admission charge.

• April 17, 1947 - The little Leaf River is again on its annual rampage, and has flooded a great deal of land tributary to its course, according to reports coming into the World Office the past week.

The road has been bad for travel for some distance. The milk truck and school bus were able to get through at all times, however, but Ole Haugen, who carries the mail on the rural route had a great deal of trouble with his Model A, and finally had to give it up and use his larger car. As a result of this the north loop of his route was without mail Wednesday and Thursday of last week.

However, the river went out with a "bang" on Monday of this week with the "bang" being furnished by "Red" Nelson and his crew of road men.

Ice had jammed at the bridges and caused the water to back up over the road. Nelson dynamited the jam on Monday and this released the water some.

• April 17, 1947 - Since the fire which destroyed Morey's Fish Company building a week ago, E. L. Morey, owner of the place, has been making arrangements to rebuild the place.

According to Eugene DesMarais of Staples, who has the contract for the new structure, excavation operations were started this week for the basement of the new building, which will be strictly modern in every respect. The basement is to be 40x20 feet and will house the heating plant, some ovens and the compressor. The main building will be 40x80 feet.

• April 17, 1947 - This might be one for "Ripley", but "proof of the pudding is in the eating" and the proof of this story was witnessed by several people.

Mr. and Mrs. Tony Kubitz, residing on a farm ten miles south of Staples, have a flock of 65 black Austrolope hens.

Wednesday afternoon of last week, when Mrs. Kubitz went to the chicken coop she noticed an extra large egg. She was much amazed at first wondering how a goose egg could get into her chicken coop as they have no geese or ducks on their farm.

She got the egg, and brought it into town with her. The egg was refused by a local egg buyer because it was too large.

They then proceeded to measure the egg which was over nine inches the long way of the oval, and 7 3/4 inches in circumference, and weighed a little over seven ounces.

50 YEARS AGO - 1972

• April 20, 1972 - Seven persons have filed for the two posts on the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 793, Staples, C. Richard Longbella, clerk, announced as of press time Tuesday.

Candidates seeking election to the board are Dr. John Muus, Howard Pattison, Dr. T. J. Lelwica, Mrs. Effie Moon, Harold D. Corbett, Doug Grossman and Dwaine Winter. The annual school election will be held Tuesday, May 16.

25 YEARS AGO - 1997

• April 17, 1997 - The community responded to the annual Staples Motley Dollars for Scholars auction Monday night with over \$6,400 raised for the Dollars for Scholars scholarship fund. Daryl Larson was the auctioneer for the event, which was televised on Staples cable Channel 10 and UHF 45.

• April 17, 1997 - Seniors Maria Brenny and Steve Hoemberg and freshman Tasa Anderson will be competing in the State Speech



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the March 30, 1989 edition of the Staples World featured a team of employees at Bensons (Optical), sponsored by Rick Otteson, who had recently won the men's power volleyball league playoffs. Bob Lee, front left, sponsor of the previous year's champs, presented the trophy to Otteson while his other team members looked on. From left, are Brian Workman, Kevin Dezell, Jim Carlson, Bo Olson, Bruce Burrows, Rodney Quiring and Doug Wonders. Otteson's squad defeated Lee's team for the championship.

Bob and Cindy Sorenson of Staples correctly identified all, except for Brian Workman, whom they guessed to be Tim Pearson. Bob recalled Rick

Otteson's nickname was "Rooster" and that Rod Quiring resembled Tony Orlando. Cindy used to work at Bensons and has good memories of those years.

Rick Otteson of Staples correctly identified all. He went on to say the photo brought back memories of working with these guys, as well as their volleyball games. Otteson recalled that they used to play out on the lawn during their lunch breaks when the weather permitted, even in the winter months.

Mike Koppes of Staples correctly identified Doug Wonders, Rodney Quiring and Rick Otteson, as well as the context of the photo.

Thanks for participating in our Mystery Photo.

Contest in Shakopee April 19.

Those three were Champions in their categories at the Section Speech Contest at West Central High School in Barrett Saturday, April 12.

Maria finished first in Oral Interpretation of Serous Poetry with a cutting from "Interim" by Edna St. Vincent Millay. Steve finished first in Discussion. Tasa finished first in Oral Interpretation of Serious Drama with a cutting from "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" by Tennessee Williams.

• April 17, 1997 - Staples Rotary Art Show will be held April 19 and 20, at Staples Centennial Auditorium. Lecture and Critiquing Tour by Guest Jurist Evelyn Matthews.

• April 17, 1997 - Graduation ceremonies for just over 230 elementary students from Staples in the Todd County Sheriff's Department's DARE program were held April 8. DARE is Drug Abuse Resistance Education.

Deputy Sheriff Wes Klema, DARE instructor, conducted the graduation program at the Staples High School gym. Trish Van Pilsun, news reporter for WCCO television, was the

guest speaker.

10 YEARS AGO - 2012

• April 19, 2012 - After experiencing temperatures in the 60's and 70's this past March, many Staples area residents had already gotten out the grills and were dreaming of Independence Day picnics and fireworks. Those dreams were blanketed temporarily April 16, when a few inches of snow fell across the area. In addition, residents in the Staples area reported a lightning storm and an approximate three-hour power outage which occurred in the early morning of April 16.

• April 19, 2012 - At least 200 people gathered at Faith Lutheran Church in Staples April 14, to welcome home the area veterans who had traveled to Washington D.C. for the "Honor Flight." Following the potluck dinner, a special ceremony was held in the church sanctuary.

• April 19, 2012 - A ceremony to celebrate the ground-breaking for the Staples North/South Corridor with Railroad Overpass Project is set for April 20, at 2 p.m. on the project site adjacent to 2nd Avenue.

COUNCIL continued from page 1a

Water discolored in Staples

ted in the Valley View subdivision.

The council unanimously approved selling each lot for \$10,000 to the construction companies, with the stipulation that a home is built on the lot within the promised time.

Water problem

Public Works Director Scott Grabe said some res-

idents on the west side of Dakota Ave. are seeing discolored water. He said the water has been tested and all levels are well within acceptable ranges, so it should not be dangerous. He said the discoloration is almost certainly being caused by cast iron pipes in the area. The city plans to flush the pipes and keep working on the issue.



Lions donate to food shelf

The Staples Area Food Shelf recently received a \$5,000 donation from the Staples Host Lions Club. Pictured, from left, are Lion Frank Leidenfrost, SAFS Director; and Lion President Ken Christensen. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Donation to '93 Lions

The Staples Host Lions recently donated \$500 to the Staples '93 Lions Club, for their Easter Eggstravaganza. Pictured, from left, are Diane Archer, Staples '93 Lions; and Ken Christensen, Staples Host Lions President. (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)

Return of the feedlot meeting

From Todd County Soil and Water Conservation District

great response and farmers were asking questions long after his presentation was over.

After a two year hiatus the Todd County Annual Feedlot Meeting was back in action with Carbon, Cowboys and Cow Pies! There were 163 people in attendance for the meeting that was held at Central Lakes College in Staples on March 17.

Dawn and Grant Breitreutz, farmers from Redwood Falls, presented on the benefits of integrating cover crops into farming operations in central Minnesota. Their presentation showed some of the different ways they have integrated cover crops on their operation and how their past experiences have shaped the operation into what it is today. They also described the benefits grazing livestock on the cover crops. The presentation was a hit and they had multiple farmers asking questions even after their presentation was over.

Don Reicosky, a retired USDA Soil Scientists, presented on the ins and outs of carbon. He presented on what farmers should know about carbon and what he has learned from a lifetime of studying carbon. Don's presentation also had a

The final presenter of the day was Tyler Carlson, a local farmer from Sauk Centre. Tyler presented on a practice known as silvopasture, which involves integrating trees into pasture land as a sort of dual crop. He talked about what silvopasture looks like in the U.S.A. and also what it looks like around the world. Tyler also gave some examples of what he is doing at his farm and what has worked for him. There was also a great response to Tyler's presentation as he had multiple questions from people in the room.

The plan for the 2023 Annual Feedlot Meeting is for it to be held in Clarissa with a date and topic to be determined.

The meeting would not have been possible without sponsorship from Todd County Livestock Advisory Council, Minnesota National Bank, Magnifi Financial, Unity Bank, First International Bank & Trust, Compeer Financial, Todd County Corn & Soybean Growers Association, Minnesota Association of County Feedlot Officers, and American Heritage Bank.

CDL DRIVERS WANTED

Short Week. Great Pay and Benefits

- Class A Commercial Driver's License (CDL-A)
- 9 Months T/T Experience in Last 3 Years
- 21+ Years of Age • Tanker Experience a Plus • Home Daily

Benefits - Vacation - Holiday

Call Linda for more details
at 866.676.6501 or
www.driveforcardinal.com

Cardinal Logistics Locations In: *Sauk Centre and Perham*
EEO/AAA/m/f/Vets/Disabled

Steve Fields
Minnesota Attorney

INJURED AT WORK? DISABILITY DENIED?

**Contact Us Today
For Free Advice**

Workers' Compensation
Long-Term Disability
Social Security Disability

320-257-0231
www.GetFields.com



Fischbach promotes next generation of law enforcement

From the office of U.S. Representative Michelle Fischbach

This week, Rep. Michelle Fischbach introduced the Law Enforcement Education Grant Program Act. This legislation would encourage young men and women to consider a career in law enforcement. The bill provide education grants to students pursuing their first degree in a law enforcement or criminal justice related field. The grant would come with a service agreement from the recipient to serve as a full-time law enforcement officer for four years within an eight-year period of completing their studies. If the graduate does not complete their service agreement the grant will be converted into a loan. This bill is co-authored by Congressmen Stauber (MN-08) and Higgins (LA-03).

“This bill is a chance for Congress to tell young men and women, who are considering their career options, that we value our law enforcement officers. This bill sends a message that we believe in investing in well-trained and highly educated police officers to help keep our community safe,” said Rep. Fischbach. “I am proud to introduce this legislation with Congressmen Stauber and Higgins to keep our communities safe and invest in our next generation of law enforcement.”

“As a former police officer of 23 years, I know that a properly staffed and trained po-

lice force is necessary to keep our communities safe. Unfortunately, the law enforcement community is struggling to recruit new officers due to the Democrats’ defund and disparage the police movement. By improving education benefits and recruiting through the establishment of the Law Enforcement Education Grant Program, interested recruits will have a new incentive to join the police force and will be better prepared to serve and defend our communities,” said Rep. Stauber. “I’m proud to join Congresswoman Fischbach in sponsoring this legislation.”

Rep. Higgins said, “I will always stand with Brothers and Sisters of the Thin Blue Line. Our legislation helps ensure that law enforcement entities are properly staffed with solid cops. I’m proud to join Congresswoman Fischbach in introducing this pro-law enforcement bill.”

This bill also has the support of the President of the National Fraternal Order of Police, Patrick Yoes who said, “Among the many challenges facing law enforcement, none are as existential as the issue of retention and recruitment of officers. This bill would provide educational support for individuals who choose to pursue a career in law enforcement. On behalf of the more than 364,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, I am proud to offer our support for this important legislation.”

Why we need bipartisanship in our government

By Lee H. Hamilton

Is bipartisanship dead? Sometimes it seems like it is. Watching Democrats and Republicans fight over nearly everything, you’d think they can’t agree on the difference between day and night.

Witness the partisan reaction to President Joe Biden’s nomination of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court. An eminently qualified jurist who would be the first Black woman on the nation’s highest court, she faced nearly unanimous opposition from Republicans.

When I was first elected to Congress, Supreme Court nominees were approved by voice vote in the Senate, without even a record of who voted for and against. Later, three of President Ronald Reagan’s appointees were approved unanimously. Things have changed.

Look beyond the headlines, however, and you’ll find evidence that bipartisanship is still alive, if not always well. Republicans and Democrats may deadlock over high-profile matters, but they can still work across the aisle to make progress on many issues.

Bipartisanship is popular with the public, which likes to know that legislation has support from both parties. Polls find that overwhelming majorities of the American people consider bipartisanship important. And for good reason. It’s very difficult, in our system of government, to get anything passed – and to get it implemented – without some bipartisan support. Legislation doesn’t need overwhelmingly bipartisan support to be effective, but

even a few votes from the other side can make a difference. Bipartisanship isn’t just popular; it’s necessary.

Yet there isn’t any doubt that we live in a politically polarized time, and what we see in Washington reflects that. Thanks to social media and partisan cable news outlets, Americans increasingly live in partisan bubbles, having little contact with people with different views.

Congress reflects those divisions, and it can from time to time, exacerbate them. This is a critical election year, with control of the House and Senate up for grabs. Politicians know that stoking outrage by attacking their opponents is a good way to raise campaign funds, boost turnout, and win elections. Conflict gets attention, and attention can increase the benefits of conflict.

Often in the past, U.S. politicians fought bitterly over domestic issues but united around a bipartisan foreign policy. A popular maxim after World War II was that “politics stops at the water’s edge.” That’s no longer the case, and it hasn’t been for a while.

Certainly, Americans have been united in their outrage at Russia’s unprovoked and brutal war against Ukraine. Nearly every member of Congress condemned it, Congress approved billions of dollars in military and humanitarian aid for Ukrainians, and Republicans and Democrats mostly supported Biden’s imposition of sanctions on Russia. But lawmakers struggled to respond legislatively, and some Republicans cited the war to question Biden’s leadership.

Partisan headwinds blocked some of Biden’s domestic priorities, including ambitious efforts to create jobs, fight climate change, protect voting rights, reform immigration laws and strengthen gun control. But other worthwhile measures have won support from both Democrats and Republicans, often without a lot of attention.

Congress reauthorized the Violence Against Women Act, adding the language to a government spending bill. It overwhelmingly passed legislation to reform Postal Service finances. Both the House and Senate have passed versions of a bipartisan act aimed at investing in semiconductor production and helping the U.S. compete with China.

Congress banned companies from forcing their employees to settle sexual assault or harassment claims with arbitration, a practice that hushed up the claims and kept them out of court. And the idea of banning stock trading by members of Congress has gained traction.

These bipartisan success stories – and there are others – often required lawmakers to compromise and work with their political adversaries, but that’s the way our system of government was designed to work. Bipartisanship isn’t dead, and by strengthening it we will make our political system work better.

Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

Looking back at COVID numbers with weekly statistics

With seven new cases of COVID-19 during the last week in March and seven more in April, Staples is still seeing the virus spread in the community. Motley also has seven new cases so far in April. Pillager, Wadena and Verndale had zero new cases in the last week of March, Browerville had three and Long Prairie one.

COVID-19 played a role in 13 deaths in the four county area in March, with three deaths reported in Todd County, two in Wadena County, five in Morrison County and three in Cass County. That brings the total number of COVID-19 deaths in Todd County to 57 since the pandemic started in 2020. Wadena County has 54 total deaths, Morrison 104 and Cass 80.

The Minnesota Department of Health began releasing weekly totals of new cases of COVID-19 for individual zip codes, starting in October, 2020. The Staples World has collected those weekly totals, shown below for Staples and Motley. The numbers below show the date, with the total number of cases for that zip code, and the number of new cases for that week. A few weeks were skipped due to numbers coming out on a different day of the week, which would skew the data. In 2021, the state started counting re-infections, which are people who caught COVID for a second time, as new cases, which also plays a role in analyzing the numbers.

The statistics below show the total number of positive cases in a community, and the number of new cases for that week. At this point, Staples has 1,594 total positive cases, around 29 percent of the population, although that includes re-infections. Motley has the lowest percentage in the area, with 23 percent of the population contracting COVID, a total of 777 positive cases. Other numbers are Pillager 27 percent, Wadena 28 percent, Long Prairie 32 percent, Browerville 27 percent and Verndale 28 percent.

Staples 56479
Estimated population 5,384

2020
Oct. 1 22 total cases
Oct. 8 24 total, - 2 new cases
Oct. 15 32 - 8

Oct. 22 58 - 26
Oct. 29 98 - 40
Nov. 5 135 - 37
Nov. 12 187 - 52
Nov. 19 243 - 56
Nov. 27 278 - 35
Dec. 3 319 - 41
Dec. 10 386 - 67
Dec. 17 389 - 3
Dec. 24 412 - 23

2021
Jan. 14 452 - 40 (over three week period)
Jan. 21 455 - 3
Jan. 28 457 - 2
Feb. 4 463 - 6
Feb. 11 473 - 10
Feb. 18 483 - 10
Feb. 25 502 - 19
Mar. 4 528 - 26
Mar. 11 531 - 3
Mar. 18 543 - 12
Mar. 25 554 - 11
Apr. 1 562 - 8
Apr. 8 570 - 8
Apr. 15 585 - 15
Apr. 22 594 - 9
Apr. 29 599 - 4
May 6 604 - 5
May 13 607 - 3
May 20 609 - 2
July 1 616 - 7
July 8 617 - 1
July 15 618 - 1
July 22 623 - 5
July 29 627 - 4
Aug. 5 633 - 6
Aug. 12 638 - 5
Aug. 19 642 - 4
Aug. 26 652 - 10
Sept. 2 667 - 15
Sept. 9 - 681 - 14
Sept. 16 695 - 14
Sept. 23 707 - 12
Sept. 30 741 - 34
Oct. 7 778 - 37
Oct. 14 803 - 25
Oct. 21 828 - 25
Oct. 28 850 - 22
Nov. 4 895 - 45
Nov. 11 949 - 54
Nov. 18 1,023 - 74
Nov. 29 1,068 - 45
Dec. 2 1,104 - 36
Dec. 9 1,124 - 20
Dec. 16 1,156 - 32
Dec. 23 1,186 - 30
Dec. 30 1,202 - 16

2022
Jan. 6 1,214 - 12
Jan. 13 1,261 - 47
Jan. 20 1,333 - 72
Jan. 27 1,415 - 82
Feb. 3 1,472 - 57
Feb. 10 1,505 - 33
Feb. 17 1,532 - 27
Feb. 24 1,550 - 18
Mar. 3 1,562 - 12
Mar. 10 1,572 - 10
Mar. 17 1,575 - 3
Mar. 24 1,580 - 5
Mar. 31 1,587 - 7
April 7 1,590 - 3
April 14 1,594 - 4

Motley 56466
Estimated population 3,405

2020
Oct. 8 28 total cases
Oct. 15 35 total, - 7 new cases
Oct. 22 57 - 22
Oct. 29 69 - 12
Nov. 5 100 - 31
Nov. 12 123 - 23
Nov. 19 163 - 40
Nov. 27 194 - 31
Dec. 3 208 - 14
Dec. 10 221 - 15
Dec. 17 229 - 8
Dec. 24 233 - 4

2021
Jan. 14 249 - 16 (over three week period)
Jan. 21 254 - 5
Jan. 28 256 - 2
Feb. 4 258 - 2
Feb. 11 261 - 3
Feb. 18 261 - 0
Feb. 25 272 - 11
Mar. 4 276 - 4
Mar. 11 282 - 6
Mar. 18 284 - 2
Mar. 25 284 - 0
Apr. 1 285 - 1
Apr. 8 290 - 5
Apr. 15 295 - 5
Apr. 22 302 - 7
Apr. 29 305 - 3
May 6 306 - 1
May 13 313 - 7
May 20 316 - 3
July 1 322 - 6
July 8 322 - 0
July 15 324 - 2
July 22 324 - 0
July 29 325 - 1
Aug. 5 327 - 2
Aug. 12 327 - 0
Aug. 19 330 - 3
Aug. 26 332 - 2
Sept. 2 334 - 2
Sept. 9 337 - 3
Sept. 16 343 - 6
Sept. 23 348 - 5
Sept. 30 358 - 10
Oct. 7 372 - 14
Oct. 14 397 - 25
Oct. 21 410 - 13
Oct. 28 422 - 12
Nov. 4 440 - 18
Nov. 11 452 - 12
Nov. 18 470 - 18
Nov. 29 502 - 32
Dec. 2 518 - 16
Dec. 9 550 - 32
Dec. 16 562 - 12
Dec. 23 575 - 13
Dec. 30 586 - 11

2022
Jan. 6 596 - 10
Jan. 13 621 - 25
Jan. 20 648 - 27
Jan. 27 683 - 36
Feb. 3 707 - 24
Feb. 10 733 - 26
Feb. 17 752 - 19
Feb. 24 758 - 6
Mar. 3 759 - 1
Mar. 10 765 - 6
Mar. 17 766 - 1
Mar. 24 768 - 2
Mar. 31 770 - 2
April 7 773 - 3
April 14 777 - 4

People are moving to smaller metro areas

By Heather Chapman
The Rural Blog

Newly released Census Bureau data show a mass exodus from the largest U.S. cities in the year that ended June 30, 2021. “At the same time, smaller metro areas, as a group, experienced higher population growth than in each of the previous

two years, while non-metropolitan America showed the greatest annual population gain in more than a decade,” William H. Frey reports for Brookings Institution. “The demographic shifts revealed by the latest census population estimates are not just a continuation of past trends. The sharp domestic out-migration from the nation’s major metro areas and urban core counties in the 2020-21 pandemic year was unusually large, even when compared with the previous year and the modest growth declines in the last half of the 2010s. As a result of out-migration from these areas, many smaller metro areas and rural counties experienced higher growth than in previous years.”

Americans’ reasons for moving during the pandemic varied, and it was often a combination of factors; some wanted to take

advantage of remote work opportunities and get out of crowded, expensive cities they perceived as more vulnerable to the coronavirus, and some felt the pandemic was a wake-up call to pursue a slower, more meaningful life, Madison Hoff reports for Business Insider.

Politics may have motivated some to move. “America is growing more geographically polarized — red ZIP codes are getting redder and blue ZIP codes are becoming bluer. People appear to be sorting,” John Burnett reports for NPR. “Residents have been fleeing states like California with high taxes, expensive real estate and school mask mandates and heading to conservative strongholds like Idaho, Tennessee and Texas.” Bill Bishop first spotlighted this trend in his 2008 book *The Big Sort: Why the Clustering of Like-minded Americans is Tearing Us Apart*.

Quote of the week

“Let’s build a country of opportunities, where everybody is equal before the law and where the rules of the game are honest and transparent, and the same for everyone.”
— Volodymyr Zelensky, Ukraine President

Staples World

Established in 1890. USPS 518-760
©2022 RMM Publications
Published Wednesdays by RMM Publications
Office located at 224 4th Street NE
Periodicals postage paid at Staples, Minnesota 56479.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100
Telephone: 218-894-1112 - Fax: 218-894-3570
Toll Free: 1-888-894-1112
www.staplesworld.com - E Mail: editor@staplesworld.com
Deadline: 12 noon, Friday

Official Newspaper for:
City of Staples,
Staples-Motley School District
and local townships.

PublisherRMM Publications LLC
Owners Rick Gail, Mike Kremer, Mark Anderson
Managing Editor.....Mark Anderson editor@staplesworld.com
Advertising Rep..... editor@staplesworld.com
Photo Tech/production.....Janice Winter jwinter@staplesworld.com
Bookkeeping/Circulation/
.....Kathy Odden kodden@staplesworld.com
Reporter.....Dawn Timbs dtimbs@staplesworld.com
Front Office..... office@staplesworld.com

Subscription Rates:
Local: (Todd, Wadena, Morrison, Cass Counties) \$48 per year
Website: \$43 per year
Minnesota: \$53 per year - Out of State: \$58 per year
Foreign: on-line only - Student Rate: (Sept. through Apr./in-state) \$38
There is a \$5 charge for address change from local to out-of-state.

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 12 noon, Friday. 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.



Gone "buggy" with Bruce at the Staples Library

The Staples Public Library was "buggy" with Bruce the Bug Guy on April 7. with hands on with spiders, grubs and moths. The program was made possible by the Arts and Cultural Legacy Grants. All upcoming programs can be found on the library website: www.griver.org or stop by the library. (Submitted photos)



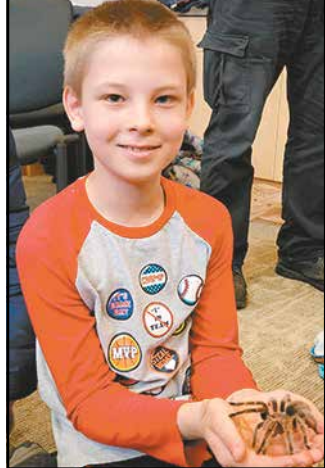
Esther and Tamber Edin



Bryce Hobson



Ryleigh Johnson



Everest Kleinschmidt



Ashton Bomstad

Darci Odden hired for clerk/ treasurer position in Motley

At a special meeting held April 15, the Motley City Council approved the hire of Darci Odden for the Clerk/Treasurer position, pending a successful back-

ground check. Odden is currently the Utility Billing Clerk for the City of Staples. Prior to her position in Staples, Odden (previously McGillivray)

worked as the Administrative/Accounting Assistant for the City of Motley. Her tentative start date is May 2, 2022.



Staples Rotary makes donation

The Staples Rotary Club recently donated \$100 to the Staples-Motley Softball Boosters for their project to improve dug-outs at the softball fields at Staples-Motley Elementary School. The fields are used for JV and Varsity teams as well as for students in grades K-12 through summer

programming. For more information or to donate to the project contact Lonna Dille at 218-639-1058. From left are Rotarian Marv Rothstein, Jamie Case and Lonna Dille from the softball boosters, and Rotarian Bob Hamann. (Submitted photo)

Mark Your Calendar

April 20, 21

STAPLES SERENITY AA GROUP MTGS are held at the Staples Assembly of God Church on Tuesday and Thursday evenings beginning at 7 p.m. Masks required. For more info., 320-874-0979.

'GRIEFSHARE' GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP is held on Thursdays from 6 - 7:30 p.m., at Motley Free Methodist Church, through May 26. For more information, call 218-352-6888.

April 22

WOMEN'S OPEN AA RECOVERY MEETING Every Friday in person, 10:30 a.m., Mot-

ley Free Methodist Church (lower level), 33 Wellwood St. E. Motley. All women welcome.

April 25

AA GROUP MTGS IN MOTLEY are held at the United Methodist Church, 847 3rd Ave. S., on Mondays at 8 p.m.

April 26

WADENA COUNTY REPUBLICANS MEET the fourth Tuesday of the month at Pizza Ranch in Wadena. Dinner and visiting at 6 p.m. with speakers and a business mtg at 7 p.m. For info., call 218-894-1899.

Autism affects children

From Todd County Health and Human Services

ASD diagnosis was 5 years, 3 months.

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a developmental disorder characterized by differences in social interaction and communication as well as the presence of restricted and repetitive patterns of behavior, interest or activities. People who have ASD may experience a range of symptoms and characteristics. Some people may have very noticeable characteristics, others may not. ASD may be diagnosed as early as 18 to 24 months, but can be diagnosed at any age. The earlier treatment and intervention begins, the more effective the outcomes.

While there is currently no known single cause of autism, early diagnosis helps a person receive resources that can support the choices and opportunities needed to live fully.

In very young children, the first symptoms of autism may include:

- Limited demonstration of emotions, eye contact, or gestures like waving or pointing
- No or inconsistent response to name
- Limited interest in sharing or playing with others
- Loss of speech
- Delayed speech and/or no social babbling

Currently, about one in 36 or 2.8 percent of 8-year old children in MN have been identified with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Boys were 4.2 times more likely to be identified with ASD than girls were. The average age of first

If you have concerns about your child please contact your medical provider.

For more information and resources visit the Minnesota Autism Resource Portal: <https://mn.gov/autism/>

FREE Group Self-Defense Class for Women
Saturday, April 30, 9 a.m.-12 noon
 Learn to hone your awareness and skills for self defense for those times when you may need it. This class builds a sense of confidence and also gives you a sense of ease. This self defense crash course teaches the basic skills using natural techniques and simple strategies. Open to teens as well as adults.
 Instructor: **Francisco Jimenez, 3rd Degree Black Belt in the martial arts of Tae Kwon Do/ Hapkido/ SIPALKI**
 --FOR AN APPOINTMENT--
 <francisco.jimenezh64@gmail.com> or 218-296-0726

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



(L to R): Linda Addie, RRT; Megan Dolezal, CRT; Wendy Poland, CRT; and Gabriel Trif, RRT, Respiratory Therapy Department Nominated Anonymously

"I am nominating the staff that provide respiratory therapy to the patients of Lakewood Health System and more specifically the hospital inpatients. Over the past two years of our COVID pandemic this department has been utilized for patient care in many ways and has a strong presence with patients needing respiratory care. When the census increased, the demand on this small department grew and grew. When the patient acuity increased and we then had patients on ventilators, the staff was required to stay here overnight and be available to manage these patients and be resources for staff and providers. High quality care is provided by the professional work they exhibit when it comes to the patients who are suffering from severe respiratory problems and especially COVID. The RT team looks to what is best for the patient globally by working alongside other staff to provide great care and be a patient advocate."

Dawn Captain, CPC, Clinic Coding Educator. Nominated by Lisa Bjerga, CFO

"When Lakewood onboarded Twin City Orthopedics we were without a scribe to cover the service line. Because Dawn's role as Coding Educator also focuses on training in new scribes, the group looked to Dawn for assistance. She took on the role with a smile and was great representation of Lakewood to our new TCO providers. This "temporary" role turned longer term than planned but Dawn continued to help support where needed. In addition to taking over scribing, Dawn also gained new knowledge which has allowed her to enhance the scribe training process and improve the overall workflow. Dawn's assistance was critical in the success of the transition to TCO and we are very appreciative of her assistance during this time."

218-894-1515 lakewoodhealthsystem.com

WHITESIDEWALLS

Fri., May 13, 6 p.m.
 (doors open at 5 p.m.) Tickets: \$25 advance \$30 at the door

Timbers Event Center, Staples, MN

The "Whitesidewalls" = Doo-Wop, Rockabilly and Rock & Roll band

Purchase tickets at: Timbers Hotel, First International Bank & Trust, Motley, Mid-Central National Bank, Staples, and both Parish Offices.

St. Michael's Church Building Project Fundraising Concert.

BOOM!

Treats are in bloom

The grill of Staples Dairy Queen will be closed April 18-22 for remodeling.

Though the grill is closed, our chill is **OPEN** to serve our fans their favorite DQ treats and cakes! Try the tantalizingly tasty **NEW S'mores Shake**, **NEW Fruity Blast Dipped Cone** and the **NEW Poolside Punch Twisty MISTY Slush**.

Hurry in and grab the season's new favorite treats only at DQ!

Dining room and drive-thru open 11am - 9pm.

Basement and Crawl Space Problems Solved

Leaky basements made dry
 Drain tile & baseboard systems
 Buckling walls corrected
 Foundation repair & wall crack repair
 Egress window installation

Basement Water Controlled
 Providing Service Since 1967
 Safe Secure Dry
 HOLD-RIGHT™ WALL ANCHORS
 STABIL-LOC FOUNDATION PIERS

Free Estimates
 • Thousands of Satisfied Customers
 • Transferable Warranty
 • Licensed-Insured
 • Providing Realistic Solutions

MN License BC542636
 ND License #38488
320-654-9900
www.safedrybasement.com



SM sixth grade girls basketball going to state

The Staples-Motley sixth grade girls basketball team won at the Paynesville Pacesetter tournament held April 2, qualifying for the state tournament to be held in June.

The team were runners up in the Alexandria Pacesetter tournament held April 9, finishing their season with a 17-2

record.

Above, front: Jazmyne Hove, Jada Holst, Alyce Scheler, Brooklyn Winter. Back: Coach Joshua Winter, Carolyn Hoppe, Clara Maros, Chloe Larson, Brooke Reisenaur, Coach Sheri Holst. (Submitted photo)

Track team competes at Bemidji meet

The Staples-Motley track and field team participated in their second indoor meet of the season, at Bemidji State University on April 14.

The girls team had one event winner, Kyanna Burton in the 3,200, and two second place finishers, Aften Robinson in the 400 and Audrey Brownell in the 1,600.

For the boys, Remington Converse was second in the 60 meter dash, Logan Robben was second in the 3,200 and the 4x200 relay team finished in second place.

Girls results

Staples-Motley fifth out of 15 teams

60 hurdles prelims - 13. Bailey Weiland 11.53, 17. Avery Japke 12.03, 18. Jayce Kobliska 12.06, 20. Ronnie Noska 12.11, 29. Mariona Caminal Gimenez 13.61

60 hurdles finals - 14. Weiland 11.85

60 meter dash - 21. Mireia Pablos 9.10, 43. Abby Brichacek 9.54, 58. Paula Moreno 10.37, 59. Margherita Picciau 10.59, 62. Sara Rizza 11.06

400 - 2. Aften Robinson 1:02, 7. Nathalie Hahne 1:06, 13. Sabina Moe 1:11, 26. Brichacek 1:17, 28. Pam Lawrence 1:17

1,600 - 2. Audrey Brownell 5:37, 20. Suhaila Mikhaeil 6:44, 27. Brooke Bendson 7:21

4x200 - 8. Staples-Motley 2:05 800 - 5. Ashley Robben 2:36, 21. Sabina Moe 2:56, 27. Addison Cichos 3:10, 28. Hannah Cole 3:14, 40. CJ Koval 3:48

200 - 28. Noska 31.66, 32. Isabel Cole 31.99, 60. Arabella Moore 35.79, 62. Moreno 36.20

3,200 - 1. Kyanna Burton 12:06, 3. Bella Hines 13:36, 4. Naila Mikhaeil 13:46

4x400 - 1. Staples-Motley 4:23 High jump - 16. Caminal Gimenez 4'2", 19. Japke 4'2", 19. Brownell 4'2, 22. Jorja Kobliska 4'2

Long jump - 10. Hahne 14'7", 39. Corrine Olson 12'4", 42. Weiland 12'3"

Boys results

Staples-Motley 6th out of 15 teams

4x800 relay - 5. Staples-Motley 9:34

60 hurdles prelims - 13. Avandre Brandt 10.75, 22. Noah Larson 11.90

60 hurdles finals - 8. Brandt 10.27

Remington Converse 7.28, 4. Corey Hanson 7.45, 11. Austin Weite 7.64, 16. Hunter Miller 7.67, 33. Ramiro Gallardo 8.03

60 finals - 2. R. Converse 7.28, 4. Hansen 7.44, 11. Weite 7.67

400 - 14. Sivert Klefsaas 56.83, 23. Noah Greenwaldt 59.26, 26. Deven Kadus 59.48, 49. Nicolas Fernandez 1:06, 55. Isreal Ritter 1:07

1,600 - 8. Issiah Tabatt 5:05, 18. Grant Johnson 5:21, 31. Ivan Lozano 6:06, 37. Reid Judd 6:31

4x200 - 2. Staples-Motley 1:38 800 - 23. Blaine Plattner 2:33, 24. Odin Trif 2:33, 30. Will Dolezal 2:38, 45. Judd 2:58, 46. Daniel Ortiz 2:59

200 - 5. R. Converse 24.56, 10. Hansen 24.98, 15. Weite 25.26, 21. Klefsaas 25.64, 23. Miller 25.79

3,200 - 2. Logan Robben 10:54, 7. Trif 11:58, 11. Plattner 12:22

4x400 - 9. Staples-Motley 4:16 High jump - 6. Miller 5'6", 10. Brandt 5'4", 13. Robben 5'2"

Pole vault - 5. Turner Beachy 10'6", 17. Connor Kuhns 8'0"

Long jump - 22. Gallardo 16'10", 27. Brandt 16'7", 50. Dolezal 12'1", 53. Ortiz 10'9"

Triple jump - 10. Greenwaldt 37'5", 12. Alexander Helstrom 36'10", 18. Sawyer Ferdon 35'1", 19. Gallardo 34'6", 29. Dustin Converse 25'6"

Shot put - 18. Ferdon 34'0", 22. Steven Petrich 32'5", 36. Drake Dukowitz 27'6", 40. D. Converse 26'2"

Lakewood among USDA rural hospital grant recipients

From USDA

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development State Director for Minnesota Colleen Landkamer today announced the establishment of a program under President Biden's American Rescue Plan to expand rural hospitals and providers' access to COVID-19 vaccines, testing, and supplies, while helping rural health care providers stay financially solvent in the long-term. The initial awards of the Emergency Rural Health Care Grants total \$2.9 million and will benefit more than 79,000 people who live and work in rural Minnesota. Awardees include 9 rural health care organizations and community groups across more than 20 rural cities and townships.

"In the wake of a two-year pandemic, our nation is in need of opportunities for economic regrowth and infrastructure rehabilitation," Landkamer said. "USDA has continued to provide these opportunities through various channels, including mobilizing staff and resources to respond to improving the long-term viability of rural health care providers and services across the nation. Today's investments

through the Emergency Rural Health Care Grants program address a variety of immediate health care needs for rural areas, including ensuring that every person and family has access to high-quality health care."

The grants USDA is awarding will help rural hospitals and health care providers implement telehealth and nutrition assistance programs, increase staffing to administer COVID-19 vaccines and testing, build or renovate facilities and purchase medical supplies.

Lakewood Health System will use a \$733,300 grant to meet unforeseen financial needs resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. With nearly 40,000 residents across five counties in the service area, the Lakewood has had to use the Mayo Health Laboratory for COVID testing supplies to collect and analyze specimens, package and ship samples, and receive test results via a secure virtual portal. This project will help to cover the costs incurred from utilizing this service and to support staffing needed to administer COVID-19 testing.

Congress passed the American Rescue Plan Act in March 2021 to deliver immediate economic relief to

people impacted by the pandemic.

In August 2021, USDA made up to \$500 million in Emergency Rural Health Care Grants available through the American Rescue Plan to help rural health care facilities, tribes and communities expand access to health care services and nutrition assistance.

The assistance is helping provide immediate relief to support rural hospitals, health care clinics and local communities. USDA is administering the funds through Rural Development's Community Facilities Program.

These investments are part of a larger announcement made recently by U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack that the Department is investing \$43 million to benefit 2.2 million people who live and work in rural America. Total number of nationwide awardees include 93 rural health care organizations and community groups across 22 states: Florida, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, North Carolina, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming.



Donation to SMAAC

The Staples Host Lions recently donated \$3,000 to the Staples Motley Area Arts Council (SMAAC) to help fund this summer's Music in the Park series in Staples. Pictured above, from left, are Dawn Timbs, arts council member; Ken Christensen, Staples Host Lions President; and Jim Vollegraaf, arts council member. (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)

Staples Police report

April 4, Staples Police responded to a verbal domestic in the 800 block of 4th St NE. Upon arrival, officers spoke with parties on scene and transported a male to Lakewood Hospital for an evaluation.

April 4, Police were called to the 600 block of US Highway 10 E. for two signs that were damaged on the median. Police located a truck pulling a piece of farm equipment which struck the signs. Information was gathered from the driver and sent to Staples Public Works.

April 6, Staples Police responded to a report of a vehicle accident on 6th Street NE at 4th Ave NE. Police observed that a vehicle pulled partially into the lane of travel causing a southbound vehicle on 6th Street to swerve, hit ice/snow, a small light pole and then a tree with their vehicle. No injuries were reported.

April 6, Staples Police received a report from Olson's Custom Feeds that sometime overnight, someone had struck their building, causing significant damage. Anyone with information regarding this

incident is asked to call Staples Police.

April 6, Staples Police assisted the West Central Violent Offender Task Force with executing a search warrant on the 900 block of 7th Street NE. Shane Pfeifer, 41, was arrested.

April 6, Staples Police received a report of a domestic assault that happened the evening prior.

April 8, Staples Police, along with Staples Fire Department, responded to a fire alarm at the Staples Motley High School. A bearing in an air exchanger was smoking causing the alarms to sound.

April 9, Staples Police received a driving complaint of small motor bikes on the 600 block of Pine Grove Road. Police located two motor bikes operating on the 300 block of Dakota Ave. SE. The SPD spoke with two juveniles and they were advised on where they could legally ride their motor bikes.

April 10, Staples Police were dispatched to a disturbance in the 400 block of Highway 10. Officers spoke with parties on scene and cited a male for disorderly conduct.



Short break from classes

Students at Staples-Motley Middle/High School were instructed to exit the building April 8, after a rooftop unit at the school malfunctioned, causing smoke to enter classrooms and setting off the fire alarm. Superintendent

Shane Tappe said, "I want to thank the Staples Fire and Police Departments for their swift response. The issue was quickly resolved and students were able to return to class." (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



HISTORIC STAPLES

HELP WANTED

Office Clerk - Utility Billing

Pay range \$17.17 - 25.71 per hour. This is a union position with a great benefit package.

General Duties: This position is the first point of contact for all visitors to City Hall; exceptional customer service skills are required. In addition to front counter payments and telephone response, duties include processing utility meter readings and utility bills, inputting receipts, data tracking, account reconciliation and providing timely reports.

Minimum Requirements: The ideal candidate will have two years of post-high school education or training with at least two years of experience in a similar position. The person will have excellent communication skills and knowledge of Excel and Word along with the ability to learn new software applications. All City of Staples employment is subject to background check.

Applications, cover letter and resumés will be accepted until April 29, 2022 or until filled. For more information and to apply, visit our website, https://staples.govoffice.com/job_openings.

EOE

SEASONAL LAWN/ CARE HELPER

FT, 40 hours, late April - Oct.
Competitive wages.
Must have valid driver's license.
Call Cory, 218-838-8330

Activity Aide Position

Central Todd County Care Center, Clarissa, MN has an opening for a full-time position in the Activities Department

Would you enjoy assisting our Residents with a variety of activities such as bingo?

1. Candidate must be able to work with a flexible schedule.
2. Must possess a special interest in working with long term care residents.
3. Have the ability to relate positively, effectively and appropriately with residents, families, volunteers and facility staff.
4. Must be creative, able to work independently, organize time and establish priorities.
5. Familiarity with computer software programs and basic typing skills is preferred

Contact Michelle Boehland, 218-756-3636, ext. 23 or mboehland@ctccinc.com

You may apply in the Business Office during business hours, M-F, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. or pick up an application after office hours at the nurses' station.

CTCC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CENTRAL TODD COUNTY Care Center

Social Worker

Central Todd County Care Center is seeking a full-time Licensed Social Worker. Long-Term Care experience preferred, but not necessary. Competitive salary, medical, dental, life and 401k available.

If interested apply online at clarissacarecenter.org, or send resume by April 25, 2022 to: Jason Polovick, Administrator PO Box 38, Clarissa, MN 56440. An Equal Opportunity Employer.

HELP WANTED

The City of Staples is hiring seasonal Public Works - Parks employees

This is a great job for anyone who wants to spend their workday outdoors during the summer months. Most of the time spent will be mowing grass and trimming weeds on all City of Staples parks and properties. This position will be asked to do routine maintenance on the mowing equipment, and to assist with other Public Works and Park duties as needed, and as time allows. This position will work 40 hours most weeks, but that may be altered due to weather.

We may be able to accommodate a flexible schedule. Starting pay is \$12/hour.

Apply at the City of Staples City Hall, 122 6th St NE, Staples, MN 56479. You may also find an application on our website at www.staplesgovoffice.com. For questions, call Public Works Director - Scott Grabe, 218-894-2550, Ext 6.

EOE

SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT

205 Help Wanted

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT: The Lake Shamaineau Lake Improvement

District is looking for responsible adults to serve as educators of boat launching users about **Cleaning, Draining and Disposing of used bait.** The program runs from May 14 (Opening Fishing) through September 5 (Labor Day), typically 4-6 hours shifts on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays. Requirements: •Must be at least 18 years of age. •Must attend a paid (3) hour AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) training, in person or online with a DNR Regional Watercraft Inspection Supervisor. Interested applicants may contact Bob Koll, 218-296-2933. 16-17p

Full-time Employment

Todd-Wadena Community Corrections

Todd-Wadena Community Corrections seeks one full-time Corrections Agent. This position includes assessment, investigative services, and supervision of individuals referred and/or directed through the Court and/or Criminal Justice System. Minimum qualifications include Bachelor's Degree in Corrections, Criminal Justice, Criminology, Counseling Psychology, Education, Law, Law Enforcement, Psychology, Social Work, Sociology or a Human Services related field; successful completion of a 400 hour internship or commensurate volunteer/paid experience as a Corrections Agent/ Security Caseworker; valid MN driver's license and auto insurance; and reliable transportation.

Excellent communication and organizational skills are essential, as well as the ability to establish and maintain working relationships with a variety of people. Must pass agency background check requirements and be able to meet physical requirements as specified in the job description. Convictions, continuances or stays for crimes other than minor traffic offenses may disqualify the applicant from being hired.

Starting salary range is \$22.46 - \$32.62 per hour. This position is contingent on grant funding.

Contact Katherine Langer, Director, at 320-732-6165 or kathy.langer@co.todd.mn.us for an application packet. Submit cover letter, resume and completed application to Katherine Langer, Director, Todd-Wadena Community Corrections, 221 First Avenue South, Suite 200, Long Prairie, MN 56347. Position will remain open until filled. First round of application reviews scheduled for May 3, 2022.

EOE "EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER"

RICH'S INFINITE POSSIBILITIES. ONE FAMILY.

JOIN OUR TEAM, GROW YOUR CAREER!!!

WHO ARE WE?
Rich's is a family-owned food company dedicated to inspiring possibilities - for our associates, customers & our communities

WE ARE NOW HIRING PART TIME ASSOCIATES!!!

Apply online or call for more details. (Full time positions still available)

Maintenance Technician- Shift 3: \$28

NEW HIRE BONUS UP TO \$1,500

Production Worker - Shift 1, 7a-3p: \$17.75
Production Worker- Shift 2, 3p-11p: \$19.25
Production Worker- Shift 3, 11p-7a: \$19.75

At Rich's you don't just have a job, you have an opportunity to grow and advance in your career!

<https://careers.rich.com/key/motley-mn.html>
Please call 218-352-2105 for an interview & plant tour
1218 HWY 10 South, Motley, MN 56466

TODD COUNTY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: Todd County is looking for reliable, service-oriented individuals to serve the citizens of Todd County in the following positions: •Deputy Auditor/Treasurer (Part-time) •Social Worker (Full-time). To learn more about these openings and how to apply visit the official Todd County website at <https://www.co.todd.mn.us> or <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/cotoddmn>. Questions can be directed to Todd County Administration 320-732-6155. EOE 17c

See CLASSIFIEDS, page 8a

SERVICE DIRECTORY

H&R Electrical Services for Residential • Commercial • Industrial 218-296-2461

Zach Hanson 218-296-1285 • Mike Rollins 218-296-2461
hrelectricofstaples@yahoo.com
Licensed, Bonded & Insured • Over 30 years experience

SERVICING ALL BRANDS
Sharpen Mower Blades
Sharpen Saw Chains,
Small Engine Repair + more

SERVICE HOURS Staples True Value
Mon - Fri, 8am to 4pm
205 Warner Rd • 218.894.3263

GIZA EST 1934
PLUMBING & HEATING

- PLUMBING
- HEATING
- AIR CONDITIONING
- GEOTHERMAL
- NEW CONSTRUCTION
- REMODEL
- SERVICE

MN LIC. #PC644417
218-894-2284
WWW.CALLGIZA.COM

Mixed Firewood
By the bundle or by the truckload. 8 foot lengths or processed

Enberg Logging
218-352-6175

ALBIE ELECTRIC LLC
CELL 218-838-0581
RESIDENTIAL AND LIGHT COMMERCIAL ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS

PAUL DRAKE TREE SERVICE
• General • Lot Clearing
• Storm Damage Clean Up
• Stump Grinding • Brushing
• 55 ft. Bucket Truck
218-894-2871

Altrichter Excavation & Septic Service
218-575-2222

- Septic System Installation
- Camera Inspection, Tank Pumping and Cleaning

MN State Certified
6685 330th St., Cushing, MN. 56443

Small Engine Repair
Authorized.....
Stihl, MTD, Murray, Scag, Briggs & Stratton, Poulan

Sales-Service-Repair
Staples Ace Hardware
218-894-1080

Sellnow Law Office, P.A.
Thomas H. Sellnow*
sellnowt@sellnowlaw.com
Jason R. Sellnow
sellnowj@sellnowlaw.com
218-894-4618 • 133 4th St. NE, Staples
229 Central Ave., Long Prairie
320-732-1919 • Toll free: 877-297-1125

*Thomas Sellnow is a Real Property Law Specialist certified by Real Property Section of Minnesota State Bar Association.

- Probate and Trusts
- Estate Planning
- Real Estate
- Title Insurance
- Personal Injury
- Family Law
- Business Law
- Elder Law
- Auto Accidents

www.sellnowlaw.com

PROFESSIONAL

CONSTRUCTION

PHB Excavating Inc.
Phil Bjerga
218-639-5007
Licensed / Bonded / Insured

Septics • Waterlines • Trenching • Basements • Retaining Walls
Landscaping & Site Preparation • Backhoe & Skid Loader Work
Sewer Pipe Cleaning and Steaming • Custom Pressure Washing
Equipment, Buildings, Driveways, etc. • Snow Plowing & Removal

IDEAL CONSTRUCTION LLC PAYING THE WAY FOR YOU!
Staples, MN 56479
218-894-3105 SINCE 1958

Asphalt Paving • Seal Coating • Excavating • Driveways
Roads • Parking Lots • Site Prep • Gravel • Rock • Black Dirt
Fill • Peat • Ponds • Demolition • Hauling • Landscaping
Recycled Concrete and Asphalt

Statema Backhoe Service, LLC
MPCA CERTIFIED SEPTIC SYSTEMS
-FREE ESTIMATE FROM DESIGN TO INSTALLATION
-COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS

Site Prep • Basements • Waterlines • Driveways • Landscaping • Black Dirt • Gravel • Construction and Abandonment of Manure Pits • Fill Dirt
Clearing & Grading • Ditch Cleaning • Snow Plowing: Commercial & Residential

Andy Statema • 320-594-2912 • 320-594-6347

SW 2022, changed wk # 13



Tournament at Walker success for speech team

Front, left to right: Addy Toepper, Isabel Birkholtz, Grace Allen, Luke Bates, Captain Iain Sams, Captain Connor Judd, Estella Bock, Olivia Opheim; middle: Daniel Ortiz, Andrew Daniels, Isaiah Tabatt, Jaden Johnson, Riley Dabbs, Caden Mrazek, Laken Hines, Keegan

Harvey, Maddock Harvey, Raina Mikhaeil, Walker Johnson; back: AJ Nienow, Micah Larson, Cy Johnson, Evan Woodwick. Not pictured: Keegan Bestland. (Submitted photos)

SM Speech second in Section 6A

The Staples Motley Cardinal Speech team placed second out of 18 schools at the Section 6A Speech Tournament held in Perham April 9. Perham placed first and Pequot Lakes placed third.

It was, overall, a successful tournament for the Cardinals, with 10 speakers advancing to the state tournament to be held April 23. According to Coach Brian Sams, there were - as always at this level of competition - some disappointing results. Olivia Opheim and Riley Dabbs, two very accomplished Cardinal speakers were unexpectedly eliminated before Finals, and Laken Hines and AJ Nienow just barely missed the opportunity to speak at the state tournament, plac-

ing fourth in their respective categories.

Taking first were Micah Larson, Creative (Micah was the only speaker at the tournament to have a perfect score - straight ones from every judge); and Keegan Harvey and Keegan Bestland, Duo. Second: Caden Mrazek and Luke Bates, Duo; Cy Johnson, Prose; Grace Allen, Poetry and Iain Sams, Great Speeches. Third: Connor Judd, Humor and Walker Johnson, Extemporaneous Reading; fourth: AJ Nienow, Humor and Laken Hines, Storytelling; fifth: Isabel Birkholtz, Extemporaneous Reading and Raina Mikhaeil, Great Speeches and sixth: Estella Bock, Informative and Maddock Harvey, Storytelling.



Headed to state competition, front: Grace Allen, Captain Connor Judd, Captain Iain Sams, Walker Johnson; back: Keegan Harvey, Cy Johnson, Caden Mrazek, Luke Bates, Micah Larson. Not pictured: Keegan Bestland.



Finalists, front, left to right: Isabel Birkholtz, Grace Allen, Captain Connor Judd, Captain Iain Sams, Estella Bock, Raina Mikhaeil; back: Cy Johnson, Caden Mrazek, Luke Bates, Micah Larson, AJ Nienow, Laken Hines, Keegan Harvey, Maddock Harvey, Walker Johnson. Not pictured: Keegan Bestland.

USDA drought relief for ranchers

Due to the persistent drought conditions in the Great Plains and West, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is offering additional relief through the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-raised Fish Program (ELAP) to help ranchers cover above normal costs of hauling livestock to forage or other grazing acres.

This policy enhancement complements previously announced ELAP compensation for hauling feed to livestock. ELAP livestock and feed hauling assistance is retroactive for 2021 and will be available for losses in 2022 and subsequent years.

"After we rolled out updated ELAP policy last year to help cover the cost of hauling feed to livestock,

thankful producers across the country expressed their appreciation for the expanded assistance and made suggestions to further improve the program," said Zach Ducheneaux, FSA Administrator.

"Unfortunately, drought conditions across the U.S. continue and, in many states, have worsened. In response, we continue to find ways

to help livestock producers alleviate some of the financial strain," said Whitney Place, State Executive Director for FSA in Minnesota. "This most recent ELAP program update recognizes that, for some ranchers, hauling livestock to forage rather than feed to livestock is easier and makes more sense financially."

Witthuhn joins Lakewood medical staff

Seth Witthuhn, nurse practitioner (NP-C), is the newest member of the Lakewood Health System Family Medicine team.

Originally from Wadena, Witthuhn received his Master of Science in Nursing degree from Walden University. He is a member of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.

Witthuhn is an advanced practice registered nurse with a special interest in family medicine.

"I am excited to start my new role at Lakewood Health System," said Witthuhn, who has worked as a registered nurse (RN) in Lakewood's Emergency department since 2020. "It is a blessing to be part of such a great team so close to home."

Witthuhn enjoys gar-



Seth Witthuhn

dening, cooking, being outdoors, and traveling. His favorite way to spend time is with his kids and family.

Witthuhn is seeing patients in our Staples, Browerville and Eagle Bend clinics. To schedule an appointment with him, call 218-894-1515.

VA can help reduce domestic violence

Veterans Notes
By David A Anderson
Wadena County Veterans Service Officer

VA is committed to fostering Veterans' healthy relationships, and we're working to improve services to Veterans who've experienced domestic violence, including intimate partner violence.

VA's mission is to care for those "who shall have borne the battle" and for their families, caregivers and survivors. As part of this mission, we are steadfastly committed to addressing and ending intimate partner violence (IPV) through giving Veterans the tools and support they need to foster healthy relationships.

Since 2014, VA has provided comprehensive and integrated services to Veterans and their partners experiencing IPV via the Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program.

This program helps Veterans, their partners and VA staff learn about warning signs, at-risk behaviors and how to get help. These services are available to Veterans, their partners and even VA staff members who may be affected by any form of IPV (verbal, emotional, psychological, physical or sexual).

According to VA Care Management and Social Work Executive Director Jill DeBord, approximately one in three women and

one in four men in the general population report experiencing intimate partner violence. But research from VA's National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder shows that Veterans may be disproportionately affected.

VA's dedication to this issue goes beyond the current programs and services we offer. Recently, VA initiated a pilot program to improve services to Veterans who have experienced or are experiencing IPV or sexual assault. This two-year initiative was launched at 10 VA medical facilities across the nation with a focus on strengthening community partnerships.

It will also provide training for VA staff and community partners, identify effective clinical interventions and provide outreach to underserved areas and populations.

We encourage our Veterans who are experiencing intimate partner violence, at risk of using IPV or concerned about someone else to contact their local VA Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program coordinator, primary care social worker or other provider, or call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 800-799-7233 or 800-787-3224 (TTY).

Veterans who are victims of domestic violence during military service and develop subsequent physical or mental conditions may be eligible for VA disability compensation.



LIFE LIVED WELL.
Together.

There is nothing better than fresh powder, or great healthcare. Just ask Baxter resident Brea O'Brien and her daughter, Reagan. They love hitting the slopes and trusting Lakewood Health System with their care. If you're looking to build a primary care relationship to feel good about, we invite you to start your journey with us—together.



SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT TODAY!

218-894-1515

LAKEWOODHEALTHSYSTEM.COM