



Wednesday, December 16, 2020

Staples World

Staples, Minnesota \$1

Lights in the dark

A festive Christmas is on display in Staples despite the pandemic.

Weather

This Week's Forecast

Date	High	Low	Cond.
Dec. 16	28°	19°	Cloudy
Dec. 17	34	25	M. Cloudy
Dec. 18	36	11	Cloudy
Dec. 19	27	22	M. Sunny
Dec. 20	35	29	P. Cloudy
Dec. 21	36	21	P. Cloudy
Dec. 22	31	22	P. Cloudy

Last Year, 2019

Date	High	Low	Cond.
Dec. 16	19°	8°	Cloudy
Dec. 17	18	-18	P. Sunny
Dec. 18	9	-12	Sunny
Dec. 19	20	-4	Cloudy
Dec. 20	20	14	Cloudy
Dec. 21	34	12	P. Sunny
Dec. 22	41	15	Sunny

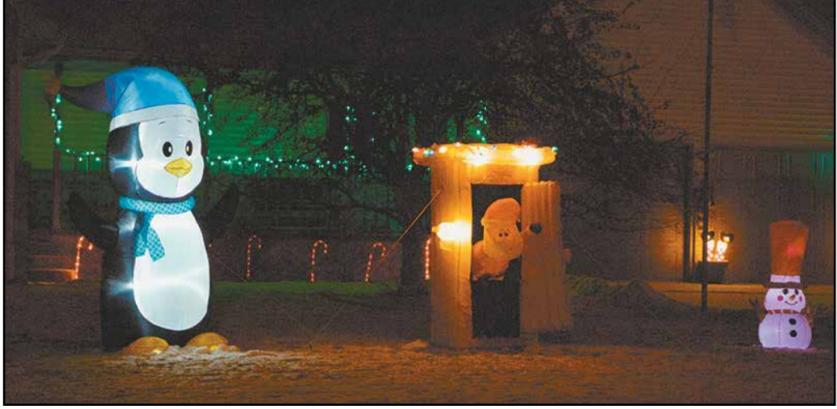
Average Temps:
H = 23° Low = 8°
Total Snow:
For week: .25"
Oct. - Dec. 13: 15:25"
Enjoy Above Normal Temps

Compiled by Dale Hausmann, WCCO's Staples area Weatherwatcher



Christmas messages while stuck at home

Many people, especially seniors, are sequestered in their homes because of the pandemic and the start of winter. But the community is still able to show their Christmas spirit through displays like the one at Lakewood Manor, above. Check out the rest of the newspaper to spot more ways people are signaling their holiday wishes. We hear you, and appreciate your efforts. Below, a Santa peeks out of an outhouse as his penquin and snowman stand by at a home display in Staples. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Staples budget will increase 1.9 percent

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples City Council approved a final tax levy that will be 1.9 percent higher than last year's budget, down from the 2.4 percent that had been proposed in September.

City Administrator Jerel Nelsen said the city's tax capacity has risen 4.7 percent, so the city portion of taxes may actually go down for property owners whose evaluation was less than the 4.7 percent.

Some of the big changes in the city budget include an increase in Local Government Aid (LGA) from the state. Staples is scheduled to get \$28,501 more in LGA next year. Nelsen said the tax increment for Cardinal Pines apartments and the medical offices on Highway 10 will be coming off, increasing the tax base. Installing LED street lights should mean lower electri-

cal costs for the city. Fee changes for the Staples Community Center will continue into 2021.

Changes that will increase the budget include a 14.5 percent increase on city employee health insurance, plus regular salary increases. The city is adding one police officer position and will have an increase in technology support.

A few one time purchases affecting the budget include new turnout gear for the fire department, airport building improvements, and Dower Lake improvements such as a storm shelter and road paving. Other one time items include playground equipment at Lincoln Park, security cameras, paving Airview Drive, a new bucket truck, infrastructure work at the industrial park, water main replacement on Minnesota Avenue and completing the

See **COUNCIL** on page 3a

Coping with Covid

Mary Sperley, Staples senior citizen

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

"I'd rather be in Staples than any place else," said Mary Sperley when asked how she was faring during the pandemic.

There's people here to help when you need it, she went on, noting those in her circle who stop by on a regular basis to check in on her. "Barry and Cindy (Klein)

See **SPERLEY** on page 3a



New optometrist

Dr. Jesse Fenstermacher started working at Staples Eye Clinic in September.

Dr. Fenstermacher starts at Staples Eye Clinic

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Starting his opometry career during a pandemic hasn't stopped Dr. Jesse Fenstermacher from getting involved in his new community. He is the new optometrist at the Staples Eye Clinic after starting in September.

In his short time in the community he is already volunteering with the high school trap shooting team and has joined the local Lions Club.

For work, he will be able to see all eye care clients and will specialize in primary care ocular disease and pediatrics.

Fenstermacher said the clinic is doing a good job of keeping customers safe as they do eye exams during the pandemic, although wearing a mask can cause his glasses to fog up while working.

"We're pushing through just like everyone else," he said. "We're no different."

Fenstermacher is originally from Hibbing. He attended the University of North Dakota, where he ran track. After college he said he was looking to experience something different so he attended Southern California College of Optometry in Fullerton, where he obtained his Doctor of Optometry degree.

"It was great to go off on an adventure. It was fun, I learned to surf and my classmates were amazing but Minnesota is home for me."

He did rotations in Oklahoma, Las Vegas, Ahaneim and Edina.

He got connected to Staples because a classmate of Dr. Seth Dokken had shadowed Fenstermacher during one of his rotations.

See **FENSTERMACHER** on page 3a



Feeling safe at home

Mary Sperley of Staples misses getting together with friends and family, but has been content to stay home during the Covid-19 pandemic. She especially likes watching birds and other wildlife from her kitchen window. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Public Notices

Township filings: **9A**

Obituaries

Barbara Longbella
Robert Mayberry
Charlotte Seely
Eugene Smith
Carole Winter



Thank you for subscribing!

The Virtual Madrigal Dinner Movie available on YouTube

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Thanks to the efforts of Nathan Thelen, Staples-Motley High School Choir Director, this year's Virtual Madrigal Dinner is available to all, at no charge. Determined to keep the long-standing tradition going, despite Covid-19, Thelen spent hours putting together a movie that includes music from both present and past choirs at SMHS, along with still shots of Madrigals spanning several decades.

The movie is available on YouTube. A link can be accessed at the school's website, or google '2020 Staples-Motley High School Virtual Madrigal Dinner-YouTube.'

It's a movie that is sure to bring back fond memories of those who have been a part of the Cardinal choirs over the years. Hear recordings of many of your favorite Christmas music from

the Renaissance era, including 'The Boar's Head Carol,' 'Gloucestershire Wassail,' 'Carol of the Bells' 'Lullay my Liking' 'We Three Kings' and 'Silent Night.'

Longtime choir director at SMHS, Stan Carlson, started the Madrigal Dinners in the early 1970s. Thelen was able to incorporate music from Carlson's past choirs into the movie, dating back to the 1976 Chamber Choir. Other recordings feature music directed by former choir director Steve Hoemberg, as well as choirs directed by Thelen. In addition to vocals, the movie soundtrack features beautiful instrumentation from the bell choir, recorders, strings and brass ensembles. Thelen noted the support he received in undertaking this project from current band director Dan Spandl and orchestra director Kristina Haataja.

Kevin Olsen, former science teacher at SMHS and longtime theatre director,

plays the role of the jester in this year's Madrigal Movie. In addition to his recorded introduction, you'll see photos of Olsen from past Madrigal dinners, as well as those of longtime jester Tom Girtz, a former speech teacher at SMHS.

The backdrop for this year's Madrigal Dinner was designed and painted by art teacher Jill Schneider and her painting class.

There are typically five to seven courses served at the Madrigal Dinner, Thelen noted. Viewers who would like to prepare a meal at home while watching the movie will be prompted to pause at the appropriate times. It is also possible to watch the movie in its entirety without pausing.

Although the Madrigal Dinner is different this year, Thelen has offered a gift to the community in preserving these rich memories which will be viewed by generations to come. Long live the Olde Madrigal Feast!



This year's King and Queens

King Nathan Thelen (Staples-Motley High School Choir Director) is flocked by his four queens prior to the making of this year's Madrigal Dinner Movie. The queens, from left, are Torii Nienow, Ja-

dyn Kincaid, Tabetha Allen and Rose Han. The girls are seniors and members of the A Cappella Choir. The royal group is pictured near the backdrop designed by art teacher Jill Schneider. (Submitted photo)



Clowning around

Speech and drama coach Tom Girtz (left) played the role of the jester and longtime choir director Stan Carlson was king at several Madrigal Dinners in Staples during the 1970s and '80s. (Screenshots from the Virtual Madrigal movie)



Beggars at the feast

There were usually four choir members cast as 'beggars' at the Madrigal Dinners. Dressed in burlap, faces smudged with coal, the students enjoyed traveling from table to table, 'begging' for gifts of food. Above, in the late 1970s are, from left, Neil Jennissen, Julie Sadusky, Gail Jasmer and Greg Dravis. (Screenshot)

Screenshots from The Virtual Madrigal Movie



Royal procession

King Stan Carlson and Queen Ruth Blom, both former choir directors at Staples-Motley High School, led the royal court in a procession at the Madrigal Dinner sometime during the late 1970s. Below, at the start of the procession, are the instrumentalists. From left are Randy Neumann, Susie Roberts, Brenda Voeltz and Tim Sanda. (Screenshots from the Virtual Madrigal movie)

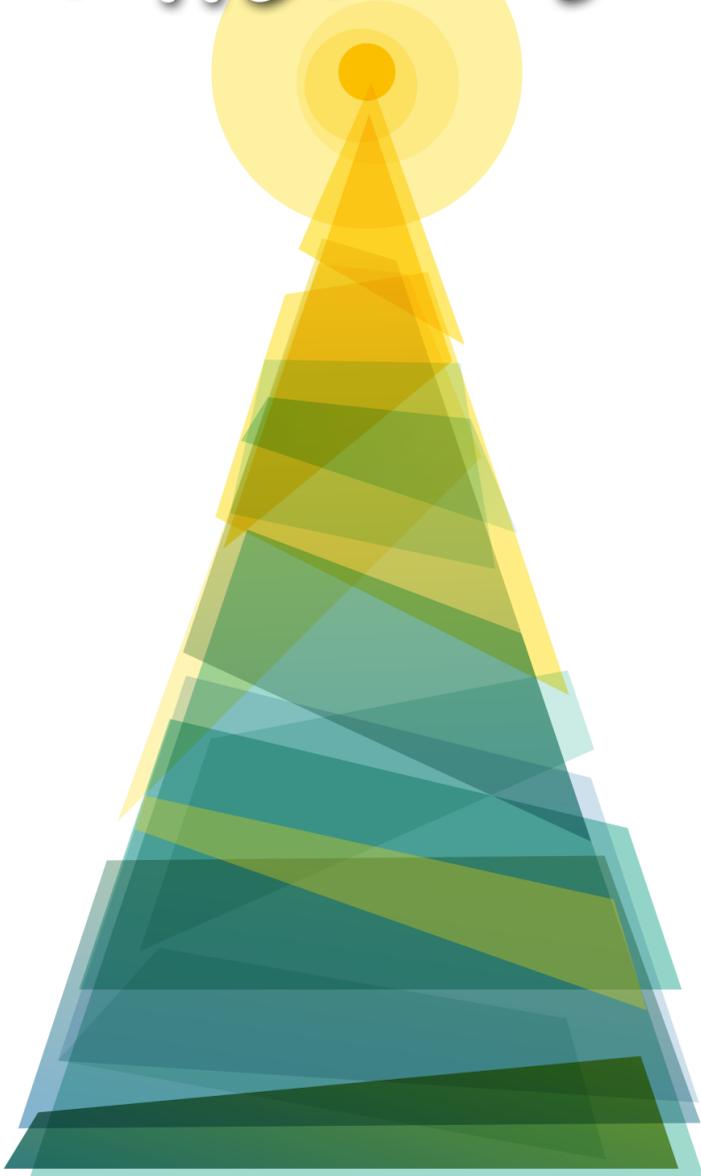


A toast to the evening

Pictured above are former high school staff members sharing a "toast" at a Madrigal Dinner in the mid-2000s. Above, from left are John Koopmann, orchestra director; Jeff Iverson, band director; Steve Hoemberg, choir director; and Kevin Olsen, science teacher and director of plays. Below at the 2012 Madrigal, back row from left are King Hoemberg and Koopmann. Students, from left, are Jordan Wick, Jordan Denning, Matt Stone and Andrew Nelson. During the reign of King Hoemberg, it was a tradition to hold a 'beard contest' during the time of the Madrigal Dinner.



Happy Holidays!



Though 2020 has tested us all like never before, it has been our privilege to serve you and our communities during this difficult time. Be well, stay safe, and know that we wish each and every one of you a blessed holiday season and happy New Year!



218-894-1515 lakewoodhealthsystem.com

SPERLEY continued from page 1a

Former student now helps deliver food

have been just wonderful," Sperley said of her friends who live a few blocks away from her home in Staples. They do her grocery shopping for her, and Barry recently set up a bird feeder outside of her kitchen window which has provided a lot of entertainment for Sperley. "I just had a cardinal stop by, and sometimes I see a pileated woodpecker," she said. And, of course, there's the Bates family from her church, whom Sperley said have been so

said, going on to note that either Jordan Goodwater or Eric Neznik (restaurant staff members) are the ones to stop by with her order. "We'll visit for a little while," she added, noting that these two gentlemen usually have a fun story or two to help brighten her day. "You know, Eric was a student of mine when he was in fifth grade (at Staples Elementary)," Sperley shared.

Other businesses have been equally accommodating, Sperley said. Although she's now able to drive, it is still difficult to get around without her walker. Sperley noted that Lindsey Hirshey from the Stomping Grounds often brings her coffee order right to her vehicle, and employees at local gas stations are willing to fill up her vehicle for her. Longbella Drug Store also delivers her medicine orders, and even Pastor Carlton Smee has served her communion at her home.

"This is a full-service town," Sperley said of Staples.

Sperley is grateful for the technology available in 2020, which helps with keeping in touch with people during a pandemic. Thanks to Zoom, she is able to participate in the Sunday coffee hour at Faith Lutheran Church and every two weeks, she "zooms" with her family. "There's about 25 of us," Sperley said, sharing that her relatives tune in from Florida, New Jersey, Tennessee and Wisconsin.

Like most people, Sperley looks forward to the day that she can physically spend time with her loved ones again. In the meantime, she's content at home, listening to music on MPR, watching the birds and other wildlife outside her kitchen window, knitting a hat or scarf, and visiting with friends who are only a phone call or email away.

“This is a full-service town,”

Mary Sperley, Staples

helpful to her along the way. She's so appreciative, Sperley said, to have such great friends.

The 80-year-old retired teacher lives at her childhood home in Staples. She's had health issues in recent months and because she lives alone, Sperley said she really can't risk getting sick.

That means staying home as much as possible, avoiding crowds and taking precautions on those rare occasions she is in public.

"I don't even like to go to the hospital," Sperley said, going on to note that following her recent hip surgery she was grateful to have rehabilitation services provided via home health care.

For someone who's used to being very social, Sperley has had to adjust her lifestyle since the onset of Covid. She hasn't physically attended a church service since last Christmas Eve, and instead of meeting friends for a meal at one of her favorite restaurants, Sperley gets to-go orders delivered to her home.

"Timbers delivers my lunch every day," Sperley

FENSTERMACHER continued from page 1a

Enjoys outdoor recreation

"Seth gave me a call, I interviewed and got the job," said Dr. Fenstermacher. "He's an awesome guy and an even better boss."

Dokken said it has worked out well. "He's been really great, he is involved with the community and gives back to the area."

Dr. Fenstermacher plans to volunteer to help coach the track and field team in the spring. He also is getting out onto the area landscape.

"Duck hunting is one of my favorite pasttimes," he said, "I like snowmobiling and hockey in the winter and in the summer we go to the family cabin near Hibbing."

Dr. Fenstermacher is not married but is trying to find a job for his girlfriend from optometry school to come to Minnesota. "She's from Arizona, but she's willing to brave the Minnesota winter," he said.



Staples Eye Clinic team

Front row, Staples Eye Clinic optometrists Dr. Seth Dokken and Dr. Jesse Fenstermacher. Back row, Brooke Dokken, Shaun Carr, Sadie Bendson, Gina Schafer, Mickey Farber and Diane Jasmer.

Brooke Dokken said "Dr. Fenstermacher has been a great addition to our team and our community. We are so excited to welcome him." Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

COUNCIL continued from page 1a

Court system changed because of pandemic

wastewater treatment plant.

Also at the meeting, the council approved increasing payout for the Staples Fire Department Relief Association schedule.

Legal services

The council approved legal services contracts with Joe Krueger for Todd County portion of the city and Kyra Ladd for the Wadena County portion of the city.

Both attorneys spoke during the online meeting. Krueger said with the pandemic, courts are putting more pressure on attorneys because they have been doing all their business by online meetings.

Ladd said traffic offenses were down in 2020 but personal property crimes were up, likely because of COVID-19 orders and stay at home restrictions. "We had to remake how to arrest and how to detain," said Ladd. "It slows things down quite a bit."

Community services as a sentence is also on hold because the pandemic places restrictions on the number of people in a vehicle or on a work site.

75 YEARS Ago - 1945

• Dec. 20, 1945 - According to reports received from A.G. Olson, Todd county's Veteran's Service Officer, 148 men and women have received their honorable discharges from military service. These 148 are all from the Staples community.

• Dec. 20, 1945 - Temperatures in Staples have hovered around the zero mark most of the time since last week, with the coldest being reported Tuesday morning of this week, when the coldest day of the season showed up. Thermometer readings

Compiled by Dawn Timbs

Tuesday morning stood at 20 degrees below zero. No let up in the present cold wave is forecast from the state weather man, and this section of the state can expect another cold wave close to the Christmas holiday.

• Dec. 20, 1945 - For the first time in five years the people of Staples and this community will celebrate the joyous Christmas season without the existence of a devastating war but with many homes missing the absent serviceman who has not yet returned from the scene of battle.

It is indeed a happy Christmas for the nation, recently emerged victorious from the most threatening wars of its existence. The fact that the scourge of conflict did not tear the continental area of this country does not mean that the hand of war was not heavy upon the land.

In celebrating the birth of the Prince of Peace the people of the United States exhibit a broad tolerance that makes the occasion a festival for all people, regardless of faith. The good humor that prevails, the kindly sympathy for the unfortunate and boundless efforts to bring happiness to boys and girls make the Christmas season's appeal universal.

50 YEARS Ago - 1970

• Dec. 24, 1970 - Five youths, ranging in age 8 to 11, admitted to the taking of outdoor Christmas lights from decorations at the homes of seven Staples residents, Staples Police reported this week.

The lights were taken from the outdoor decorations at the residences of L.W. Harter, Leon Stapher, Rolley Hull, C.W. Mohler, Oscar Sather, Lee Goff and Winston Zappe, Police chief William Card said.

The youths admitted the vandalism acts and agreed to replace all bulbs taken, the officer said.

• Dec. 24, 1970 - The Faith Lutheran Church Men recently held the election of officers for 1971.

Henry Kopka was chosen president of the group, succeeding Elmer Mickelsen. Robert C. Lee will serve as the new vice-president, with Melvin Backberg as secretary and Vernon Drake as the treasurer.

• Dec. 24, 1970 - Six persons received injuries in separate snowmobile accidents over the past weekend, according to information released by Staples Police officers.

Mrs. Lyle Johnson suffered a fractured leg and is confined to the Staples Municipal hospital. In another mishap, Virgil Crawford received injuries and is hospitalized.

Two young boys, Jeffrey and Joel Meech, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Meech, were injured in another separate snowmobile accident. It was reported that Jeffrey was treated at the hospital and released, but Joel was still confined on Tuesday.

Edwin Perry and his daughter, Diana, received

Looking back



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our Dec. 17, 1970 edition. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photos? Email your answers and where you are from

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



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo, published in the Dec. 17, 1970 edition of the Staples World, featured Staples High School basketball cheerleaders, from left, Karen Pipek, Diane Hajek, Lori Fearing, Julie Bredemeier and Paulette Goeden. Their advisor, not pictured, was Mary Klug.

Gary "Husker" Mayavski of Sauk

Center, a 1971 SHS grad, correctly identified all, except for Paulette Goeden, whom he guessed to be Alice Goeden. Mayavski also shared that he dated one of the girls, but wouldn't say which one. Fellow 1971 SHS grad Mike Koppes of Staples correctly identified all. Thanks for participating in our Mystery Photo.

minor injuries in the fourth snowmobile mishap over the weekend.

• Dec. 24, 1970 - Gary Mueller, son of Mr. and Mrs. M.A. Mueller, Staples, has been placed on the Brainerd Area Vocational School honor roll for the first quarter. Mueller is a member of the Landscape Tech. 1 program at the school.

25 YEARS Ago - 1995

• Dec. 21, 1995 - First place winner in the Staples Chamber of Commerce Christmas lighting contest this year was the display of Betty Klingaman and Chuck Tornow, located at 111 Third Avenue. Last year's winner, Rose and Mike Kaston of Rt. 1, Motley, and Bill and Terrie Brown, 703 Third Street, tied for second. The Browns are also past winners of first place.

First place winner in the Chamber's Christmas lighting contest's commercial division were Williams Floral, while Coast to Coast was second place. Trinity Lutheran won the religious category in this year's contest. First place winners in each category won \$50 Staples dollars and second place prize was \$25 Staples dollars.

• Dec. 21, 1995 - Approximately 200 people were honored with the "Season of Lights" sponsored by the Greater Staples Hospital and Care Center Auxiliary. Harriet Dent and LaVonne Selleck chaired the project.

• Dec. 21, 1995 - Letter to the Editor from Margaret Anderson, Staples - "As I sat watching T.V. last

Thursday evening, I was suddenly aware of other voices. I looked out the window to see a group of happy people singing carols to me! Peaches (my puppy) and I went to the door to be greeted so warmly and handed a fruit basket.

Now, wasn't that nice? To top it off, one of the men was shoveling my walk! They finished their carols and as they drove out of sight I heard them exclaim "Merry Christmas to all, and to all a Good Night!"

Thank you First Integrity people for making an otherwise ho-hum evening something joyful to sleep on! (I understand that I was one of many that you visited that night).

10 YEARS Ago - 2010

• Dec. 23, 2010 - The Staples Senior Citizens held their annual Christmas Party Dec. 16, at the Staples Community Center. Approximately 60 people attended the turkey dinner served with all the trimmings. Mrs. Claus - who looked like she

may be related to Martha Rach - welcomed each guest as they arrived. President Bob Sellnow was emcee; soloist Barb Cline provided the entertainment. Santa - who resembled Kevin Grondahl - gave each guest a candy cane and chatted with them. A humorous Christmas story was read by Mrs. Santa. Drawings were held for many prizes, including two \$25 cash prizes, which were won by Harriet Dent and Carol Olsen.

• Dec. 23, 2010 - Members of Faith Lutheran Church, Staples, presented a live nativity scene Dec. 19, to celebrate the season. Various people rotated into the different characters so they could take turns warming up inside the church.

• Dec. 23, 2010 - At least two vehicles collided Dec. 20, at the intersection of Hwy 10 and Cty Rd. 83, just east of Staples. Heavy snowfall began at about noon, and a number of accidents were reported throughout the afternoon.

Staples World
DEADLINES
Newspaper deadline for copy and advertising: 12 noon Fridays

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Vaccine distributions and reasons to be hopeful for 2021

By U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar

As 2020 draws to a close, there are many reasons to be hopeful that next year will be less challenging than this one. Studies have shown that two upcoming coronavirus vaccines are over 90 percent effective, meaning there is light at the end of the tunnel.

And as we look ahead, we must ensure that states have the resources they need to transport, store, and distribute these vaccines effectively—including in our rural communities.

A coronavirus vaccine is critical to protecting public health and getting our country back up and running. Currently, there are multiple types of vaccines under development, in addition to the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines that are first out of the gate.

As communities across the country await the first doses, a Center for Disease Control (CDC) advisory committee has recommended that priority be given to frontline health care workers, who have been true heroes in the face of this devastating crisis that has upended the lives of millions of Americans—including their own.

The committee has also recommended that the initial doses go to residents and workers in assisted living facilities, where the spread of this virus has had a devastating impact on some of our most vulnerable citizens. But ultimately health experts and officials in Minnesota have the discretion to decide how to distribute these vaccines in our state, as well as future vaccines that may come on to the market.

And they cannot do it alone. Storing, transporting, and distributing these vaccines is not a simple task and requires a great deal of coordination. After all, these vaccines won't just parachute into Thief River Falls, Luverne, or Grand Marais. Getting them to our residents will require fully functioning airports to receive them, trucks for transporting them around the state, pharmacies and community centers to help with distribution, and other important supplies.

One of the vaccines, for example, requires storage in a freezer of minus 103 degrees Fahrenheit. And while we have no shortage of snow and ice in Minnesota, that kind of cold storage means special facilities in locations around our state. Unfortunately, ultra-cold freezers like this can cost around \$10,000—well out of reach for most of our rural health care providers. And it is critical that communities all over our state—not just in the Twin Cities—can access them.

That's why I'm working to get the federal resources that states need to execute their plans to store, distribute, and administer the vaccines. This is a critical moment and Congress needs to act immediately to pass a coronavirus relief package that includes funding for vaccine distribution and helps our country get through the difficult months ahead.

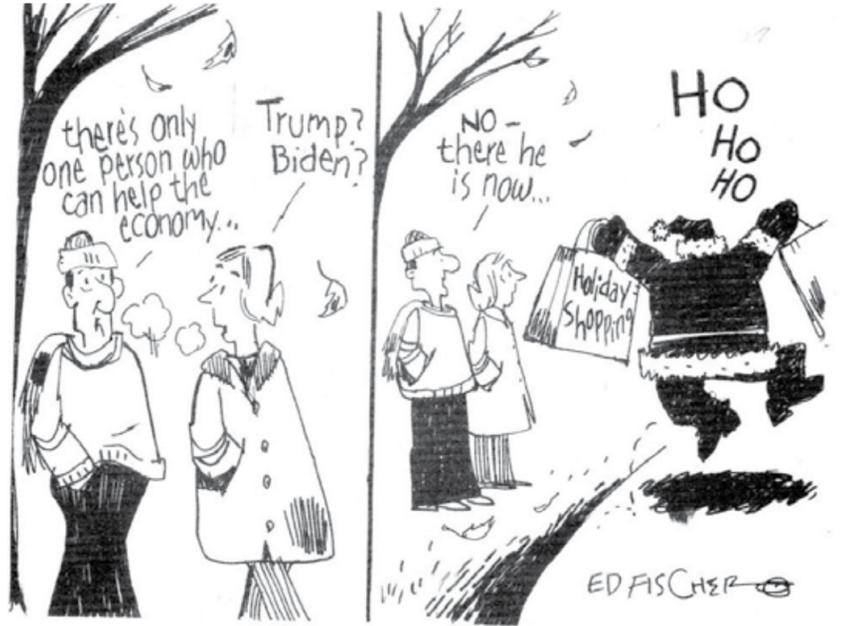
There is an initial bipartisan proposal that would do exactly that—including delivering major funding for vaccine distribution and for continued testing, which is critical to get ahead of this virus. The proposal also includes additional funding

for the Paycheck Protection Program and help for those who are out of work. Because ultimately, providing relief for our workers, schools, small businesses, restaurants, and small entertainment venues is the best way to help our economy get back on track while the vaccine is being widely distributed.

I have also called on the federal government to work with state and local officials immediately on the logistics for vaccine distribution. Minnesota has been a leader in this, and has already worked with the CDC and the Department of Defense to develop model approaches and best practices for other states to follow when a vaccine becomes available. And our own health systems—including the Mayo Clinic, Allina Health, and HealthPartners—have been hard at work studying the safety and effectiveness of coronavirus vaccines through trials and research.

There are many reasons to be optimistic as we look ahead to next year. And with the stakes this high, it is crucial that our country have both a plan and the necessary funding to get these vaccines out safely and efficiently. I am working in Washington to make sure these things happen and won't go home for the holidays until it gets done.

In the meantime, we must stay vigilant and continue practicing good public health and safety measures, like wearing masks and abiding by local public health guidelines. We will get through this, but it will require all of us working together, especially during the holidays.



Education, facility planning continues through quarantines

By Shane Tappe
Staples-Motley Schools Superintendent

Over the last month at Staples-Motley School District, though we have not experienced a COVID-19 outbreak at our schools, we have seen an increase in the number of staff and students who are following quarantine recommendations due to exposures from elsewhere. Due to this increase, we took a "pause" in our hybrid learning model for grades 9-12, and reduced our in-person learning days for grades 7-8 for two weeks.

Around the same time, the Governor's executive order pausing sports and activities was released. Though we are unsure when athletics and activities will be able to resume, we are grateful to have been able to bring the 9-12 students back on campus, and return our students in grades 7-8

to their full hybrid schedule after the Thanksgiving holiday.

I want to thank everyone for their patience and understanding as we continue to make the necessary adjustments to balance the safety of our Cardinal community with positive student learning experiences during the pandemic. I especially want to thank our staff. The pandemic has been an all-hands-on-deck situation and they've risen to the challenge remarkably.

While our focus remains on the day-to-day challenges of providing students with the support and services they need, we continue to explore our long-term aspirations as reflected in our Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP). Even as we navigate a pandemic, the CIP guides our pursuit of excellence and deep commitment to ensure every student thrives.

As part of this mission, we are working on a plan to address issues related to our aging school buildings. The average age of our facilities is 50 years old, with the oldest portion having been built in 1935. While the district has done a great job managing our facilities, there are needs that simply can't be met with our current budget. Mechanical equipment, exteriors and classrooms need significant investment to meet today's education and building standards.

Back in 2019, the school board presented an investment plan to improve our buildings that was rejected by voters. In conversations throughout the community after that election, we found that residents supported improving our schools, but they didn't believe the district presented the right plan that answered their most critical questions or concerns.

To make sure we are

putting forward a plan that aligns with our residents' priorities, the district has pursued additional community feedback through over a hundred one-on-one meetings with stakeholders and conducted staff and community surveys.

Meanwhile, the school district's Facilities Committee has been meeting regularly for almost a year and is considering two promising plans. Option A would involve remodeling and renovating our current facilities. The elementary and middle/high schools would be renovated, and each would receive a new addition to provide learning space for a modern curriculum.

Option B would create a single campus to serve Early Childhood through 12th grade. In this scenario, the school district would use the land around the elementary school to expand that building, creating an early education through Grade 12 facility on a single piece of property.

Of course, there is more work to be done before the school board chooses a plan to present to voters. Over the next few weeks the board will be considering the results of the Morris Leatherman survey from last month, as well as the input we have received from a variety of one-on-one and community meetings throughout this school year.

To learn more about the school district's facilities challenges and the solutioning process, I encourage you to visit our new website, SMTimeToRise.org. If you have questions or suggestions, you can always contact me at shane.tappe@isd2170.k12.mn.us or 218-894-5400.

Again, I want to thank everyone for your ongoing support during these challenging times.

Data shows Americans increased time with newspapers during pandemic

By Bob Sillick
Editor and Publisher Magazine

When the pandemic struck, news was as essential to the public as the most important household items they were panic-buying at stores or online. Although TV viewership increased, especially local channels more Americans also reached for a newspaper in many markets.

An April, 2020 Pew Research Center survey found 61 percent of respondents were accessing national and local news about the pandemic equally; however, 23 percent were more focused on local news, compared to 15 percent on national news. Half of all participants of a June, 2020 Pew survey said local news sources reported the facts more accurately than all news media in general, or 44 percent.

By definition, a pandemic is global in scale, but many Americans relied on local news to provide community

information of critical and personal importance.

Local Coronavirus topics adults 18+ were following "Very Closely" in local news:

- State/Local government actions 42 percent
- Goods in local stores 38 percent
- Status of nearby schools 30 percent
- Status of nearby businesses 29 percent
- Availability of testing 29 percent
- Status of nearby hospitals 28 percent
- Availability of unemployment/aid 25 percent

(Source: Pew Research Center, April 2020)

The importance of obtaining this information from local newspapers is clearly revealed in multiple 2020 market surveys conducted during the pandemic by The Media Audit, an international consumer research company.

The survey data revealed the time adults 18+ spent with newspapers

daily increased at higher rates (sometimes much higher) compared to 2019 and much higher rates spent with radio and TV.

The averages for 15 selected markets was a five percent decrease for daily minutes spent with radio, no change for TV and an 18-percent increase for newspaper.

In four of these markets, adults 18-34 increased their daily minutes with newspaper by at least 33 percent and in two markets, the increases exceeded 65 percent.

"It's difficult to know if these increases in average daily minutes among adults 18+ and adults 18-34 will continue after the pandemic," said Miller. "Nonetheless, more young adults have been exposed to newspapers, and likely many for the first time, motivating some portion to include newspapers in their future daily media mix."

Staples World

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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.
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Quote of the week
"Great leaders are almost always great simplifiers, who can cut through argument, debate and doubt, to offer a solution everybody can understand."
— Colin Powell





Staples holiday lights tour, treats, Dec. 22

Staples JCI sponsored event

Join JCI Staples (Staples Jaycees) at Unity Bank on Tuesday, Dec. 22, from 6 - 8 p.m. for hot chocolate from the Stomping Grounds and assorted cookies from the Staples Bakery.

After getting your coco and cookies, grab a map from one of the Jaycees and begin your holiday lights

tour through town. See the best light displays that our local residents have to offer and vote for your favorite as a family. The winner will receive a Christmas/winter-themed basket.

If you would like your house or business added to the tour, call 320-304-2571.

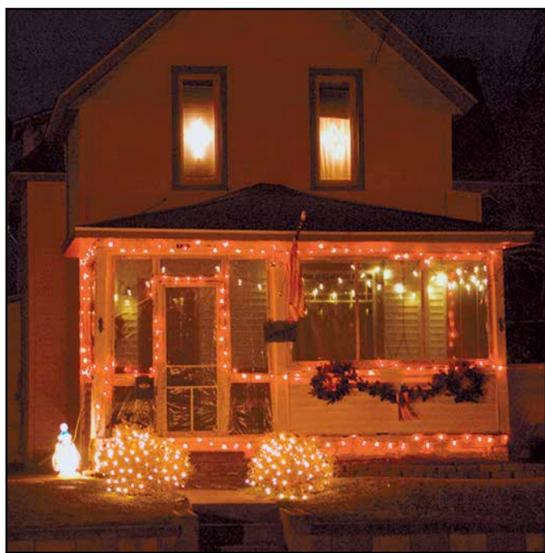


North Pole Lights Display at Pine Grove Park, Staples

The North Pole Lights Display at Pine Grove Park in Staples are being held every Friday, Saturday and Sunday through Jan. 3 (including Christmas Eve), from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. The drive-thru event is organized by the City of Staples Parks and Recreation Department, along with help from the Rob and Tricia Jasmer family of Staples.

There are over 25 different light displays in the park (a few new displays have been added this year),

with over two miles of extension cords being used. Due to Covid-19, there will be no refreshments available, but families are welcome to take photos with a life-size Santa that's set up at the end of the drive-thru. Named 'Covid-Friendly Santa' by Rob Jasmer, the cut-out was donated by Mary Kobliska of Staples and Staples Ace Hardware. Proceeds from the admission fee will benefit parks improvements. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Homey lights display

A group of simple decorations can make the best Christmas displays, like with this home in Staples. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



Pine Grove sweetness

Lollipops, candy canes and jumping gingerbread men are part of the Pine Grove Park forest of lights. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

COVID-19 declining everywhere except Staples

In the second week after Thanksgiving, the rate of new cases of COVID-19 is declining in every area community except Staples, which set a single week record for new cases. Weekly statistics by zip code came out Dec. 10, showing 67 new cases detected in Staples, after 41 were reported the previous week. The previous high for Staples had been 56, two weeks before Thanksgiving.

Motley stayed about the same, at 15 new cases, while Wadena and Long Prairie had about 10 fewer cases, at 48 and 27, respectively. Pillager cut cases dramatically, with nine new cases (down

from 28), as did Browerville with eight cases (down from 20).

Area counties also showed the state restrictions in November may be slowing the spread of the disease. Todd County had 115 new cases, the lowest number in the county for the past ten weeks. Wadena County had 91 new cases, after five straight weeks over 100, including more than 200 in three of those weeks. Other area counties had similar numbers showing a declining trend.

From the weekly data of Dec. 10, Todd County had 2,059 total cases, but 1,857 of them have recovered and no

longer need isolation, leaving more than 200 people in the county in isolation with the disease and many more who may have had contact with them are under quarantine.

Despite the declining numbers, there are new COVID-19 deaths in every county over the past two weeks. Todd County reported three deaths to bring their total to 15. Wadena had two recent deaths and now has a total of eight, Cass showed three new deaths for a total of 13, and Morrison registered eight deaths in the past two weeks and has a total of 37 deaths from COVID-19.

Staples-Motley school board agenda

The Staples-Motley School Board will meet in regular session Monday, Dec. 21 at 6:00 p.m. at the District Office, 905 4th St. NE, Staples.

On the agenda is the ICS - Referendum Process presentation to approve the recommendation to move forward with the two building plan; approve the Review and Comment to be submitted to MDE and approve the INTENT to move forward with "Plan B" if needed.

Other agenda items include the required annual resolution directing administration to make recommendations for reductions in programs and positions; Adoption of Policy #713 Student Activity Accounts; a resolution to establish combined polling places for 2021 (by Roll Call vote).

A reminder that if any individual or groups wish to be on the Community Forum, contact the board chair or superintendent by noon the Friday prior to the board meeting date.

Upcoming dates and meetings include:

Dec. 23 - Jan. 1: Christmas break; school offices CLOSED

Mon., Jan. 4, 2021: School Board Organizational meeting, 6 p.m. District Office. Seat new board members and set 2021 meeting schedule.

Tues., Jan. 19: Regular board meeting

THANK YOU
for making a difference!

Congratulations to these 5-Star employees



Front, left to right: Sarah Griffith, Stacy Willgohs, Linda Tepley
Back: Bryan Motl, Cindy Griffith, Patty Berg, Ron Murray

Sarah Griffith, RN-Wound & Ostomy; Stacy Willgohs, Social Services; Linda Tepley, CNA- Hospital; Bryan Motl, RN-Hospital; Cindy Griffith, RN-Hospital; Patty Berg, CNA-Hospital; Ron Murray, Joint Connections Coordinator

Nominated by Erika Kennedy: "I would like to nominate the following individuals: Bryan, Cindy, Stacy, Sarah, Linda, Patty and Ron, for the care that they provided to my husband. He was transferred to a swing bed at Lakewood where he rehabbed for close to a month. All of the staff that worked with him were great, but these individuals went the extra step by showing attention to detail, working with insurance companies, setting up home care with an RN, PT and OT, and explaining things thoroughly so that we felt reassured and comfortable for him to go home. This was a long road and we feel blessed that he received the support and care to be able to return home."

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Staples Police report

On Nov. 30, Staples Police received a report from Burger King of three people who went on their roof and caused damage.

On Nov. 30, Staples Police received a report of a female who was suicidal. Police arrived and transported the female to Lakewood emergency room for a mental health evaluation.

On Dec. 1, Staples Police received a report of LED lights stolen from a yard on the 500 block of 2nd St. NE.

On Dec. 1, Staples Police received a report of a theft of six candy cane style Christmas lights that are approximately 2 feet in height and 2 inch in diameter, from a residence on

3rd Street NE. The theft occurred sometime overnight.

On Dec. 3, Staples Police took the report of domestic assault at a residence on Long Prairie Road. Jennifer Blume, 37, of Staples, was arrested for misdemeanor domestic assault.

On Dec. 3, Staples Police responded to a domestic assault report at a residence on 7th Street NE. Justin Isley, 36, of Staples, was arrested for misdemeanor domestic assault and body mic recording during investigation.

On Dec. 5, Staples Police conducted a traffic stop and cited the driver for possession of a small amount of marijuana and possession

of drug paraphernalia.

On Dec. 5, Staples Police conducted a traffic stop and arrested Cameron Knight, 31, for possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, and driving after suspension. Knight was also given a verbal warning for speed.

On Dec. 6, Staples Police received a driving complaint regarding a wrong way driver on U.S. Highway 10 traveling westbound in the eastbound lane. Police observed the vehicle and was able to stop the driver and correct their actions. The driver stated the heavy fog had them confused and in the wrong lane.

Staples World
DEADLINES
Newspaper deadline for copy and advertising: 12 noon Fridays

NOW PAYING MORE PER MILE
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OPPORTUNITIES FOR:
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Folks seeking CDL training

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Wear a mask in public spaces.

Get tested if you have any symptoms.

Answer if your health department calls.

m MINNESOTA STAY SAFE MN



Obituaries

Charlotte Seely

Charlotte Seely, 76, of Browerville, passed away December 2, 2020.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Interment was held at the Motley Public Cemetery.

Charlotte was born March 20, 1944, to Paul Rexford and Alice Waneta (Smith) Seely in Staples. She was an only child. Charlotte lived in Browerville for over 30 years. She was employed for many years at STEP (formerly Todd County DAC) retiring in August of 2020.

Charlotte enjoyed going out to eat at her favorite restaurants, KFC, Subway and Angelina's. She was an avid Elvis fan. She enjoyed her daily walks at the Browerville High School and visiting with her friends.



Charlotte cherished all the friends she made in her life, reaching out and keeping in contact with many through letters and cards. She had a big heart, and enjoyed cats and babies.

Charlotte is survived by two aunts, Eva Coverston and Janice Coverston along with many friends and caregivers.

Charlotte is preceded in death by her parents; grandparents, David Gray Smith, Cora Elizabeth Alexander Coverston, George and Alice Thompson Seely and two uncles, Clem Coverston and Jim Coverston.

Arrangements were with Iten Funeral Home, itenfuneralhome.com.

w51c A00006B2020DC16

Barbara Longbella



Barbara Ann Longbella, 83, died Dec. 6, 2020, of Alzheimer's.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Barbara was the eighth of Daniel and Marian (Kisler) Spencer's 10 children, born Sept. 13, 1937, in Brainerd. She grew up in nearby Staples and would spend weekends walking to the downtown movie theater to see the latest musical and sing and dance all the way home, usually in the company of her sister, Jeanie.

Music, especially playing the piano and singing, would be a huge part of her life - as would her family, especially the one she made with our dad, Wayne Longbella, who she married on Feb. 3, 1962.

They made their home in Fargo and Moorhead while our dad went to college, but not long after he graduated, they moved to Glyndon, where they raised four kids and eventually welcomed seven grandchildren.

Our mom worked as

a church secretary for a few years, but mostly was our mom, the one who was always there, often with a crossword puzzle at hand, listening to or watching the Twins play baseball. She loved to garden but hated to cook. And she was always singing.

Alzheimer's disease robbed our mother of many things, but it never took away her goofy spirit.

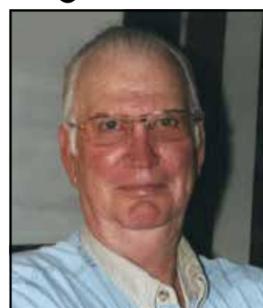
She maintained a passion for Doritos almost to the very end, adopted several baby dolls that she cared for, often tucking as many as four into her bed, leaving little room for herself, and even when she had no more words, the cadence of her speech had the rhythm of a funny story.

Barbara is survived by her husband, Wayne; three daughters, Maren (Jason Abraham) Longbella, West St. Paul, Ayn (Mel) Locklear, Glyndon and Robin (Matt) Ahonen, Dilworth; one son, Dane (Teresa) Longbella, West Fargo, N.D.; seven grandchildren, Matthew, Mei, Lin, Ming, Finn, Cass and Tess; two sisters, Carol Hyndman of St. Cloud and Jeanie Huebner of Staples; one brother, Dan (LaVyrle) Spencer of North Oaks, as well as many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers and four sisters.

Arrangements by Wright Funeral Home.

w51c A00006B2020DC16



Eugene Smith

Eugene "Gene" Smith, 77, of Fargo, ND passed away December 2, 2020, at his home with family at his side and under the gentle care of Red River Valley Hospice.

A public memorial service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, December 18, at the Schuller Family Funeral Homes' Verndale Chapel in Verndale, with Pastor Ken Uhren presiding. Go Rest High On The Mountain will be sung by Dan and Tammie Reger. A public visitation with family and friends will be held on Friday from 12:30 p.m. until the time of the services.

Military honors provided by the Elmer Goche Post 3922, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Wadena.

Burial will be in Philbrook Cemetery in Villard Township, Todd County.

Honorary pallbearers will be Dan Reger, Rudy Fellman, Larry Sather, Clyde Mertens, Don Strack, John Hoemberg and Jack Trudsdale.

Eugene "Gene" was born to Earl and Philomine (Strack) Smith on August 28, 1943, in Staples. He attended schools in Staples, then served in the U.S. Air Force for eight years. His very first job was on a dairy farm. He attended the Granite Falls Vocational Technical school in the Precision Machine program and worked for Ardell Products in the Twin Cities. Gene then worked as a Switchman for Northern Pacific Railroad and later Burlington Northern Sante Fe Railroad as a conductor and attained 37 years of experience.

Gene was united in marriage with Darlene (Fellman) Goodpaster on his birthday, August 28, 1969.

Away from work he filled his time with the outdoors as an avid hunter and fisherman. Gene and Darlene spent 16 winters in Corpus Christi, TX until Gene became too ill with COPD.

Gene is survived by his wife of 51 years, Darlene of Fargo, ND; three sons, Scott (Shari) Iverson of Circle Pines, Michael (Dena) Iverson of Staples and Bryan Smith of Wahpeton, ND; six grandchildren, Jay, Meagan, Shane, Heather, Jake and Holly; six great-grandchildren; four sisters, Mary Heltemes of West Bend, WI, Joyce (Larry) Garland of Slayton, Karen (Harold) Duda of Keystone, SD and Claudia Craft of Pillager (Red) Lowen of Nashwauk; former spouse Russell (Becky) Smith both of Staples.

Preceding Gene in death were his parents; one brother, Denny; one sister, Mikki and brother-in-law, Mathias Heltemes.

Arrangements by the Schuller Family Funeral Homes & Cremation Services, Wadena (www.SchullerFamilyFH.com).

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Hello World

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:

Born to Kasey Haehnel and Roman Siltman of Pine River, a baby girl, Avery Caroline weighing seven pounds, one ounce on December 4, 2020.

Born to Wendy and Jamie Tibbetts of Breezy Point, a baby girl, Amelia Rose weighing seven pounds, seven ounces on December 4, 2020.

Born to Rita and David Hibbitt of Brainerd, a baby girl, Lettie Marie weighing seven pounds, five ounces on December 4, 2020.

Born to Becca and Chad Lardy of Motley, a baby boy, Callan Mark, weighing nine pounds, two ounces on December 5, 2020.

Born to Abby Rees and Dakota Hanson of Brainerd, a baby boy, Hayes Bennett weighing six pounds, 13 ounces on December 7, 2020.

Born to Ariel Waldoch and Kristopher Gould of Brainerd, a baby girl, Ally Lynn

weighing seven pounds, 11 ounces on December 8, 2020.

Born to Kayla and Aaron Antony of Baxter, a baby girl, Mylen Marie weighing seven pounds, two ounces on December 8, 2020.

Born to Cherish and Corbin Sullivan-Verlarde of Wadena, a baby girl, AnnMarie Jean weighing eight pounds, 11 ounces on December 9, 2020.

Born to Bethani Mueller and Dylon Hanson of Detroit Lakes, a baby boy, Jacob Brian weighing eight pounds, three ounces on December 9, 2020.

Born to Caitlyn Mc-Knight and Stephen McCord, a baby boy, Waylon Stephen weighing seven pounds, seven ounces on December 9, 2020.

Born to Emily Furry and Levi Allen of Pine River, a baby boy, Wade Daniel weighing six pounds, 13 ounces on December 10, 2020.

Staples Area Church Directory

<p>Staples</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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 Sunlight (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.</p> <p>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 School 10:30 a.m. WEDNESDAY Teens Youth/Adults Bible Study 7-8 p.m.</p> <p>First Congregational Church, UCC firstcongregationalstaples@gmail.com 204 5th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2571 Worship 9:30 a.m. Fellowship, refreshments following service</p> <p>Faith Lutheran 430 12th Street, NE, Staples 218-894-1546 Pastor: Carl Larson Associate Pastor: Carleton Smees Sunday Worship Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School and Coffee Fellowship 10:05 a.m.</p> <p>Sacred Heart Church 310 4th St. NE, Staples Church 218-894-2296 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 8:00 a.m.</p> <p>Seventh Day Adventist 421 Dakota Ave. SE, Staples 218-894-0033 Saturday Worship 10:45 a.m. Sabbath School 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Thomaston Covenant 15940 251st Ave., Staples 218-894-3923 Pastor Scott Jorgensen Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Aldrich</p> <p>Balsamund Lutheran 19530 490th Street, Aldrich Eric Clapp 701-261-2394 (cell) Sunday Worship 8:15 a.m. Sunday School 8:30 a.m.</p> <p>Cushing</p> <p>Bethany Lutheran 25438 Bison Rd. Cushing, MN 320-747-2140 Pastor Carl Larson Associate Pastor: Carleton Smees www.bethanylutheran-cushing.org Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. WEDNESDAY Coffee Fellowship 9:30 a.m. Pancake Breakfast 11:45 a.m. 2nd Sunday, each month</p> <p>Lincoln Evangelical Free 1354 320th Street, Cushing, MN 56443 Phone: 218-575-2449 www.lincolnevangelical.org Facebook Live Office Hours: Tues. - Thurs, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Senior Pastor: Don Reigstad Community Life Pastor: Jim Brown Associate Pastor/Youth Joe Reigstad SUNDAY Church Worship Gathering 10:00 a.m. Facebook Live 10:00 a.m. YouTube Channel 10:00 a.m. WEDNESDAY Praise & Prayer 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Cushing Baptist 26298 Bear Rd., Cushing Pastor Don Hollmes 320-749-2583 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. WEDNESDAY Bible Study 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Leader</p> <p>Swan Valley Lutheran Leader 218-397-2470 Sandy Knight, Synodically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament Sunday Worship 9 a.m. January - July 9 a.m. July - January 11 a.m.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Motley</p> <p>Motley Free Methodist 33 Wellwood St. E Motley 56466 218-352-6888 Jim Johnson, Senior Pastor Charles Mallory, Associate Pastor Sunday Worship 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Facebook Live 9 a.m. WEDNESDAY Youth Group 6:00-7:30 p.m.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>United Methodist 847 3rd Ave. S. Lane, Motley 218-352-6466 Pastor Greg Leslie www.motleyumc.net Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m. Monday AA meeting 8:00 p.m.</p> <p>Oylen</p> <p>Oylen Alliance Cty. 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.</p> <p>Pillager</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Hewitt</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS) 524 Front Street, PO Box 116, Hewitt, MN Pastor Robin Fish Sunday School 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>United Methodist Church Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN Pastor Kenneth Uhren Sunday Services 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Verndale</p> <p>Verndale Alliance 109 NW Brown Street, Verndale, MN 56481 218-445-5619 Senior Pastor Tony Stanley Heath Bellows, Pastor of Student Ministries Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday Bible Fellowship Classes 11-11:45 a.m.</p> <p>Family Life Church 402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale 218-445-5568 VerndaleFLC@gmail.com Pastor Amos Sell 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 Chapel 6:30-8 p.m.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Immanuel Lutheran Church of Bartlett Township (LCMS) 17097 46th St. PO Box 37, Verndale Pastor Robin Fish Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m. WEDNESDAY Bible Study 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Verndale United Methodist 10 3rd Ave. SW, Verndale 218-445-5108 Pastor Brad Swowski Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Central United Methodist 5 Miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod rd) Pastor Chuck Horsager, 218-639-4225 Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Leaf River Township The Old Country Church Leaf River Twp., Wadena County Rd. 6 Info: 218-837-5690 - Open by arrangement</p>
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Submitted by Pastor Roy Miles, Staples Assembly of God

I ran across this descriptive example of seeing Jesus all around us at Christmas time, and thought I would share it with you.

-EVERGREEN TREE - Jesus is the one true God, eternal Isaiah 44:6 "Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel, and his redeemer, the Lord of hosts: 'I am the first and I am the last; besides Me there is no God.'" (NKJV)

Revelation 22:13 "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last." (NKJV)

-TINSEL ROPE - Jesus true man, came wrapped in flesh Philippians 2:5-11 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, "who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God," but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men, "and being found in appearance as a man, He humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross." "Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, "that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, "and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (NKJV)

John 1:14 And the word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. (NKJV)

-LIGHTS - Jesus is the light John 8:12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." (NKJV)

-STAR - always points upward Matthew 2:1-2 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the east and have come to worship Him." (NKJV)

-GIFTS - God gave his son John 3:16-17 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish

but have everlasting life. "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. (NKJV)

-THE COLOR RED - Blood, our redemption Matthew 26:28 For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. (NKJV)

Hebrews 9:22 And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission. (NKJV)

-THE COLOR GREEN - Eternal life, growing spiritually 1 John 5:11-15 And this is the testimony that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. "He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life." "These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God. "Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. "And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him. (NKJV)

-THE COLOR WHITE - purity and righteousness Isaiah 64:6a But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; (NKJV)

2 Corinthians 5:21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. (NKJV)

-GIFTS - Jesus is the best gift, but often unrecieved! Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, "not of works, lest anyone should boast. (NKJV)

John 1:11-12 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. "But as many as received Him; to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name. (NKJV)

Revelation 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. (NKJV)

~Unknown Author

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:

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<p>Central Building Supply Hwy. 10 West, Staples, MN 218-894-3794</p>	<p>Staples World Your community newspaper since 1890 224 4th St. NE, Staples, MN 218-894-1112</p>	<p>Tower Pizza Pizza, Pasta, Salads, Sandwiches Staples, MN 218-894-3299</p>	<p>Staples True Value "Just Ask Rental" Open 7 days a week. Staples, MN 218-894-3263</p>

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. As usual continue to email your Ministerial pastoral message to: jwinter@staplesworld.com

Robert Mayberry

Robert Kent Mayberry, 80, Motley, died December 11, 2020 at the Lakewood Health System Care Center, Staples.

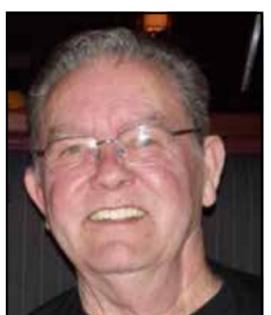
Services will be held Dec. 16, at 10:30 a.m. at the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel in Staples.

Interment will be at the Bridgeman Cemetery, rural Pillager.

Robert K. "Bob" Mayberry was born March 22, 1940 in Council Bluffs, Iowa to Lucius Raymond and Ferril (Lindgren) Mayberry.

Bob's family moved across the Missouri River to Omaha, NB. He was the youngest of four children, attended school and met his future wife, Jeneane Welling. They were married September, 1959 and started their family in Omaha. In October, 1972, they moved with their three young daughters to a small hobby farm east of Motley which they stated countless times, "was the best decision they ever made."

He took after his father, working the majority of his adult life in sales all the



while hunting and fishing as much as he could in his spare time. Fishing was his all-time favorite hobby.

Bob is survived by two daughters, Kelly (Patrick) Bienusa of Duluth and Dana Fischer of Motley; one sister, Marilyn Petrik of Castle Pines, CO; nine grandchildren, Corey Gibson, Heather Campbell, Jessie Griffith, Jordan Mayberry, Beth Griffith, Becky Griffith, Taylor Bienusa, Tanner Fischer and Madison Fischer; two

great grandsons, Gabe Gibson and Aiden Bounds; as well as many nieces, nephews and special friends.

He was preceded in death by his beautiful wife of 54 years, Jeneane; his parents; step-mother, Louise Mayberry; two sisters, Betty and Janice; one daughter, Kimberly Griffith and one son, Randy Mayberry.

Arrangements are by the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel of Staples, www.brenny.com.

w51c A00006B2020DC16



Local Shopping

Staples World

Wednesday, December 16, 2020

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Holiday shopping is critical for small businesses

By University of Minnesota Extension

With COVID-19 impacting retail at all levels, University of Minnesota Extension Educator Ryan Pesch discusses the importance of supporting local retail this holiday season.

Q: How important is retail to my local community?

Pesch: Retail is an important part of the whole economy, accounting for 5% of Minnesota's total economic output and 7% of the state's employment. The impact is even greater in small towns where locally-owned retail makes for a greater share of stores. Retail sales provide goods and services directly to consumers. Retail stores also add vibrancy to business districts and provide critical products to residents. When Main Street looks active and healthy, it affects the way people feel about their community.

Q: Does it matter where I chose to do my holiday shopping?

Pesch: In short, yes. In economics, we break up impact into different parts to understand their effects, both how wages paid affect an area and

how dollars flow from one business to another to get goods on the shelf. Research shows that independent businesses typically use more local business services such as accounting, legal and printing. There is a spillover effect to those other local businesses. Whether you are shopping at a national chain or a local independent retailer, wages are paid to workers. However, a family-owned and operated business also supports the income of local business and building owners.

Q: How do I figure out which stores have the biggest impact on my local economy?

Pesch: Imagine two independent gift shops you may visit during the holiday shopping season. One shop carries all local or regional products; it will have a greater economic impact than the other shop that only carries imported products. The supply chain matters.

You can think about your local economy like a leaky bucket. When dollars flow out of your area, whether to another region, state or country, they are lost. Economic development officials like to talk about money recirculating,

but that only happens when those dollars stay in your region and aren't lost to an out-of-state wholesaler or international manufacturer.

Instead of income only for the shop owners and their workers, now many more businesses in your region are involved. The local supply chain that manufactures a home fixture or food product has a ripple effect throughout a range of industries, from local farms to manufacturers to wholesalers to marketing firms. These industries have their own suppliers and workers and this demand has its own ripple effect.

Q: Does my individual spending really matter much?

Pesch: Certainly, one household's purchase will not float an entire storefront. But, collectively, multiple households directing their spending to local businesses during this holiday season may make all the difference. During COVID-19, some Americans have taken to "adopting a business" to support that one store or business they most appreciate. When you spend at a local business, tell the owner about your commitment. It can give both a monetary and

emotional boost when store operators most need it.

Main Streets across Minnesota are more quiet than usual during the pandemic due to executive orders closing businesses and residents changing their shopping patterns. Both residents and economic development officials are concerned these negative impacts may push retail establishments to close permanently. Small business owners are not simply employers and sources of goods; they're also friends and neighbors.

Q: How does University of Minnesota research help communities figure this out?

Pesch: Our team in Extension helps community leaders learn about and develop their economies, both to improve the quality of life and wealth of their residents. A common hope of residents, business leaders and politicians is a bustling downtown, and we are often asked to research the opportunities to achieve it.

In 2018 we did a study about small retail grocery operations that focused on local, natural and organic foods. We found that for every \$1 of sales at these stores, an additional \$0.60 was generated

in the region — three times the economic impact of typical food and beverage chains. The amount of goods stores purchased from local producers explains this higher impact. Additionally, these stores' focus on local foods attracts shoppers and drives customers to spend more.

Our research confirmed the positive economic benefits that those in the local food movement have spoken about for a long time. This is the type of applied research that can support the efforts of economic development leaders to find their focus and provide the type of business development that benefits all of us.

Ryan Pesch is a University of Minnesota Extension educator in community economic development who has worked in West Central Minnesota since 2004. Pesch has developed and delivered Extension programming in eCommerce, business retention and expansion, tourism development and retail market analysis. Pesch also pursues work in community food systems, focusing on successful development strategies for direct farm marketing and research on the local foods market.



Sports

Staples World

Wednesday, December 16, 2020

Plan ahead to avoid, or survive, an on-ice mishap

The most remarkable of a northern winter's changes is the transformation of our waters from marching waves and meandering streams to the frigid immobility of ice. We take it for granted. But to those who live where open water is their year-round reality, the change is nothing short of miraculous. The idea that an angler could walk on water—or drive a vehicle, no less—is stupefying to a warm climate resident.

Mike Rahn

Inside the Outdoors

at first; maybe not even a snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle. The first to be out on winter's ice will fish within virtually weightless portable shelters, or with no shelter at all. The large, pull-behind "castle" style angling shelters with all the comforts of home will not be in the first wave.

If an angler is properly cautious he'll test ice thickness frequently with an ice chisel or auger to judge the safety of venturing over water that is farther from shore. Or follow a trail broken by others who have hopefully observed sound ice fishing protocols and made good decisions. The angler who wants to avoid becoming a statistic will bear in mind that the safe ice he's standing on is the only ice he can be absolutely sure of, especially in early winter.

Unfortunately, every winter we can expect several ice fishing-related deaths. The average in Minnesota over a recent five-year period was just over three deaths per winter, with a spike of five deaths during the winter of 2018-2019.

It's risky to generalize

about the factors that contribute to fatalities, but some factors stand out. ATVs, snowmobiles, and even highway vehicles are commonly involved, and it's not difficult to understand why. There is the obvious weight factor. Then, too, any such vehicle will cover ground faster than a person on foot, thereby accelerating the potential and reducing the time it takes to move from safe ice to weak ice. Traveling at night, and venturing onto ice where few have been traveling before you, are also factors.

It's enlightening, if not totally unexpected, to hear what a medical expert has to say about the cause of death—and why—in the majority of these deadly events. Valuable, too, is the advice offered to improve one's chances of survival.

Dr. Howard Donner was a Mount Everest expedition physician, and co-author of The Field Guide to Wilderness Medicine. He noted in a 2013 article in Outside Magazine that the typical cause of death when a recreationist falls through the ice is not hypothermia, but drowning. He pointed out that death from hypother-

mia can be an hours-long process. But loss of muscle function can be expected to occur within three to 10 minutes of being immersed in near-freezing water. With that loss of muscle function goes the ability to extract oneself from the water, or remain afloat by one's own efforts. "If you don't get out now, you are never going to," he said.

Early season ice anglers can take some precautions beyond the obvious protocol of frequently checking the soundness of the ice they are traveling on. One is to wear a personal flotation device while traveling to their on-ice fishing destination, which can be shed when you've established that the ice is safe where you will be angling. If, God forbid, you fall through, this flotation will help you stay afloat so you can use your energy for getting back onto the ice, not treading water. It can also help counteract the potentially deadly gasp reflex, an automatic bodily response when immersed in cold water. If your head is underwater when this happens, you'll take in water, not air. Without flotation this may be repeated, and

then drowning is a probable outcome.

In this 2013 article Donner recommended that on-the-ice trekkers have something sharp on them to grip the ice surface to aid in pulling their body out. But ice anglers had this one figured out long ago. There are inexpensive commercial ice pick-like devices—a pair tethered by a stretchable phone-type cord—made to be worn around the neck and kept within easy reach. Even before these came on the market, some safety-minded ice anglers were making their own, using palm-sized wooden dowels or short sections of garden tool handles into which stout nails or spikes were mounted.

Rather than using just your arms to pull yourself back onto the ice, Donner recommended making like a seal, using one's legs for propulsion to aid the arms while sliding out and onto the ice almost horizontally. Then roll, don't stand, until you are confident there is sound ice beneath you. And, perhaps obvious, anyone who has fallen into near-freezing water should get to a source of warmth

as soon as possible.

Also important, at least early in the season, is to fish with a buddy to insure that help is nearby if the unthinkable happens. Keep some distance between you if there is any doubt about ice safety, so that both of you don't go through the ice together. A coil of rope to aid in an unplanned rescue is a worthwhile piece of additional gear. Fishing can be better at times of low light, but it can add to the risk of misjudging conditions, and reduce the chances of others witnessing a mishap—or hearing cries for help—and coming to your aid. Weigh the importance of being on the ice at such times until the ice is known to be truly sound.

Contemplating this kind of "preventive medicine" may seem like watching a TV ad for a name brand drug, and—hearing all of the potential side effects—wondering if the cure is worse than the disease. But considering the unpleasant possibilities, and guarding against them is the best insurance that an ice angler will live to fish another day.



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NOTICES

101

Card of Thanks

The Staples '93 Lions would like to thank the Staples and Motley communities for their support of our "Christmas for Kids" Service Project this year. We served 86 families including a total of 222 kids.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from Staples '93 Lions
 51c

107 Notices

MAGIC FOREST CHILDCARE CENTER: STAPLES has immediate INFANT OPENING. Ages 6 weeks to 10 months old, full time spot. For info., call 218-895-5330. Ask for Miss Stacy, Nicky or Jessie.
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Staples World

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

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NOTICE OF FILING MORAN TOWNSHIP

Notice is hereby given to the residents of Moran Township that filing for Township Offices will be open on December 29, 2020 and close on January 12, 2021 at 5 p.m.

The offices to be filed for are: One (1) Supervisor for a three (3) year term; One (1) Treasurer for a two (2) year term and One (1) Clerk for a one (1) year term. Candidates may file at the clerks office at 28316 410th St., Browerville, Mn. Because of COVID, please call the clerk at 218-831-0929 to make arrangements before filing.

Teresa Wagner, Clerk.
51-52pnc

NOTICE OF FILING BARTLETT TOWNSHIP

Bartlett Township is accepting filings for:

- Supervisor for a three (3) year term
- Treasurer for a two (2) year term

The filing period for these offices opens at the home of the Clerk on December 29, 2020 and closes at 5:00 p.m. on January 12, 2021 Filing fee is \$2.00

Please contact Jan Jares at 218-640-3176 to file for office or at the Clerk's home, 47810 193rd Ave, Aldrich, MN.

Jan Jares, Clerk
51pnc

NOTICE OF FILING STAPLES TOWNSHIP

Staples Township is accepting filings for:

- Supervisor for a three (3) year term
- Treasurer for a two (2) year term

The filing period for these offices opens at the home of the Clerk located at 48301 County 21, Staples, on December 29, 2020 and closes at 5:00 p.m. on January 12, 2021. Filing fee is \$2.00.

Please contact Bonnie Thoele at 218-296-2151 to file for office.

Bonnie Thoele, Clerk
51-52pnc

NOTICE OF FILING THOMASTOWN TOWNSHIP

Thomastown Township will hold an election for one (1) Supervisor for a three (3) year term and one (1) Treasurer for a two (2) year term. The filing period for these offices opens on December 29, 2020 and closes on January 12, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

To file for office, contact Stacy Dukowitz at 218-296-0834.

Stacy Dukowitz, Clerk
51-52pnc

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

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

DATE OF MORTGAGE: April 12, 2017

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$122,550.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Jacob Meyer, a single man

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for United Wholesale Mortgage

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on April 13, 2017 as Document Number 503546 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper by assignment recorded on December 17, 2019 as Document Number A517474 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The North Half of the South Half of the Northwest Quarter (N1/2 S1/2 NW1/4) of Section Twenty-three (23), Township One Hundred Thirty-one (131) North, Range Thirty-four (34) West of the Fifth PM., according to the United States Government Survey thereof, Todd County, Minnesota.

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 35614 205TH AVE, CLARISSA, MN 56440

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Todd County, Minnesota.

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$132,639.27

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: United Wholesale Mortgage

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 07-0027201

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 100032412170200270

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

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

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: January 28, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

PLACE OF SALE: Todd County Sheriff's Office, County Detention Center, 115 Third Street South, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is twelve (12) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on January 28, 2022.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE

WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERLY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: November 25, 2020

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC D/B/A MR. COOPER Mortgagee

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THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

50-6pnc

COUNTY PRINTING TODD COUNTY - MINNESOTA

Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners of Todd County, will receive sealed bids until 4:00 p.m. Friday, January 3, 2020 at the County Auditor-Treasurer's Office. Bids will be opened at the County Board meeting on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 9:05 a.m. in the County Board Room, for publication for the year 2020 as may be required by the County of Todd, a municipal corporation, as follows:

Designation of the Official Newspaper

This requires the publishing of official proceedings by the Todd County Board, and other legal and public notices required by all Todd County Departments, publication of the financial statement and publication of the list of lands in Todd County, delinquent in taxes for the year 2019, which have not been attached to prior judgment. The successful bidder will be required to furnish a performance bond in such amount as may be determined by the County Board. The County Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids if in its judgment of the public interest so require pursuant to M.S. 279.07, and to waive any informalities therein.

Denise Gaida
Todd County Auditor/
Treasurer

51-52pnc

COUNTY PRINTING TODD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Designation of Extra Printing

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Commissioners of Todd County, Minnesota will receive sealed bids for the extra publication of the Financial Statement for the year 2019 as required by law until 4:00 p.m., Friday, January 3, 2020. Bids will be opened at 9:05 a.m. on January 7, 2020 in the County Board Room.

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

Denise Gaida
Todd County Auditor/
Treasurer

51-52pnc

Staples-Motley School Board Minutes

Journal the meeting. MC
51pnc

SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION - MEETING #6 Mon., Nov. 2, 2020, 6:00 p.m. District Office

MINUTES

Call to Order

The Work Session was called to order by Vice Chair Anderson. Attending in person were Longbella, Freeman and Lund. Frisk, Anderson and Winkels attended remotely (comprising a quorum). Also attending: Supt. Tappe; Business Services Regan and Herdegen; Mike Hubbard and Dave Bergeron, ICS Consulting, Principal Schmidt; several community members and students; and Recording Secretary, Madson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Lund, seconded by Frisk, to adopt the agenda. MC

Facilities Information and Discussion

Mike Hubbard, ICS Consulting, presented a Facilities Committee Progress Update to the Board.

- Review of the Project Schedule
- District Valuation and Tax Impact

o A bond referendum would be based on the net tax capacity of the district and the tax burden is spread across all landowners.

o The Median Home Value in our district is \$125,000

o By 2023, the state will pay 14.4 percent (%) of the district's bond payments through the Ag2School Tax Credit, which equates to \$9.28 million

- Look at the facility options

Rational was included for several facility options which included age appropriate education, secure entrances, efficiencies, provide proper eating areas, provide flexible learning space, and supporting all learners.

- Review of Operational savings
- Scientific Survey

o A survey will be conducted by the Morris Leatherman Company from Nov. 9 through Thanksgiving with results presented to the Board at the Dec. 7 Work Session. These questions would be directed to 400 registered voters across the district. This will provide information regarding plan options, tax tolerance, Board and administration performance, etc.

Motion by Frisk, seconded by Longbella, to adjourn the Work Session at 7:14 p.m. MC

51pnc

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING - #5 Mon., Oct. 19, 2020 6:00 p.m. District Office

MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order with Longbella, Winkels, Frisk, Freeman, Anderson and Lund present (comprising a quorum). Also attending: Supt. Tappe; Business Services Herdegen and Regan; Principals Johnson and Schmidt; Mike Hubbard, ICS Consulting; Deb Ferdon, Curriculum; about ten employees, students and community members; Mark Anderson, Staples World; and Bonnie Madson, Recording Secretary.

Motion by Freeman, seconded by Frisk, to approve the addition of items 11a and 11b. MC

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Lund, to adopt the agenda. MC

Chair Winkels recognized the public and thanked everyone for attending.

School/Community Forum - None

Facility Updates

Mike Hubbard, ICS Consulting, presented results from the staff survey (approx. 95) and community stakeholder survey (237).

ISD #2170 SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING #7 CANVASSING ELECTION RETURNS Nov. 12, 2020, 6 p.m. District Office

AGENDA

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order with Longbella, Winkels, Frisk, Freeman, Lund and Anderson (remote) present. Also attending: Supt. Tappe, Staples World Managing Editor, Anderson and Recording Secretary Madson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Freeman, seconded by Lund to adopt the agenda. MC

Canvass Returns for November 3, 2020 School Board Election

1. Abstract and Return of Votes Cast (Review of the Abstract)

a. Clerk's Certificate as to Abstract and Return of Votes Cast. A total of **11,641** votes were cast

Bryan Winkels	2,648
Jeremy Reeck	2,529
Lisa Anderson	2,489
Erich Hepner	2,044
Greg Frisk	1,872
"Write In"	59

2. Resolution Canvassing Returns of Votes

Motion by Frisk, seconded by Longbella, to approve the Resolution Canvassing Returns of Votes. MC

3. Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Certificates

Motion by Freeman, seconded by Frisk, to approve the Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Certificates. MC

4. Accept the Certificate of Election

Motion by Lund, seconded by Frisk, to accept the Certificate of Election. MC

Certificates will be given to new members and Oath of Office will be taken at the first meeting in January 2021.

Adjourn

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Freeman, to ad-

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DEADLINES
Newspaper deadline for copy and advertising: 12 noon Fridays



University/College... To go or not?

By Tony Ngyuen

People think that a diploma from an University is the fastest and easiest way to succeed. That's why the question of whether we should go to college or university is a tough question that not everyone can answer.

So first of all let's see what are the pros and cons of attending a college/university:

- Pros:**
1. Become an expert in what you love.
 2. Prepare a specific career path.

3. Develop transferable skills.
4. Diploma will make you more valuable and more reliable from other companies.
5. Have more friends as well as to build a stronger relationship.

- Cons:**
1. It's boring.
 2. It's expensive.
 3. A degree doesn't guarantee you a job.
 4. You will be committing at least three years of your life.
 5. You might change your mind.
- Due to the cons, many



teenagers have chosen the path of not attending college. But is it a better choice? Let's find out:

- Pros:**
1. Being self-taught is always better than being blindly educated.
 2. You may earn a lot of money from start-up.

3. Gaining independence.
4. You're saving a lot of money that could be used for college.
5. No certification but knowledge, life experience and strong relationships to others start-up/business people.

Cons:

1. Work much harder than other people/ university students.
2. Weaker transferable skills.
3. Too much risk in life, people out there are very unpredictable and you may succeed today but have nothing tomorrow.

In conclusion, choosing to study university or not is your choice. Your life will be good or not depending on how hard you try. Sometimes taking other successful people as an example

is very good but if they succeed doesn't mean you will be like them. Each person has their own path, their own way to plan for their future. No matter whether we choose to study college or not, always try your best, don't give up and success will come.

Sources:
<https://careers.workopolis.com/advice/seven-reasons-not-to-get-a-university-degree/>
<https://blog.studentlifeforum.com/2020/12/03/dont-go-to-universityserious-argument/>
<https://foundersguide.com/the-pros-and-cons-of-not-going-to-college/>



Senior Ava Schneider's painting.



Eighth grader Aliza Qureshi's drawing of an "Among Us" character.



Ninth grader Bailey Weiland's drawing for Art Basics

"History Headlines, and Hollywood"

By Brayden Salcido

"History, Headlines, And Hollywood" is a class high schoolers can take at Staples-Motley. The class is taught by Mrs. Vangness. Mrs. Vangness says the purpose of this class is to, "see how Hollywood portrays historical events" and "learn about world wide current events". I am in this class and I love

it. We watch historical movies and a lot of the assignments are based off of those movies. This isn't an "eat popcorn and watch movies" class. I mean, even though you do that in this class, Mrs. Vangness wants you to learn American History through the movies. Mrs. Vangness also makes this class really fun. We are constantly laughing but yet learning in her class. I really recommend this class.



Senior Charlize Martin's pottery for her independent study

Hunger?

By Andria Dolezal

During the season of thankfulness and giving, many tend to forget that there are those who don't have much. Some have their reasons for not wishing to rely upon other help and support. The motto of the Motley Area Food Shelf is "Serve those with dignity and respect." This nonprofit organization has had a busy few months. On average, before Covid-19 struck they were feeding about 12 to 18 families a week. In the past week they have fed 33 families.

"I miss the clients. Mostly the interactions and the social side because sometimes we are the only other people some people see

in a week(s)," said Mrs. Sherry Miller-Frisk.

Due to Covid, the food shelf has seen numbers rise. Some changes made are: People are not allowed to be inside the building. They have to fill out a paper and knock on the door, the groceries are brought outside and the client puts groceries in their vehicle and volunteers bring the cart back in and they are sanitized. Volunteers are recommended to wash their hands often, use hand sanitizer and wear their masks. People don't come in and socialize like they used to. They don't get to see the people and interact with them because of Covid.

They are in short supply of

paper towels and spices for cooking and baking, canned veggies, egg noodles, dry navy beans and personal hygiene products.

"The need is out there. One in eight persons go to bed without enough food and one in five are children," Mrs. Sherry Miller-Frisk said when asked what the people should know. During Covid they have had a rise in donations and more people coming into the food shelf.

The food shelf is open Thursdays 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and the last Thursday of the month 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and is located at: 697 3rd Ave. S. Motley, MN 56466 Or call: 218-352-6344.

Staples-Motley REACH Program

By Erin Lustila

This school year the district is providing a new program for grades 7-12 called REACH. This program is run by Kesha Holst and Brenda Alexander.

REACH stands for- Relationships - We have built relationships with the teachers and the other students in the classroom.
Education - We focus

on passing all of our classes and limiting the amount of missing assignments.

Accountability -We focus on personal accountability in our own success in school. Character-we work on character lessons each week that include- gratitude, empathy and team building activities.

Hard Work- We put as much time and effort as we can into our assign-

ments. We work hard in REACH everyday.

What I have gained from joining the REACH program- I have gotten so many assignments done. REACH and the teachers have helped me so much mentally. They are not



just teachers but they are also comforting people and you feel safe and tell them how you really feel without feeling like you're being judged.

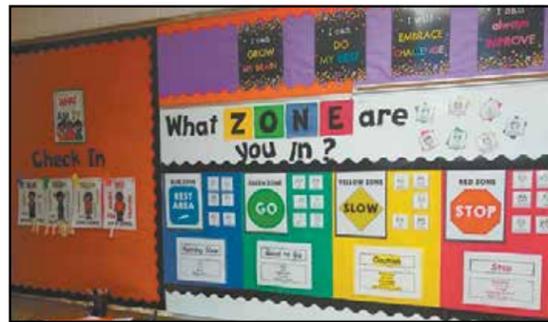
The Zones of Regulation

By Isabelle Dobson

At Staples-Motley Elementary the kindergarten students are working with Mrs. Prestridge on The Zones of Regulation curriculum by Leah Kuypers. This program is to help them better understand their emotions and to reconnect with their class.

There are four different zones of regulations: green for small problems, yellow for medium problems, red for big problems and blue for when you need a rest.

In the green zone, kids are happy, focused and ready to learn. Blue, the rest zone, is for when kids may feel sad, tired,



sick or bored. To get back into the green zone they could take a break, ask for a hug, or draw a picture. In the yellow zone kids may feel silly, worried or frustrated. In order to get back to green the kids could take a break, talk to a teacher, or use a stress relief tool,

for example take deep breaths. When in the red zone the kids may feel angry, yelling, and/or out of control. To get the green zone you can take a break, count to ten, or talk about the problem.

It is important for kids to learn how to manage their emotions and find

ways to get back to the green zone in order to be the best students they can be. With the help of Mrs. Prestridge, the kindergarteners are well on their way to having a well focused education.

Two students joined Mrs. Prestridge in an interview to talk about the Zones of Regulation. Easton Seely from Mrs Kempton's class shared the book "The Way I Feel" by Janan Cain was his favorite book about feelings. Piper Noska from Mrs Martin's class shared the strategy about using different sized colored blocks to help understand when a problem is small, medium or big.

The Cardinal Call Out is a new initiative to spread positivity throughout our district. Staff and students are able to give someone a "call out" to recognize someone for spreading positivity in the school district.



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