



Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Staples World

Staples, Minnesota

\$1

Music class

Mary Moen, SM Elementary music teacher, has focused on teaching music reading skills to her students during the pandemic. (Photo submitted by Vicki Serich)

Community projects moving forward despite COVID-19 pandemic

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples LEAP (Leadership, Engagement, Advocacy, and Positiveness) nonprofit board met in an online meeting on Dec. 4 to give updates on what is happening in the community.

"It is important to talk about our community and move things forward," said Board Chair Tim Rice. "How do we support each other? We really need to be there for each other at this time."

Welcoming Communities
The Staples Welcoming Communities advocacy group was formed from a Region Five program.

One of the projects the group is pursuing is to read stories from a different perspective than the community is used to. The group can receive a grant for a community event centered around a book selection. They have identified "An American Sunrise," a book of poetry by Joy Harjo, who was recently featured by Central Lakes College. The book also has connections to music. The event and project is being scheduled for September, 2021.

Tourism marketing
The tourism and marketing committee is making a plan to transfer the funds from the lodging tax to the Staples Chamber of Commerce. The tourism board would still meet

to oversee the funds, but the activities would be coordinated by the chamber.

Marketing coordinator Renee Kroll said they decided to freeze their budget in 2020 because of COVID-19, but are now starting to do more things, including advertising online and in the Explore Minnesota tourism magazine. They will also advertise on the new snowmobile maps for Todd and Wadena counties.

"Not many communities have this laundry list of things that we have," said Kroll. "How do we present that better?"

Kroll said they are starting to promote the Staples area as a destination location for outdoor adventures, including outdoor weddings, engagement photo sessions.

The board will look to advertise in wedding magazines. "We can have local and rustic weddings without the expense of other places like Brainerd," said Kroll. "We have beautiful and amazing locations, like Old Wadena, Dower Lake and Pine Grove Park. People could have a beach wedding or take photographs on the beach."

Holiday meals
It was announced that 457 drive-through meals were served during the community Thanksgiving dinner at Timbers restaurant. The Staples Chamber of Commerce is also looking at doing something

similar for a Christmas lunch.

CLC expanding
Central Lakes College Dean David Endicott said college enrollment was up by one percent, while nationwide and statewide enrollment was down around 14 to 15 percent. He said all the Staples campus programs were able to finish the semester despite COVID-19 restrictions.

Endicott praised Student Services Director Erich Heppner for setting up programs that "provided food for students every single day," said Endicott.

New programs and classes are being planned for the Staples CLC campus. Endicott said the agronomy program is planned for the fall of 2022. "The hope is the Staples campus will be the ag center for all of Minnesota," he said.

CLC is adding CNA and practical nursing certificates and revamping the machine trades program.

Based on requests from the legislature, farmers union and agriculture leaders, CLC has applied to start a meat cutting program at the Staples campus in 2022.

"We want to have 100 more students in three years on the campus," said Endicott.

Batcher Block
The committee to refurbish the Batcher Block Opera House is still meeting twice every month. The

group is applying for a grant to hire a consultant who is an expert in capital campaigns.

The group will reapply for the next state bonding bill. The project was left off of the last bonding bill with COVID-19 complicating the process but also the lack of fund raising may have hurt the rating of the project.

County grants
Todd County Development Corporation Director Rick Utech said \$1.3 million in grants were distributed in the county, including 32 to Staples area businesses.

Wadena County Commissioner Jim Hofer told the group that no Staples businesses applied for the Wadena County grant money. He said they had planned to use \$400,000 of the money to remodel the courtrooms to make the space safe for COVID-19 regulations. But the project had to be complete by the end of the year, so they distributed that portion of the grant to food shelves, senior citizen centers and community organizations in the county. Lakewood Care Center also received some of the Wadena County grant money.

As a temporary solution to the courtroom problem, the county is renting space in the Deer Creek school building for jury trials.

Weather

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Dec. 9	45°	26°	Sunny
Dec. 10	39	28	Cloudy
Dec. 11	33	23	Snow
Dec. 12	28	14	Snow
Dec. 13	26	11	M. Cloudy
Dec. 14	28	17	Cloudy
Dec. 15	29	14	Cloudy

Last Year, 2019

	High	Low	Cond.
Dec. 9	12°	-17°	Snow
Dec. 10	-9	-18	Sunny
Dec. 11	0	-20	Sunny
Dec. 12	12	3	Snow
Dec. 13	16	10	Cloudy
Dec. 14	5	3	Sunny
Dec. 15	2	-14	Sunny

Average Temps:
H = 25° Low = 10°
Total Snow:
For week: 0"
Oct. - Dec. 6: 15:25"

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Todd Board of Adjustment: **9A**

Obituaries

Sandra Bacon
Heinrich Kopka
James Mohler
Gerald O'Keefe
Donald Niemann
Gordon Sampson



Thank you for subscribing!

Staples-Motley school science curriculum adding more hands-on experience

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples-Motley schools science curriculum is implementing a new plan that will increase science experiences for all students and teach them the models that the science is based on.

District science teachers presented the plan to the school board at their Nov. 23 meeting. Staff development and curriculum specialist Deb Ferdon said new concepts and ways of thinking were put into the curriculum based on global science needs. "The change is not what they are learning, but how they are learning," said Ferdon.

Teacher Jim Opelia said students will experience scientific phenomena before being taught. "Everybody loves a mystery and wants to solve it," he said.

Teacher Lorna Birkholtz said students will be asked to explain what they are using with different kinds of models, such as drawings or other multi-media. "Kids become problem solvers and learn things at a deeper level," she said.

Elementary science teacher Cathy Evans said they will be focusing on engineering and application. "We will have hands-on

engineering all the time," she said.

Ag science teacher Joe Ramstad said the ag department has always applied what they are learning to the real world. They will start adding more chemistry and science standards into their practical classes.

"Students love it," Ramstad said about project and inquiry-based learning. He gave the example of the two Staples-Motley students who started a project in a basic 9th grade ag course and ended up with a second place finish in this year's national FFA contest.

Construction delays
The board heard from Troy Miller of LHB, the company overseeing the refurbishing projects at the elementary and high school. Miller said the projects were delayed because of COVID-19 roadblocks such as state reviews being backed up and people working from home so they couldn't visit the sites. They are still waiting on parts to complete the high school projects.

Miller said the elementary school had boards in the windows for most of the summer because the plan they had started didn't meet the state energy code, so See **SCHOOL** on page 3a

Coping with Covid

Mary Moen, elementary music teacher

Since the Covid-19 pandemic hit Minnesota in the spring of 2020, the coronavirus has continued to affect everyone in some way or another. In the coming weeks and months, the Staples World will reach out to a variety of people to find out how they have been impacted by Covid-19 and what they are doing to cope with the situation.

Mary Moen, Staples-Motley Elementary music teacher

1. WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST CHANGES YOU HAVE HAD TO MAKE IN YOUR TEACHING APPROACH?

Not singing! Our curriculum is a singing-based one. Our music room is not big enough to have the students sit six feet apart, so even with masks, we should not sing. We spent some glorious days outside this fall (before and after the October snowstorms) singing and playing games. This was a great gift to all of us.

But now we are working on music reading skills based on the songs we learned outside. I recorded the songs so we can hear them, tap and read the beat and rhythm. It is hard for all of us not to sing along, but I am doing my best to make it fun and creative. There are more and more resources out there every day.

2. WHAT ARE SOME OF THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES YOU'VE FACED?

I really miss my community choirs. The Central Minnesota Boys Choir and Colla Voce Girl's Choir are a big part of my musical life and of the members' lives as



Teaching music creatively

Mary Moen, music teacher at Staples-Motley Elementary School, teaches rhythm to one of her classes. Due to the pandemic, the students are not able to sing so Moen has been focusing on teaching music reading skills. (Submitted photo)

well. We want to be singing and we want to be together again. We are looking forward to that day.

Teaching during Covid is a challenge and planning takes a lot more time since the curriculum has to be changed and lessons need

to be recreated. I am home every night but evenings

See **MOEN** on page 10a

Compiled by
Dawn Timbs

All I want for Christmas is...some (more) downtown trees!

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Santa may not have been able to stop by the Staples Community Center this year due to the pandemic, but I've heard through the grapevine that he's still taking requests.

With that in mind, this just might be the year I'll send a letter off to the North Pole.

At the top of my 'want' list, aside from world peace and a vaccine for Covid-19? A canopy of trees lining downtown Staples.

I love my hometown and am proud of all we have to offer...a wonderful public library, great restaurants, a variety of retail and service-oriented businesses, top-notch health care, first-class schools, an award-winning newspaper, plus a one-of-a-kind opera house built in 1907.

Wow. Pretty impressive for a town of just under 3,000 residents.

However, in focusing on the downtown district, I can't help but think how much sweeter all of these entities would be if there were more trees adding color, ambiance and beauty to the streetscape. Not to mention the shade they provide in the summer and their all-around positive impact on the environment.

I was reminded of my longing for more downtown trees during a recent shopping excursion to the twin cities, helping my niece,

Linnea, search for a wedding dress. Our entourage (which included my sisters Andrea and Heather, our mother Carmen; and of course, the bride-to-be) traveled to a few different bridal shops that day, watching Linnea try on numerous white gowns. She looked beautiful in all of them, but after several hours had not settled in on 'the dress.'

Linnea was about to call it a day, but we persuaded her to keep her final appointment at 'Brides of France' in the 50th and France area of Minneapolis. Jackpot.

Not only did she find the perfect dress for her upcoming June wedding, but the entire experience at this final stop far outweighed the previous bridal store visits.

It could have been the lovely French music playing throughout the store, the special lighting, or the knowledge and passion of the store's owner that made such an impression on all of us, and ultimately wooed Linnea into happily holding the 'I said yes to the dress!' sign at this last store.

I also give credit to the tree-lined streets for convincing some weary shoppers to make just one more stop. As tired as we had become, even if Linnea didn't find her dream dress, we looked forward to strolling in the picturesque France Avenue, bordered on the east by Minneapolis and the west by Edina. We even

ventured into a couple of other stores along the way, making a purchase or two.

During our walk to Brides of France, I marveled at the trees that appeared to be thriving along both sides of the street. Like trees that were planted in the downtown area of Staples a decade ago, they were growing in spaces carved out of the sidewalk. I've been aware of the challenges our city employees have had in keeping those particular trees alive, and wondered if they'd faced similar challenges in Edina?

Upon my return from our girls' trip, I called Bill Neuendorf, Economic Development Manager for the City of Edina, to ask some questions about their trees.

Neuendorf informed me that the trees along France Ave., on the Edina side at least, had been planted in the 1980s. He assumed this to be the same for the Minneapolis trees across the street.

His role, Neuendorf continued, is to keep the customer in mind, including the customer's experience as they visit Edina. It makes shopping so much more enjoyable when there is streetscape, Neuendorf said. In addition to the beauty and shade the leaves offer during the warmer months, the city crews string lights on the branches when winter comes along. It helps brighten spirits, especially when the days are shorter, he said.

Retailers don't always like the trees, Neuendorf went on, noting that he's heard comments that they block store signs and need to be raked in the fall. "But, who likes the trees? Their customers," he said.

They've learned some lessons over the years, Neuendorf said. For starters, they try not to plant all of the same trees, in case a disease strikes a particular tree species, such as Dutch Elm disease. That way, you lose just a few of the trees instead of the entire lot.

As they researched which trees would work best in their city, they discovered that those with finger-like foliage won't block windows or clog storm sewers.

"It's always a struggle," Neuendorf said. He shared that they recently had to take four trees down due to a variety of issues. Of course budgets are tight, but his department tries to replace at least half of the dead trees right away, or it might not happen. "You've got to do it right," Neuendorf said, stressing the importance of removing the stump of the former tree. They've also learned the importance of hiring a professional arborist to guide them through the process.

Their city has also been putting in raised planter beds in their Market Street area, Neuendorf shared, adding that they contain trees and native grasses. These beds provide plenty of room for the tree roots to grow. The city's also



'Goodbye' to a few more trees

On a warm day in early November, construction workers removed iron grates that had once surrounded trees in downtown Staples and then filled in the holes with cement. A total of five grates were removed that day, joining the grates that had been removed the previous year to be put in storage somewhere.

City Administrator Jerel Nelsen said that after several attempts to get trees to grow in these areas, it was determined that the city is better off to eliminate the grates. Nelsen went on to say that the city plans to replant trees again at many of the remaining locations next spring. "We are exploring some creative place-making/public art options as well," Nelsen said.

The trees/grates were initially planted as part of the "turn-back" of old Highway 10" in 2010. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Added ambiance

One of the stops during one family's wedding dress shopping excursion this past October was Brides of France in Minneapolis. Pictured above, back row from left are the bride-to-be Linnea Carlson and her mom, Andrea (Schimpp) Carlson of Decorah, Iowa; and Heather (Schimpp) Thompson of Burnsville. In the foreground is Linnea's grandma, Carmen Schimpp of Staples. In addition to the charm inside the bridal shop, trees lining the sidewalk added ambiance, helping create an all around positive experience for the out-of-town shoppers. (Staples World photo by Dawn (Schimpp) Timbs)

installed a sprinkler system to ensure the trees in these planters are well watered.

Neuendorf acknowledged that smaller cities such as Staples don't have the budget for many of these items, or the luxury of hiring a full-time maintenance person to look after the trees, including raking and shoveling around them in the winter.

During our conversation, I shared with him that throughout the past 10 years, our city has attempted to plant trees downtown, but that it appears to be a constant struggle. Concerted efforts have been made by the city to ensure we have downtown trees, but many have not survived.

Would it be beneficial to organize a 'Friends of the Staples Trees' organization that would commit to helping water the trees? Perhaps businesses could adopt the tree that lives outside their shop?

Of course Neuendorf could not answer those specific questions, but he did

share that Edina may have had a similar discussion in years past. He went on to share that their downtown used to be the end of the street car line in the 1940s. When that changed, the community had a desire to keep a neighborhood feel, while encouraging business growth. In addition to having successful businesses, one of the community's top desires was to have a tree canopy along their streets.

Neuendorf couldn't say for sure, but he doesn't doubt that the beautiful trees have had a hand in attracting shoppers (resulting in more revenue) to their town.

I can't help but believe that could be true of my hometown as well.

Last weekend I took a stroll through Staples, taking stock of our downtown tree situation.

Along 2nd Ave., I counted about 20 trees still growing. There were 11 grates still in place (minus the trees), and 13 cement-filled spaces,

with both the grates and trees removed. Along 4th St. NE, six trees are still thriving, three grates are in place (minus the trees), and six spaces which once held trees and grates have been filled in with cement. In addition, there are several trees planted in grassy boulevards along 2nd Ave. that have survived the past decade.

I understand that these are tough times for businesses and most (including small-town newspapers) are doing their best just to stay afloat.

But, this is the season for dreaming and miracles, so why not dream big?

Hopefully my letter to Santa will arrive by Christmas, he'll understand I've tried to be more nice than naughty all year, and maybe, just maybe, I'll wake up Christmas morning in time to see his elves throwing the final dirt covering onto some new, glorious downtown trees.

That would be a Merry Christmas indeed.

Law enforcement reports, Motley area

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

Nov. 24 - The MPD issued a speeding citation to Olli Haho, 53.

Nov. 30 - The MPD issued a speeding citation to Juan Ortiz, 45.

Nov. 27 - The MCSO received a call from a resident at the 2000 block of Pine View Blvd., Motley, reporting suspicious shoe tracks walking around his neighbor's yard.

The responding deputy reported that it appeared two suspects were casing both places. There were tracks from two suspects, both of whom walked up to the garage and cabin doors numerous times. It appeared that no entry had been made.

Nov. 26 - The MCSO assisted state patrol with a crash at the intersection of Hwy 10 and Hwy 210 in Motley.

Nov. 25 - The MCSO responded to an attempted break-in at the 1000 block of W. Shamaineau Dr., Motley.

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Thanks for reading the Staples World!

Looking back

75 YEARS Ago - 1945

Dec. 13, 1945 - Wednesday was a great day for Phil Anderson of Staples, when the formal opening of his new store and modernistic hardware store was held.

Doors were opened at nine o'clock and long before that time many people were forming in line outside the building to be the first to gain admittance.

Up until noon Wednesday, hundreds of people had passed through the doors on which their tour of inspection and to make the purchase of goods which they

Compiled by
Dawn Timbs

had been waiting for, for a long time.

Many new articles were on display at the store, many of which have not been in Staples since a short time after the war was declared.

The store, in its entirety, is one of the finest structures to be erected in Staples, and it is considered by officials of the Marshall Wells company to be one of their outstanding stores in the entire state. The place lacks nothing in its modern appearance. The color of the inside of the store is in pastel shades, and the soft contrasting colors, combined with the maple and walnut fixtures, make up a beauty that has never been seen in this section of the state.

Dec. 13, 1945 - Dec. 1 found Joe H. Hollister and Harry E. Peirce of Staples taking over the management of the feed store at the corner of First Avenue and Sixth in Staples, formerly operated as the Severson Hatchery, and more recently operated as the Schultz Feed Store.

Mr. Hollister and Mr. Peirce need no introduction to the people of Staples, and they are well experienced in the business which they have recently purchased. Last week the World carried their opening advertisement. The new concern is known as The Staples Farm Service Company. They will be the official distributors for the farm bureau products.

Dec. 13, 1945 - There is an old song "When the Lights Come On Again, All Over The World", and this might be adapted to Staples street decoration for the holiday season this year.

The lights came on again Saturday evening of last week in the business section, the first time in three years that the street decorations have been put up here.

50 YEARS Ago - 1970

Dec. 17, 1970 - The Staples Rotary Club selected Steve Van Buren and Curtis Neal as delegates to represent Staples at the 14th Annual Model United Nations Assembly to be held in Winnipeg, Canada, April 16 and 17.

Both boys are seniors at Staples high school. Steve is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Van Buren and Curt is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Neal.

Dec. 17, 1970 - James Hofer, vocational agriculture instructor at Staples high school, was unanimously elected president of the Staples Chamber of Commerce for 1971 at last Thursday's membership meeting in the V.F.W. hall.

Hofer will assume the presidency of the organization Jan. 1. He will succeed Lloyd G. Nelson.

Robert Rego, bookkeeper for the Staples Public School system, was re-elected for another term as vice-president. Also re-elected were Noel Stendahl, secretary, and James D. Randgaard, treasurer.

Dec. 17, 1970 - Sheryl Stoerzinger, age 12, of Cushing was the first place winner in the Christmas Coloring Contest sponsored by various business firms in The Staples World.

Miss Stoerzinger's entry from Time Jewelry was judged as the number one placing from a total of 659 entries in the contest. She will receive \$5 as her first place prize.



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

The second place winner was the picture colored from the ad of Huff Furniture and was won by Lesley Jones, age 10, of Motley. The prize will be \$3.

Twelve third place prizes of \$1 each were also awarded by the panel of judges. The winners, along with their ages and the picture from the sponsoring store are as follows: Joanne Hagen, 10, Staples, Anthony's; Brenda Frisk, 11, Motley, Anderson Hardware; Richard Kaste, 10, Staples, Skaife Drug; Robert John Wilmes, 8, Cushing, Peterson Furniture; Michael Adami, 9, Staples, Perry's Ben Franklin; Barbara Case, 8, Staples, Rexall Drug; Teresa Greenwood, 5, Staples, Time Jewelry; Anita R. Potter, 7, Staples, Anderson Hardware; Michael Szymkowiak, 8, Staples, Peterson Furniture; Craig Wolhowe, 6, Staples, Huff Furniture; Jana Metzler, 10, Staples, Edie's Cafe; Laurine Miller, 12, Motley, Batcher's Department Store.

25 YEARS Ago - 1995

Dec. 14, 1995 - It's likely to be a white Christmas, according to one local prediction. Close to ten inches fell in or around Staples last weekend in the first major storm of the year.

Dec. 14, 1995 - A new and improved X-ray machine is now being used at Greater Staples Hospital to provide mammography exams.

Dec. 14, 1995 - The Staples Motley high school bell choir, under the direction of John Wolak, performed at the Mall of America - Mall Entertainment Center in Bloomington on Dec. 4. A motor coach left the Staples Community Center at 7 a.m.



Gavel/photo give away

'Tis the season of giving, so we'll solve the mystery of this archive photo from Dec. 17, 1970, right off the bat for you. According to the outline, James Hofer (left) accepts the gavel from Lloyd Nelson (right), the retiring president, at the close of last Thursday's Chamber of Commerce meeting. Robert Rego (center) was chosen vice-president of the organization for the 1971 year.

The live concert was at 1 p.m.

Dec. 14, 1995 - A young Staples girl is pursuing a dream of a lifetime. Jennifer Tepley, a 15-year-old aspiring actress and dancer, earlier this fall auditioned for a national talent scout program.

Recently she learned that she and 19 other young people from the Minneapolis audition have been invited to attend a week of meetings with directors and agents planning pilot programs for future seasons in major television networks. She's set to spend the week from Jan. 20 - 27 in the Los Angeles area, hoping for the break that will jumpstart a career.

10 YEARS Ago - 2010

Dec. 16, 2010 - With the Cardinal mascot watching

from its spot on the floor, Staples Motley basketball players and wrestlers commemorated their new gym floor with a ribbon cutting on Dec. 11.

Dec. 16, 2010 - The Staples Motley National Honor Society held an induction ceremony for 19 new members on Dec. 8, at Centennial Auditorium.

The seniors inducted included Chandler Trout, Kelli Roline, Derek DeYonge, Emily Fuhrman, Emma Koskiniemi, Brianna Granby, Andrea Koskiniemi, Erik Nelson, Tanner Roberts, Autumn Murray, Hallie Olsen and Zac Israelson.

The juniors inducted included Sarah Paskevitz, Jaci Jeziorski, Taylor Klimek, Allissa Joy Smith, Jon Nypan, Lynnea Iverson and Terra Weyer.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo, published in the April 19, 1973 edition of the Staples World, featured the Japke Decorating bowling team - the champions of the Monday Twilight Bowling League at Hi-Way Lanes for the 1972 - 73 season.

Members of the title winning team, with their trophies, are front row, from left: Marion Edwards, Elaine Adamek and Lanetta Engel. Back row, from left: Elaine Brauch, Mary Scharf and Twy Japke.

Japke Decorating won the first half of the bowling play and the Hopefuls won the second half, resulting in the playoff series, which was won by Japke Decorating, 1941 to 1812. Lanetta Engel had the high individual game in this series, 189, and she also had the high individual series, 506.

Bob Sorenson of Staples correctly identified Elaine Brauch, Lanetta Engel and Twy Japke. A Staples native, Bob shared that his mother, DeEtta Sorenson, was an avid bowler and most likely bowled with these women at some point. Former Staples resident Bev (Kirk) Maybon, now of Baxter, correctly identified her aunt, Elaine Brauch, as well as Twy Japke and Lanetta Engel. "It brought a smile to my face to see her picture in the paper," she said of her aunt. Bev also mentioned that the trophies were most likely from a bowling league in Staples. Mary Sperley of Staples correctly identified Brauch, Scharf, Engel and Japke; and Judy Wolak of Staples correctly identified Engel. Thanks for participating in our Mystery Photo.

SCHOOL continued from page 1a

Digital lab open for students

they had to redesign the project.

In other news, the board

- Approved resignation of Randy Espe, custodian.
- Approved hiring of Tad Freeman, custodian.
- Approved personal leave absence of Mark Carlson as head wrestling coach. Carlson stated the reason was COVID-19 related changes at his work. Carlson said he will return the following season.
- Heard from administration about COVID-19 changes, including the digital labs set up for students every day at the high school library. Students who do not have access to internet are invited to come to the labs.

Staples Police report

On Nov. 23, Staples Police stopped a vehicle for no brake light and failure to signal turn. After investigation, police arrested Logan Atkinson, 25, of Little Falls, for warrants and giving a false name.

On Nov. 23, Staples Police received a report of a vehicle that was trying to drive another vehicle off the road. Police spoke with the victim who stated that she was run off the road by her husband's uncle. Police are investigating.

On Nov. 24, Staples Police received a report of a two vehicle accident at the intersection of Dakota Ave. SW and 3rd Street SW. A garbage truck had pulled out in front of a SUV. The driver of the SUV was complaining of neck pain and was transported by Staples Ambulance to Lakewood emergency room. No other injuries were reported. Scott's Southtown also assisted.

On Nov. 25, Staples Police were called to the 300 block of 3rd St. NE for a subject making suicidal comments. The subject was transported to the hospital for a mental health evaluation.

On Nov. 25, Staples Police responded to a report of suspicious activity. Police found a party who resides at a group home was having paranoid hallucinations.

On Nov. 25, Staples Police received a report of suspicious people in Ace Hard-

ware. Police arrived and located two people who stated they were homeless and changing clothes.

On Nov. 25, Staples Police received a report that a subject attempted to pass a counterfeit bill at Burger King. An employee noticed the bill and did not accept it.

On Nov. 27, Staples Police responded to the intersection of 12th St. NE and Michigan Ave. for a report of a one vehicle accident. A vehicle drove into the gate that is across the City of Staples lot, causing damage to the car.

On Nov. 28, Staples Police assisted Todd County Sheriff's Office with a vehicle in the ditch at the intersection of County Road 7 and 470th St. Todd County Deputy arrested the driver, Claudia Pederson, 59, for DWI.

On Nov. 28, Staples Police assisted a female with finding a ride to the women's shelter in Brainerd.

On Nov. 28, Staples Police received a report of a theft of a Frosty the Snowman Christmas decoration from the 400 block of 4th Street NE. The public is asked to contact the police department with any information regarding the incident.

On Nov. 28, Staples Police were notified of a needle lying at the intersection of Warner Road NE and 8th Street NE. Police picked up the needle and disposed of it properly.

CLC closing campuses to the public

In light of ongoing efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, Central Lakes College campuses will be closed to the public through the end of December.

The rise in community spread numbers in our region over the past few weeks adds further emphasis to the need to be vigilant about safety-minded behaviors and interactions.

Even though CLC has

not experienced significant transmission on its campuses, the College is committed to taking all necessary steps to protect the health and safety of our students, employees and the public.

Buildings will be closed to the public, including walkers. Access will be limited to CLC employees, students, CLC partners and those accessing our partner organizations.

Staples World

Staples World counter sales available Tuesday morning after 10 a.m.

224 4th St. NE
Staples, MN
218-894-1112



An unforgettable Christmas in Staples

By Mike Holst

I dreamed a dream the other night that this year for Christmas, I could just go back and relive one of the 79 Christmases I have experienced in my life, instead of creating another one.

That year, 1947, my parents and my three brothers and I were living in an apartment fashioned out of the attic, of an old house

in Staples Minnesota. My dad worked in an ice cream shop up town. A job today that would be more appropriate for a high school kid, trying to make some spending money.

Somewhere, Dad had found a Christmas tree and he'd hauled it up into our cramped living space and Mom decorated it with paper cut outs and popcorn strung into garlands.

outside and came in with a red sled. It was obvious, it was a used sled that he had repainted. The kind with the metal runners.

Christmas has never been about things for me. It has been about people. Suffering is always more easily tolerated when it is shared suffering.

the life I have had, the family I shared and the family I fostered and I'm so privileged to be a part of all of it. So grateful for the three family members that were there that night that have since passed on and the indelible memories I have of them.

That house still stands in Staples and every time I drive through town, I get a flash back to that winter night. I wish I could drive back there on a quiet Christmas Eve and just park outside of it and let the feelings wash over me once more.

Note to readers: send your complaints to us

By Mark Anderson Managing Editor

The newspaper is a public forum. As such, we like for our readers to submit story ideas, photos, opinions and reactions every week.

Unlike social media, the newspaper screens out hate speech, false information, and unfair personal attacks.

Recently, a completely non-controversial opinion became a problem when someone took it the wrong way and wrote an anonymous letter about it.

If someone has the courage to write to a public forum that is available for ev-

eryone to see, they deserve the courtesy of having it answered in the same public forum.

This newspaper has plenty of room for stories from anyone in the community. As long as it is reasonable, newsworthy and seems based on fact, we will print it.

and selfish. We likely would not have printed it, but we would have asked them to take out the disparaging comments and edit the letter so they could be proud to put their name on it.

We are happy that our readers are passionate about our community. That is why we provide this public forum, so locals can help us describe the hopes and dreams of the community.

Quote of the week

"One kind word can warm three winter months." - Japanese Proverb

Minnesota is number one in voter turnout, again

By Steve Simon Minnesota Secretary of State

We did it! For the third election in a row, Minnesota is #1 in America in voter turnout. When I first became Secretary of State after the 2014 election, Minnesota was #6 in the nation.

Getting to #1 in 2020 was particularly challenging. The spread of COVID-19 meant that we had to administer a statewide election

with public health in mind. We strongly urged people to consider voting from home, and they responded in record numbers.

The success of Minnesota's 2020 election belongs to many people throughout the state. Voters adapted, and election administrators in counties and cities everywhere put in heroic

efforts despite significant barriers. The result makes Minnesota a model for the nation once again.

I like to say I'm in "the democracy business." Business boomed this year - despite the pressures of a once-in-a-century pandemic.

Thanks to you for having my back during a time when I and other Secretaries of State were under intense scrutiny - and were sometimes the target of attacks and lies from those who seemed committed to undermining confidence in our election system.

Make customers safe

After spending the weekend with my mother in Motley, Sunday morning I said to myself "I need to get out of this town before it kills me".

Maskless customers.

I like to support local businesses in Staples and Motley. The grocery stores, the hardware stores, the drug store, take-out at the restaurants.

dents and businesses need to see two full pages of obituaries in the Staples World before they start taking this pandemic seriously?

All I know is I left for home full of frustration, fear and tears.

Pam Peterson Carlson Eagan, Minn

Ice anglers: patience

No one will argue that patience is a virtue. But it can be a difficult virtue to practice. If you're an angler waiting for safe ice to form on your favorite Minnesota lakes, there's no telling how virtuous you will be by the time you're able to shuffle cautiously from shore to bore the first holes of the ice fishing season.

There have already been several significant snowfall events, and enough cold to freeze small or shallow wetlands and end the season for most duck hunters.



Mike Rahn

on this past and final weekend of the season in the central hunting zone.

The prospects for ducks are not the best on a typical "fish lake." But there is always the possibility that a few late migrators might be found on the only open water available, such as this lake of nearly 3,000 acres.

The shallow bay that I aimed for—sheltered by a long point of cattails and bulrushes—was mostly ice-covered, so I set out my decoys on the point's open water side.

I did hear "ice music," though, as new ice forming in the lake-rimming vegetation would rise and fall with the passage of an occasional wave generated far in the distance by one of the few anglers who had braved the elements on this last weekend in November.

However one feels about the science of climate change—and importantly, what man's role in it might be—data that is being recorded can't be easily reasoned away. One of these data points is the timing of when lake ice forms—some call it "ice-in"—which we know is a function of weather patterns, and thus of climate.

The National Snow and Ice Data Center maintains a database with ice-in and ice-out date observations on more than 700 bodies of water in the Northern Hemisphere.

Most graphs show ups and downs, rather than a straight line, which in the case of ice-in dates reflects variations from one winter to the next. What matters, however, is the trend, the beginning and ending points on such a long-term graph.

Over the last 110 years, ice-in dates have moved an average of one day to one-and-one-half days later with each decade. This means that the average ice-in date for a representative lake is at least 11 days—and maybe half again more—later than it was in 1910.

Well-known and much-published naturalist Jim Gilbert recently wrote that he's been recording the dates when ice forms on several lakes at strategic points in the state. For Lake Bemidji, for example, in 1991 he recorded an ice-in date of November 4th, while in 2019 ice-in was recorded on December 3rd.

In addition to air temperature, the intensity of wind, and even cloud cover, can affect a lake's ice-in, which most consider to be the time when 90% of a lake's surface is ice-covered.

That said, the DNR does offer general advice to those who will inevitably venture out on early ice. The DNR recommends checking ice thickness yourself as you venture out, using either a spear-like ice chisel, an auger, or even a cordless electric drill equipped with an auger-type wood-boring bit.

Beyond our need for patience, we'll all be hoping that we don't have a repeat of 2019, when heavy snow fell on early ice before a deep, safe ice layer could form, making on-ice travel a nightmare for many. All the patience in the world may not be a cure for that.

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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1,000 books read

Greyson Winter, above, recently completed the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program at the Staples Public Library. Friends of the Library member Judy Wolak, presented Greyson with his certificate. He chose the book "A Perfect Day" and matching stuffed bear.

The reading program at the Staples Library is ongoing. Parents/ caregivers can visit the library to sign up their child at any time. The program ends when the child reaches 1,000 books or enters kindergarten. At registration each child receives a canvas book bag and record book. Reading can also be recorded with the Beanstack App. For each 100 books read to them, the child can pick out a colorful ducky; upon completion of reading 1,000 books, each child receives a hardcover book and matching stuffed animal.

The 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten is a reading program designed to increase the awareness of early literacy and encourage parents to embrace their role as their child's first teacher. The goal is to have parents and caregivers read to their child from the time they are born until they begin school and beyond. The program is sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library. (Submitted photo)

Motley Area Food Shelf hours

The Motley Area Food Shelf will be closed the week of Christmas. They will be open with their regular hours on

Thursday, Dec. 31, from 9 a.m. - noon, including the evening hours from 6 - 8 p.m. If you need further assistance, call 218-352-6344.

Community Christmas Music Release

Digital recordings featuring choral music by choirs, chorus and local artists available free to listen to. Playlist includes about 2 dozen pieces, featuring past Community Christmas Concerts and more. Access the link through the Staples Area Men's Chorus website (Music, Playlist) or find it on their YouTube channel.

www.staplesmen.org

Listen any time, free. Play the audio throughout your holiday season.

PROJECT PROVIDED BY: STAPLES AREA Men's Chorus

Merry Christmas in Song!

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 Sonlight (kids ages 4 yrs.-6th grade) After school to 5:30 p.m. Youth Group (Teens, 7th-12th grade) After school to 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Church of Christ 27343 49th St., Staples 218-894-2609 Pastor Barry Klein Facebook Live Bible School (youth and adult) 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. WEDNESDAY: Teen Youth/Adults Bible Study 7-8 p.m.</p> <p>First Congregational Church, UCC firstconougocstaples@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 Smee 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 218-894-2296 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 8:30 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>Thomastown Covenant 15940 251st Ave., Staples 218-894-3923 Pastor Scott Jorgenson Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH 6:30 p.m.</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>Balsamlund Lutheran 19550 49th 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 25430 Bison Rd. Cushing, MN 320-749-2140 Pastor Carl Larson Associate Pastor: Carleton Smee www.bethanylutherancushing.org Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. Sunday School and 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.lincolnefree.org Facebook Lincoln E Free Office Hours: Tues. - Thurs., 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Senior Pastor: Don Reigstad Community Life Pastor: Jim Brown Associate Pastor/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 Dan Holmes 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 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 Service 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 Malore 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 7:00 p.m.</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 Worship 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 Belknap, 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 Self 218-371-7189 Children's Pastor Kenneth Kjeldergaard SUNDAY Sunday School 8:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Prayer Meeting 5 p.m. WEDNESDAY Night Life Groups 6:30-8 p.m.</p> <p>Hope Chapel Alliance 18126 County Road 7, Verndale 218-445-5643 or 218-472-3316 Pastor Neal Malore 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 460th 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 Jill Pawlowski Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Central United Methodist 5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar) Pastor Chuck Horsager, 218-639-4225 Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m.</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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Mark Your Calendar

December 16

STAPLES ALL VETERANS AND COMMUNITY PARK ASSOCIATION will hold its monthly board meeting using the virtual system of communication

on Wednesday, Dec. 16, beginning at 5:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend. If you would like to join the board meeting, call Bob Hamann at 218-894-3139 for details on how to connect.

Santa is Waiting for YOUR Letter



We'll publish your letter in the Dec. 23 issue of the Staples World.

By Dec. 15, drop your letter in our drop box (located by the front door) at 224 4th St. NE, Staples, or mail it to us at PO Box 100, Staples, MN 56479

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

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

The Holy Spirit: The Spirit of your Father

The Holy Spirit: The Spirit of Your Father

"But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you." --Matthew 10:19-20

Just as you have a spirit that is the intrinsic nature of who you are, so the Spirit of your Father in Heaven has the same nature as the heavenly Father, yet is a separate person from the Father. The Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Godhead and is the Spirit of the Father. The Father sends the Holy Spirit to do His work. When you are persecuted, the Holy Spirit will indwell you to help you. When you don't know what to say to your oppressors, the Holy Spirit will speak through you. The Spirit of your Father will give you "in that hour what you should speak" (Matthew 10:19).

Holy Spirit, I trust You to help me in my hour of trial. Help me to glorify the Father in all that I endure.

The Holy Spirit was sent by the Father to give you boldness to speak when people reject your testimony. He will give you wisdom to know what to say and when to say it. At times, He will give you soft words that turn away wrath (Proverbs 15:1) and, at other times, stinging words to convict of sin. But most of all, He will give you convincing words that will sink deep in the hearts of your listeners. The Holy Spirit will not speak of Himself; He will glorify Christ (John 16:13).

Holy Spirit, fill my life with Your presence. Put words in my mouth that I need to speak, and use my testimony for Your glory. Amen.

Go Deeper: Matthew 10:5-42. The Holy Spirit will give you what to say when you are persecuted for your faith.

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:

<p>Longbella Drug Store "The Prescription Store" 2nd Ave., Staples • 218-894-2242 Motley and Pillager</p>	<p>Ernie's Food Market Groceries - Gas - Convenience - more Staples, MN 218-894-1072</p>	<p>Staples Veterinary Clinic "Complete Animal Care" Staples, MN 218-894-1775</p>	<p>Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank Fully Insured to \$250,000 Staples, MN 218-894-3900</p>
<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



Local Shopping

Staples World

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

7a

"A Sweet Slice of the Season"



Logs available in stores for pick-up. **\$16.99**

A DQ gift card is the perfect present for everyone! "Give the Gift of Fan Food!"




Staples 218-894-1143 and Motley 218-352-6152
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Family traditional decoration taken from porch

The lonely Santa at the Mueller home in Staples is missing its companion, as Frosty the Snowman was reported stolen in this week's Staples Police report.

Randy and Shirley Mueller said they have put out their decorations for at least the last 35 years. The Frosty photo was supplied by Shirley Mueller.



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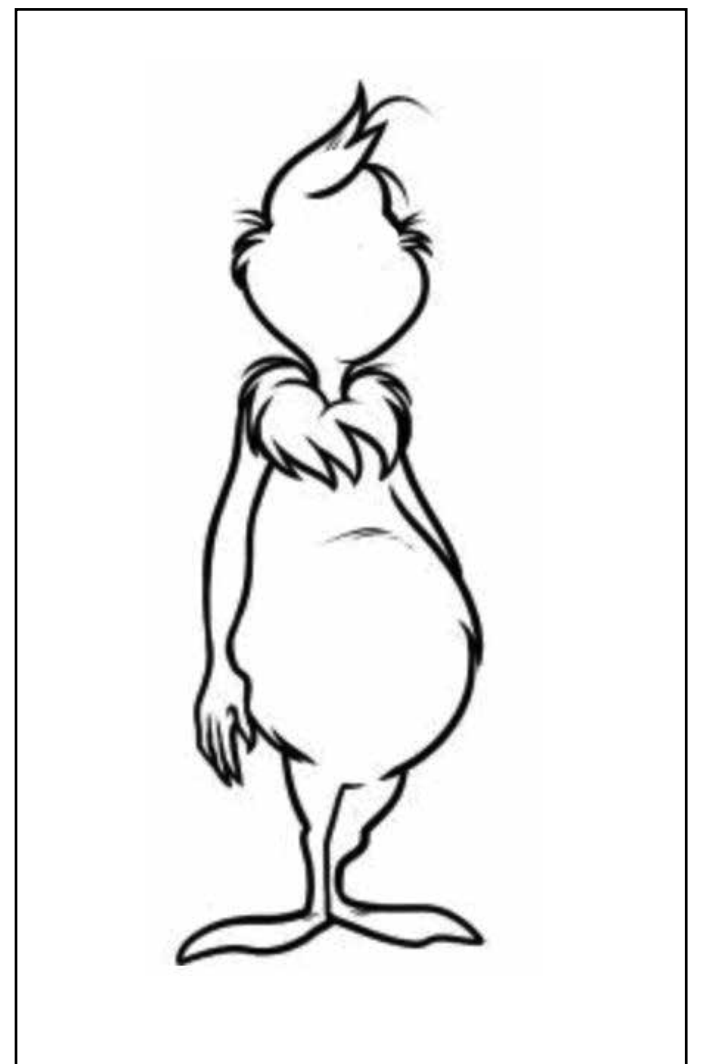
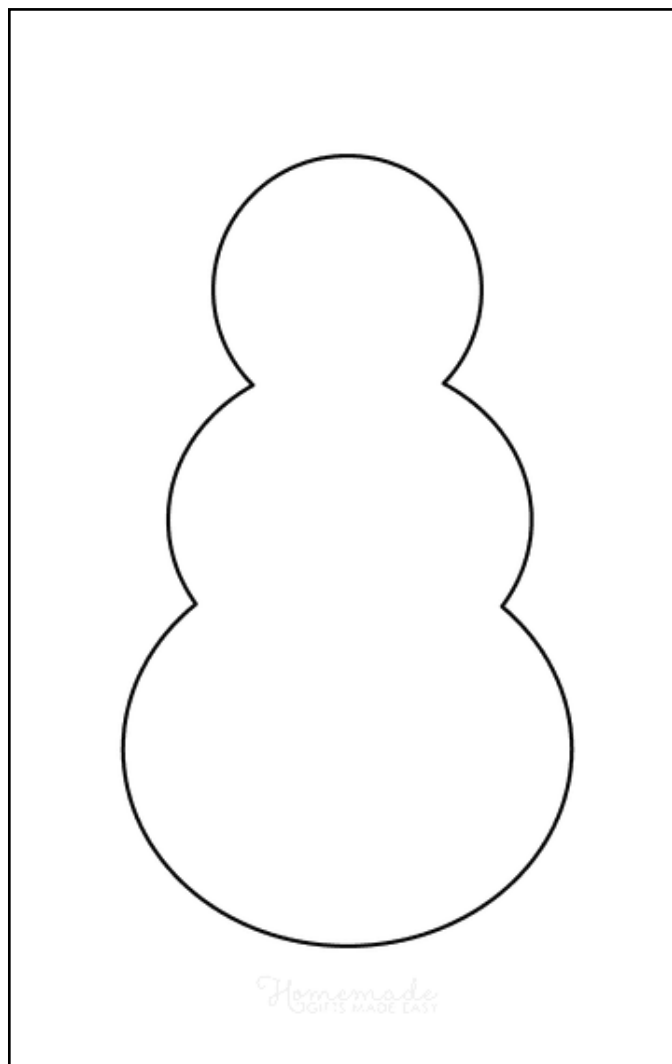
Holiday open houses are canceled. The small town tradition of gathering around hot chocolate, cider and cookies will have to wait for another year.

But local stores can still offer something not found anywhere else: safe shopping without navigating big crowds.

At local stores, shoppers can come in, find the products they are looking for,

and check out in a fraction of the time it takes to walk around a big box store. They are also more likely to get personalized service from store personnel to help find what they are looking for.

So when doing you are shopping this year, check out these local stores and all other local businesses to make sure you and your family stay safe for the holidays.



Help us recover the missing Frosty

In order to lessen the tragedy of the missing Frosty, we are asking readers to draw and color their own Frosty, take a photo of it and send it with your name and age to the Staples World at editor@staplesworld.com.

We also have an outline of the prime suspect in the theft of Frosty, please color in the details and send a photo of it as well. There is no age limit to the "Recover Frosty" coloring page.



Sports

Staples World

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

7a

CLC suspends winter sports season

Central Lakes College announced that it is suspending its men's and women's basketball seasons due to concerns over the COVID-19 pandemic. The college does, however, remain optimistic about hosting spring sports.

Central Lakes College President Hara Charlier said, "The decision to suspend Raider basketball was made after a great deal of conversation and careful consideration of data. COVID-19 infection rates continue to increase throughout our state, our region, and our college community. Unfortunately, the indoor nature of basketball and the challenges associated with competition carry significant inherent risk. While our players and coaches are committed to following all mitigation protocols, the risk is simply too great.

"We understand and share the deep sense of disappointment felt by our student-athletes. We will continue to work to provide meaningful opportunities for our athletes to develop, engage, and be successful at the college. Rest assured that our commitment to Raider athletics is as strong as ever, and we look forward

to cheering for our Raiders next year," said Charlier.

The college is, however, planning to host softball and baseball next semester. According to administrators, the outdoor, low-contact nature of spring athletics reduces risk. They are hopeful that with strong mitigation measures and COVID transmission rates expected to improve in the spring, Raider athletes will be on the field. The nature and timing of practices remains to be determined but will follow CLC COVID protocols. Spring training out-of-state trips have been canceled.

Jim Russell, CLC Athletic Director, said he is disappointed about winter sports, but also understands the situation at hand.

"We appreciate our administration for their efforts and the communication process in making these decisions. We are excited about softball and baseball and for our student athletes who will be participating this spring."

CLC requires safety plans from athletics following guidelines in place by the NJCAA, conference and from the college's pandemic response team.



Klimek places high at NJCAA Nationals

8k, half marathon

Staples-Motley graduate Hunter Klimek was 14th at the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I Cross Country Championships on Nov. 14, then placed 7th at the NJCAA Half Marathon on Nov. 17.

Klimek's time for the 8K national championship race was 26:01, an average of 5:15 per mile for five miles. He was the third runner for Iowa Central Community College, which won the national team title.

Klimek's half marathon time was 1:10:04, which averages 5:21 per mile for the 13.1 mile race. Iowa Central also won the team title in the race, giving Klimek two national champion medals to go along with his individual honors.

Running in national race

Hunter Klimek runs during the NJCAA Nationals Cross Country race. (Photo from NJCAA.org)



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NOTICES

107

Notices

MAGIC FOREST CHILDCARE CENTER: STAPLES has immediate INFANT OPENING. Ages 6 weeks to 10 months old, full time spot. Call for more info., 218-895-5330. Ask for Miss Stacy, Nicky or Jessie. 50-51x

SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT

205

Help Wanted

DON & DAVE'S STORE: Part-time cashier, 30-35 hrs., two weeks. Must be 21-years-old. 218-894-2014. 48-50p

TODD COUNTY HHS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Todd County HHS is looking for a reliable, service oriented individual to serve the citizens of Todd County in a full-time capacity for the following position: ****Health Education Coordinator****. To learn more about this opening and how to apply visit the official Todd County website at www.co.todd.mn.us. Questions can be directed to Todd County Administration, 320-732-6155. 50pnc

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NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

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

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 P.M., 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 PROPERTY 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

TROTT LAW, P.C.
N. Kibongni
Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Michael van Muelken, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(19-1521-FC02)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.
50-6pnc TODD COUNTY

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on **Thursday, December 17, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.** the Todd County Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing in the Commissioner's board room, 215 1st Ave. South, Long Prairie, Minnesota, or via phone conference call. Please email or phone your wish to be included in the meeting at 320-732-4420_toddplan_zone@co.todd.mn.us to consider the following Variance applications:

- AGENDA**
- Call to Order
 - Approval of October 22, 2020 Minutes
 - Board introduction and process review
 - o The applicant is introduced
 - o Staff Report
 - o Applicant request if staff report accurately represents the request
 - o Public Comment
 - o Board review with applicant, staff, and public

1. **Robert and Colleen Voltz:** Lot 1, Maple Shelter in Section 18, Township 128N, Range 34W in Little Sauk Township
Site Address: 17536 Echo Drive, Long Prairie. PID: 17-0048500.

1. Request to increase maximum allowable roofed impervious surface in Shoreland- RD zoning from 15% to 15.07%.
2. Request to increase maximum building height for accessory structures in Shoreland- RD zoning from 18 feet to 18 feet, 6 Inches for the same detached garage.

Adjournment.
Next Meeting:
January 21, 2021

All persons interested are invited to attend said hearing or submit a letter to be heard on these matters. **All correspondence must include name, mailing address and be received 48 hours before the date and time of the hearing.**

Todd County
Board of Adjustment
Bill Berscheit, Chair
50pnc

NOTICE COUNTY PRINTING TODD COUNTY - MINNESOTA

Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners of Todd County, will receive sealed bids until Noon, Thursday, December 31, 2020 at the County Auditor-Treasurer's Office. Bids will be opened at the County Board meeting on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at or near 9:05 a.m. in the County Board Room, for publication for the year 2021 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 2020, which have not been attached to prior judgment.

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

Denise Gaida
Todd County Auditor/Treasurer
50-51pnc

NOTICE 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 2020 as required by law until Noon, Thursday, December 31, 2020. Bids will be opened at or near 9:05 a.m. on January 5, 2021 in the County Board Room.

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

Denise Gaida
Todd County Auditor/Treasurer
50-51pnc

Staples-Motley School Board Minutes

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 adjourn 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). He then reviewed with the Board two facility options showing conceptual plans. Supt. Tappe and Mike Hubbard will be holding two informational meetings for staff the following day with an opportunity for questions and answers.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Frisk, seconded by Lund, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. MC

Grants and Donations

Motion by Freeman, seconded by Frisk, to approve the Resolution to Accept Donations and grants in the amount of \$11,506.70. MC

Finance

Financial Report - Mr. Herdegen indicated the audit is underway this week.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Frisk to authorize payment of the vouchers. MC

Curriculum and Other
Presentation of the 2019-2020 Staples-Motley Curriculum Council Plan of Action
Information only/ no action needed

Reports

School Board
a. FED - 9-23-20 Minutes
b. Sourcewell - 8-18-20 Minutes

Principals - Written reports included as well as current information regarding the Hybrid model at the HS. Both Principals praised their staff for the smooth teaching transitions needed this year for Distance Learners and Hybrid Learning.

Superintendent Tappe updated the Board on CARES funding the district will be receiving and will be used for EC programming needs, PPE and Technology.

Activities - Josh Lee SMEA - Jill Schneider

Adjournment

Motion by Frisk, seconded by Anderson, to adjourn the meeting. MC

Complete minutes available at www.isd2170.k12.mn.us

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SEDA explores incentives to build new homes in Staples

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

At the Nov. 24 Staples Economic Development Authority (SEDA) meeting, the board looked at different types of incentives to entice more new homes to be built in Staples.

Economic Development Director Melissa Radermacher listed some of the ideas that could be a possibility, including tax abatement, utility bill credit, reduced assessments and discounted lot prices. She said some of the incentives could come from the city, but also identified potential partners, such as the Staples-Motley School District, Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative, Chamber of Commerce, Minnesota Energy, telecom providers, Todd and Wadena counties and Central Lakes College.

Radermacher said the city has lots ready to build, including the Valley View subdivision that was recently acquired by the city. But the question on incentives is "How much can we give as a city to get those incentive dollars back?" said Radermacher.

Board member Chris Etzler said "If it costs us two to five years of taxes, I'm going to support that," meaning the city would get

their losses back in two to five years.

The board also discussed local businesses getting involved in the push to get more new housing. Board member Steve Gertken, who works at First International Bank, said the banks in town will offer the best deals they can find. "If someone wanted to build a home, we would roll out the red carpet for them," he said. But because interest rates change, they can't quote a specific number to offer as an incentive.

The board did not agree on any specific numbers for incentives, but Radermacher said she would come up with possible packages for individual families moving to Staples and another for developers to start building homes in the city.

COVID-19 update

Radermacher said the national government is not offering much for stimulus to help struggling businesses. She said Todd County and Wadena County did a good job getting their stimulus money into the hands of local businesses, but those programs are ended. The SEDA board approved reopening their loan program for businesses that have lost revenue due to the shutdown.



Christmas For Kids

The Christmas for Kids program served 222 children from 86 families in the area on Dec. 5.

The group purchased gifts, hats, mittens and snow pants. The gifts were assembled at the Lions building in Staples. Staples '93 Lions who spearheaded the project included Janet Opheim, Sue Flaten, Rayma Miller, Diane Danculovich, Gail Honek and Kathy Johnson. Helpers included Tom Honek, Tom Danculovich, Don Flaten, Dan Shaw and Dennis Miller. (Submitted photos)



Todd County approves solid waste management plan

By Karin L. Nauber
Todd County correspondent

Todd County has prepared a solid waste management plan that has been reviewed by the board and by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA).

Solid Waste Director Chris McConn said that the MPCA will issue a Finding of Facts (official approval) after Todd County officially submits the plan with the approved resolution.

The board approved the plan with some changes including that former County Coordinator Jonathan Stainbrook's name be taken off as the contact person. The board agreed to put "county coordinator" as the contact person with no person's name attached.

McConn also asked to schedule a biannual meeting of solid waste and the commissioners.

He said there was a planned virtual meeting to talk about the grant money the county will be receiving for the solid waste. The board felt it was best to hold this meeting after the one with the State so they could better plan their next steps in the process.

In other business

• Due to a resignation, an office support specialist position exists within the Health Services Unit. Interviews were conducted and it was approved to hire applicant Anna Herke to

fill this open position. Start date is to be determined.

• At their meeting on February 18, 2020, it was approved to hire a social worker to provide Children's Mental Health—Targeted Case Management (CMH-TCM) services in-house. It was approved to hire applicant Jodi Bass with a start date to be determined.

• The board provided their annual approval for County Engineer Loren Fellbaum to submit an application for an eligible construction project (that being County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 2) to Region 5 Development Commission for possible inclusion into the Central Minnesota Area Transportation Partnership's (ATP) 2025 Area Transportation Improvement Plan (ATIP).

Fellbaum explained that Region 5 administers these projects.

The project would go from CSAH 11 to Trunk Highway 28 and would be comprised of a bituminous mill and overlay, aggregate shouldering and pipe maintenance.

• Approved an updated contract with the city of Clarissa. The contract will increase the number of patrol hours provided by the Todd County Sheriff's Office from 30 hours a month to 60 hours a month at the rate of \$42 per hour. The contract will begin on December 1 and is a two-year contract. The city of

Clarissa approved the contract at their November 16 council meeting.

• Homestead classification was removed on Edward Ziegler's parcel for the 2018 assessment, taxes payable in 2019.

Assessor Chris Odden said that the mail sent to Mr. Ziegler was being returned as unforwardable. Ziegler said he did not know why that happened as he has lived on the property the entire time.

The board approved the abatement for the 2018 and 2019 assessments. The homestead classification was also returned to the property. The abatement amount to be returned is \$586.

• Todd County Health and Human Services contracts with the Morrison County Public Health Department to have sanitarians inspect all licensed Todd County food, beverage, and lodging establishments, manufactured home parks, recreation camping areas, youth camps and public pools/spas.

The board approved a new contract that will be effective January 1, 2021-December 31, 2022.

The biggest change to the contract had to do with the billing software which had to be upgraded and will cost \$8000 a year for the next three years.

The contract reads, "Morrison County agrees to support the initial investment as the environ-

mental health program is developed within PH Doc. The cost is \$8000 per year for three years. This contract reflects the enhancement cost. Should the costs increase to member counties for the development, both parties will discuss that additional cost and determine an amicable way to fund it."

• Public health is requesting to hire a health education coordinator. This position will provide community education and outreach and will work collaboratively with healthcare and community partners. This position is fully funded by current grant funds.

The board approved hiring for the position.

• The board heard a brief update about the COVID-19 situation in the county. Two additional deaths were noted bringing the county total to 14 deaths. Those who have died were about equally living in care centers and living in their own homes.

• The board approved the final CARES Act spending report and how the remaining funds will be used as approved by the treasury department.

No funds will be returned to the State from the county as all funds have been approved and have been spent.

The board held a closed session for labor negotiation strategy.

MOEN continued from page 1a

'Never been prouder' of Staples-Motley students

and weekends include a lot of extra school work. I am not complaining, my students are worth it. My reality has just changed due to current times.

3. WHAT THINGS HAVE WORKED? WHAT HAVEN'T?

I created individual music bags that include items that students can use without spreading germs. They include instruments made out of plastic rhythm sticks, cut up pool noodles and donated plastic bottles filled with rice. Also included are music reading manipulatives made out of craft foam and multiple bingo chips along with crayons and pencils. These have worked really well.

As far as things that haven't worked, again, the lack of space. While the music room is nice and cozy, we can't really play active games that we could in non-Covid times.

4. HOW DO YOU FEEL THE STUDENTS HAVE ADAPTED TO THE CHANGES?

Our Staples-Motley Elementary School students are amazing. Many are wearing masks without complaints and others are trying really hard to make them work. I have never been prouder of our students. They want to be in school and so does our staff. Being in school is the best thing for everyone. We just want everyone to be safe and healthy.

My students are working really hard and are being respectful and helpful to each other. It is a great year to be Cardinals!

5. OTHER THINGS THAT COME TO MIND?

We will get through this. I worry every day about getting sick and spreading germs to others. We just need to keep taking all of the precautions outlined by the CDC, the governor, and our school district officials. I encourage our community to help keep us all safe by doing the same.

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Santa is Waiting for YOUR Letter

We'll publish your letter in the Dec. 23 issue of the Staples World.

By Dec. 15, drop your letter in our drop box (located by the front door) at 224 4th St. NE, Staples, or mail it to us at PO Box 100, Staples, MN 56479

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