

Inside this issue:

School board organizational meeting
Young Authors Conference
Fentanyl seller sentenced
SBDC legacy planning workshop



CLC hosts Sen. Klobuchar

Central Lakes College presenters with Senator Amy Klobuchar. From left, Chris Neal, CLC ag board; Corey Detloff, Ag and Energy Center Director; Keith Olander, AgCentric Director; Hara Charlier, CLC President; Sen. Klobuchar; Noah Boelter, CLC researcher; Judy Barka, Ak and Energy Center Assistant Director; Anna Butler, CLC student and Olivia Spikberg, CLC student. (Photo by Mark Anderson)

Staples council approves \$140,000 sewer project

The City of Staples decided to go ahead with a water and sewer project on 2nd Street NE, near Staples-Motley High School, despite not having grant funding for the sewer portion of it. The project was approved at the Jan. 9 council meeting.

At previous meetings, Public Works Director Scott Grabe had told the council that the city did qualify for a grant for the water portion of the project, but not for the sewer portion. He had planned to look for alternate funding or apply for the state grant again, but at the Jan. 9 meeting, he told the council that the school needs the project to be completed next year so they can get the proper fire suppression infrastructure into their

new addition that should be completed next year.

Grabe said they plan to bring an eight inch water main from Pleasant Ave. NE, so it can hook up to the school. They need that size because of the increased square footage that needs to be covered by fire suppression. Grabe said if the project isn't completed in 2024, the school won't be able to open the new building until the water is in.

Council member Doug Case asked if there was a way to share the funding, citing an industrial project where the city and Stern Rubber applied for a grant and shared the cost. City Administrator Jerel Nelsen said that program is not available for this project.

Nelsen said the city didn't have enough points

See **COUNCIL** on page 10a

Senator Klobuchar visits Staples

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Before being shown a meat cutting demonstration at Central Lakes College in Staples, U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar said that the people in Ely, her father's home town, pronounce her last name as "Klo-butcher" even to this day. She felt that was a connection to the new CLC program.

Klobuchar came to Staples on Jan. 12 to visit the Ag and Energy Center and AgCentric at CLC, and to learn about the new meat cutting program, which is shared with Ridgewater Community College in Hutchinson and Willmar.

Before the CLC meat cutting program was started, there were only seven meat cutting programs in the United States. CLC and Ridgewater are the only two programs in Minnesota.

Meat cutting instructor Jess Feierabend showed Klobuchar how to cut a beef portion into steaks and other creative cuts that can increase the value of the beef.

Feierabend told Klobuchar that the program is not just for people wanting to get into the industry, but also for people already working at a food shop who want to learn new ways of cutting and using the meats. He said some places are looking at diversifying their menus in order to get



"Klo-butcher" and the art of meat cutting

Senator Amy Klobuchar looks interested in how CLC meat cutting instructor Jess Feierabend cuts a beef portion. Feierabend told her that there is an art to cutting meat, it must look good on the shelf in order to sell. The senator said that the people of Ely, her father's home town, pronounce their last name as "Klo-butcher". (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Feierabend said that steak is expensive right now partly because there is a shortage of cattle for slaughter. The CLC program

also shows how to cut poultry, hogs, lambs and goats.

See **KLOBUCHAR** on page 10a

TCO Staples - Therapy now open
Cutting- edge facility features expanded services

Submitted by Twin Cities Orthopedics

Twin Cities Orthopedics officially opened TCO Staples –Therapy Jan. 15, expanding its presence in the Brainerd Lakes area.

TCO Staples –Therapy, located off Highway 10 and 12th St. NE, features physical therapy, hand therapy, and sports performance. With 7,000 square feet of top-of-the-line equipment and technology, TCO Staples –Therapy is able to provide more comprehensive care for the community.

TCO's commitment to the Staples area dates back to September, 2021. Through its partnership with Lakewood Health System, TCO physicians provide orthopedic care at TCO Staples (located on Lakewood's main campus) and will continue to do so moving forward.

"Seeing how this entire area has embraced TCO makes this expansion even more meaningful," TCO Chief Development Officer Chris Bailey said. "We've been inspired by the community's warm welcome and the trust they have placed in us. We're excited to

deepen our roots and make a positive impact in the region."

Every detail of this facility is tailored to fostering health and recovery, from private therapy rooms to spacious athletic turf and training spaces. What really makes this facility special are the expert providers. From some of the region's top orthopedic surgeons to experienced physical therapists, patients and athletes alike will have access to a high standard of orthopedic services available.

"We're so proud of our partnership with TCO and are thrilled to see this expansion become a reality," Lakewood Health System Vice President of Strategy & Development Brad Anderson said. "We've seen the way TCO's physicians have elevated the standard of care in the area and enriched the lives of our community members. We are excited to witness the positive impact of TCO Staples –Therapy on the health and well-being of our residents."

TCO accepts all referrals and major insurance types, so patients will have access to a high quality of care with-

out any obstacles.

Open House

Twin Cities Orthopedics invites the community to an open house event from 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 1, at TCO Staples –Therapy. Take a guided tour of the new space, enjoy light food and beverages, and enter to win Minnesota Vikings memorabilia. All are welcome. The first 100 people in attendance will receive a free swag bag.

About Twin Cities Orthopedics

Twin Cities Orthopedics (TCO) is committed to providing world-class service. TCO's dedicated teams of independent physicians, specialty providers and care coordinators serve patients in clinic locations, walk-in orthopedic urgent care locations, and numerous other therapy and specialty care settings across Minnesota and western Wisconsin. Regardless of the location, TCO delivers an exceptional patient experience, backed by decades of trusted orthopedic and sports medicine.

Weather

2024

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Jan. 17	3	-11	M. Cloudy
Jan. 18	4	-9	P. Cloudy
Jan. 19	5	-12	P. Cloudy
Jan. 20	8	0	Sunny
Jan. 21	22	18	P. Cloudy
Jan. 22	31	25	Cloudy
Jan. 23	37	28	Cloudy

Last Year, 2023

	High	Low	Cond.
Jan. 17	24°	19	Cloudy
Jan. 18	27	20	Cloudy
Jan. 19	27	24	Cloudy
Jan. 20	21	16	Cloudy
Jan. 21	21	18	Cloudy
Jan. 22	17	8	Cloudy
Jan. 23	32	11	Cloudy

Average Temps:
H = 21° Low = 3°

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Region Five: 9A

May Township: 9A

Todd Planning Commission: 9A

Obituaries

Herbert Garland

Sandra Hamilton

Merlin Jacobs

Barbara Niemann

Young Authors Conference held in Staples

Submitted by Sourcewell

Two days. Eight authors. Nine school districts. Nearly 250 students.

It all adds up to a great opportunity for aspiring student authors to write their future at Sourcewell's Young Authors Conference in November.

Due to growing demand, the event was offered on two separate days at Central Lakes College Staples campus.

Participating schools included Brainerd, Crosslake, Henning, Pequot Lakes, Pierz, Pine River-Backus, Royalton, Staples-Motley, and Wadena-Deer Creek.

According to event planner and Student Academics Coordinator Phillip Olsen, students had the opportunity to spend three sessions with authors and illustrators, then enjoyed a lunchtime concert led by songwriter and artist Ken Lonnquist. Students also received a book written by keynote speaker Art Coulson.

But students weren't the only ones given the gift of learning at the conference. For the first time in the history of the event, teachers were included in an author-led breakout session designed specifically for them.

Olsen said his planning team felt, that by adding a teacher component to the day, the conference could become a starting point for positive momentum moving forward.

"When we looked at the conference through that lens, it became clear that giving teachers an opportunity to work with an author was a tremendous, synergistic way to increase the impact of the conference in the region," Olsen notes. "It was so rewarding to see them dig in as enthusiastically as their students."

The theme for this year's conference was "Put the POW! in Empowerment."

Guest authors

Keynote speaker Art Coulson is a writer of Cherokee, English, and Dutch descent and comes from a family of storytellers (in

all three traditions). Some of his earliest memories are of listening to stories and reading books on his grandmother's lap. He has been a writer his whole life and published his first two books when he was in elementary school.

A Navy brat, Art was born in Honolulu, where he lived for his first seven months. Art and his family moved often, sometimes more than once a year. He attended 14 different schools on three continents before he graduated high school.

Art's first children's book, The Creator's Game, a story about a young lacrosse player, was published in 2013. Since then, he has published a number of other books, graphic novels, plays, and short stories. His most recent book, Chasing Bigfoot, was published in 2022.

Other presenters:

• Rebecca K.S. Ansari - Everyone's the Hero of Their Own Story: Making Great Villians

After 12 years as an emergency room doctor, Rebecca shelved her scrubs to write magical mysteries for kids. When she isn't writing, she's biking, skiing, or escaping 'up north' with her family, two huge dogs, and a good book.

• Aimée M. Bissonette - Flash Writing: Generating Powerful Story Starters like a Superhero

Aimée is a retired lawyer who now writes primarily for kids. Her books are often influenced by nature, history, and strong women. She taught for more than 20 years as adjunct professor and loves classroom energy and exchanging ideas.

• John Coy - Let's Talk: How Dialogue Can Improve Your Writing

John is the author of young adult novels, chapter books, and nonfiction and fiction picture books. He has received numerous awards for his work and loves working with students to share some of the techniques he's learned. John lives by the Mississippi River in Minneapolis.

• Kathy Groth - Tell Your POWERful Story!

Kathy is a retired teacher



who has found her second career as an author. Her strength as a teacher was promoting writing in her students and has a goal to excite young people to find their voice and realize they each have a story tell.

• Ken Lonnquist - Say it in a Song

Ken brings laughter and song to audiences of all ages, exploring themes of nature, human nature, and current events. He has toured North America and his songs have played on NPR, Air America, documentaries, and more.

• Thor Nystrom - You Can Be a Sportswriter (or any other kind of writer you want to be), Too

Brainerd's own Thor

Nystrom is a college football and NFL draft analyst for FantasyPros and BettingPros. He previously spent 12 years at NBC Sports. He also has a Vikings-centric show on SkorNorth. His work has won multiple national awards, including from Rolling Stone magazine and FSWA.

• Jason Walz - Let's Make a Comic

Jason's experience teaching in special education for more than 20 years has shaped the stories he tells. He is currently working on a young adult graphic novel for Penguin Books about depression and loss (with lots of monsters thrown in for good measure).

Fentanyl seller sentenced in Wadena County

On Jan. 3, John Alan Gordon, 34, of rural Waubun was sentenced to 80 months in Wadena County for 1st degree drug sales.

On Sept. 20, 2022, at the direction of the White Earth Police Department, a traffic stop was conducted by the Wadena County Sheriff's Office on a vehicle driven by Gordon. During the investigation of the traffic stop, approximately 362 grams of Fentanyl was seized.

The Fentanyl seized from Gordon was sent to the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension's Lab. The lab concluded that the Fentanyl was mixed with Xylazine.

Fentanyl mixed with Xylazine is also known as "Tranq". Xylazine is a non-opioid animal tranquilizer. Naloxone (Narcan) does not reverse an overdose of Xylazine. Due to Xylazine being mixed with Fentanyl and other opiates when someone is overdosing on "Tranq", they should

still be given Naloxone.

The White Earth Police Department was assisted by the Paul Bunyan Drug Task Force, Headwaters Safe Trails Task Force, West Central Drug and Violent Crime Task Force, Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, Becker County Sheriff's Office, Mahnomen County Sheriff's Office, Wadena County Sheriff's Office, Wadena County Attorney's Office, and the United States Attorney's Office. The White Earth Police Department would like to thank our partnering agencies for their assistance.

Multiple individuals were arrested and are pending trial/sentencing as a result of this case.

Anyone with information about any ongoing case or narcotics trafficking can contact the White Earth Police Department at 218-983-3281. Community Members can also leave a tip on their web site.

Ratchenski joins Mid Minnesota Investment and Retirement Services

MidMinnesota Federal Credit Union (MMFCU) welcomes Matt Ratchenski, LPL Financial Advisor to MidMinnesota Investment and Retirement Services.

Matt is a Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor (CRPCTM) which means his experience and training support a "road map" for strategies before and after retirement. With six years of experience in investment and retirement services, Matt helps individuals through a holistic and personalized approach to their specific financial needs and goals.

Matt is a North Dakota native and graduated with a finance degree from North Dakota State University. He lives in the Perham area with his family and enjoys the Minnesota outdoors in all seasons.

Meet with Matt at offices in Detroit Lakes, Staples, Wadena and Ada.

"We are excited to have Matt join our Investment and Retirement Services team at MMFCU. Matt brings a wealth of knowledge and experience that will be a great asset to the clients we serve," said Mark Meyer, LPL Program Man-



Matt Ratchenski

ager.

As a member owned financial cooperative serving central Minnesota, MMFCU's Mission is to improve the financial well-being of our member owners. Providing members access to MidMinnesota Investment and Retirement Services is an extension of this mission. The credit union has 12 full-service locations offering all your financial needs under one roof. They also participate in CO-OP Shared Branching providing an additional 5,900 locations nationwide if you are traveling, away at school, on business and more.

Motley area law enforcement report

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

Jan. 3 - 9

Jan. 5 - Motley Police

and the Motley Fire Dept. responded to a crash at the junction of Hwys 10 and 210 in Motley. The crash was handled by state patrol.

Jan. 4 - Motley Police received a report of burning hay at Morrison St., Motley. The smoke and

smell was giving the complaining party headaches.

Jan. 9 - The MCSO received a call from Cass County, reporting a vehicle in the ditch at 11147 Cty 32 SW in Motley, with the driver sustaining possible injuries. The Motley

Fire Dept. was paged, per request.

Jan. 3 - Morrison County deputies responded to a report of a vehicle off road at Dove Rd., in Cushing. The vehicle was towed and the driver given a ride back to his residence.

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Predatory Offender Registration verifications for Morrison County

Morrison County Sheriff Shawn Larsen announced that his office, in cooperation with all local police departments in the

county, have recently completed the annual Predatory Offender Registration (POR) verifications for Morrison County. Each year the

sheriff's office organizes a verification check for all predatory offenders who are on the registry and residing within the county. It is important to note that Minnesota only began registering predatory offenders in 1991 and did not assign risk level until 1997. Only those offenders who have been sentenced to prison and were released after Jan. 1, 1997 have been assigned a risk level. Offenders sentenced to probation or juvenile offenders are not assigned a risk level. Level 1 offenders are those deemed by Department of Corrections officials as those least likely to re-offend while Level 3 offenders are considered most likely to re-offend.

During the most recent round of checks, multiple predatory offenders were checked in Morrison County. Fifty-four predatory offenders were checked by the Morrison County Sheriff's Office, Pierz Police

Department, Motley Police Department and Royalton Police Department. Of that number; 18 were Level 1 offenders, eight were Level 2, one was Level 3 and 27 offenders were not assigned a risk level. Forty-two predatory offenders were checked by the Little Falls Police Department, which are not part of the breakdown.

All but two individuals were found to be compliant with conditions imposed upon them. Forty-one-year-old Casey Christopher Allen, and 44-year-old Larry Allen Rolla are pending charges for failing to register their current addresses, which is a felony. According to Sheriff Larsen it is important for us to keep tabs on the predatory offender registry. "I feel it is extremely important that these people remain aware that we know who they are, and our office will continue to hold them accountable."

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Looking back

75 YEARS Ago - 1949

• Jan. 20, 1949 - Monday evening, Jan. 24, will find the Staples Lions club observing its tenth anniversary, with a banquet at the St. Charles hotel. The banquet will start at 6:30 o'clock.

• Jan. 20, 1949 - A group of boxers from Staples will be at the Golden Gloves event in Brainerd Jan. 26, 27 and 29, with three of these candidates having participated in a Golden Glove event before.

Compiled by
Dawn Timbs

Pat Bacon, James Germann and Derald Hirschev have been to the Golden Gloves event before, and it is through the efforts of the latter that these young men have been training the past few weeks, and feel that they are in shape to participate in the event in Brainerd next week. The other member of the team to go to Brainerd is Richard Marden.

• Jan. 20, 1949 - The first concert of the 1949 season will be presented by the Staples Men's Civic Chorus at the Staples Auditorium on Sunday evening, Jan. 23, with the concert billed to start at 8 o'clock.

Erling I. Lian, director of the chorus, states that the concert this coming Sunday evening will be entirely different than any other concert presented by the chorus in that practically every number on the program is new this season.

There will be the usual Negro spirituals, but these are all new, and will bring out more effectively the spiritual music of the Negro race.

• Jan. 20, 1949 - The Lystad-Redick Company of Grand Forks arrived in Staples Jan. 17, and started on the morning of Jan. 18

on a city-wide rat eradication project, to rid the city of this destructive rodent which annually destroys thousands of dollars worth of property.

The company guarantees their work, and came to Staples very highly recommended.

People are warned to be very careful about their children and pets. The poison used by the company is deadly, and the company itself takes all precaution necessary in spreading, but it has to have the cooperation of the people of the town to further the program and make it more effective.

50 YEARS Ago - 1974

• Jan. 17, 1974 - Kris Brichacek, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Brichacek, was chosen by the members of the Staples Chapter of the Future Farmers of America to reign as their 1974 Sweetheart.

• Jan. 17, 1974 - A barn fire near Motley Thursday evening, Jan. 10, resulted in a heavy loss at the Roger Nichols farm, located about one mile west of Motley along U.S. Highway No. 10.

It was reported that the Nichols family were not at home at the time and that the fire in the 50x100 foot pole building with sheet metal siding and roof was first discovered bout 9:15 p.m. by a passerby, who is also a member of the Motley Fire Department.

Nichols told The World that the fire may have apparently been started by a heat lamp in the farrowing pen.

The fire raged through the building, which housed pigs, calves and feed and hay for the livestock. It was also reported that the Motley firemen managed to get some of the livestock from the burning structure. Despite the 20 below temperature, Motley firemen remained at the scene several hours in order to bring the blaze under control. The



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from 2003. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photo? Do you have a memory to share? Email your answers and where you're from to dtimbs@staplesworld.com by Friday, or call 218-894-1112. The answers will be published in next week's paper, as well as a new mystery photo.

Staples Fire Dept. was also called to the scene for the purpose of assisting with the supplying of water to combat the fire.

Nichols said that lost in the fire, besides the building which was totally destroyed, were 35 little pigs, 15 hogs about 100 pounds each, four sows, nine calves and the feed and hay for the pigs and calves. He estimated his loss at about \$10,000 and he said that it was not covered by insurance.

• Jan. 17, 1974 - The Motley Independent Basketball team defeated Wadena 73-65 in a contest played at New York Mills last Sunday evening.

Leading the motley scoring was Leon Trout with 20, followed by Jim Bartholomaus 11, John Beckner 8, Phil Trout 2. Ken Swecker 9, Roger Bremer 8, Ian Macheel 8 and Randy Skeesick 8.

• Jan. 17, 1974 - Construction work on the Staples Community center shows signs of progress the past week, with laying of floor slabs presently underway. The pre-cast slabs are eight inches thick, 24 inches wide, and 22 feet, 9 inches long. Each of the slabs weighs about 2,200 pounds.

• Jan. 17, 1974 - At a recent meeting of the Staples City Council nine persons from Staples were appointed to the board for the Staples Community center.

Named for two year terms were Melvin Nefstead, Dr. T. J. Lelwica, Ken Hassler, Edwin Perry and Rev. Eugene Floistad. Serving one year terms will be Robert Hankey, Mrs. Beverly Nelsen, Mike Thelen and Kathy Sturre.

• Jan. 17, 1974 - Sister Ann Smerke, a Catholic Pentecostal and a member of the Franciscan Sisters Community, Little Falls, will be the guest speaker at the Staples Assembly of God Church Sunday evening, Jan. 20. The Rev. Daniel Hughes, pastor of the church, said that the special service will start at 8 p.m. and everyone is welcome to attend.

25 YEARS Ago - 1999

• Jan. 21, 1999 - The Staples Motley boys this past week knocked off both the Brainerd Warriors and the Wadena-Deer Creek Wolverines in cage action.

• Jan. 21, 1999 - The Cardinals poured on the coals in the first quarter to engineer a 61-47 defeat of the Wadena-Deer Creek girls in a basketball game played Jan. 14.

• Jan. 21, 1999 - The area's "Centennial Big Band" will perform as part of the "Hometown Series" at Centennial Auditorium in Staples Feb. 7.

The band, under the direction of Lars Nelson of Staples, will be joined by composer/entertainer Dr. Steven Wright. Known as the "jazz doctor," Dr. Wright is most famous among jazz educators and fans for his jazz classic "Norwegian Wood." Wright will be performing on his trumpet.

• Jan. 21, 1999 - Lynn Ketelsen, an agriculture commentator on the Linder Farm Radio network, is the featured speaker at the Farmer Appreciation Day events Jan. 25, at the Staples Motley High School.

10 YEARS Ago - 2014

• Jan. 16, 2014 - Over 300 voices will be featured in the first ever 'Her Voice, Her Song,' choral event Jan. 25, at Pillager High School. A concert of the public will begin at 7:30 p.m.

The event, a choral festival for women, is sponsored by the Staples Area Women's Chorus, under the direction of Rob Freelove.

• Jan. 16, 2014 - This time it's for real, Wayne Barros says of his retirement from the City of Motley.

"I thought I'd retired in 2005...I guess I was pulling Brett Favre," he laughed during a recent interview.

Wayne's worked as the city's Utilities Supervisor for a total of 32 years. His last day on the job is Jan. 17. A Retirement Open House will be held in his honor at city hall on Jan. 16.

Staples Police report

Dec. 18, Staples Police, along with Todd County Sheriff's Office, responded to the Frontier Townhomes on report of a suicide attempt. Law enforcement encountered a male who had slit his wrist with a kitchen knife, saying he was hearing voices in his head. He was transported to Lakewood emergency room by ambulance with a police escort. Once at Lakewood, law enforcement stood by until hospital staff no longer needed assistance.

Dec. 19, at 10:39 a.m., Staples Police received a report of a vehicle that drove through the railroad crossing breaking the arm and causing damage to the vehicle.

Dec. 21, Staples Police were called to the 400 block of 6th St. SE to assist the Department of Corrections Probation in arresting an individual. Troy Frost, 31, of Staples, was arrested for a probation violation.

Dec. 21, Staples Police received a driving complaint of a vehicle traveling Westbound on Highway 10 which was traveling at dangerously low speeds. Officers pulled the vehicle over and advised them of the complaint, as well as gave them a verbal warning for not using their signal.

Dec. 23, at 2:21 a.m., Staples Police assisted the Todd County Sheriff's Department with a report of a vehicle in the ditch near Todd County Highway 9 and Thunder Road. It was reported that the driver was possibly intoxicated. Police observed a vehicle in the east ditch, unoccupied. Police stood by on scene until the Todd County Sheriff's Department arrived to further investigate the incident.

Dec. 23, at 7:43 a.m., Staples Police received a report saying two tires on a vehicle had been slashed. The complainant advised they believed the neighbor was involved due to a parking dispute that law enforcement was called to the previous day. Police spoke to the neighbor who denied any knowledge of the incident.

Dec. 25, Staples Police noticed a stolen 4-wheeler out of rural Motley at a residence on the 200 block of Wisconsin Ave. SE. Officers obtained permission from the land owner to check the 4-wheeler and confirmed it was stolen. Officers arrested Benjamin Weekly, 30, of Staples, for felony receiving stolen property.

Dec. 26, Staples Police responded to the 1400 block of 3rd Street NE for a report of a domestic dispute. Police arrested Baylee Batson, 24, of Staples, for domestic assault, obstructing arrest, and disorderly conduct. Batson was transported and held at the Wadena County detention center.

Dec. 27, Staples Police received a report of a package being taken from the a residence around the 300 block of Dakota Ave. SE sometime in the morning.

Dec. 28, Staples Police were called to the 1400 block of 3rd St. NE for a suicidal subject. A subject had cut themselves and left in a vehicle. The subject was later located at a relative's and was transported by ambulance to the hospital for treatment on the injuries and mental health evaluation.

Dec. 28, Staples Police responded to an out-of-control juvenile around the 500 block of Warner Road. The juvenile was arrested.

Dec. 30, Staples Police were called to a report of an assault. Police arrested Mitchell Vanalst, 32, after investigation.

Dec. 31, Staples Police took a report of a basketball hoop that was ripped down over the night around the 800 block of 2nd Ave. NE. Police were able to follow shoe prints in the snow to a residence near by.

Jan. 1, at 4:50 a.m., Staples Police assisted Morrison County deputies that were in pursuit of a vehicle northbound on Highway 10 from Little Falls. The registered owner was listed to an address on the southern outskirts of Motley. Before police could join the pursuit the suspect vehicle had its tires defeated by spike strips. The suspect was taken into custody near the intersection of Highway 10 and Azalea Road after a short stand off. Richard Vandemay, 37, of rural Motley was arrested and transported to the Morrison County Jail.

Jan. 1, Staples Police assisted Little Falls Police in locating a wanted vehicle related to a recent burglary. Officers located the vehicle parked in front of the registered owner's listed address and observed it leave. Police performed a traffic stop on the vehicle at 4th St. and Centennial Dr. The driver of the vehicle was released and the vehicle was impounded and secured at the Staples impound lot.

Jan. 1, Staples Police responded to a report of an active medical alarm on the 1200 block of Highway 10. Also responding was the Staples Ambulance. The subject went to the hospital by private vehicle.

Jan. 3, Staples Police received a report of an individual hanging around inside City Hall. The individual stated he was homeless and was looking for a shelter. City staff provided him numbers he could try. Individual was hanging out in the bathroom for a extended period of time and the city staff wanted a welfare check done on him. The individual had left prior to police arrival.

Jan. 3, Staples Police located a homeless male on the 1200 block of Hwy. 10 who was trying to get to Minneapolis. The subject was given a ride to the depot to wait for the eastbound Amtrak.

Jan. 4, Staples Police responded to the Love Hotel for reports of a domestic disturbance. Officers were able to separate the two parties and advised them to stay separated for the night.

Jan. 4, Staples Police were called to the 200 block of 8th St. NE for a report of two juvenile males trespassing and shooting an airsoft gun. The juveniles were identified and parents were advised of the incident.

Jan. 6, Staples Police received a driving complaint of a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed and having an extension cord hanging out of the rear of the vehicle on Hwy. 10. Officers were unable to locate the vehicle.

Reported: 01-07-2024 0412 Jan. 6, at 11:30 p.m., Staples Police located two juveniles out after curfew. Police transported the two juveniles home to their parents, and all parties were advised on the incident.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the Jan. 4, 1990 edition of the Staples World featured Derrold Winter of Staples, pictured with a 16 pound northern he'd speared while ice fishing with his older brother. A few weeks prior, Winter had been featured with his 22 pound northern.

Josh Winter of Browerville called to say, "That is 'Uncle Dude' with a pike he speared on Gull Lake." Thanks for participating in our Mystery Photo.

North Central SBDC announces legacy planning workshop

The North Central Small Business Development Center (SBDC) is excited to announce a new workshop—Legacy Planning: Maximizing Your Small Business' Value. This workshop will be offered throughout the region and will focus on the practical steps needed to secure a lasting legacy for a business.

At the workshop, participants will gain insights, tools, and resources needed to develop a solid legacy plan (aka transition plan), ensuring the continuity of their legacy and the smooth transfer of assets and management to the new owners. The workshop encourages proactive planning to navigate the complexities of legacy preservation and transition with confidence. The workshop will be offered in the following communities:

- In Brainerd at Central Lakes College on February 2nd, 2024
- In Hackensack at Paws and Claws on February 9th, 2024
- In Staples at Central Lakes College on February 16th, 2024
- In Little Falls at the Initiative Foundation on March 1st, 2024
- In North Branch and the Chisago

County HRA/EDA Office on May 3rd, 2024

- In Aitkin at the Ripple Center on May 14th, 2024

Attendance is open to all, and early registration is encouraged as space is limited. To reserve your spot or learn more about the workshop, visit: https://mnscu.rschooltoday.com/public/getclass/category_id/1672/program_id/40. A direct link can also be found on the North Central SBDC Facebook page.

The cost to attend the workshop is \$50. Current members of any local Chamber of Commerce are eligible to attend at no-cost. "Chambers play a key role in building and sustaining local economies," said Katie Heppner, Regional Director of the North Central SBDC. "This discount is our way of thanking their membership for their commitment to community."

The North Central SBDC also offers a short, on-demand Legacy Planning training video, designed to be a teaser of the full training. The video can be viewed at any time by visiting: <https://www.clecmn.edu/small-business-development-center/web-resources/>.

Legacy Planning: Maximizing Your Business' Value is funded in part through the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development's Small Business Assistance Partnership Grant. The North Central SBDC provides no-cost, one-on-one business consulting and low-cost trainings to help entrepreneurs and small business owners start, grow and succeed. The North Central SBDC is hosted by Central Lakes College and works throughout an 11 county and two sovereign nation region. The geographic region served by the North Central SBDC includes: Aitkin, Cass, Chisago, Crow Wing, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Pine, Todd, and Wadena counties and the sovereign nations of the Leech Lake and Mille Lacs Bands of Ojibwe. To learn more about the North Central SBDC and to register for services visit www.clecmn.edu/small-business-development-center or contact Katie Heppner, Regional Director, at katherine.heppner@clecmn.edu.



Donate Your Vehicle

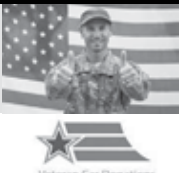
Call (833) 937-2593 to donate your car, truck, boat, RV, and more today!

- Support Veteran Nonprofits.
- Free Pickup & Towing.
- Top Tax Deduction.

Donate Your Vehicle Today

833-937-2593

While we appreciate every donation, in some cases, we find that we are unable to accept certain vehicles, watercraft, and/or recreational vehicles due to the prohibitive costs of acquisition. If you have any questions, please give us a call at (833) 937-2593.



Quote of the week

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”
— Martin Luther King, Jr.

Wild lives made up of dramas, large and small

It's the exception, not the rule, that we are witness to the biggest dramas that take place in the lives of wild creatures. We rarely are present to watch the beginning of life, when a white-tail doe gives birth to a fawn, or a fuzzy mallard chick pips its shell and emerges into the world, where its life—short or long—will be spent. We seldom see the climax of hunts where a predator captures its prey; a goshawk or owl capturing and consuming a grouse, or a wolf pack bringing down a young moose.

More often the dramas we're witness to are more mundane; a white-breasted nuthatch working its way headfirst down a pine tree seeking insects in the cranies of its bark, a cardinal dining on sunflower seeds at our feeder, or a pileated woodpecker jack-hammering on a dead tree trunk to find and break into a gallery of carpenter ants. In spring, when ponds and wetlands thaw and reopen, we may see gaudily-plumed male ducks engaged in their ritual displays and even mock combats, to win over and mate with a hen of their kind. Less dramatic, but no less revealing.

Just before the post-holiday cold snap finally formed a cap of ice on the largest lakes hereabouts, I had a ringside seat for just such a drama. Its cast included a young bald eagle, and a trio of crows in supporting roles. Dawn was struggling to win its battle with a dense cloud cover, and with the mist that often rises as

a lake's water is becoming super-cooled, in that final stage before its molecules are locked in place as ice.

A breeze was blowing onshore, and a young bald eagle was taking advantage of it, soaring along the seam where the water met the beaches and shoreline rip-rap of the cabins on the hill above. Such winds have a habit of washing up dead fish on the shoreline, though this is more common before docks and lifts are removed and most boats go into storage, a product of the unfortunate but sometimes inevitable hooking mortality that accompanies sport fishing.

This was a rewarding morning for the young eagle, as I observed through the picture window behind which I sat in the darkened interior, with my first cup of coffee of the day. I watched as the eagle circled tentatively, then alighted on a thick limb of the ancient ash tree that is rooted in the sharply-sloping embankment, some of whose branches reach out over the lake.

The eagle's repeated reaching with its beak toward its talons as they gripped the limb, revealed that it had secured its breakfast. With both naked eye and field glasses, I strained for a positive ID of the creature it was dining on. Whatever was gripped in the eagle's talons, it was not large enough to be a whole wall-eye, or even a small northern pike; probably a panfish, or a small bass.

That's when the first crow arrived, and alighted on a limb above the eagle, whose scruffy colored plumage and lack of a white head and tail revealed that it was not a mature adult. Though our windows were closed, the volume of the crow's grating "caw-caw" was audible nonetheless. But it was not content to just perch there and heap a crow's ver-

sion of verbal abuse on the eagle. The crow began making short hop-flights at the eagle, coming within inches of making contact.

The objective, of course, was to distract the eagle, to make it perhaps drop the steadily diminishing carcass that it was repeatedly reaching down to take bites of. Crows, and their more northern counterpart, the raven, are famous—or infamous—for their habit of harassing other scavengers, and predators, in order to secure a share for themselves. Up to and including such formidable creatures as wolves and coyotes. Both jet-black birds are agile, and seem always able to stay safely out of reach.

Soon two more crows arrived on the scene, and the lone harasser became a trio. Most of the eagle's dining took place with it reaching down to tear off chunks of the carcass gripped between the limb and its talons. But as the crows stepped up their harassment, cawing and "buzzing" the eagle's head, it shifted strategy. It perched on the limb with one leg, and lifted the now-diminished carcass with the other, its talons bringing the food up to meet its hooked beak. Perhaps in this way it could better keep its eye on the three interlopers.

Try as they might, the crows were unable to chase the young eagle off its meal. There was no visible carcass left when the eagle finally lifted its wings and launched itself into flight. The crows had been bested, but—in the event that some tangible reward remained—they pecked at the limb where the eagle had perched, perhaps gleaning some scrap or fishy residue left behind.

Not life or death, perhaps, but a minor wildlife drama that I had unexpectedly been an audience to.

Elite colleges recruiting rural

By Heather Close
The Rural Blog

For years, rural high school students were rarely visited by recruiters from highly selective universities, but that trend is changing, with schools such as MIT and Yale seeking students from rural places. While some students are excited about the opportunities, others are saying "no thanks," reports Jon Marcus for The Hechinger Report. The recruitment is "part of an effort to pay more

attention to rural America, where students are less likely than their urban and suburban counterparts to go to college and, if they do, more likely to drop out."

There's a disconnect between high school and college for rural students. "Rural students graduate from high school at a higher rate (90 percent) than their counterparts in cities (82 percent) and suburbs (89 percent). But only 55 percent go directly to college," Marcus writes. A new consortium called STARS, or Small Town and Rural Students

College Network, is working to bridge the rural-to-college gap.

Despite the recruitment efforts, some rural students will choose to remain close to home. Laura Kidwell, a Stone Memorial (Tenn.)sschool counselor, told Marcus, "Even the ones that have the higher scores, that can survive at some of the more prestigious colleges, they like it here, and they don't necessarily want to leave. They want to be with-in driving distance from home and their family and friends."

Klobuchar legislative priorities for 2024

By Senator Amy Klobuchar

As Minnesota families celebrate the new year, I want to reflect on everything we achieved together in 2023 and look forward to the year ahead. Despite a divided Congress, we worked across the aisle and made progress on a range of issues impacting our state. Through my visits to all of Minnesota's 87 counties last year, I got to see that progress firsthand. I'm going to build on that momentum in 2024.

Minnesota is a true economic hub for our country. That's why I fought to secure federal funding for projects like the new Highway 14 in Southern Minnesota — which was completed late last year — and the Moorhead 11th Street underpass project. These investments will keep our state competitive for generations to come, but I know there's still work to do. I'm focused on making sure Minnesota gets its fair share of funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law so we can get proposed infrastructure projects — from widening Highway 212 in Carver County to replacing the Blatnik Bridge up north — across the finish line.

We can't talk about infrastructure without also talking about broadband. Right now, 136,000 Minnesota homes and small businesses don't have high-speed internet. That's why I led the legislation to bring broadband to every zip code, and in 2023, Minnesota received a game-changing \$650 million federal grant to make this a reality.

I'm also devoted to lowering costs for families. After years of effort, Congress finally passed my legislation to end the sweetheart deal that let Big Pharma rip off seniors by charging sky-high prices for prescription drugs. Negotiations for lower prices have already begun on ten of the most common — and most expensive — drugs on the market. Seniors taking Eliquis, Xarelto, Jardiance, Januvia, Farxiga, Entresto, Enbrel, Imbruvica, Stelara, as well as any Fiasp and Novo-Log insulin products could see lower prices for these life-saving drugs by 2025. Last year, a combined 9 million seniors shelled out \$3.4 billion for just these ten drugs, and as a result of drug price negotiation, American taxpayers will save an estimated \$281 billion over the next decade.

Empowering Medicare to bring down drug prices will make a world of difference in cost of living for our seniors, and I want more savings to kick in as soon as possible.

That's why I'm working to pass my new bill to double the number of drugs subject to price negotiation each year — because no American should be forced to choose between filling their prescriptions and filling their refrigerator.

Additionally, I want to expand access to affordable child care. From southwestern Minnesota to the North Shore, I hear about this issue from families across our state. Minnesota is making progress — I visited brand-new, innovative child care centers in Redwood Falls, Morris, and Perham last year — but there's still more to do. That's why I've introduced bipartisan legislation to strengthen our child care workforce and build out facilities in child care deserts. I'm also fighting to restore the federal grants that kept child care centers open during the pandemic.

I also remain laser-focused on keeping families safe. I believe we need funding for and changes to our border security, as well as measures to go after the scourge of fentanyl coming into our country, including the bipartisan legislation we passed in the Senate to help halt the flow of illegal drugs. Additionally, I'm leading several other bipartisan bills to crack down on online drug dealing and hold social media companies accountable when illegal drugs are sold over their platforms.

But we can still do more on public safety — it's a top priority for me as we head into 2024. That's why I'll keep working to bolster law enforcement's ability to investigate violent crimes like carjackings and fentanyl trafficking. I also want to ensure that emergency medical services don't leave rural Minnesota behind — it's unacceptable that towns are at risk of reduced ambulance service due to high operating costs and insufficient funding. We need to bolster federal support for rural EMS — because your zip code should never stand in the way of life-saving care.

This year, I'm hopeful that Congress can work together to build on the progress we made in 2023 and address the challenges ahead. You can rest assured that I'll keep reaching across the aisle to deliver real results for Minnesota, whether it be critical investments in affordable housing and child care or a strong Farm Bill that strengthens rural economies across our state.

From my family to yours, I wish you all a happy, healthy new year.

Design of snow shovels affects usage

From University of Minnesota Extension

With Minnesota winters, there is perhaps no tool more important than the snow shovel. Gabriel Ruegg, a senior lecturer of product design in the University of Minnesota College of Design, answers questions about how to make sure you select a quality shovel this winter.

Q: What should people look for when deciding what type of snow shovel to buy?

Ruegg: Consider which of the two major motions your space requires — pushing snow like a plow, or lifting and tossing it from one place to another. Shovels for pushing tend to have longer handles and shallow, wide blades, whereas those for lifting tend to have shorter handles and scooped blades. Most snow shovels on the market are optimized for one of these two functions.

While many shovels are designed to accomplish both tasks reasonably well, you may decide to have separate tools for specialized tasks.

Q: How do the product materials impact effectiveness?

Ruegg: The main consideration is weight, especially for the lifting and tossing motion. In addition to the weight of the snow, you're also lifting the weight of the shovel, over and over again. However, if the snow is icy or compacted, the momentum of a heavier shovel might help break it up or pry it loose.

Keep in mind the type of surface you're clearing. A metal blade or blade edge might damage wood decking or ceramic patio tiles, whereas concrete or asphalt are unlikely to be affected.

Finally, all shovels eventually wear out, so considering what will happen at the end of their use is important. Plastic, rubber and fiberglass are likely headed for the landfill, whereas metal is more likely to be recycled and wood can be a renewable resource.

Q: What features should someone look for if they are concerned about protecting their back?

Ruegg: The curved or 'ergonomic' handles available on many snow shovels elevate the point where you grasp the middle of the handle when lifting and tossing snow, so you don't have to bend over as far. Third-party loop handles that attach to any shovel can accomplish the same thing. This doesn't help with the pushing motion — in fact, it may even hinder it.

Heavy, wet snow is the real back killer. Be aware that a shovel full of light, fluffy snow might weigh only a few pounds, but the same volume, on the same shovel of wet snow might weigh as much as a bag of cement! Just like in the gym, it's easier and safer to do a lot of reps with lower weights. A heavy load might help you bulk up, but it will

also increase the risk of injury and drain your energy quickly.

Q: Do you see any new trends or features in shovel design?

Ruegg: One trend I've noticed lately is steel core handles — a steel tube coated in plastic — presumably to get the strength of steel without having to worry about rust or cold hands. They're heavier than plastic or fiberglass handles, but probably more durable. The extra weight might also make consumers think they're getting a better quality product, regardless of whether or not that's ultimately true. I haven't tried one myself, so I don't know how the trade-offs balance out. Still, from a sustainability standpoint, generally, any time two materials are attached it takes extra effort to separate them, which means they're likely headed for the landfill.

Q: How does the College of Design prepare students to design high-quality, user-centered products that benefit Minnesotans?

Ruegg: We teach our students to consider several things about product design and use, such as the user's body, social or cultural context, physical context, and direct and indirect impacts. Ultimately, they work to ensure a product appeals to the intended buyer or user. This might be about style, social status, product features or functionality, materials, or production processes. Regardless of what factors are most important for a particular product, we teach students that it is the designer's responsibility to understand and integrate as many of these considerations as possible into their final designs.

Gabriel Ruegg is a senior lecturer of product design in the College of Design. His areas of expertise include prototyping, 3D modeling, form development, design for manufacturability, design research and sustainability.

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Managing Editor.....Mark Anderson editor@staplesworld.com

Advertising Rep.....editor@staplesworld.com

Photo Tech/production.....Janice Winter jwinter@staplesworld.com

Bookkeeping/Circulation/.....Kathy Odden kodden@staplesworld.com

Reporter.....Dawn Timbs dtimbs@staplesworld.com

Front Office.....office@staplesworld.com

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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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Member: Minnesota Newspaper Association, MCAN Advertising



Staples-Motley School Board mtg Jan. 22

The Staples-Motley School Board will hold their regular meeting Monday, January 22, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the District Office, 905 4th St. NE, Staples.

Individuals or groups wishing to be included on the school/community forum portion of the meeting must contact the board chair or superintendent by noon the Friday prior to the board meeting.

The agenda includes but is not limited to:

- Approve fundraiser request from Student Council; and REACH
- Approve lane change requests

Approve request for six consecutive PTO days from Jill Kneisl

-Approve the hire of: William Leidl, 8th grade boys basketball coach; Heather Sams, Brian Sams, Renee Kroll, Selket Jewet, Assistant Speech Coaches

-Facilities update by ICS

-Approve the negotiation settlement of the Principal/Administrative Master Agreement

-Approve the move from Skyward to Region 1 (*Financial system from Skyward to SMART Finance and from Skyward to Synergy*).

Upcoming schedule:

Mon., Feb. 5, 2024: Regular Board Meeting

Mon., Feb. 26: Regular meeting, 6 p.m. District Office

Mon., March 4: Board Work Session, 6 p.m., District Office

Mon., March 18: Board Meeting, 6 p.m., District Office.



Staples Host Lions donate

The Staples Host Lions Club recently donated \$3,000 to the Staples-Motley Dollars for Scholars; and \$1,000 to the Staples Chamber of Commerce, designated for the recent Christmas Community Meal that was held at Timbers Event Center in Staples.

Pictured above, from left, are Bryan Winkels, SM Dollars for Scholars Chair; and Lion President Rick Adamietz. Below, from left, are Jordan Goodwater, Staples Chamber member, and Lion President Adamietz. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Rotary Club donates

The Staples Rotary Club recently donated \$250 to Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge. The organization's mission is "to assist men, women and teens in gaining freedom from chemical addictions and other life-controlling problems by addressing their physical, emotional and spiritual needs." The Brainerd campus can serve up to 90 male residential clients and offers outpatient services to men and women. A women's treatment center opened Jan. 2 in Brainerd. It currently has 12 available beds and will soon expand to 24. From left are Jarrod D., a client; Derek Gustafson, staff member; and Bob Hamann, Rotarian presenting the check. (Submitted photo)

DEADLINES

Newspaper deadline for copy and advertising:

12 noon Fridays

Mark Your Calendar

January 18

'WALK WITH A DOC' Thursdays at 5:15 p.m., at Lakewood Health System's main campus in Staples. Meet at the main entrance. For more information about this free program, visit <https://walkwithadoc.org/join-a-walk/locations/staples-minnesota>

January 19

WOMEN'S OPEN AA RECOVERY MEETING Every Friday in person, 10:30 a.m., Motley Free Methodist Church (lower level), 33 Wellwood St. E. Motley. All women welcome.

January 22

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

January 23

CARE MINISTRY FREE MEAL Tuesday, Jan. 23, 4:30 - 6 p.m., at Church of Christ, 27343 490th St., Staples. The free meals are held on a monthly basis to promote fellowship, connection and nourishment.

EXPERIENCE STRENGTH AND HOPE AA GROUP MTGS IN STAPLES are held at the Church of Christ, 27343 490th St., Tuesdays at 7 p.m. For info., call Dan at 218-640-7228.

WADENA COUNTY REPUBLICANS MTGS are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Wadena VFW at 7 p.m. If you wish to eat early you may order from the menu prior to meeting.

DEMENTIA CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP meets the fourth Tuesday of the month from

11 a.m. - noon, at Faith Lutheran Church in Staples. Facilitated by Dementia Community Action Net-

work. No cost, no need to register. For info., call Cristina Rodriguez, 320-640-6724.

Fellowship, Connection and Nourishment

~ Monthly CARE Community Meal ~

Tues., January 23, 4:30-6 p.m.

Staples Church of Christ

27343 490th St., Staples
(across from Pine Grove Park)

FREE Meatballs, potatoes, gravy with all the fixings

2024 **ICE CRUSH** JANUARY 20TH 1PM

Demo Derby

Todd County Fairgrounds

Pits \$30 • Grandstands \$20

Kids 5 Under Free

Food & Drinks • Prize Giveaways

Stock Compact/Stock Big Car/Stock Big Truck
Builders Compact RWD Truck-Van-Car

\$1500 - \$600 - \$300

MWFA Stock \$600 - \$400 - \$200

Auto Cross - Youth Auto Cross - Lawnmowers
\$500 - \$300 - \$200

SAVE THE DATE

Todd County Fair
June 27-30, 2024
320-732-2739

More information can be found on Full Arena Promotions on Facebook or Josh Stock 218-770-0041
Sponsored by: Todd County Ag Society

Cardinal Calendar

SM school events

January

◦ **SPECIAL OLYMPICS BASKETBALL EVENT** Jan. 31, Main Gym, SMHS

February

◦ **SNO DAZE WEEK** Feb. 5 - 9

◦ **SNO DAZE CORONATION** Feb. 7, 9:15 a.m.

◦ **HOME SPEECH MEET** Feb. 10, SMMS/HS

YOU'RE INVITED TO A

60th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Open House

honoring

JAY AND MAVIS VERONEN

On Saturday, January 20
1 to 4 p.m.

at Trinity Lutheran Church
in Staples

We are also celebrating their 80th birthdays!

Please join the family for this joyous celebration.

TIMBERS RESTAURANT



OPEN FOR DINNER

STARTING JANUARY 2, 2024

TUESDAY - SATURDAY
4PM - 9PM

Use your gift card from the Timberlake for a pool party or a party room for a family gathering or dinner at the Timbers by January 26 and receive a free glass of House Wine or a Tap Beer

Obituaries

Sandra M. Hamilton

Sandra M. Hamilton, 81, of Akron, Ohio passed away suddenly at home on December 21, 2023 and is now at peace and free of pain.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, January 27, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 50 N. Prospect Ave. Akron, OH 44304 where Sandra was an active member for many years. The family will receive friends following the service in the Chapel Lounge.

Burial will be at Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery in Rittman, Ohio.

Sandra was born March 15, 1942 to Harold and Birdie Hillman in Minneapolis and lived in Staples for the first 32 years of her life. In 1974, she married John Hamilton and moved to Akron where they lived and raised their sons, Matthew and Christopher.

Sandra will be dearly missed by her husband, John; one son, Matthew; daughter-in-law, Christy; two grandchildren, Augustus and Isobel Sophia of St. Louis, Missouri; one sister, Renee (Duey) Holm; one niece, Kristin (Drew) Goracke, their children Dawson and Savannah and one nephew, Eric Holm.

Sandra was preceded in death by her parents and one son, Christopher J. Hamilton.

To Share a Memory, Send a Condolence or Light a Candle visit the Tribute Wall at www.billowfuneral-homes.com (Billow FAIR-LAWN Chapel).

w4c A00006B2023JN17

Barbara Niemann

Barbara Arlene (Myers) Niemann, 88, of Piney Flats, Tennessee, passed away peacefully in her home on January 11, 2024.

She was born in Strool, South Dakota on July 27, 1935 to Lorraine and Dorothy (Patterson) Myers. She married Donald G. Niemann on April 12, 1952.

Barbara and Donald raised their seven children in the northern Twin Cities suburbs. During this time, Barbara was able to turn her creative sewing abilities into a business that provided for her family as well as many others, well past her retirement.

Barbara and Donald eventually settled in Staples where they spent the remainder of their years together. Barbara lived the final year of her life in Piney Flats, near her oldest daughter, where she made many new friends.

She will forever be remembered by her children, Terri (Dan) Butler, Annalisa (Howard) Dunham, Loni Kay-Niemann, Shari Niemann, Robert (Brenda) Niemann, Tami (Bruce) Brotherton and Lori (Jeff)



Dagle; 24 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; two brothers, Don (Joyce) Myers, Dick (Anne) Myers; two sisters, Sharon (Tom) Moxley and Pat (Dick) Ward and many nieces and nephews. A special thank you to her nephew, Chris Peterson.

Barbara was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Donald; one sister, Marietta Peterson and one son-in-law, Robert Lidtke.

Barbara was extremely gifted in everything creative. She was always learning and mastering new skills. She loved to share her creations, which will live on in the homes of those whose lives she touched.

w4p A00006B2023JN17

Herbert Garland

Herbert “Herb” Lloyd Garland, 87 of Litchfield, passed into the presence of His Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on January 8, 2024.

Friends and family are invited to join for a visitation with the family on Saturday, January 20, at 1:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Church, 205 County Road 34, Litchfield, MN 55355. A Celebration of Life will begin at 2:00 p.m. A reception will follow at the church.



Herb was born June 22, 1936 to Orval and Ethel (Miller) Garland in Bertha. Herb attended and graduated from Staples High School in 1954. While in high school, he was active in sports and was nicknamed “reverend” because of his lifestyle. He was selected to the National Honor Society and chosen to be mayor of the city for a day. After graduating from high school, he enrolled in St. Paul Bible College (SPBC), now Crown College. While at SPBC, he was also involved in sports and was chosen as the first MVP of the basketball team. Herb graduated from SPBC with a Bachelor of Science in Missions. While at SPBC, he met Kathryn “Kathy” Kendall of Omaha, NE. They were married on August 3, 1957. Herb and Kathy both felt God’s call on their life to serve as missionaries. After graduating from college, to prepare further for their overseas ministry, they ministered two years with the Beehide Gospel Mission in the Appalachian Mountains of Eastern Kentucky. In 1960 The Christian and Missionary Alliance sent them to Costa Rica for Spanish language studies.

Jesus said, “I am the Way (road, path) and the Truth and the Life.” Having received Jesus as his Savior and Lord, Herb was in/on The Path, with the promise “I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye.” Herb never deviated from that Pathway. With Jesus as His companion, He sowed the seed of Truth in

the hearts of people in the mountains and jungle villages of Colombia, South America for 20 years and in the cities of Venezuela, S.A. for 20 years. Life, eternal Life, the gift of God, was received by hundreds. Many young people following in his steps found their Pathway as pastors and teachers of God’s Truth. The Garlands served their Lord for 43 years and retired in 2001 from the mission field.

Herb was so proud of his and Kathy’s five sons, the joy and love of his heart. Jeff (Lorie) Garland of Litchfield, Scott (Kim) of Kirkwood, MO, Dan (Sue) of White Bear Lake, Ben (Jackie) of Waukesha, WI and Dave (Tracy) of Sidney, MT. They have 17 grandchildren and 33 great-grandchildren.

Herb is survived by three brothers Ray, Larry (Joyce) and Bill.

He was preceded in death by his father and mother, Orval and Ethel (Miller) Garland; father-in-law, Don Kendall and mother-in-law, Fern (Darland) Kendall; sister, Janet (Garland) Grondahl; brother-in-law, Cloyce Grondahl; sisters-in-law Helen (Amundson) Garland and Sharon (Ford) Garland and grandson-in-law, Jake Johnson.

A very meaningful verse in their retirement years has been “Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way.” Deut. 8:2.

In lieu of flowers please donate to: www.chosenpeople.com. (Tel Aviv Messianic Center)

w4c A00006B2024JN03

Merlin Jacobs

Merlin “Jake” or “Sonny” Robert Jacobs, 80, of Shell Lake, Wisconsin passed away December 27, 2023 at Glenview Assisted Living Center.

Funeral services were held Saturday, January 6, 2024, at Skinner Funeral Home in Shell Lake with Sue Odegard officiating. Military honors accorded by the Shell Lake Honor Guard.

Burial was at the Shell Lake Cemetery immediately following the service.

Jake was born February 15, 1943 to Merlin and Vera (Hanley) Jacobs in Chicago, IL and was a 1961 graduate of Shell Lake High School. He married Mary Ek on October 14, 1961. He enlisted in the Army National Guard and served during the Cold War as an Engineer Equipment Mechanic and was honorably discharged in 1965. Jake attended Bemidji State University earning a Bachelor of Science in 1975 and his Master’s Degree in Education in 1977. He held various heavy equipment foreman jobs in and around Minnesota and Wisconsin, settling down in Staples to raise five children with Mary. He taught at the Brainerd/Staples Technical College as an instructor of Heavy Equipment Diesel Mechanics until he retired in 1998. After retirement, Mary and Jake moved back to Shell Lake where he resided until his death.

Jake was a member of the Honor Guard Post 225 AM Legion in Shell Lake and the AMVets Post 190 in Spooner, WI.

Jake loved working with his hands. He was continuously working on little projects in and around the house, even building a 1929 Model A from the ground up and was in the process of building another. He also enjoyed spending time with his family.

Jake is survived by former wife, Mary Jacobs; five children, Andrew (Joyce) Jacobs, Anastasia (Mark) Vickerman and fiancé Bob Brunner, Shaun Jacobs, Heather Jacobs and Joel Jacobs; 11 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Roger Jacobs; one son-in-law, Mark Vickerman and one nephew.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to Post 225 AM Legion, Shell Lake, WI or to the Boy Scouts’ Troop 51, Shell Lake, WI.

w4c A00006B2023JN17

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

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

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

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

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

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
310 4th St. NE, Staples.....218-894-2296
Church:
info@mryasc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn
Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Sunday.....8:30 a.m.

Seventh Day Adventist
421 Dakota Ave. SE, Staples
218-894-0033
Saturday Worship.....9:30 am.
Sabbath School.....10:45 a.m.

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

Trinity Lutheran
1000 4th St., NE, Staples.....218-894-2372
Rev. Robin Collins
Sunday Divine Service.....9:00 a.m.
Sunday School and Bible Class...10:30 a.m.

United Methodist
310 5th St. NE, Staples.....218-894-2248
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.
(Nursery Available for Sunday Worship)

Aldrich

Balsamlund Lutheran
19530 490th Street, Aldrich
Eric Clapp.....701-261-2394 (cell)
Sunday.....8:15 a.m.
Sunday School.....8:30 a.m.

Cushing

Bethany Lutheran
25430 Bison Rd. Cushing, MN
320-749-2140
Pastor Carl Larson
Pastor Chris Mathiason
www.bethanylutherancushing.org
Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.
Communion.....1st and 2nd Sunday of each month

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

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.

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.

Leader

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

Motley
Motley Free Methodist
33 Wellwood St. E
Motley 56466.....218-352-6888
Jim Johnson, Senior Pastor
Casey Reynolds, Assistant Pastor
Sunday Worship.....9:00 and 10:30 a.m.
facebook live.....9 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
AWANA.....4:00-5:30 p.m.
Youth Group.....6:00-8:00 p.m.

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

St. Michael Catholic Church
1st St. and Birch, Motley.....218-894-2296
info@mryasc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn
Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Saturday.....4:00 p.m.

United Methodist
847 3rd Ave. S. Lane, Motley.....218-352-6466
Pastor Greg Leslie
www.motleyumc.net
Sunday Worship Service.....10:00 a.m.
Monday AM meeting.....8:00 p.m.

Oylen

Oylen Alliance
City, Rds, 7 and 9, Oylen
218-472-3440 or 218-472-3316
Pastor Neal Malcore
Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....11:00 a.m.

Pillager

First Lutheran Church
Pastor Mathew Sundquist
717 River Street S, Pillager, MN
218-746-3775
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday School.....8:30 a.m.

Casino Assembly of God
Pastor Dan Johnson
N. of Motley, Hwy. 64, E. on Cty 34 to Cty. 104.
Phone.....218-746-3839
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....7:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY.....7:00 p.m.

First Baptist
903 River Street South, Pillager
Pastor Jake Anderson
218-746-3768
curious@firstpillager.com
Worship Gathering.....10:00 a.m.
Connection Point.....9:30 a.m.

Hewitt

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

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

Hewitt Community Church
Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Kenneth Uhren
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.

Verndale

Verndale Alliance
109 NW Brown Street, Verndale, MN 56481
218-445-5619
Senior Pastor Tony Stanley
Heath Belknap, Pastor of Student Ministries
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Bible Fellowship Classes.....11-11:45 a.m.

Family Life Church
402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale 218-445-5568
VerndaleFLC@gmail.com
Pastor Amos Self.....218-371-7189
Taina Rurup, Connections & Media Pastor
Tillman Phagson, Kid’s & Food Shelf Pastor
Ryan Wolfenden, Youth Pastor
SUNDAY
Youth Prayer.....9:20 a.m.
Worship Service.....10:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting.....5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Life Groups.....6:30 p.m.

Hope Chapel Alliance
18126 County Road 7, Verndale
218-445-5643 or 218-472-3316
Pastor Neal Malcore
Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.
Sunday School.....10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Family Night.....5:30 p.m.

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

Verndale United Methodist
10 3rd Ave. SW, Verndale
218-445-5108
Pastor Jill Pawlowski
Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.

Central United Methodist
5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar)
Pastor James Middendorf, 320-260-4950
Sunday Service.....9:00 a.m.
Bible Study.....10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Seeds of Hope.....7:00 p.m.

St. Frederick Catholic Church
20 Mason Avenue NW.....218-894-2296
info@mryasc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn
Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Saturday.....6:00 p.m.

St. Hubert Catholic Church
Bluegrass.....218-894-2296
info@mryasc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn
Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Sunday.....10:30 a.m.

Leaf River Township The Old Country Church
Leaf River Twp., Wadena County Rd. 6
Info. 218-837-5690 Call first.
Sunday Service.....10:00 a.m.

“Sibling Rivalry: When Our Agendas Pain God’s Heart”

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

How many of us parents and grandparents have dealt with deep heart disappointment when our children and grandchildren (young or adults) don’t get along with one another? Here we are, wanting to love each child equally but uniquely. We can’t figure out how, in the midst of being loved, that they won’t transfer that love to their sibling.

We need to take time to think through how God goes through the very same experience when we, as His followers, all equally died for by His Son, Jesus, can’t (actually, won’t) get along with each other. The reasons for unity are significant.

1. First and foremost, we share a common Creator who equally, but uniquely, loves each one of us.
2. Secondly, in our equal need, Jesus died on the cross for every one of us.
3. Thirdly, the second greatest command is to “love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:39) and this starts at home, with our family.

Just as we are pained when our children and grandchildren don’t get along with one another, so do we pain God when we don’t get along with each other. See, we need to be honest about selfish personal agendas and “territories” that we hold on to at the cost of our relationships around us. Maybe it is personal

hurts that we are insisting on leaving unforgiven. Or, maybe it is just a simple preoccupation with ourselves that puts up barriers preventing us from moving toward other people.

Do you remember the old adage that “people wrapped up in themselves make for very small packages?”

The apostle Paul called out disunity that was paining Jesus and His Church in Philippians 4.2 when he says, “I plead with Eurodia and I plead with Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord.” We are often oblivious to the effect of our “digging in” upon those around us, let alone God. (Please read that last statement again to yourself).

What agendas do you and I need to let go of for the sake of God, the Church, others and even oneself. Inner turmoil does no one any good. And, time is fleeting to make things right.

Let’s bask in the freedom that comes when we drop personal vendettas as we hear the Maker of us all say through David in Psalm 133:1 (NIV, 2011), “How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity.” Then, we can take some of the pain in God’s heart away.

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218-894-3794

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For the Staples World



Wrestlers second in high power duals tournament

The Staples-Motley wrestling team overwhelmed every opponent except one in the Bemidji Rick Lee Invitational, Jan. 12-13. They finished second in the nine team duals tournament.

The Cardinals opened against the third ranked team in the state, Holdingford. They lost 32-22, with several close matches making the difference. After that, the team kept getting stronger as the tournament progressed, cruising to decisive victories in their next four matches.

They beat Tracy-Milroy-Balaton 51-16, United North Central 40-23, Pierz 45-12 and Frazee 38-18. Eight of the nine teams in the tournament were either ranked or received votes in the rankings. Staples-Motley is fifth in the Class A team rankings at theguillotine.com.

Against Holdingford, the Cardinals had five close matches that didn't go their way, plus they left a few points on the mat by not getting a pin or major decision to earn bonus points. The ten point loss shows that they will have a chance to pull an upset if the two teams meet again in the section tournament.

Throughout the tournament, Staples-Motley dominated the first three weights,

with Gage Bjerga, Caden Kramer and Elijah Greenwaldt going undefeated and scoring bonus points in each bout. That gave the Cardinals a substantial lead in every match.

Colbe Tappe was also undefeated at 152 pounds, with three of his wins against ranked wrestlers.

The other Staples-Motley wrestlers took turns getting important wins in each match. Steven Petrich had a big win against Holdingford and had two pins in other matches.

Jack Carlson got a pin against a ranked wrestler in the TMB match. Turner Beachy had four wins in five bouts. Riley Reese, Blake Neelan, Owen Winter and Luke Bjerga had important wins. Adrian Gomez didn't get a win, but had some close matches that saved team points.

Reece Headley had a big win against Pierz at 172 pounds. He and Zachary Tabatt traded matches at that weight.

Team results

Bemidji Rick Lee Invitational

Staples-Motley 22, Holdingford 32

107 Gage Bjerga W fall; 114 Caden Kramer W 18-3 tf; 121 Eli Greenwaldt W 15-0 tf; 127 Jack Carlson L 7-2; 133 Turner

Beachy L 10-4; 139 Riley Reese L 5-3; 145 Blake Neelan L 11-1; 152 Colbe Tappe W 11-4; 160 Owen Winter L 13-5; 172 Zachary Tabatt L fall; 189 Luke Bjerga L 7-2; 215 Adrian Gomez L fall; 285 Steven Petrich W 8-2

S-M 51, Tracy-Molroy-Balaton 16

107 G. Bjerga W fall; 114 Kramer W fall; 121 Greenwaldt W fall; 127 Carlson W fall; 133 Beachy W fall; 139 Reese W 9-5; 145 Neelan L 13-3; 152 Tappe W fall; 160 Winter L 8-4; 172 Reece Headley L 7-2; 189 L. Bjerga W fall; 215 Gomez L fall; 285 Petrich W fall

S-M 40, United North Central 23

107 G. Bjerga W fall; 114 Kramer W fall; 121 Greenwaldt W 17-3; 127 Cooper Tappe L 11-2; 133 Beachy W 8-5; 139 Reese W 4-2; 145 Neelan W fall; 152 Cb. Tappe W fall; 160 Winter W fall; 172 Tabatt L 11-0; 189 Bjerga L 8-2; 215 Gomez L fall; 285 Petrich L fall

S-M 45, Pierz 12

107 G. Bjerga W fall; 114 Kramer W ff; 121 Greenwaldt W 17-2; 127 Carlson W 12-8; 133 Beachy W fall; 139 Reese L fall; 145 Neelan W 14-5; 152 Cb. Tappe W 3-1 (OT); 160 Winter L 10-8 (OT); 172 Headley W 3-0; 189 L. Bjerga W 3-1; 215 Gomez L 7-4; 285 Petrich W fall

S-M 38, Frazee 18

107 Garrett Bjerga W fall; 114 Kramer W fall; 121 Greenwaldt W 16-4; 127 Carlson W 9-4; 133 Beachy W 12-3, 145 Neelan W ff; 152 Cb. Tappe W 5-3; 160 Winter W 7-0; 172 Tabatt L fall; 189 L. Bjerga W 7-3; 215 Gomez L 4-2; 285 Petrich L fall



Flying Cardinal closing out

Alex Schultz (5) gets a hand up to disrupt a shot. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Boys basketball wins two, moves to 7-4

Five players on the Staples-Motley boys basketball team scored in double figures in a 76-60 win over Pierz on Jan. 9. They continued their hot shooting in a 76-72 win over Frazee on Jan. 11. The Cardinals have a 7-4 record on the year so far.

Against Pierz, Conner Kuhns stepped up when the team needed him, scoring 21 points that included timely three pointers, drives to the basket and free throws.

The Cardinals shot well to go up by 12 at half-time, but Pierz came back after several turnovers by Staples-Motley. Grant Bestland's three pointer halfway through the second half put the Cardinals up by nine. In the last seven minutes, Staples-Motley scored 14 of their 19 points from the free throw line.

The Cardinals made 28 out of 42 free throws in the game, as they were constantly getting fouled by the overly aggressive Pierz defense. Three Pierz players fouled out and three others had four fouls. They got a lot of steals but also a lot of fouls.

Kuhns and Avandre Brandt both made seven out of nine free throws, Bestland made six, Alex Schultz four, Logan Robben two and Noah Larson two.

Late in the game, Kuhns made a three pointer to put the team up by 13 and made two free throws to increase the lead.

Meanwhile, the Cardinal defense clamped down, forcing a lot of tough shots, taking charges and making steals. They also limited Pierz to one shot on most trips down the floor, with Larson, Brandt and Schultz leading the rebounding.

Against Frazee, Staples-Motley made eight threes in first half, with three from Kuhns and two each from Bestland and Brandt. Despite the hot shooting, they found themselves behind 38-41 at half-time.



Clearing the boards

Noah Larson emerges with the ball after battling with three Pierz players for a rebound. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

The defense was more effective in the second half, holding Frazee to 31 points. On offense, they got to the basket more often and got to the free throw line more. The team finished 11-15 on free throws, after shooting only three in the first half. Brandt made five free throws in the second half.

Team results

Staples-Motley 76, Pierz 60

Scoring: Conner Kuhns 21, Grant Bestland 15, Noah Larson 15, Alex Schultz 12, Avandre Brandt 11, Logan Robben 2

S-M 76, Frazee 72

Scoring: Brandt 20, Schultz 18, Kuhns 15, Bestland 13, Benet Robinson 7, Larson 3



8th grade Mid-State Conference champs

The Staples-Motley 8th grade girl's basketball team placed first in the Mid-State Conference tournament held Jan. 6 in Park Rapids. They also finished the season undefeated. During their 7th/8th grade season they finished with a 30-1 record. They were also the Mid-State champions as seventh graders.

Front row, left to right: Emaline Sullivan, mgr., Brooke Reisenaur, Sophia Luna, Jaida Holst, Chloe Larson, Jazmine Hove, mgr. Back row: Coach Josh Winter, Alyce Scheller, Brooklyn Winter, Carolyn Hoppe, Addie Potter, Clara Maros, Coach Pat Hoppe. (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)

DNR seeks woodlands

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is inviting private woodland owners with two or more acres of forested property to participate in a new effort to help improve and advance forest inventory across Minnesota.

The DNR's Resource Assessment Program is developing a more precise forest inventory - information on the type, number, and size of trees in forests that can provide insight to the health of forests and how they're changing. This is developed by pairing lidar (light detection and ranging) data collected aerially with on-the-ground information gathered by professional foresters via a process known as Plot Based Inventory (PBI). Thousands of PBI plots are needed to verify the lidar data and develop statewide forest inventory models.

Until now, PBI has been conducted primarily on public lands, but nearly half of Minnesota's forested lands are privately owned. Expanding PBI to private woodlands will provide valuable information to increase the accuracy of forest inventory models statewide.

Private woodland owners who participate in the PBI effort will work with a professional forester and receive high-quality forest inventory data of their woodlands at no cost. Following data collection, landowners will receive an initial report with information about the inventory data collected. A more comprehensive follow-up report will be sent after the project is completed at the end of 2025.

The forest inventory information can be used to:

Learn about fire fuel loads and how to reduce wildfire risk.

Improve forest management relating to harvest planning, wildlife habitat, tree planting or trail development.

Create forest stewardship plans to sustain healthy, resilient and beautiful forests for generations to come.

Interested landowners can visit the DNR website to learn more and sign up to participate in the PBI effort.



Reaching great heights

Logan Robben (42) leaps high in the air along with Avandre Brandt (obscured) to get a rebound. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Two close losses for girls basketball

The Staples-Motley girls basketball team had two close games against good teams, falling 69-59 at Vernadale on Jan. 11 and 74-66 against Park Rapids on Jan.

12.

Vernadale came in with a 10-2 record, but the Cardinals stuck with them, keeping within 10 points.

Park Rapids was on a hot

streak, winning six of their last seven games. Again, Staples-Motley stayed close but ended up with a loss. This was the first conference game of the season.

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SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT

205 Help Wanted



The City of Motley is seeking an independent contractor to clean the common areas at City Hall, 316 Highway 10 S., twice monthly or as needed. Must be able to provide quote, proof of insurance, and pass a background check. Call 218-352-6200 for details.

EOE

TODD COUNTY HHS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: Todd County HHS is looking for reliable, service-oriented individuals to serve the citizens of Todd County in the following position: ****Social Worker - Child Services (full-time)**. To learn more about this opening and how to apply, visit the official Todd County website at <https://www.co.todd.mn.us/>. Questions can be directed to Todd County Administration 320-732-6155. EOE 4c

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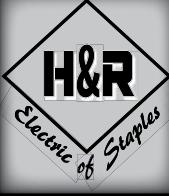
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Thomas H. Sellnow*
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*Thomas Sellnow is a Real Property Law Specialist certified by Real Property Section of Minnesota State Bar Association.

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Public Notices

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORCLOSURE 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 14, 2018

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$87,657.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Henry A. Youngvorst, an unmarried man

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Quicken Loans Inc.

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on April 20, 2018 as Document Number A508910 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Rocket Mortgage, LLC by assignment recorded on November 13, 2023 as Document Number A538905 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: That part of Government Lot 1, Section 9, Township 133 North, Range 33 West lying between the North line of said Lot 1 and a line parallel therewith and 150 feet southerly therefrom measured at right angles thereto and between two lines parallel with and distant respectively 184 feet and 359 feet westerly, measured at right angles, from the east line of said lot, Todd County, Minnesota.

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 24709 THUNDER RD, STAPLES, MN 56479

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

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$84,579.62

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Quicken Loans Inc.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Rocket Mortgage, LLC

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 22-0007602

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 100039034015630181

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: March 07, 2024 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 six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on September 9, 2024.

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: January 9, 2024

ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC
Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.
By: /s/
N. Kibongni
Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Sung Woo Hong, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(23-1256-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

4-9pnc

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SOURCE: 2011 Readership Survey by National Newspaper Association.



SM Youth Basketball show time

Staples-Motley Youth Basketball participants performed skills and hoop shooting during half-time of the Cardinal girl's basketball home game held January 12 . (Staples World photos by Janice Winter)



Public Notices

NOTICE MAY TOWNSHIP 2024 MEETINGS

May Township, Cass County, meets the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m., with an extra meeting the fourth Monday in the months of June, July and August.

Meeting date schedule:
February 12, 2024
March 11, 2024
April 8, 2024
May 13, 2024
June 10, 2024
June 24, 2024 (second meeting road issues only)
July 8, 2024
July 22, 2024 (second meeting road issues only)
August 12, 2024
August 26, 2024 (second meeting road issues only)
September 9, 2024
October 14, 2024
November 11, 2024
December 9, 2024
January 13, 2025

Bianca Wyffels, Clerk
May Township

4pnc

TODD COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
215 1st Ave. South, Suite 103
Long Prairie, MN 56347
320-732-4420
toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Todd County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, February 1, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Commissioners meeting room, His-

toric Courthouse, 215 First Ave. South, Long Prairie, MN to consider the following applications.

NOTE: This meeting is again being held in-person and the public is encouraged to attend, but Zoom and phone options are still available for those who are unable to attend in person. If you wish to join via Zoom, please contact our office for the call-in information. Those who do attend in person can find parking atop the hill on the west side of the Historic Courthouse and enter through the north doors, near the American Flag and monument.

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

AGENDA
•Call to Order
•Pledge of Allegiance
•Introduction of Planning Commission Members and process review.

•The applicant is introduced
•Staff report
•Applicant confirms if staff report accurately represents the request
•Public comment
•Board review with applicant, staff, and public

•Approval of agenda.
•Approval of the January 4, 2024 Planning Commission meeting minutes.

1. Proposed Amendment to Todd County Feedlot Ordinance:

Section 9.11: Feedlots
2. Moses Rodriguez: Section 10, Kandota Township

Site Address: 20479 Balsam Dr., Sauk Centre, MN 56378

PID: 14-0009600

1. Request for an Event Center in AF-1 Zoning.

3. William Hartsock: Section 12, Little Elk Township

Site Address: 31917 Morrison Line Road, Randall, MN 56475

PID: 16-0010300

1. Review of Conditional Use Permit #CUP-2020-027 for a 60 site campground in AF1 and Shoreland Zoning.

4. North Star RNG, LLC: Section 33, Long Prairie Township

Site Address: 21695 State 287, Long Prairie, MN 56347

PID: 18-0040700, 18-0040800, 18-0032600, 18-0033000, 18-0032300

1. Request for construction and operation of an anaerobic digester to renewable natural gas project in AF-1 Zoning.

5. Daniel J. Swartzentruber: Section 23, Stowe Prairie Township

Site Address: 47618 145th Ave., Hewitt, MN 56453
PID: 23-0018701, 23-0018700

1. Request to rezone from AF-1 to AF-2 Zoning.

6. Enos J. Borntreger: Section 3, Eagle Valley Township

Site Address: 19634 380th Street, Clarissa, MN 56440
PID: 07-0002200

1. Request to construct and operate a greenhouse with advertising sign in AF-1 Zoning.

7. Proposed Amendment to Todd County Planning & Zoning Ordinance:

Section 9.08: Sewage Treatment Standards

Adjournment.

Next Meeting: March 7, 2024

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 Planning Commission
Jim Pratt, Chair

4pnc

NOTICE REGION FIVE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Region Five Development Commission Notification:

Commissioner Amy Sjoblad will be participating remotely via interactive technology at the Brainerd High School, 702 S 5th St. Brainerd, MN, for the Budget Committee Meeting on Thursday, January 18, 2024.

Commissioner Chuck Parins will be participating remotely via interactive technology at the Mohave County Library, Lake Havasu City Branch, 1770 North McCulloch Boulevard, Lake Havasu City, AZ, Community Meeting Room for the following 2024 Commission Meetings: January 25, February 29, and March 28.

By: Angela Anderson
Marketing Director

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Gathering to show off CLC

Central Lakes College President Hara Charlier greets Senator Amy Klobuchar as she comes to learn about the CLC agriculture programs. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

KLOBUCHAR continued from page 1a

CLC ag programs work together to help area farmers

Feierabend said there are many different jobs within the meat cutting industry.

After the demonstration, Klobuchar learned about the entire CLC agriculture program.

CLC President Hara Charlier talked about the partnerships that the programs have formed. Ag and Energy Center Director Corey Detloff talked about the ag research and training being done on campus. AgCentric Director Keith Olander said they expect the meat cutting program to grow. Chris Neal, farmer and CLC ag board member, told her about the use of precision agriculture.

Klobuchar recognized the need for rural broadband to operate precision agriculture equipment, such as irrigation systems that can be operated and monitored by a cell phone.

“We can’t get to where we want to be without broadband,” said Klobuchar.

Neal said that the college is crucial to learn about the economics of farming. “CLC is the place we can come and see it demonstrated,” he said.

Noah Boelter, former student and now CLC researcher, talked about the edible bean experiments and the impact of beans grown in the area. Klobu-

char was impressed that 50 percent of kidney beans in the country are grown in Minnesota.

Anna Butler, a student in the Farm Business Management program, told Klobuchar that as a third generation farmer, she has learned to look at data and run analysis on how to make it possible to keep the farm going in the current economic climate. She said her family farm between Staples and Browerville grows crops and has around 100 cattle.

Klobuchar said that Minnesota chef Andrew Zimmern often talks about meat as a large part of Minnesota’s identity. She appreciated learning about CLC’s role in agriculture.

Charlier said people had been talking about starting a meat cutting program for years, then the pandemic made the need clear to everyone. “It is now an economic necessity,” she said.

Charlier thanked Klobuchar for stepping in to get federal government funding to help start the program and talked about how that start has now mushroomed into other funding sources, including a partnership with the Minnesota Farm Bureau to expand the meat cutting opportunities.



Hanging with the Senator

CLC student Olivia Spikberg poses with Senator Amy Klobuchar after presenting her with a Central Lakes College blanket. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Ice still has open water

From Minnesota DNR

Even with the recent cold weather, there is still open water on some lakes. Don’t let the calendar fool you. In many parts of Minnesota, there’s little to no ice. Even when there is ice, conditions can change at a moment’s notice and vary widely even on the same body of water. If you choose to head out, make safety your No. 1 priority.

When is ice safe? There really is no sure answer. You can’t judge the strength of ice just by its appearance, age, thickness, temperature, or whether or not the ice is covered with snow.

School board holds organizational meeting

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples-Motley School Board changed a few committee assignments at their organizational meeting on Jan. 8. Board Chair Winkels said he thought it would be in the best interest of the board to rotate committee assignments to learn new aspects of the school.

Winkels was re-elected as Board Chair, with Ryan Wright as Vice Chair, Lisa Anderson as Clerk and Jeremy Reeck as Treasurer.

The board kept their yearly salaries the same as last year, \$3,550 per board member.

Committee assignments include:

- Finance Committee, Wright and Reeck;
- Policy Committee, Kyle Reese, Chandler Trout;
- District Technology Committee, Wright;
- Meet and Confer Committee, Winkels and Lisa Anderson
- Facility Committee, Reese and Reeck;
- Superintendents Evaluation, Reeck and Winkels.

The board kept their delegate positions the same, with Anderson and Wright on the Freshwater Education District, Trout on the Sourcewell Assembly, Reeck as Minnesota State High School League delegate, Anderson on QCOMP, Reese

as the Minnesota School Board Association delegate, Reeck on Community Education and Superintendent Shane Tappe on the Staples Economic Development Authority board.

The board kept the contract negotiation teams the same.

The board approved the following:

- Official attorneys, Pemberton Law Office of Fergus Falls; Knutson, Flynn & Deans, and Kennedy & Graven;
- Official depositories, First International Bank and Trust, Unity Bank, Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank, Mid-Minnesota Federal Credit Union, Minnesota School District Liquid Assets Fund, MN Trust;
- Official newspaper, Staples World.

The board set their regular meeting schedule for the second to last Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at the District Office board room. Two exceptions for the fourth Monday in June and the third Monday in December.

The board also approved the 2025 polling place as the Staples Community Center, in case of a special election or referendum is held that year. The board already approved the same location as the official polling place for 2024.

COUNCIL continued from page 1a

Second project could also cost \$140,000

because the new wastewater plant puts the system in compliance with discharge requirements.

The other portion of the sewer grant for the south side of Staples would be pushed to 2025, under this new plan. Grabe said they plan to use water jets to keep the worst part open, on 4th Street SW. He said the original plan was to dig up two blocks from Minnesota Ave. to Wisconsin Ave. to replace the water and sewer. If the jets don’t work, Grabe said they can spot dig to the parts that need it. The total project will cost the city another \$140,000, unless they can get more grants for the water portion of the project.

If the city does get approved for the project grant, the southern half of the street would be added.

Grabe also told the council that they are now offering a program for smart meter access, so electric customers can reduce their use during peak hours.

Nelsen said another water main replacement will be done on 2nd Ave., near the Family Dollar store, in order to get water to the Essentia Clinic being built near the overpass.

In other news, the council

- Approved adoption of Wadena County all hazard mitigation plan
- Approved Staples World as official newspaper.
- Approved official depositories: First International Bank & Trust, Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank, Mid-Minnesota Federal Credit Union, Unity Bank, U.S. Bank National Association, PMA Financial Network, PMA Securities: investment banks: U.S. Bank National Association, Bank of North Dakota and United Bank
- Approved cogeneration report for individual solar or wind power units.
- Approved withdrawing from 2024 GRIP grant coalition to avoid spending requirements.



Baltimore Oriole visit

A Baltimore Oriole dips its head into a feeder at the James and Cathy Lenk home in Staples on Sunday, January 6. Cathy snapped the photo while watching from inside. While a migratory bird and more common in eastern North America, it is rare to see one in Minnesota. The Baltimore Oriole is the state bird of Maryland and is the namesake and mascot for the Baltimore Orioles baseball team. It is named from its bright orange coloring resembling the coat-of-arms of 17th century Lord Baltimore. Cathy also had a Blue Indigo Bunting visit their home in June. (Submitted photo)

Business help from Economic Alliance of Wadena County

By Hope Williams
Executive Director
The Economic Alliance

What is the Economic Alliance?

The Economic Alliance is a nonprofit economic development organization that serves all of Wadena County with the goal of helping businesses develop and grow. The Economic Alliance was formed in 2011 from the need for a voice for economic development in Wadena County. Our focus is on issues such as business retention and expansion, business start-up, workforce, childcare, housing, and access to capital. We are here to support you, work with the local communities,

and help new and current businesses with any questions they may have.

One of the more recent things The Economic Alliance has done to help the business sector in Wadena County is partnering with the Chamber and hosting a legislative forum - the Annual Conversation with Legislators providing Wadena County residents and business owners with a chance visit with their elected representatives. As well as a presentation by MN Chamber of Commerce representatives on current and upcoming legislative changes.

The Economic Alliance hopes to continue to provide these kinds of opportunities to our Wadena County

residents, as well as provide training and networking opportunities, all while working with businesses open, expand, and transition.

The Economic Alliance has the tools and expertise to help your expansion, relocation, or start-up succeed. We serve as a go-to resource that brings together local, state, and federal resources and departments to provide free assistance to businesses in Wadena County.

Check out our website to learn more at www.thealliancemn.org.

If you have any questions or want to learn more about the Economic Alliance reach out to us directly at 218-837-5950 or wceda@wcta.net.