

Inside this issue:

Cardinals win final Mid State wrestling title
1949 letter about early Staples history



Wednesday, January 24, 2024

StaplesWorld

Staples, Minnesota

\$1.25

Cheer team dance Staples-Motley cheerleaders put on a dance performance at halftime of the Jan. 16 basketball game. (Photo by Mark Anderson)



State champions for Ninth Grade Wrestling League

The Staples-Motley Ninth Grade Wrestling League team won the Minnesota state title Jan. 20 at Mora, defeating St. Michael-Albertville in the championship dual. Pictured, front row from left, Jackson Odden, Justin Olson, Jayden Rogers, Liam Jennissen, Jacob Reeck, Garrett Bjerga, Andrew Dobson and Caleb Harmon;

back row, Zach Tabbet, Jackson Schouvilier, Tristan Moore, Caden Kramer, Reese Headley, Brayden Granby, Gage Bjerga, Cooper Tappe, Beau Carlson, Adrian Caldwell and Phillip Rapp. See story, page 7a. (Submitted photo)

Lakewood announces new Cancer Center building

Lakewood Health System is excited to announce official plans to move forward with the Lakewood Cancer Center, which is set to break ground in spring of 2024, with a completion date in summer of 2025. Since 2022, Lakewood's oncology team and services have grown exponentially. Dr. Wade Swenson joined the Lakewood team in September of 2022, with nurse practitioners Alyssa Manning, Mariah Neiman and Jessica Nybakken joining in December 2022, March 2023 and November 2023, respectively. Dr. Emily Westergard is set to join

the team in September 2024, and Dr. Aquino Williams will follow in September 2025. With the growth in provider coverage, comes the need for additional space. The cancer center is being built to meet these growing needs, which will also allow Lakewood to add new services not previously available to patients in the area. The 19,270 square foot addition will be located off the southwest corner of Lakewood's Staples clinic and will include a dedicated reception and waiting area. The center will also include See **LAKEWOOD** on page 3a



Rendering of the Lakewood Cancer Center, set to open in summer of 2025.

Turn out the lights, Longbella Drug Store has closed

Chad Longbella reflects on his family's business, and retirement

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

It was a sad moment when he shut off the lights for good, Chad Longbella said in reference to the neon sign for 'Longbella Drugs' that had shone brightly in downtown Staples for decades. Yep, Friday, Dec. 29, 2023, marked the last day of business for the family-owned pharmacy started by C. Richard (Dick) Longbella in 1962, and co-owned most recently by Dick's daughter Lani, and son, Chad. And with Lani's son Tanner Roberts now a licensed pharmacist, three generations of Longbellas had worked at the pharmacy located in the heart of Staples. After much thought and discussion, Chad and Lani made the decision to sell their business to Lakewood Health System, which has pharmacy locations in the newly opened Plaza in Sta-



And that's a wrap

Siblings Lani Longbella Roberts and Chad Longbella, longtime owners of Longbella Drug Store in downtown Staples, worked together for the last time prior to the store's official closing Dec. 29, 2023.

Lani, a licensed pharmacist, will continue working for Longbella Drug by Lakewood, and Chad has retired at this time. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Weather

2024

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Jan. 24	34	30	Cloudy
Jan. 25	36	29	Cloudy
Jan. 26	34	26	Cloudy
Jan. 27	32	24	Cloudy
Jan. 28	36	25	P. Sunny
Jan. 29	37	27	P. Cloudy
Jan. 30	39	28	P. Cloudy

Last Year, 2023

	High	Low	Cond.
Jan. 24	25°	5	Cloudy
Jan. 25	20	0	Snow
Jan. 26	20	-1	Cloudy
Jan. 27	21	8	Cloudy
Jan. 28	0	-12	Sunny
Jan. 29	-1	-15	Sunny
Jan. 30	-4	-19	Sunny

Average Temps:
H = 22° Low = 4°
Maybe a 40 degree day?

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Township
Board of Audit: 9A
Leader Hall
Board: 9A

Obituary

Jean Irby

Och completes hospital board certification

Meetings reveal statistics on feedlot zoning ordinance

The Minnesota Hospital Association (MHA) recognized 16 hospital and health system trustees from across Minnesota for their successful completion of MHA's rigorous and comprehensive trustee certification program. Jackie Och, a member of the Astera Health Board of Directors and the Todd County Health and Human Services Director, passed the certification. "Hospitals and health systems are cornerstones for the communities they serve, and are facing a multitude of historic challenges," said Dr. Rahul Koranne, MHA president and CEO. "MHA's trustee certification program ensures that hospital and health system leaders are well-prepared for their roles."

MHA's trustee certification program provides hospital and health system trustees with training on current health care trends, governance best practices, ethics, government regulations, and patient safety and quality. Participants undergo 30 hours of coursework, making Minnesota's program the most comprehensive in the nation.



Jackie Och

Todd County has two components that regulate feedlots, the Todd County Planning and Zoning Ordinance and MN Chapter 7020. MN Chapter 7020 Animal Feedlot Rules are State of Minnesota Rules that are implemented by the county. Todd Soil and Water Conservation District operates the feedlot program on behalf of Todd County. These rules are mainly focused on permitting, registration and are environmentally based. The Todd County Planning and Zoning Ordinance are local regulations. Ordinances can consist of a wide variety of things

related to land use.

During the December 7, Commissioner's Work Session, a discussion was held about the Todd County Feedlot Ordinance. From the work session came the direction to conduct a thorough review of the existing ordinance.

On January 4, the general topics were presented to the Planning Commission for consideration to review or update the Todd County Planning and Zoning Ordinance. The following is a generalized list presented by from staff report: setback requirements, animal unit cap on feedlots, livestock animals in residential zones, permit duplication for Construction Short Forms, livestock building expansion, review allowed animal units for each zoning district, review of/additions to definitions and existing feedlot expansion in shoreland.

The following three find-

ings were part of the staff report presented. 1.) 36 percent of all complaints that come from small hobby farms, about half were under 10 AU. 2.) With the second highest percentage of complaints surround family farms sized 100-499 AU at 28 percent. 3.) Large CAFOS (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations) have received the least number of complaints at 10 percent.

The meeting is available through the Todd County YouTube page @ toddcountyminnesota9215. The staff report is available upon request from the Todd County Planning and Zoning Dept.

This item was tabled to be addressed at the next Planning Commission meeting on February 1, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioner's Boardroom, Historic Courthouse, 215 1st Ave South, Suite 301, Long Prairie, MN.

Land use with and without livestock

Submitted by Todd County SWCD

Questions have been raised concerning property rights. What measures are put in place to protect your property and surrounding land use? The first place to visit is your local ordinance. Copies of the ordinance can be viewed online through the Todd County website: <https://www.co.todd.mn.us/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Land-Ordinance-20220217.pdf>. If you turn to Section 1.02, you will find the seven (7) main purposes of the ordinance:

A. Protecting the public health, safety, comfort, convenience and general welfare.

B. Protecting, preserving and developing economically viable agricultural land.

C. Promoting orderly development of the residential, commercial, industrial, recreational and public areas.

D. Conserving the natural and scenic beauty and attractiveness of the county.

E. Conserving and developing natural resources in the county.

F. Providing for the compatibility of different land uses and the most appropriate use of land throughout the county.

G. Minimizing environmental pollution.

Protecting and preserving are the dominating verbs as far as the intent and purpose of the ordinance: protecting both the general welfare of the public and agriculture while conserving the scenic beauty and natural resources of the County. While general welfare and scenic beauty can be subjective from person to person, the definition of agriculture and natural resources is understood by all. Clearly, one purpose of the ordinance is to protect nature and Ag.

The phrases 'Promoting orderly development' and providing compatible land uses that align with the most appropriate use of the land... can be most easily understood by turning to Article VI. of the ordinance.

Here each land use and their appropriate zones are defined:

- Agriculture/ Forestry zones are for exactly that-protecting spaces that are best used for agriculture and forestry.
- Residential zones are designed for residential living- houses on typically smaller plots of land not intended for large livestock numbers or cropping.
- Urban Growth zones are areas, as our population fluctuates, where neighborhoods and communities can expand before bumping into Ag and farm uses areas.
- Shoreland zones in Todd County were laid over what, in the past, were agriculture and forestry zones. Prior to recent facts pointing to shoreland development as negatively impacting the health of our lakes, it was thought these were the best areas to create tiny parcel lots on which cabins could be built. These get away cabins could enhance enjoyment for those wishing to experience lakeside recreation (hunting, fishing, swimming, boating, etc.) The year round residential home is listed as a provision of this zone and has created some issues in

itself.

Todd Soil and Water often hears stories of how land use zones have become misunderstood and messy for landowners in Todd County. This can create hard feelings between landowners. Abuse of the zoning intent also has impacts on the health of our surface waters, groundwater, our prolific soils, and recreational land.

It seems a lot of trouble could be avoided if the general public understood the purpose and intent of the ordinance. With the upcoming revisions occurring for Section 9.11 in Article IX. of the Todd County ordinance, titled Feedlots, perhaps it is a good time to familiarize yourself with the zoning document. Key provisions are Article 1, Section 1.02 Purpose, p.4; Article VI. Zoning Districts and District Provisions, pp. 45-53; and Article IX. Section 9.11 Feedlots.

With new knowledge garnered, you are invited to listen in at the Thursday, Jan. 4, 2024 Planning Commission meeting beginning at 6 p.m. at the Todd County Historic Courthouse, 215 1st Ave S, Long Prairie.

Court report Jan. 14

Long Prairie Police Department

Eddy A. Aquino Reynoso, Long Prairie. Driver must carry proof of insurance. Fine \$200. Fee \$85. Driving after revocation. \$200.

Dylan Michael Cadwallader, Minneapolis. Damage to Property—Fourth Degree—intentional damage. Dismissed.

Pedro Leonar Felix Felix, Long Prairie. Driver must carry proof of insurance when operating vehicle. Fine \$200. Fee \$85. Driving after revocation. \$200.

Ryan James Hernandez, Clarissa. Operate vehicle with expired registration. Fine \$30. Fee \$85.

Norberto Navarrete Nunez, Clarissa. Second Degree Refusal to Submit to Chemical Test. Dismissed. Third Degree DUI. Dismissed. Give Peace Officer False Name/Birthdate/ID Card. Dismissed. Driving after revocation. Dismissed.

Kenneth Edward Hoppe, Paynesville. Hunting—Transportation of Firearms—loaded firearm. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Minnesota State Patrol

Annie Louise Cassman, Bruno. Speed 77/60. Fine \$60. Fee \$85. Keep to the right. Fine \$50.

Ruben Leomar Ramirez Lugo, Long Prairie. Speed 75/60. Fine \$60. Fee \$85. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200.

Kenneth Todd Ajax, Princeton. Speed 89/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Matthew David Allard, Breckenridge. Speed 83/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Noah Tamba Amos, Fargo, N.Dak. Speed 88/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$75.

Nicole Jean Bailey, Grey Eagle. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Michael John Barton, St. Francis. Speed 81/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$75.

Shannon Marie Bican, Cushing. Hands-Free Law—access video content, images, games, software applications. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Shedrick R. Daniel, Providence. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Alex Joseph Davis, Cannon Falls. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Joseph Mac Dezelar, Alexandria. Speed 70/60. Amended disposition. Dismissed.

Megan Sue Fletcher, Browerville. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Travis Alexander Grindeland, Lakeville. Speed 85/70. Dismissed.

Gregory Ross Hagerman, Redondo Beach, Calif. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Rollin James Lais, Browerville. Hands-Free Law—engage in cellular phone or video call. Fine \$50. Fee \$85. Seatbelt required- Driver and passengers must use. \$25.

John Edward Leinen, Long Prairie. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85. Window Restrictions—windshield tinted or glazed. \$50.

Lauren Anne Lowe, Woodbury. Speed 91/70. Fine \$70. Fee \$155.

Diamond N. Metzger, West Fargo, N.Dak. Speed 83/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Elias Moreno, Willmar. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85. No Minnesota Driver's License (after 60 days residency). Fine \$100.

Jill Maureen Ness, Otsego. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Trisha Jean Page, Horace N.Dak. Speed 83/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Kelvin Paul Pankow, Royal Palm Beach, Flor. Speed 89/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Patrick John Schoolmeesters, Albany. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

William Paul Steed, Cottage Grove. Speed 96/70. Fine \$100. Fee \$185.

Noah Paul Urman, Long Prairie.

Speed 69/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Staples Police Department

Brody Thomas Fournier, Wadena. Duty to Drive with Due Care, speed greater than reasonable. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Ray Lamar Johnson, Staples. Driving after revocation. Dismissed.

Todd County Sheriff's Office

Chase Joseph Ahrens, Sauk Centre. Coercion—threat to inflict bodily harm or confine. Dismissed.

Betty Jean Geise, Grey Eagle. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Shane Elvin Pfeifer, Menahga. Theft—take, drive motor vehicle. Dismissed.

Victor Manuel Santos Pena, Long Prairie. Speed 80/55. Fine \$70. Fee \$85. Instruction permit violation—person 18 years or older. Fine \$50.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County Jan. 5, 2024.

Alan Steven Walker, Bismark, N.Dak. Fleeing a peace officer in a motor vehicle. Fine \$50. Fee \$75. Restitution \$7,900. Damage to Property—First Degree, value reduced over \$1,000. Dismissed. Driving after cancellation. Dismissed.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County Jan. 8, 2024.

Randy James Shequen, Vernadale. Drugs—Fifth Degree, possess Schedule I, II, III, IV—not small amount marijuana. Dismissed. DWI—operate motor vehicle—body contains any amount Schedule I/III drugs, not marijuana. Sentenced. Fine \$300. Fee \$100. Local confinement 90 days. Stay 89 days. Credit for time served: one day. Supervised probation, two years. Driving after cancellation. Dismissed.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County Jan. 10, 2024.

Todd Michael Jung, Sauk Centre. Damage to Property—First Degree—value reduced over \$1,000. Stay of adjudication. Continued. Local confinement four days. Credit for time served: four days. Fine \$50. Restitution \$1,000. Supervised probation, four years.

Donald Herbert Krienke, Browerville. Endanger child—situation could cause harm or death—results sub harm physical, emotional health. Dismissed. Endanger child—situation could cause harm or death. Sentenced. Fine \$50. Fee \$75. Local confinement 364 days. Stay 363 days for two years. Credit for time served: one day. Supervised probation, two years.

Matthew William Rahn, Sauk Centre. Fifth Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance. Dismissed. Fifth Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance. Dismissed. Possess Short-Barreled Shotgun. Dismissed. Drugs—Fifth Degree, possess Schedule I, II, III, IV, not small amount marijuana. Statutory stay of adjudication. Fine \$100. Supervised probation, two years.

Earl Louis Thom, Long Prairie. Obstruct legal process—interfere with peace officer. Dismissed. Harassment; restraining order—violate restraining order. Sentenced. Fine \$50. Fee \$75. Local confinement 90 days. Stay 88 days for one year. Credit for time served: two days. Supervised probation, one year. Harassment; restraining order—violate restraining order. Dismissed.

THANK YOU

for making a difference!

Congratulations to these 5-Star employees



Duane Hagenson, CNA, Care Center
Nominated by Kendra Petersen, RN, Senior Services
"Duane consistently demonstrates high quality, integrity, competence and compassion. Since starting at the care center, he has constantly gone above and beyond for his coworkers as well as for the residents that he cares for. He is competent in the care he provides and makes each resident feel special. One such instance of this high-quality care is highlighted when Duane volunteered to accompany a memory care resident to their dental surgery when the family was unavailable to do so. The surgery nurses praised Duane's kind, competent nature. Duane safeguarded the physical, mental and emotional health of this resident by being there in a time of need."



Melody Hansen, Nutrition Services
Nominated by Becky Ashbaugh, Environmental Services Director
"I was able to witness all of her skills and abilities to multi-task a large group of employees waiting for their breakfast when she was the only person working the breakfast line and cash register at the time. Melody kept a smile on her face and was able to maintain great composure for each employee to ensure the best service possible. I watched her service about eight employees in the breakfast line, hurry to the cash register and check them out and go back and do the same process all over again. Plus, she was able to refill the coffee machine and keep everyone happy."



Chris O'Brien, Environmental Services Director
Nominated by Lynn Rice, VP of Support Services
"Chris has been taking on additional responsibilities and working long hours in his preparation for moving into the manager position for Environmental Services. Chris has earned the respect of his team, and it is on behalf of his team I write this nomination. They recognize the work he has put into to get this position. Chris is dedicated, self-motivated and self-directed, he sees what needs to be done and takes care of it. He is always willing to step in and help where needed, he is open, honest and approachable. Chris is a leader worth following and we wish him the very best as he moved into the manager role officially on January 1, 2024."



Tiffany Sykes, RN, Behavioral Health Unit
Nominated by Amy Greenwaldt, Reflections BHU Program Director
"From the moment I walked through the door as the new director, Tiffany has been one of the staff I can turn to when I need a hand. She has the highest degree of integrity and always prioritizes the patients' needs. Tiffany is a leader in our unit, not because she holds a title, but because the staff naturally look to her for guidance. They look forward to working with her as the shifts generally run smoothly, and mostly because she makes a significant positive impact on the people and patients she works with. Tiffany is an extremely valuable asset to Reflections BHU."



Nicole Theiler, RN, BSN, Home Health/Hospice
Nominated by patient family member Troy Erickson
"My wife was on hospice and recently passed away. I was nervous about the weekend but Nicole said she was on-call and would only be a phone call away if I needed help. Nicole is an angel here on earth. She called me throughout the weekend and stopped by a few times a day to check on Carrie, the girls and me. She'd talk with us gently about Carrie's condition. She was so good to my wife, she touched her hair and rubbed her head and talked to her, even though Carrie was not able to reply. At one point, Nicole got her cell phone out and started to play old country gospel music. How did she know that was her favorite music? We also listened to a song that was played on our wedding day. How did she know that this was exactly what we needed? I never thought that I would say this but with as scary as it was, Nicole eased our fears by offering the comfort and compassion that we needed so badly. Thank you, Nicole for being one of the most thoughtful, gentle nurses, that I have ever come across in my life."



218-894-1515 lakewoodhealthsystem.com

Motley police report

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

Jan. 14, 16 - Motley Police received reports of harassment from two different residents at an apart-

ment located at 956 Hwy 10 S., Motley.

Jan. 12 - Motley Police issued a speeding citation to Heather Grantham, 41.

Jan. 11 - Motley Police received a report of a dog running loose at the 400 block of Pine Ave. S., Motley.

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EXTRA! EXTRA!

Staples World

DEADLINES

Newspaper deadline for copy and advertising: 12 noon Fridays

Thank you for reading the Staples World newspaper.

Looking back

75 YEARS Ago - 1949

• Jan. 27, 1949 - In observance of the 10th year of the presentation of its charter the Staples Lions club held a gala event at the banquet room of the St. Charles hotel Jan. 24, when nearly 50 Lions and their lady guests were present for the festivities.

Fourteen charter members were presented with “ten year chevrons” by President John Rengel.

- O -
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
- O -

They were: Harold Carlson, Arnold Carlson, Carl LaBonte, Kenneth Barrett, F. C. McGivern, Wendell E. Stone, Leslie Harter, Laurence Huff, Dr. E. A. St. Pierre, Roy St. Pierre, Dr. J. M. Cook, K. R. Johnson, Lloyd Sapp and Gordon Scharf.

During the evening, special musical entertainment was presented by Miss Elaine Thompson with a flute solo, and Miss Eileen Roscoe, with a saxophone solo. Their accompanist was Miss Marinda Thompson.

As a climax to the evening’s entertainment, the Paint and Patches Dramatic club of the Staples high school presented a marionette show which pleased the crowd. The group was under the direction of Miss Lorraine Reher of the dramatic department of the school.

• Jan. 27, 1949 - The first concert of the 1949 year by the Staples Men’s Civic Chorus was well received by nearly 300 people who were in attendance Jan. 23.

The concert contained a variety of songs, from the classical to the popular range, and with but very few exceptions, the numbers presented were sung with excellent phrasing, good diction, and fine expression. Miss Marinda Thompson was the accompanist for the chorus.

• Jan. 27, 1949 - Harry



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week’s archive photo is from 1976. 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.

E. Olds, son of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Olds of Staples, is taking part in cold weather maneuvers off the coast of Alaska while serving aboard the landing ship USS403. Olds entered the U. S. Navy in May, 1948, and received his basic training at San Diego, Calif.

50 YEARS Ago - 1974

• Jan. 24, 1974 - A shot by senior Pat Goff with one second showing on the scoreclock swished the nets in the Park Rapids gym last Friday evening and gave the Cardinals of Coach Tom Wolhowe a 45-43 victory over the Panthers of that city.

• Jan. 24, 1974 - Madeleine Van Dyck, a foreign exchange student from Brazil will be arriving in Staples Saturday, Jan. 26.

Miss Van Dyck, who will be a senior at Staples High school during the remaining school term, will be making her home with Mr.

and Mrs. Warren Nelson, Route 1, Staples. She will be sponsored by Youth for Understanding.

• Jan. 24, 1974 - Work on the addition at the Staples 3M Plant is progressing, with Des Marais Construction of Staples being the contractor. The structure is a 45-foot by 152-foot addition at the west side of the two existing buildings. The area will include offices, conference room, factory space, employee area including air-conditioned cafeteria, locker room and showers. Don Peterson, local 3M manager, told The World that he expects 15 to 20 more employees will be added to the staff to operate the new equipment to be housed in the addition.

• Jan. 24, 1974 - A fire completely destroyed the farm home of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Kern shortly after dinner Jan. 15. The Kern home is located about 15 miles northwest of Staples in Bullard Township of Wadena County.

Leo Fahnlander, fire chief, said that when the Staples Fire Department arrived, the fire was completely out of control and nothing could be saved. The Kerns lost their house and all personal belongings.

• Jan. 24, 1974 - F. W. Perry, founder of the Perry’s Ben Franklin store in Staples, died at the United District Hospital, Staples, early Sunday morning, Jan. 20, at the age of 76 years. Funeral services were conducted Jan. 22, at the United Methodist Church, with the Rev. Edward Stevens officiating. Serving as pallbearers at the services were Donald Roline, Byron Haskin, Dr. Raymond O. Garland, James Hofer, James D. Randgaard and Arthur Manning.

25 YEARS Ago - 1999

• Jan. 28, 1999 - Hank Larson, Jr., a 1989 Staples graduate, has completed his second movie appearance in a film called “Firebase 9” produced by Galaxy Entertainment, Inc., a Christian-based company out of Mobile, Alabama. In the Vietnam war movie Larson was encouraged to try acting and it also includes his predominant talents, singing and songwriting. Larson’s first movie work was singing a song for the soundtrack of the movie “McCabe” released in 1997. Larson is the son of Hank, Sr. and Shelva Larson of Staples.

• Jan. 28, 1999 - Two new members were inducted into the Motley Lions Club at their Jan. 14 meeting. About 35 members gathered at the annual dinner held

at Mr. Ed’s in Motley. Marilyn and Pat O’Regan, sponsored by Ginger Olson, were inducted as new members by Judy Evans.

• Jan. 28, 1999 - Staci Yoder, daughter of Doyle and Deb Yoder and a 1997 graduate of Staples Motley High School, along with three other women will be performing in concert this Sunday, Jan. 31, at the Staples Alliance Church.

“First Love,” a ministry of Crown College, brings together four talented women whose passion is to serve Jesus Christ.

• Jan. 28, 1999 - Nicole Brichacek and Brad Doucette, seniors at Staples Motley High School, were crowned SnoDaze king and queen Monday night. Other SnoDaze royalty candidates included Paul Feakes, Andrea Hanson, Chris Goff, Susan Hansen, AmyJo Walthall, Wayne Storry, Mia Helling, Eric Klingaman, Katie Odden and Ben Schaffer. The crown bearers were Elizabeth Kronenberg and Tony Pogreba.

10 YEARS Ago - 2014

• Jan. 23, 2014 - Staples native David Joerger will return to Minnesota for the first time as an NBA head coach when his Memphis Grizzlies play the Minnesota Timberwolves on Jan. 31.

“It will be very interesting and fun to come back,” said Joerger. “It’s a fun time to be an NBA coach and coaching is my passion.”

• Jan. 23, 2014 - Cal Glockzin, longtime owner of Cal’s Barber Shop in Staples, retired last June. Known for his handlebar mustache and the shop’s eye-catching mannequin he dressed according to the season, Cal was a one-of-a-kind businessman and one of the few barber shops still around in this area.

• Jan. 23, 2014 - Beck Erholtz put his “signature” on the Staples Elementary School Spelling Bee on Jan. 15, correctly spelling “signature” in the 11th round to win the contest out of 14 other fifth grade students.

Erholtz was confident in most of his words and admitted he was not nervous during the competition. “It’s like going to a golf tournament, I’m always relaxed and knowing I am going to do my best.”

Erholtz said he became a good speller because he does a lot of reading, pays attention in school and worked with his dad on spelling. He expected to take the same relaxed attitude to the district spelling bee Jan. 30, at Centennial Auditorium, Staples.

Todd County HHS requests broadband stories

Submitted by Todd County Health and Human Services

Todd County residents, we need your help.

Todd County is rated among the lowest of counties with access to broadband or adequate internet services. This has created many challenges for our residents, specifically in recent years due to the pandemic, with many having to work from home, participate in e-learning, virtual health care visits, etc. This has also created challenges for businesses.

We need to hear your specific stories of the struggles you have endured due to lack of available broadband or quality of internet ser-

vices. The information you provide will be shared with providers who are actively seeking state and federal grant funds to increase access to affordable and accessible broadband throughout our County. These stories will hopefully strengthen the applications and get us closer to accessible and affordable internet for all Todd County residents.

Please share your story:
By email: broadband@co.todd.mn.us
By mail: Todd County Administration
c/o Broadband Coordinator
215 1st Avenue South
Suite 300
Long Prairie MN 56347

LAKEWOOD continued from page 1a

Building to help coordinate care for cancer patients throughout the Lakewood system

14 infusion bays, 10 medical oncology and two radiation oncology exam rooms, a procedure room, in-house PET/CT, and a linear accelerator, used for radiation treatments. Oncology case managers will be located within the new space for easy access to patients.

Lakewood’s Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Christine Albrecht had this to say about the cancer center: Our oncology patients have contact with nearly every department in our facility. It often starts with primary care and expands into lab, radiology, palliative care, and infusion, with many patients even being served in the emergency department and hospital. We’re excited to give patients the

opportunity to experience an even more personalized approach to their care by creating a designated space for them to receive the care they need and deserve.

“The opening of Lakewood Health System’s new cancer center marks a significant step forward in local healthcare,” said Lakewood Oncologist, Dr. Wade Swenson. “This facility is more than just a building; it’s a representation of our on-going dedication to providing top-notch cancer treatment close to home. Lakewood is committed to offering the latest in medical care to improve health outcomes and make a real difference in the lives of those we serve.”

Staples Police report

Recent reports taken by the Staples Police Dept. included:

Jan. 8, Staples Police received a report of missing prescription medication from the Lakewood Health System Care Center:

Jan. 8, Staples Police served and explained harassment restraining order paperwork to an individual at the Mill Townhomes. The respondent called back later with additional questions.

Jan. 8, Staples Police spoke with a party regarding a vehicle that had not been returned. Police learned that the vehicle had been involved in a crash and was currently at John’s Car Care in Wadena.

Jan. 9, Staples Police received a debit card which had been found at a gas station. Police attempted contact with the card owner at their residence, but was unsuccessful. The debit card is at the police department for the owner to claim.

Jan. 10, Staples Police responded to 7th St. SE for a report of a neighbor driving on another neighbor’s property and spinning out while stuck in the snow. The complainant reported it was deliberate to harass her. Police made contact with

the subject and advised.

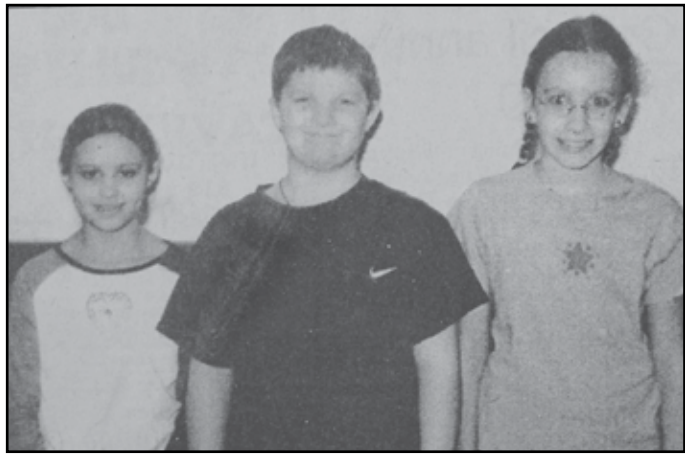
Jan 10, at 12:16 a.m., Staples Police observed two subjects walk across the railroad tracks at the old 7th St. SE railroad crossing. Police identified the subjects. They were advised on crossing the railroad tracks.

Jan. 10, Staples Police witnessed a suspicious individual walking in the area near 6th St. and Hwy 10. Upon closer observation the officer identified the individual and witnessed them walking to a house with known drug activity in the 800 block of 3rd Ave NE.

Jan. 12, Staples Police received a report of a possible “squatter” around the 300 block of 5th St. SE. Police are working to get the individual placed in a shelter.

Jan. 12, Staples Police received an anonymous report of a male at Ernie’s Supermarket who had consumed alcohol at the location. The caller did not want the subject removed from the business and was concerned about the individual’s ability to drive. Officers were unable to locate the vehicle.

Jan. 12, Staples Police were called to Casey’s for a suspicious person. The subject was given a ride home.



Mystery solved

Last week’s mystery photo published in the Jan. 16, 2003 edition of the Staples World featured three students at Sacred Heart School who were named as grade level champions in the annual Reader’s Digest National Word Power Challenge in which the school participated. Winners, from left, were Autumn Murray, grade 4; Joe Fink, grade 6; and Gemma Shaffer, grade 5. They advanced to the next level of competition, the Minnesota Statewide Championship in Minneapolis, and competed with other grade level champions from throughout the state.

Kathy and Bob Shaffer of Staples wrote to say that their daughter Gemma remembered this event and the other students, recalling that they were winners of a Sacred Heart School Geography Bee. She also claimed that she is “terrible at geography.” The Shaffers said their daughter is now a scientist and does research for Seagate in Edina.

Debra Fink of Staples also recognized the students, of which her son, Joseph is one. Debra shared that Joseph and Gemma both attended the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. Joseph currently lives in West St. Paul with his wife and four children. He works in the maintenance department at the Ramsey County Courthouse.

Ron Murray of Staples also recognized the group of Sacred Heart School students, which includes his daughter Autumn. He shared that Autumn currently lives in Baxter, is married and has a two-year-old daughter. She works at Sourcewell in Staples.

Thanks for participating in our Mystery Photo.



DEADLINES
Newspaper deadline for copy and advertising: 12 noon Fridays





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Minnesota Attorney



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Air is one of nature’s best insulators

One recent morning, with the temperature hovering near minus 10 degrees, I watched a cluster of juncos perched in the bare branches of the viburnum hedge that separates our yard from the neighbors next-door.

The sparrow-sized slate-colored junco—also known as dark-eyed junco—is much less colorful than the more celebrated cardinal, goldfinch, or blue jay. Less striking than even the mottled black and white of the downy and hairy woodpeckers that regularly visit our suet feeders. Still, it’s a subtly handsome bird. The junco’s plumage is like two contrasting hemispheres; one a dark slate gray on head and upper body—including wing coverts and central tail feathers—and its underparts a dusky white.

This cluster of juncos had breakfasted at the bird feeder, where you’ll often see them on the ground picking up seeds that other birds have spilled. Now they were huddled in the hedge, their feathers so puffed out that their nearly-round shapes resembled the glass ball ornaments that so recently hung from the branches of our Christmas tree.

When active in its daily routine, the junco is a trim little bird, not the rotund creature I saw on this frigid morning. What I was witnessing was a common bird world response to bitter cold. By puffing up their feathers in this way, the juncos were able to trap air between their body feathers. This “dead air” in turn was acting like an insulator to retard the transfer of warmth from their bodies to the much colder air around

◦ ◦ ◦
Inside the Outdoors



Mike Rahn ◦ ◦ ◦

them.

A songbird’s survival in winter—apart from the ever-present risk of death by an avian or mammalian predator—is a matter of addition and subtraction. Warmth and energy from metabolized food is on the addition side of the survival equation. The escape of body heat to the surrounding environment is on the subtraction side. Anything that slows the escape of body heat reduces these losses and the need for more fuel, and works in the bird’s favor. The dead air trapped within the bird’s body feathers does just that. Knowing how we humans struggle to keep warm on the coldest winter days, it seems a marvel that the metabolic furnace under a tiny bird’s feathers can keep it from becoming an ice ball.

Humans have taken a page from the birds’ play book in our quest to ward off cold. Since we don’t have the capacity to grow insulating feathers and down ourselves, we acquire the raw materials from birds, and incorporate them into gear manufactured for our use. This includes sleeping bags used by campers and “trekkers,” but much more widely in garments—jackets and coats, chiefly—designed for cold weather wear.

Most down and feathers used for insulation is harvested from geese and ducks that are killed for food, much of it in Europe and Asia, where their consumption could be considered a parallel to our consumption of turkey and chicken.

Tradition has it that the down from the wild eider duck—which inhabits the most northerly, colder latitudes—is the ultimate for warmth. It is rated above even goose down, which in turn is considered a more effective insulator than the down from most ducks. A hen eider’s down is used to line her nest during her eggs’ incubation period.

Eider down harvest is a small industry in Iceland.

The traditional collecting method is to replace the down in the nest with another soft material—such as hay—without disturbing the eider’s eggs. The quantity of eider down available is limited by the number of eider ducks that their natural habitats can support, making products containing eider down—such as luxury comforters—far and away the least available and the most expensive.

Human ingenuity has led to effective, cheaper, and more easily maintained substitutes for natural down and feather insulation. But there are definitely those who still consider the best goose down to be the ultimate for readily obtainable winter warmth. Not to mention its undeniable snob appeal.

Birds are not the only creatures that benefit from trapped air as protection in winter. A ubiquitous example here in Minnesota is the whitetail deer. Its winter coat has long, coarse, and waterproof “guard hairs,” which—while not hollow like a drinking straw—are compartmented into miniscule hollow chambers that contain air. These guard hairs, augmented by oil secreted by the deer’s skin, channel moisture away from the deer’s dense layer of insulating underfur. The principle is not identical to puffed-up bird feathers for heat retention, but the deer’s hollow hair is beneficial, nonetheless.

Deer are not the only mammals with air-trapping hairs in their winter coats. Among the others are moose, caribou, elk, wolves, and polar bears, all of which—no coincidence perhaps—inhabit climates that are inhospitable in winter.

The next time you curl up in a comfortable chair under a cozy quilt, remember that it’s not the fabric covering you generating the warmth, but the trapping of air between you and your environment that keeps you warm!

1949 letter remembers early Staples happenings

Jan. 27, 1949 - Staples World headline: ‘Letter from Herb Wilson Reminiscent of Pioneer Days in Staples and Community.’

A letter recently received from William H. (Herb) Wilson, of Alhambra, Calif., will be interesting to many people in Staples, and the letter, in part, is herewith quoted:

“Dear Sir: I took a reminiscent journey through the columns of your paper of Jan. 6, which was forwarded to me here in Sunny (?) California, and marveled at the seeming progress Staples and your paper have made over the years.

“While I never knew your predecessor or yourself, I did know J.T. Drawz, who, if I recall rightly, established the World sometime back in the 1890’s. We, as kids, used to call him “Johnny Pants.” Many of the old time residents of Staples will recall that sobriquet. However, he did much to bring the settlers into town, which was then known as Staples Mills, and I believe, before that, it was called “Presto.”

“An article describing

the new signals installed at the Sixth street crossing brought back to my mind another occasion also around 1890 when the first switch joining the Little Falls cut-off to the main line was the occasion for some celebrating. A tower was built there and an old time friend of mine was given charge of the operation, namely Pete Dewey, who had lost a hand in an accident in Brainerd years previously.

“I first came into Staples as a water boy on the first work train that made that junction, that is why I so vividly recall the incident.

“Other things in your January 6 issue paint things in my memory of people, many of them long since departed, and some of them still there. Every one of those pictured in the account of the presentation of a 50-year membership pin to my life-long friend, Fred Ames. I grew up and worked among them.

“It has been many years since I have visited the old hometown, and I scarce would know its residents now except through contact with their children and their children’s children.

“The report on your chief of police, Jess Marr, intrigued me into making a comparison of the same problems in a metropolitan city like Los Angeles. To control or apprehend violators they find it necessary

to set up road blocks to catch the cagey offenders. Mention of the police also reminds me of another old friend, Ed Britton. I stood in front of the bank there a long time ago while visiting in Staples, as Ed went into the bank to cash his check. A big car drove up and stopped right in front of the bank and in it was a guy with a machine gun. I started to walk away but was ordered not to move, or else. Another guy got out, went into the bank and stuck it up and Ed too. Later I understood they just about got all of the N. P. payroll and to my knowledge never were caught.

“In the columns of the World, if they have been kept on file, you might find many an account or happening of forest fires to the south in 1894 when most of the old timers had to get out and fight to preserve the city. I was one of them. Many a duck I shot in both Dower and Hayden lakes in the early days.

“I noticed Dr. Cook says the birth rate there is about normal. That is as it should be. Parallel parking too is a sensible system in any city, but meters to grab your dimes and nickels now-a-days, it seems cheaper to walk.

Yours Truly,
Wm. H. (Herb) Wilson

Home schooling growing

What can be more important than the decisions parents make on behalf of their child’s education. Home schooling is parent directed. There is flexibility in curriculum and scheduling. Lessons can be individualized to benefit the student. Parents are taking control more than ever before. Home schooling in-

creased by 110 percent since 2011-12.

Before COVID started there were about 2.5 million K-12 homeschoolers one year later that number doubled. Statistics vary by state, but over-all in the U.S., 86.5 percent are in public schools, 8.2 percent in private schools, 5.2 percent are home schooled. Parents are frustrated by the absence of an academically challenging curriculum. Classroom distractions and the lack of importance assigned to de-sired social values and mor-

als. According to NHERI (the National Home Education Institute) 78 percent of homeschoolers perform higher on the standardized tests. Parents who homeschool, are taking on a huge responsibility and commitment, but what can be more important than our kids’ education.

“There is no school equal to a decent home, and no teacher equal to a virtuous parent.” - Mahatma Gandhi

Kevin Jenkins
Staples, Minn.

Tourism is a part of economic development for small towns

By Deb Brown
saveyour.town

Tourism as economic development makes sense. Get people from outside of your community to come visit your natural resources, your events, and your community. Have them shop in town, eat at the restaurants, get gas in town, and stay overnight in your hotels, and that will stimulate your economy. We can all see that picture pretty clearly.

Why do people come to our town?

Some of the things we don’t always see are why people want to come to our towns. It’s no big deal to us to go down to the small beach at the lake and enjoy swimming. Or drive out to

the woods and fish by the creek. How about enjoying the dirt track races? Or park the car on the main street, sit on the benches, and listen to live music on Thursdays.

What else can you do in a small town?

Look for ghosts at sunset in the old cemetery or make etchings on paper of the headstones. Learn the history of that family at the local library. We can just walk into the fire station and ask for a tour and be treated to a hands-on amazing try-on-the-uniform kind of tour! Many things we take for granted we assume others in our town know about, but that’s not true.

Ask people ‘What are the fun things to do in town?’ Make a list of them and

share them. Keep adding to that list.

What can you do as a local?

This year as you plan your vacations, why not plan a few days spent in your town? Look at that list and add some of those activities to your staycation. Enjoy time with your family and friends and think about each day as an adventure. Post pictures on the socials, just like you do when you are on vacation. Hashtag it: #stayhome #staycationintown.

Bringing more people to our community as visitors is a step towards economic development. Seeing what an area offers in the way of recreation and entertainment helps to get people thinking ‘Maybe I could live in a community like this.’

Submitted by University of Minnesota Extension

A new year brings the opportunity to ring in resolutions focused on positive changes. While many resolutions revolve around physical health, it’s equally important to consider another vital aspect of health — financial well-being.

Extension Educator Dung Mao answers questions about making financial goals and building a habit of saving.

Q: How can I make saving money a habit?

Mao: Consistency is key, no matter how much you save. Start by saving as little as a dollar each week. It may not seem like a lot, but being able to save that dollar shows you can save. Your goal could grow to \$10 or \$100 each month in the future.

Another way is to put away a percentage of your paycheck. Try saving 1% and see how you feel. If it doesn’t hurt too much, save 2% the next month, then 3% and so on. Saving might be tough at first — giving up your morning coffee to save some money could feel like a loss. It’s important to remember that saving for your needs and future emergencies is actually a win. It’s something to be proud of.

Q: How can investments be part of my saving strategy?

Mao: Investments can be a powerful tool — helping to potentially grow your money over time by putting it into different investment options, such as stocks, bonds or mutual funds. Growth is often seen in the form of interest or dividends. This growth can help you reach your savings goals faster than just setting cash aside. That said, investments come with certain risks and losing money is possible. It’s important to understand these risks, be an informed investor and adjust your strategy based on your comfort level and saving goals.

Q: What is your advice for dealing with financial setbacks?

Mao: First, life happens and it is important to be kind to yourself when it does. It is common to have an illness, car problem, or something else that knocks us off the path toward our financial goals. When setbacks happen, we tend to want to blame ourselves and run away or give up. Here is what to do instead: take a deep breath, know that this is temporary and remind yourself that you can succeed. Adjust your plan and do it again. You got this!

Q: How do emotions affect our relationship with money?

Mao: It seems whenever people talk about money, it is usually in the form of numbers, charts, logic and

material wealth. When we see that, it is easy to forget that money is deeply emotional. I am willing to predict that most of us don’t work for money solely to accumulate piles of paper or to see the numbers in our bank accounts grow.

We work for money because of what money can give us, such as the joy in knowing we can provide for ourselves and our families. Joy could also come from knowing we could purchase gifts or afford enriching experiences for our loved ones. On the other hand, money can also evoke anxiety and stress, especially the feeling we get when we are not able to meet our necessities.

Either way, recognize that money can directly affect our emotions and be mindful of that connection to help improve your overall mental health as well as how you make financial decisions.

Q: What resources are available to help me work on my financial well-being?

Mao: Extension offers many resources and guidance to help with your financial journey, including budgeting, debt management, retirement planning and more. Some people prefer to create a detailed plan, while others take a more relaxed approach. No matter your situation, Extension’s resources can help you meet your goals. Visit Extension’s Spending, saving, and retirement webpage to learn more: extension.umn.edu/personal-finance/spending-and-saving.

Dung Mao is an Extension Educator in the Department of Family, Health and Well-being, specializing in financial literacy and financial capability. He is based out of the regional office in Andover and welcomes any thoughts and comments you may have around money at maox0025@umn.edu.

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The deadline is 12 noon, Friday. Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily represent the views of this newspaper.

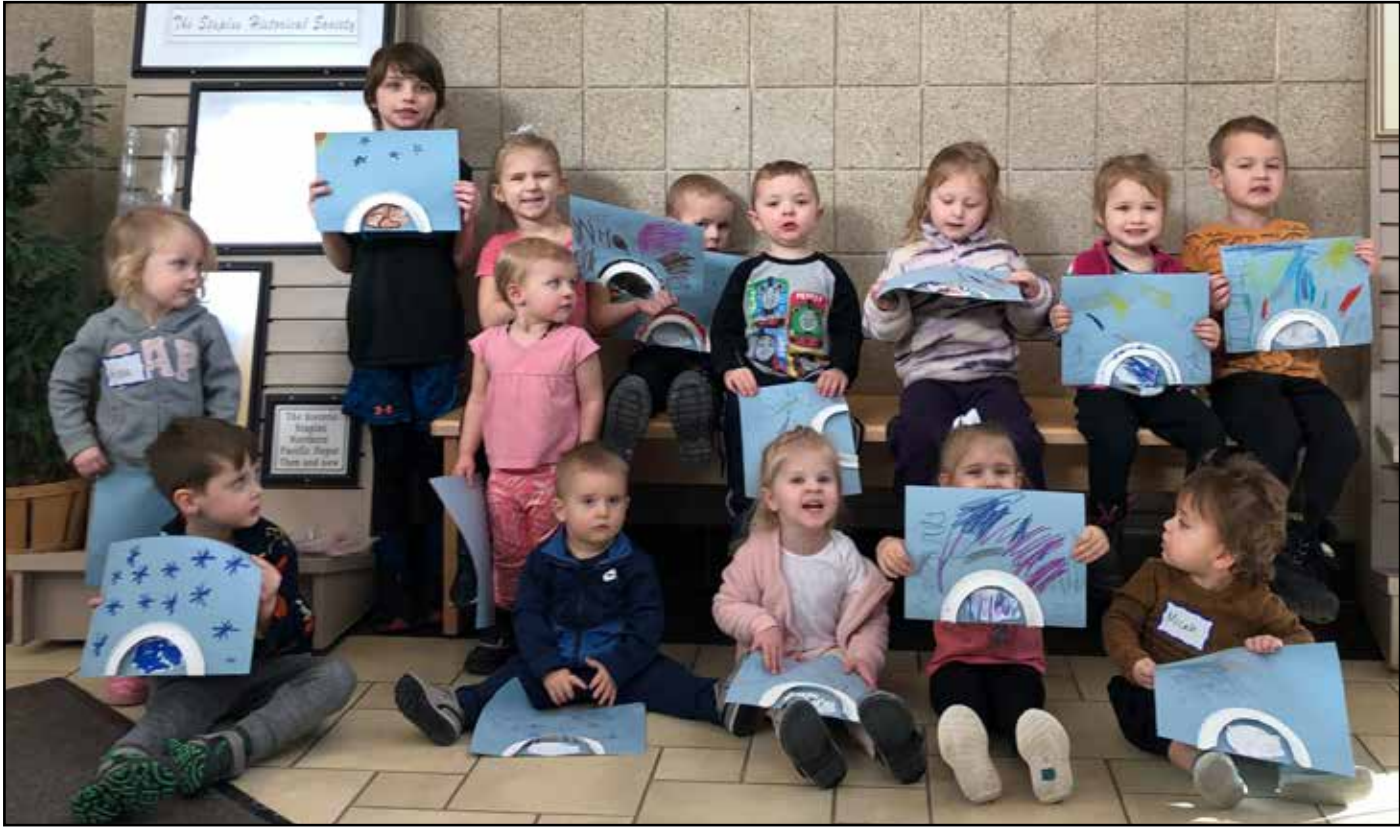
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Fairness: The Staples World tries conscientiously to report fairly and accurately. If you feel we fall short of this objective at any time, please direct your complaint to the manager whose name appears on this page.
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Preschool Storytime at Staples Library

Storytime is held at the Staples Library every month and includes reading books, singing songs and making crafts. February Storytimes will held Saturday, Feb. 10, and Wednesday, Feb. 21, at 10:30 a.m. The programs are sponsored by The Staples Friends of the Library. Call the library at 218-894-1401 to sign up.

Front row: Samuel Reigstad, AJ Biggar, Malakhi Doss, Jolene O'Keefe, Ella Doss, Micah Augar. Back: Alana Reigstad, Ray Biggar, Adaniya Doss, Rhett LeBlanc, Bjorn LeBlanc, Faith Frisk, Alida Hanson, Archie Hanson. (Submitted photo)

Free tax help offered

Free tax help is being offered to low to moderate income taxpayers at Staples City Hall on Wednesdays, from 1 - 4 p.m. and Thursdays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Feb. 6 - April 11. Appointments are necessary and can be made by calling 218-296-6616.

Bring last year's income tax return, photo ID, social security cards for all family members, social security statements, railroad retirement, W-2, 1099-R, 1099-Interest, 1099-DIV, property tax statements, rent form and donations to charity.

Mark Your Calendar

January 25

'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>
WADENA WHIRLWAYS SQUARE DANCE GROUP DANCING Thursday, Jan. 25, 7:30 - 10 p.m., at St. Michael's Church, 280 1st Ave. S., Motley. Charley Huhtala, caller. For info., 218-894-2900.

ERY MEETING Every Friday in person, 10:30 a.m., Motley Free Methodist Church (lower level), 33 Wellwood St. E. Motley. All women welcome.

January 27

FREE COMMUNITY BREAKFAST Saturday, Jan. 27, 9 - 10:30 a.m., at Motley United Methodist Church, 847 3rd Ave. S., Motley.

January 30

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.

January 26

WOMEN'S OPEN AA RECOV-

Lakewood board members complete Minnesota Hospital Association Trustee Certification program



Receiving certification

Norm Krause (center) receives his certification from MHA President and CEO, Dr. Rahul Koranne, and Lakewood District Board Chair, Mary Theurer. (Susan Peet was unavailable for a photo) (Submitted photo)

The Minnesota Hospital Association (MHA) recognized 16 hospital and health system trustees from across Minnesota for their successful completion of MHA's rigorous and comprehensive trustee certification program. This certification underscores their unwavering commitment to the patients, care teams and communities they serve. "Hospitals and health sys-

tems are cornerstones for the communities they serve, and are facing a multitude of historic challenges," said Dr. Rahul Koranne, MHA president and CEO. "MHA's trustee certification program ensures that hospital and health system leaders are well-prepared for their roles." MHA's trustee certification program provides hospital and health system trustees with training on current health care trends, governance best practices, ethics, government regulations, and patient safety and quality. Participants undergo 30 hours of coursework, making Minnesota's program the most comprehensive in the nation. Susan Peet and Norm Krause from Lakewood's District and System Boards, respectively, completed their trustee certification for Lakewood Health System in Staples.



Storytime at Staples Library

Storytime is held at the Staples Library every month and includes reading books, singing songs and making crafts. February Storytimes will held Saturday, Feb. 10, and Wednesday, Feb. 21, at 10:30 a.m. The programs are sponsored by The Staples Friends of the Library. Call the library at 218-894-1401 to register. Front row: AJ Biggar, Amelia Horn, Genevieve Underhill, Marcella Underhill. Back: Georgia Horn, Elloise Engebretson, Ray Biggar, Harrison Underhill. (Submitted photo)

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

Great River Eye Clinic
formerly Crosby Eye Clinic

Dr. Stacy Sjoberg, MD, Ph.D.
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Call to schedule in Staples: 1-800-952-3766

TIMBERS RESTAURANT

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display ads, garage
sale ads, letters to
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items for the
**Staples World is
Friday noon.**

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

∞

Hello World

○

ONLINE BIRTHS REMOVED AT THE REQUEST OF
LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM

BIRTHS REPORTED AT ASTERA
HEALTH HOSPITAL IN WADENA
INCLUDED:

First baby of the year: Baby boy, Edward John Lalone Jr. was born on January 5, 2024, to Jennifer Jean Furman and Edward John Lalone of Wadena weighing seven pounds, 12 ounces at Astera Health in Wadena. Proud siblings are Jace, Lillian, Jayden, Logan, Lelan, Izabella, Bentley and Nevaeh. Grandparents are Bruce and Kim Anderson; Howard and Tammy Lalone and Susan Bergeson.



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Student Achievements

○

MINNESOTA STATE COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE has announced its Fall 2023 academic honors. Students on the president's List earned a grade point average of 4.0 while completing a minimum of six college-level credits; and students on the President's List earned a grade point average of 4.0 and students on the Dean's List earned a grade point average of 3.50 - 3.99. Students also completed a minimum of six college-level

credits and 75 percent of the courses in which they enrolled for the semester to qualify for the honor. Local students named include:

- Jaelyn Jordahl, Motley, President's List
- Keyona Teamer, Pillager, President's List
- Aleeah Halverson, Staples, President's List
- Alexander Kokett, Staples, Dean's List
- Brenna Schmitz, Staples, Dean's List

∞

Obituary

○

Jean Irby

Jean Irby, 90, Fargo, ND passed away January 14, 2024, at River Pointe of Moorhead.

Memorial Service was held Jan. 20 at West Funeral Home Chapel, West Fargo.

Burial will be in Warroad at a later date.

Jean was born July 30, 1933 at Staples. She attended school through the ninth grade in Staples before the family moved to Warroad where she graduated as valedictorian from Warroad High School in 1951. Jean married John T. Irby on Nov. 23, 1952 in Warroad.

Over the course of their 71-year marriage they lived in Massachusetts, North Dakota, Illinois and Idaho, settling in International Falls where they raised their family and made many friends. Jean was active in the community, her church and volunteering. She volunteered many hours at Voyageurs National Park and loved spending summers at their cabin on Dove Island and later on Big Cormorant Lake; and winters in Fort Walton Beach, FL.

She was a member of the Eastern Star and Sons of Norway.

She is survived by her husband, John of West Fargo; three children, John (Jan) Irby of Casselton ND, Carol (Don) McIntire of Hewitt and Sue (Lance) Hightower of Terilton, OK; five grandchildren, Joseph Irby, Lindsey (Jeff) Bladow, Alexandra Tollefson, RaeLee Hightower and Sterling Hightower; one great-granddaughter, Ember Bladow; one sister, Ann Bailey; two brothers Jim Norris and Joe Norris and several nieces and nephews.

Jean was preceded in death by one daughter, LuAnn; one granddaughter, Laura Sue and one brother, Pat Norris.

In lieu of flowers, the family would prefer memorials to the Rainy River College Foundation for the LuAnn Irby Memorial Scholarship fund.

Arrangements by West Funeral Home & Life Tribute Center, West Fargo, westfuneralhome.com.

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
Church 218-894-2296
info@marysacc.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
19550 490th Street, Aldrich
Eric Clapp 701-261-2394 (cell)
Sunday Worship 8:15 a.m.
Sunday School 8:30 a.m.

Cushing

Bethany Lutheran
25430 Bison Rd. Cushing, MN
320-749-2140
Pastor Carl Larson
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.

Leader

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

Maple Hill Lutheran
Sandy Knight, Synodically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament
Leader 218-397-2470 (Rural Pine River)
Worship and Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Motley

Motley Free Methodist
33 Wellwood St. E
Motley 56466 218-352-6888
Jim Johnson, Senior Pastor
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
847 3rd Ave. S, Motley 218-894-2296
info@marysacc.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 AA meeting 8:00 p.m.

Oylen

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

Pillager

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

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

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

Hewitt

Church of the Nazarene
114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146 Hewitt, MN
218-924-2028
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 Ulhren
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
Tahna Rurup, Connections & Media Pastor
Tillman Phagan, Kid's & Food Shelf Pastor
Ryon 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@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn
Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Saturday 6:00 p.m.

St. Hubert Catholic Church
Bluegrass 218-894-2296
info@marysacc.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.

"That Feeling of Moving On"

Fr. Aaron Kuhn, Sacred Heart Church, Staples

I am so quick to move on. Perhaps it's part of the episodic nature of television and social media that affects me so deeply, but I seem to be conditioned to transition quickly from one activity to the next, that it can be very difficult for me (or any of us) to rest in the moment and just "be" with those around me. Does this affect you, too?

This past week I was on retreat, and the regular impulse that kept nagging at me was to move on. It felt more like a temptation than a grace, which made me pause to ask, "whose voice is this?" The discernment of spirits is an ancient practice of Christians, for we do not want to be fooled by the evil one. "Don't believe everything you think," as someone once told me. The lie I was believing: "I have something more important to get to."

I had to force myself to pray longer, re-

flect more and linger around the social spaces in conversations with other retreatants. The benefit? Making it past the brief anxiousness and awkwardness of forming relationships, with God, myself and my neighbor. These are the real relationships at risk of dying if we neglect or avoid them.

Relationships are chosen, not automatic. They are the fruit of "wasting" time with God, self and neighbor. The devil wants us to be too busy to think on things and to avoid the awkwardness and anxieties that arise when confronted with relationships. And yet, is that not what heaven will be for eternity: unending love relationships with God, myself and others? When I patiently pause the discomfort of "moving on," I often find graces on the other side. The lie fades and the truth sets me free. I am made for relationships.

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Cardinal 7th-9th grade wrestlers win state title

The Minnesota Ninth Grade Wrestling League state tournament was held at the Welia Center in Mora on January 20.

The tournament is a single-class tournament comprised of the top 24 teams in the state who have qualified at their respective region tournament. The Cardinals qualified for the state tournament by taking 1st at sections in Perham on Jan. 15.

At the state tournament, the Cardinals beat Sartell 53-15, Minneota 38-33 and Chatfield 42-28 to make it to the championship round. In the finals they faced a very dominant team from St. Michael-Albertville, which has the top ranked varsity team in the state, so the team knew they had a tough match in front of them. However, each wrestler did their part to secure bonus points when possible



Coaching staff

Staples-Motley wrestling coaching staff, from left, Eric Kramer, Mark Carlson, Shane Tappe, Steve Jennissen, Holton Truax, Chris Dobson and Dan Bjerga. (Submitted photo)

as well as keep key matches to a only decision to keep the dual close. The outcome of the dual ultimately came down to the final match where heavyweight Philip Rapp was able to hold on to

the lead and secure the win for the Cardinals.

The ninth grade league team consists of Staples-Motley wrestlers in grades 7-9.

Cardinals sweep Mid State wrestling duals

The Staples-Motley wrestling team overwhelmed the Mid State Conference wrestling tournament, winning dual matches with three shutouts and a big win over a Pequot Lakes/Pine River-Backus team that has been ranked in Class AA this year. This was the final Mid State meet because next year the team will enter the Heart O Lakes Conference as the Mid State Conference will dissolve.

The Cardinals had eight All-Conference wrestlers and three made Honorable Mention All-Conference.

All-Conference went to Gage Bjerga, Caden Kramer, Eli Greenwaldt, Turner Beachy, Riley Reese, Blake Neelan, Colbe Tappe and Luke Bjerga.

Honorable Mention All-Conference went to Garrett Bjerga, Jack Carlson and Steven Petrich.

In the match against Crosby-Ironton, Staples-Motley received nine forfeits, plus on the mat wins by Caden Kramer, Blake Neelan, Luke Bjerga and Adrian Gomez, to win 73-0.

Against Aitkin, Caden Dobson won with a pin at 145 pounds and Zach Tabatt won with a pin at 172, as the Cardinals won 66-3.

Against Park Rapids, Staples-Motley won all the close matches, including Jack Carlson 5-0 at 127, Owen Winter 6-2 at 152, Tabatt 8-6 at 172 and Gomez 6-3 in overtime at 215, to make the final score 66-0.

Everything came together for the Detroit Lakes match, a good team that finished third in the conference. The Cardinals won 72-0 behind pins from Gage Bjerga, Eli



Turner Beachy



Luke Bjerga

Greenwaldt, Jack Carlson, Turner Beachy, Riley Reese, Colbe Tappe, Luke Bjerga and Steven Petrich. Blake Neelan and Adrian Gomez won by decision in two close matches.

Against PL/PR-B, Staples-Motley opened with three pins from Gage Bjerga, Caden Kramer and Eli Greenwaldt. A big turning point was at 139 pounds, where Riley Reese cautiously controlled his opponent and won 3-2. Owen Winter and Zach Tabatt lost but ensured a team victory by limiting their opponent to decisions, saving team points. Luke Bjerga got an important win at 189 pounds with a 7-5 deci-

sion.

Team results Mid State Conference Wrestling Duals Staples-Motley 35, Pequot Lakes 26

107 Gage Bjerga W fall, 114 Caden Kramer W fall, 121 Eli Greenwaldt W fall, 127 Jack Carlson W 13-4, 133 Turner Beachy W 18-3 TF, 139 Riley Reese W 3-2, 145 Blake Neelan L 3-2 (OT), 152 Colbe Tappe W ff, 160 Owen Winter L 10-2, 172 Zach Tabatt L 3-1, 189 Luke Bjerga W 7-5, 215 Adrian Gomez L fall, 285 Steven Petrich L fall

Staples-Motley 72, Detroit Lakes 0

107 Garrett Bjerga W ff, 114 Gg. Bjerga W fall, 121 Greenwaldt W fall, 127 Carlson W fall, 133 Beachy W fall, 139 Reese W fall, 144 Neelan W 8-4, 152 Tappe W fall, 160 Winter W ff, 172 Reece Headley W ff, 189 L. Bjerga W fall, 215 Gomez W 7-2, 285 Petrich W fall

Staples-Motley 66, Park Rapids 0

Staples-Motley 73, Crosby-Ironton 0

Staples-Motley 66, Aitkin 3



Blake Neelan



Game-winning defensive play

Eli Rutten, right, tips the ball away from a Royalton player in the closing seconds of the game, helping the Sta-

ples-Motley team maintain a one point lead. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Brandt's free throws, Rutten's steal lead to win

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team lost second half leads in two games, but held on to win one. They beat Royalton 57-56 on Jan. 16, then lost 76-64 against Park Rapids on Jan. 19.

Against Royalton, Avandre Brandt drained two free throws with 23 seconds left to put the team ahead by one. With 17 seconds left, Eli Rutten stepped in front of a pass and tipped it to the other end of the floor. He outraced the opponents to the ball and saved the possession. After a missed free throw, Royalton got one last chance with four seconds left. They completed a full court pass and got up a long shot that missed. A rebound basket came after the buzzer, leaving the Cardinals ahead by one point.

Early in the game, both teams were disruptive on defense, with Staples-Motley playing a swarming team defense, tipping passes and making steals. Unfortunately, Royalton was doing the same thing. Staples-Motley missed on several three

point shots early on, but got hot late in the half, as Brandt and Alex Schultz made two long shots and Conner Kuhns had one, to break open an 11 point lead late in the half.

In the second half, they maintained a 10 point lead for a while, but had a stretch where the defense stopped working and Royalton took a one point lead. The Cardinals went back to work with Brandt and Noah Larson scoring both inside and outside, getting a 12 point lead, their biggest of the game, at 55-43. But in the last few minutes, the team let up again and Royalton scored 13 straight points, to take a one point lead. Brandt's two free throws were the first points in two minutes, but thanks to Rutten's defensive stop, that was all they needed to win.

Against Park Rapids, the Cardinals fell behind early, letting dribblers in the lane drop passes for easy layups. They shored that up in the second part of the half and forged a five point lead

after Brandt hit two three pointers and Rutten made one. They allowed PR to come back with two open three pointers to take a two point lead at halftime. Staples-Motley could have been ahead, but missed seven of their nine free throws in the half.

In the second half, the Cardinals worked hard to get another five point lead after Kuhns made two straight three pointers. But PR amped up the defensive pressure and Staples-Motley had several turnovers that led to an 8-0 run against them. After that, the game slipped away as PR continued to make shots and free throws, finishing with 19 of 26 free throws.

Team results

Staples-Motley 57, Royalton 56

Scoring: Alex Schultz 21, Avandre Brandt 17, Eli Rutten 7, Noah Larson 5, Conner Kuhns 5, Grant Bestland 2

Staples-Motley 64, Park Rapids 76

Scoring: Rutten 17, Brandt 14, Kuhns 12, Schultz 9, Larson 5, Bestland 5, Logan Robben 2



Scoring from every angle

Left, Grand Besltand scores between two players. Right, Avandre Brandt goes over the defense. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Girls basketball takes losses

The Staples-Motley girls basketball team had two losses in the week, falling 88-34 to

Frazee on Jan. 16 and 55-38 against Detroit Lakes on Jan 18.



Jack Carlson



Caden Kramer

**NOTICE
FAWN LAKE
TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF AUDIT**

Fawn Lake Township will hold its annual Board of Audit following the regular February meeting to be held Monday, February 12, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the town hall. Any questions can be directed to the clerk at 218-531-0287.

Kelly Miller, Clerk
Fawn Lake Township.
5pnc

**NOTICE
LEADER COMMUNITY
HALL BOARD**

The Leader Community Hall Board will meet Thursday, February 8 at 7:00 p.m. at the Hall.

Mark Strom, Secretary
Leader Community Hall
5-6pnc

**NOTICE
MORAN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF AUDIT**

Moran Township will conduct the Board of Audit following the February 6, 2024 meeting.
The March meeting will be held on Monday, March 4, 2024.

Diane Mack, Clerk
Moran Township.
5pnc

**NOTICE
MEADOWBROOK
TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF AUDIT**

The Board of Audit for Meadowbrook Township will meet at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at the Leader Community Hall, immediately following the monthly town board meeting.

Ty Peterson, Clerk
Meadowbrook Township.
5-6pnc

**NOTICE
VILLARD TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF AUDIT**

The Villard Township Board will hold its annual Board of Audit on Tuesday, February 13 immediately following the regular scheduled monthly meeting at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Eastwood Inn, Motley, MN.

Mary Trantina Koenig
Villard Township Clerk
5pnc

**PUBLIC NOTICE
TODD COUNTY
DITCH 41**

Notice is given by means of this legal newspaper that an Informational Meeting will be held Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at 6 p.m. It will be held in the Commissioner's Board Room on the third level of the Historic Courthouse located at 215 1st Ave South, Long Prairie, MN 56347. This Informational Meeting is regarding a possible maintenance project. All interested landowners are welcome and encouraged to attend. County Commissioners Becker, Byers, Denny, Noska, and Neumann, County Ditch Inspector Nancy Uhlenkamp, and Ditch Attorney Kale Van Bruggen will be present. If any additional information is needed before this meeting, please contact Nancy Uhlenkamp County Ditch Inspector located at Public Works, 44 Riverside Drive, Long Prairie, MN 56347, Phone 320-533-4651, email: nancy.uhlenkamp@co.todd.mn.us

5pnc

**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 f/k/a Quicken Loans, 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 09, 2024

ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, 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)

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5-10pnc



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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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Longbella continued from page 1a

Family business transition started after sudden death of Dick Longbella in 1983

ples, as well as at the main campus in Staples, and Lakewood’s clinic in Pillager. As part of their negotiation, the pharmacy has been renamed ‘Longbella Drug by Lakewood.’

“It’s the end of an era,” could be heard voiced by customers who stopped by Longbella’s this past December to pick up one final prescription, and maybe shop for a Christmas gift while holiday classics played on the store’s radio often set to WJYY out of Brainerd.

A lot of people tell him they’re going to miss the old time pharmacy feel, Chad said. He noted one woman who always com-

mented on the store’s original tile flooring which she loved (scuffs and all), and others who’ve tried to guess how many outdated and returned pills were in the large glass canister on the shelf, a collection started by his dad years ago. Then there were the mounted game on the walls...‘Oscar the Caribou’ for starters, along with an impressive fish, and some bucks shot over time by Lani, Chad and their brother, Chris...each a conversation starter for folks waiting in line to pick up prescriptions.

The Longbella patriarch, a WWII veteran, originally came to Staples in 1946 to

work for Sam Skaife, owner of Skaife Drug. When Sam died in 1962, Dick bought the pharmacy business, keeping the name of ‘Skaife Drug’ until Sept. 1, 1971, when it was changed to ‘Longbella Drug Store.’

In addition to launching his career there, Staples was where Dick would meet his wife, June Wagner, a home economics teacher at Staples High School in 1957. After tying the knot, Dick and June welcomed four children to the world... Marn, Chris, Lani and Chad...all of whom spent some time working at the store during their teen years, delivering medicines to homes and helping out where needed. Chad recalled sweeping floors at the drug store from the time he was 12. With June helping with the bookwork, Longbella’s was definitely a family business.

Sadly, Dick died suddenly in 1983, after suffering a heart attack at work. June took over the drug store at that point, with help from Lani and Chad who’d worked closely with their dad over the years and learned many aspects of the business.

At the time of her dad’s death, Lani was attending pharmacy school. She completed her requirements and became a licensed pharmacist in February of 1984, at which time she returned to Staples to work at the drug store.

Chad, meanwhile, had been studying electrical engineering and robotics, but switched gears, enabling him to work alongside his mom at Longbella’s. He also managed to attend pharmacy school for a year, and even ran the computer lab at the high school in Staples for awhile.

Eventually, Longbella Drug Store would be their sole place of employment.

As noted in a historical synopsis provided by the family, “the ‘expansion’ of

Longbella Drug began in 1998, when the Lakewood Clinic wanted to have a pharmacy in their new clinic that was being built in Motley.” Longbella’s pharmacy opened at the Motley Clinic in March of 1998, and then, in November of 2003, opened their second clinic pharmacy at Lakewood’s new clinic in Pillager. Longbella’s third clinic pharmacy was opened in December of 2006, as Lakewood Health System built their new health care facilities east of Staples.

June was only able to witness the first two clinic pharmacy openings, having passed away suddenly in 2003, leaving the ownership of Longbella Drug to Lani and Chad.

They’re grateful to have had the opportunity to work with their parents, and have been part of a family-owned business that spanned over 60 years. In 2013, as Longbella’s celebrated their 50th year as a family business, Lani shared with the World that she’d “Learned a lot” from her dad before he died in 1983.

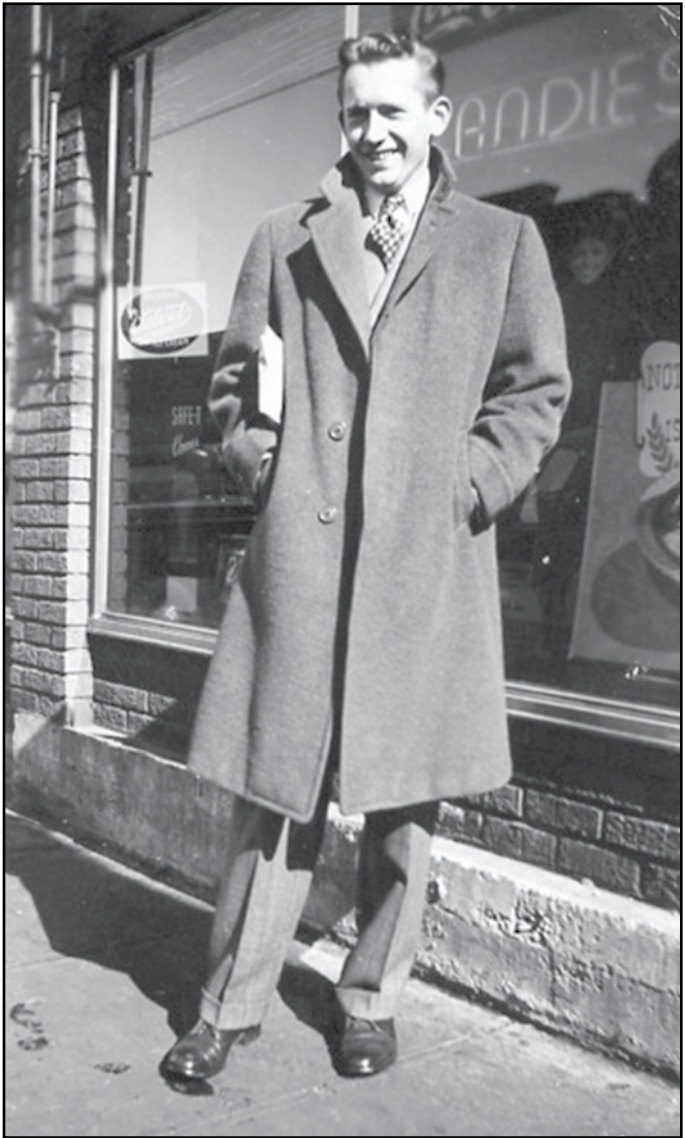
Lani was the one responsible for keeping the gift store portion of the business stocked with beautiful and unique items. The product line had definitely changed over the years from when their dad had the store. The 50th anniversary article noted that “they used to fix razors, sell cigarettes and have a large makeup section, but those products are either obsolete or have been taken over by other stores. “You have to find your niche,” Chad said.

In 2017, Longbella Drug Store was honored at the annual Staples Motley Community Foundation Awards Ceremony, receiving the ‘Business of the Year’ award. Dick and June would have been proud.

Their parents taught them about hard work, and the importance of giving back to your community. Like his dad before him, Chad was elected to the Staples-Motley School Board, serving a total of 29 years. Both he and Lani have also been involved at Staples United Methodist Church, a tradition set by Dick and June.

They were pretty remarkable, Chad says of his folks, noting that both had graduated high school when they were just 16... Dick, from Fargo, N.D., and June from Big Stone, S.D. Little did either know that their paths would cross, and that their last name would be part of a business legacy.

Things have changed a lot since their dad first started Longbella Drug, and even since Lani and Chad took over. As noted in their historical compilation, “Over the years, the practice of pharmacy has changed a bit from mostly compounding all prescription products for patients and helping them to take care of



Founder of Longbella’s

C. Richard (Dick) Longbella is the founder of Longbella Drug Store, a family owned business in downtown Staples for over 60 years. He came to Staples in 1946 to work for Sam Skaife, owner of Skaife Drug. Upon Sam’s death, Dick bought the pharmacy business in 1962, later changing the name to Longbella Drug Store. Dick was born in Staples, but his family moved to Fargo, N.D. when he was a boy, and that is where he received his elementary, high school and college education, graduating from North Dakota Agriculture College (now NDSU) School of Pharmacy in 1940. (Submitted photo)



Shopping tradition

Stopping at Longbella Drug Store in downtown Staples to shop for last minute Christmas gifts has been a tradition for Megan Collins-Moore of Chicago ever since her folks, Robin and Pam Collins, moved to town 20-some years ago. She’ll miss it, Collins-Moore said. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Helping a customer

Chad Longbella, a co-owner of Longbella Drug Store in downtown Staples for many years, rings up an order for Roger Reichel of Staples. It’s the people and the relationships built over the years he will miss the most, Chad said, reflecting on the store’s recent closing. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



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