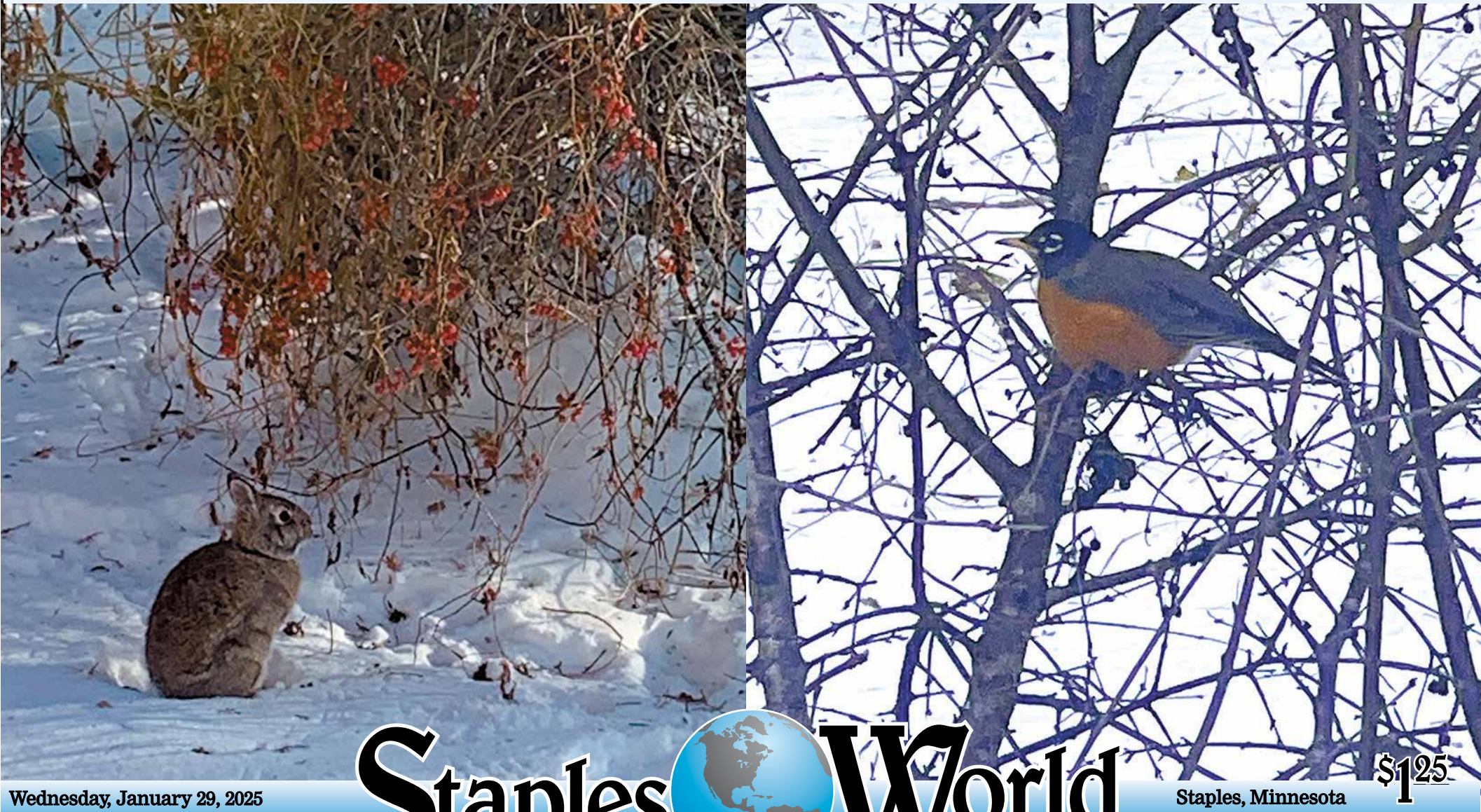


Inside this issue:

Missouri family researches Staples history
Todd County Feedlot meeting to be at Staples
Boys basketball comeback, overtime games
Opinions on government priorities



Wednesday, January 29, 2025

Staples, Minnesota

Winter wildlife during deep freeze Despite temperatures reaching 30 below zero last week, local wildlife has emerged to hunt for food in the cold temperatures. Left, a rabbit finds a quiet place under a bush after eating red berries from the bush. (Photo by Janice Winter). Right, a robin was spotted sitting in a tree on Jan. 21, one of the coldest days of the year. Could this be a sign that spring is coming? (Photo by Mark Anderson)

Motley city planning kickoff set for Feb. 20

The City of Motley is updating its Comprehensive Plan and is seeking community input to help create community-developed goals and aspirations to guide future planning efforts. Motley area community members are invited to attend a public kickoff meeting on Thursday, February 20, at 5:30 p.m. at the Motley United Methodist Church, 847 3rd Ave S, in Motley, MN. All Motley area residents (both permanent and seasonal), business owners, community groups, students, artists, and others are asked to participate in one or more of the following activities to share their views and help shape the plan: community open houses, an online survey, roundtable, and one-on-one discussions. The City of Motley is working with the Region Five Development Commission, which has completed numerous comprehensive plans for communities throughout the region, typically ranging in size from 300 people to over 13,000. To learn more about comprehensive planning, visit regionfive.org/comprehensive-planning. For updates and details about the City of Motley's Comprehensive Plan process, visit regionfive.org/motley.

David Jeremiason is new foundation development officer at Lakewood

David Jeremiason has joined Lakewood Health System, Staples, as its foundation development officer. This is a new role at Lakewood and will focus on establishing and nurturing relationships in the surrounding communities to build awareness about ways to support the Lakewood Foundation. David brings with him over a decade of experience working in healthcare philanthropy, and has lived and worked in the area for the past 25 years. The Lakewood Foundation serves an important role in funding programs and services that support Lakewood's patients and the community. "I have heard so many wonderful things about the environment and culture at Lakewood and I'm excited to be part of the team. I wanted to work in a smaller healthcare system where you truly feel part of the community, and Lakewood is a perfect fit. I look forward to building support for Lakewood to enrich the wonderful care we offer patients and the community."

David and his wife, who also works in healthcare, have a busy family with six kids. They spend a lot of time on the water, kayaking and canoeing area lakes and rivers. Annually, they kayak the Apostle Islands on Lake Superior. David also loves to play cribbage and works part-time at Jack Pine Brewery, where he started their weekly cribbage league.



David Jeremiason



Staples-Motley Competitive Speech team traveled to Cass Lake Jan. 18 to compete in the Cass Lake-Bena Early Speech Extravaganza. As the first tournament of the season, there were no team rankings and individuals received ribbons based on how well they did throughout the day and medals if they ranked at the top of their category throughout the entire tournament. The team brought home two medals and 14 ribbons. Front row, left to right: Kai Bestland, Hailey Richardt, Jackson Bitzer, Landon Zeigler, Caleb Bestland, Lexi Ann, Raina Mikhaeil. Second row: Jackson Alexander, Walker Johnson, Laken Hines, Addie Brenny, Meredith Hoemberg, Lydia Tkalcich, Adelaide Toepper, Nayomi Perez, Nadia Santos, Molly Hoemberg, Tristan Rendon. Back: Alex Tkalcich, Lily Davis, Maddock Harvey, Olivia Opheim, Annabella Hurtig, Maria Halvorson, Sadye Anderson, Jessi Bursch, Terri Rodrigues, Brynn Bestland, Joshua Cushing. (Submitted photo)

ardt, Jackson Bitzer, Landon Zeigler, Caleb Bestland, Lexi Ann, Raina Mikhaeil. Second row: Jackson Alexander, Walker Johnson, Laken Hines, Addie Brenny, Meredith Hoemberg, Lydia Tkalcich, Adelaide Toepper, Nayomi Perez, Nadia Santos, Molly Hoemberg, Tristan Rendon. Back: Alex Tkalcich, Lily Davis, Maddock Harvey, Olivia Opheim, Annabella Hurtig, Maria Halvorson, Sadye Anderson, Jessi Bursch, Terri Rodrigues, Brynn Bestland, Joshua Cushing. (Submitted photo)

Ribbon and medal winners

Front: Nadia Santos, Lexi Ann, Caleb Bestland, Maddock Harvey, Joshua Cushing. Back: Hailey Richardt, Walker Johnson, Addie Brenny, Olivia Opheim, Raina Mikhaeil, Brynn Bestland, Laken Hines. (Submitted photo)



Medal winners were Brynn Bestland in Drama and Laken Hines in Humor. Ribbon winners were Addie Brenny, Olivia Opheim, Joshua Cushing and Brynn Bestland in Duo; Raina Mikhaeil, Great Speeches; Olivia Opheim, Informative; Laken Hines and Maddock Harvey, Storytelling; Nadia Santos and Addie Brenny Poetry; Walker Johnson, Extemporaneous Speaking; Hailey Richardt, Original Oratory; Caleb Bestland, Humor; Lexi Ann, Prose; Walker Johnson and Joshua Cushing, Creative Expression. The team traveled to Pequot Lakes Jan. 25.

Weather icons and forecast for January 29 to February 4, 2025, including high/low temperatures and conditions. Also includes last year's 2024 forecast and average temperatures (High = 22°, Low = 3°). Compiled by Dale Hausmann, WCCO's Staples area Weatherwatcher.

Public Notices and Obituaries section. Public Notices include Becker 8A, May 8A, Leader Board 8A, and Meadowbrook 8A. Obituaries list Joanna Eblen, Judith Palmer, Ronald Peterson, and Dale Resch.

Missouri family travels Memory Lane in Staples

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

If vacationing somewhere warm this winter to escape sub-zero temps isn't in the cards, what about planning a trip down Memory Lane?

Granted, it probably won't come with a suntan or photo op by the beach, but you might return home with a richer connection to your past, a better understanding of yourself, and a nostalgic smile on your face.

The winter season can be the perfect time for journaling, working on scrapbooks, or even delving into family history research at your local newspaper.

That's exactly what Dr. Mike Koller of St. Louis, Mo. did this past fall, just prior to the start of cold weather, when he stopped by the Staples World to search the archives for obituaries and other information relating to his kinfolk.

Joined by his wife, Joyce, and son Daniel, Mike spent several hours at the paper, reading through papers dating back to the late 1800s. In particular, he was looking for clues as to where his great-great-grandmother, Mary Morse might be buried.

"Mary had moved to Staples with her husband, Virgil Morse, in the early 1890s and lived in Staples at least until 1905, the last year her name is seen in a census," Mike shared in a later email, adding that her name is not in the 1910 census.

Mike went on to explain that Mary was the mother

of Fannie Morse DeMund, who was the mother of his grandfather, Leo DeMund. Leo went on to marry Mathilda "Tillie" (Goethe), the parents of Mike's mother, Kathryn, who was born in Staples and lived there until 1925 when the family moved to North Dakota. She was eight years old at that time.

Mike was born and raised in Minneapolis, but Staples was always a touchstone for him and his family, as several relatives still called the north central Minnesota town "home." He went on to mention the surnames Dyer and Rondorf, which are still familiar to Staples area residents.

His grandmother Tillie was the youngest of three sisters, their maiden name being Goethe. The oldest, Mary, went on to marry Hilarious Rondorf, Catherine married Leonard Dyer, and, as mentioned earlier, Mathilda "Tillie" married Leo DeMund.

Two stately homes, built by Hilarious Rondorf, still stand on the north side of Staples. In 1897 or 1898, he built the big brick house on the corner of 6th St. NE and 2nd Ave., known for years as the 'Rondorf house.' Today it is home to Sebasky & Hildreth Antiques. In addition to being the home for Hilarious, Mary, and their children, the Rondorf house was where Mary's two younger sisters lived until each of them were married. Mike shared that the Goethe sisters' mother had died in 1889 when the girls were young, and Mary took on the care-giving role

at that time, even after marrying Hilarious in 1893.

Hilarious also built the big white house that graces the corner of 7th St. NE and 2nd Ave. for his in-laws, Leonard and Catherine Dyer, shortly after they were married in 1904. "Sadly, Leonard died in 1918 from influenza, likely during the Spanish Flu epidemic... Catherine was a widow for 60 years," Mike said, adding that after her husband died, Catherine took in boarders, often railroad men, renting rooms upstairs.

The big white house was later home to the Dyers' son Larry and his wife, Margaret (Hoemberg). Sadly, Larry died in 1973 of cancer, leaving Margaret to be a widow for almost 44 years, Mike recounted. When she was 92 years old, Margaret was in a very serious car accident, "and to her great disappointment was never able to return to live in Staples or in the beloved Dyer home," Mike said.

He has so many wonderful memories of visiting Staples over the years, Mike went on. When he was a child, he recalled traveling there with his family every Memorial Day. They'd stop by the cemetery, and later visit with relatives at the Dyer house. "Margaret would always prepare a full lunch for us, including ham sandwiches," the doctor said. He also has fond memories of playing with his siblings and cousins in the Dyers' back yard while the grown-ups visited inside.

Prior to their trip north last October, the last time Mike and his family had



A little research help from The World

Staples World employee Kathy Odden (seated) helped gather archived newspapers for the Koller family of Missouri, as they researched articles relating to their family. Standing, from left, are Joyce, Michael and Daniel Koller. Michael Koller's grandparents were Leo and Mathilda De-

Mund who lived in Staples in the early 1900s. One of his grandmother's sisters was Catherine (Goethe) Dyer, whose picture they found in the Dec. 21, 1978 edition of the paper, along with news of her recent passing at the age of 100. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

been in Staples was in 2016, for Margaret's 100th birthday celebration, held at Sacred Heart Church. She passed away in 2017, a couple months shy of turning 101.

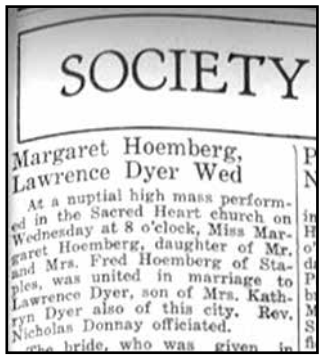
During the Kollers' time at the Staples World, they found an article about Margaret's life, as well as her obituary, and those of a few other relatives. Mike was tickled to find the 1917 birth announcement for his mother, Kathryn, which read, "A fine nine pound baby girl arrived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leo DeMund Tuesday evening."

Mike came across some happy wedding announcements of relatives, as well as a sad story that told of his mother's brother Donald, who died of pneumonia at age 15.

Unfortunately, the Missouri doctor never did find the obituary of his great-great-grandmother Mary Morse while searching the newspaper archives. Mike said it seems likely she is buried with her husband Virgil Morse in Oak Grove Cemetery in Detroit Lakes, although there are no records of that there. There are also no records of her being buried at Evergreen Hill Cemetery in Staples.

"My hope would be to find her obituary or an article about her passing in the Staples World sometime between 1905 and 1910," Mike said, adding, "I realize potentially searching through every weekly newspaper during this five year span could take some time."

It looks like Dr. Koller and his family just may have to book another trip north down Memory Lane to finish their project. The Staples World archives won't melt the cold winter snow, but they just might help warm the soul.



Weddings

During his search for news of his family, Dr. Mike Koller found several wedding announcements, including this one for Margaret (Hoemberg) and Larry Dyer from 1940.



The Rondorf home

Now home to 'Sebasky & Hildreth Antiques' in Staples, the stately brick building on the corner of 6th St. NE and 2nd Ave. was known for years as 'The Rondorf home.' It was built around 1897 or 1898 by Hilarious Rondorf. (Submitted photo)



Sisters

Dr. Mike Koller of Missouri shared this 1945 photo of the Goethe sisters, all of whom had ties to Staples. From left are Catherine Dyer, Mary Rondorf and Mathilda (Tillie) DeMund. Dr. Koller traveled to Staples recently to search for articles relating to his family at the Staples World.



The Dyer home

Originally known as 'The Dyer home,' the big white house on the corner of 7th St. NE and 2nd Ave. in Staples was built around 1904 by Hilarious Rondorf. (Submitted photo)



Learning about his ancestors

Dr. Michael Koller (above left), along with his son, Daniel and wife Joyce, were in Staples Oct. 8, looking through the newspaper archives at the Staples World. The Kollers were visiting from their home in St. Louis, Mo., and were looking for information pertaining to Michael's relatives who had lived in Staples. Their last names included Goethe, Rondorf, Dyer and DeMund.

At right, Dr. Koller holds up a photo of the three Goethe sisters, one of whom was his grandmother, Mathilda (Tillie), who later married Leo DeMund. The other sisters were Mary (Goethe) Rondorf and Catherine (Goethe) Dyer. Dr. Koller was hoping to find obituary information about the DeMund family, along with clues as to where they are buried. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)





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Basketball action

Avandre Brandt, above, and Alex Schultz, below, take shots in the boys basketball game. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Cheering on the team

Students in the end zone bleachers at The Nest get into the game, during the Staples-Motley boys basketball game. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



Winning the scramble

Dustin Converse emerges on top after a scramble during his wrestling match against Becker. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

75 YEARS Ago - 1950

• Feb. 2, 1950 - One of the major entertainment events of the season will be staged at the Staples auditorium on Feb. 11, when the first annual Staples Basketball Homecoming will be staged. The main game of the evening will be played at 8:45 o'clock when the Alumni All Stars will meet the Staples high school "A" squad. This game will feature such former stars as Virg Robinson, Bill Card, Kenny Johnson, Glenn Robinson, Elmer and Lyman Johnson, Don Petree, John Peterson, Ronald Hanson. The Homecoming Dance will begin at 10 o'clock, with

— O —
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
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music by the Alumni Dance Band.

• Feb. 2, 1950 - The Aldrich Northern Pacific depot, like many other small town depots, was discontinued on Jan. 31, according to the Aldrich correspondent.

The depot has been in continuous service since the Northern Pacific was first built through here many years ago.

Roger Button, who has been the agent in charge of the office for the past number of years, will transfer to Verndale. He will drive to and from work. The Buttons own their home in Aldrich.

• Feb. 2, 1950 - Robert Perry, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Perry of Staples was presented with the "God and Country" special award in Scouting at special services conducted at the First Congregational church in Staples recently.

Participation in the presentation were Gordon Cross, Senior Scoutmaster, and Mr. and Mrs. Perry.

• Feb. 2, 1950 - Sam Louis, of route 1, Motley, has a story of some interesting old coins, some of which have been in the family for more than 65 years.

His collection includes two silver 3-cent pieces; two old Indianhead pennies; 5 silver Canadian 5-cent pieces; one cent piece stamped with an eagle; an 1875 German coin, and a real old Chinese coin.

• Feb. 2, 1950 - George Dennehey, of the Dennehey Pure Oil Service, stated that Ray Fraser had been issued the most bounty certificates from his office for fox caught during 1949, with a total of 36 bounty certificates being issued to Mr. Dennehey.

At his office, a grand total of 216 fox certificates, 12 wolf certificates, and one bob cat certificate was issued for bounty in Todd county. At Mr. Dennehey's office, \$4 is paid for adult fox; \$2 for pups, and \$25 for adult wolves.

50 YEARS Ago - 1975

• Jan. 30, 1975 - Jeanne Germann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Germann, was crowned queen and Ron Miller, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Miller, was chosen king by the students of Sta-

ples High school for their annual Sno-Days last Friday.

• Jan. 30, 1975 - The Staples High school Symphonic Band and Concert Band will present an evening of entertainment and food Feb. 6, Larry Correll, director, announced today.

The evening begins with a dinner sponsored by the bands and it will be mainly hot dishes and casseroles, with relishes and salads. The dinner will be served starting at 7 p.m. and the cost is \$1 per meal.

The concert follows the meal at 8 p.m. Preparations for the dinner were shared with the paper by band students Melanie Fuller, Ellen Shea, Sharon Olson and Peggy Finn.

• Jan. 30, 1975 - Michael P. Vasecka, son of Mrs. Dora Vasecka, Motley, has been promoted to Army Specialist 5 while serving with the 2nd Armored Division at Fort Hood, Texas. Specialist Vasecka is an image interpreter in military Intelligence. Michael is a 1969 graduate of the Motley High school and the Staples Area Vocational School.

• Jan. 30, 1975 - Fifteen members of the Class of 1975 at Staples High school will be initiated into membership of the National Honor Society Feb. 5.

The induction ceremonies of the new members will begin at 9 a.m. in the Staples Auditorium and the public is invited.

The 15 members who will be initiated represent 10 percent of the class. They are chosen by the faculty. Students are chosen on the basis of scholarship, leadership, character and service.

Conducting the initiation ceremonies will be the eight members of the class who were inducted last May. They are Janell Sellnow, Patty Fearing, Karen Stevens, Joy Roline, Lorene Haglin, Melissa Morriss, Steve Goligowski and Raymond Denning.

The National Honor Society was started at Staples High school in 1937. Since that first initiation, a total of 567 students have been recognized through induction into the society.

25 YEARS Ago - 2000

• Feb. 3, 2000 - The Motley Lions Club is spearheading a benefit Spaghetti Dinner for the Rosenthal family, owners of Four Roses Floral, Nursery and Gifts in Motley. The business was destroyed by fire on Nov. 23, 1999.

The dinner will be held on Feb. 9, from 4:30 - 7 p.m. at the Motley Elementary School/Motley Staples Middle School cafeteria.

• Feb. 3, 2000 - Ron Beachy, former head track coach at Staples Motley High School, was inducted into the first class of the Minnesota Coaches Association Track and Field Hall of Fame on Jan. 30.

Beachy, who served as head coach from 1971 to 1998 at Staples and Staples Motley High School, was one of 18 coaches honored by the coaches association in this initial group.

• Feb. 3, 2000 - Crunch, the mascot of the Minne-

Looking back



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from 2000. 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.

sota Timberwolves, visited area schools on Friday (including Motley Elementary/Motley Staples Middle School) to promote the Read-A-Thon kick-off.

• Feb. 3, 2000 - The Staples Motley High School Competition Squad was awarded first place in the Varsity Class A Small Division of the MCCA State Cheerleading Competition held last weekend in St. Paul. Members include Melissa Matejicka, Jayme Hajek, Traci Weishalla, Sarah Bach, Samantha Johnson, Kelsey Hjelmeland, Jessica Nytes, Jenna Vogel, Ashley Bendson and Cassie Jennissen.

• Feb. 3, 2000 - The Cardinal girls basketball team downed Park Rapids 67-62 on Jan. 28, with Jill Mertens pouring in 39 points to break a 19-year-old record set by Jessica Beachy. The old one-game scoring record was 32 points set during the

1980-81 season.

10 YEARS Ago - 2015

• Jan. 29, 2015 - Fans of Katie Ziegler cheered upon learning that the local singer had received a golden ticket from the judges of TV's American Idol and knew she would be heading to Hollywood last October to continue in the singing competition.

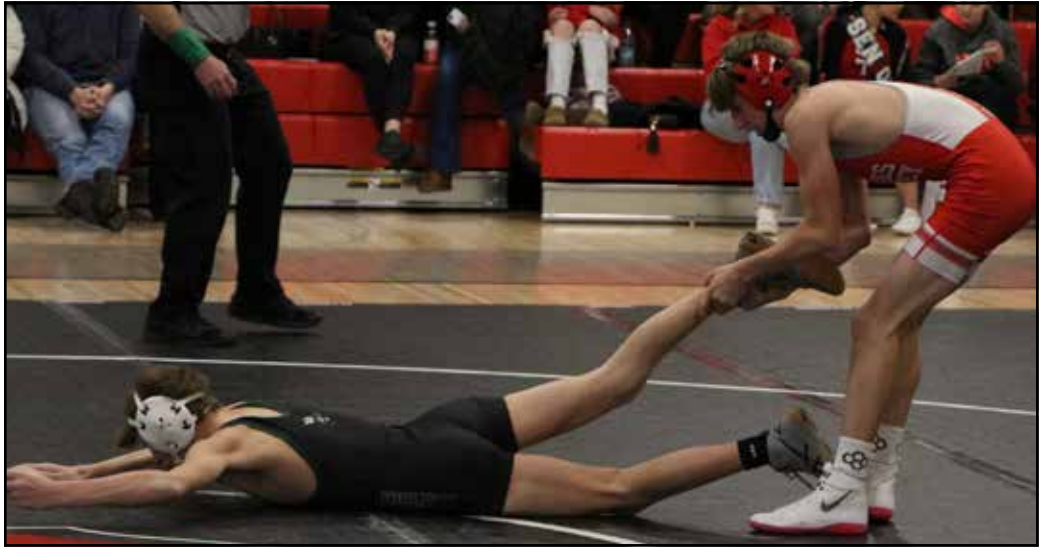
The taped segment of the Minneapolis auditions was aired Jan. 21 and the owners of Local Legends in Staples hosted an American Idol party in Ziegler's honor, with all of the bar's television sets tuned to the Fox network show. Although Katie's audition was not shown during their course of the program, she was able to announce the judges' verdict at the end of the program. "I received three yes's!" she shared. "I'm going to Hollywood!"



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the Feb. 3, 1977 edition of the Staples World featured, from right, Todd Hess and Pam Quance, Staples High School choir members practicing their take-off of the well known duo, 'Donny and Marie,' one of the acts on the Pops Concert program which was held in the high school cafeteria.

Pat Quance of Staples correctly identified his sister Pam, as well as Todd Hess. He also remembered that they were dressed up as 'Donny and Marie.' Thanks for participating in our mystery photo



Not getting away

Caden Kramer, right, prevents an opponent from diving away, grabbing a leg to pull him back in before covering him for a take-down.

I forgot...
"Can I still get an ad in..... ???

DEADLINE:
Staples World 12 p.m. Friday

218-894-1112 • office@staplesworld.com
Staples World, 224 4th St. NE, Staples, MN 56479





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1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

Acadia Biggar recently completed her 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten reading program at the Staples Public Library. Stop by to sign your child up for the program designed to help children prepare for kindergarten. The program is provided by the Staples Friends of the Library. Above: Tamber Edin, Library Assistant, Acadia and her mother, Rachel. (Submitted photo)

Help Me Connect for pregnancy, young families

Todd County Health and Human Services

Help Me Connect is an online service navigator in Minnesota that helps providers connect pregnant individuals and families with young children (birth-eight years old) with services in their community. Help Me Connect can assist families with finding services and resources, including:

- Healthy development, screening tools, parenting programs and identify concerns early:
- Developmental and behavior concerns: services for early intervention, special education and mental health
- Disability services and resources: community and family support for children with disabilities

- Early learning and child care: education and child care programs
 - Family well-being and mental health: support the whole family's safety, physical and mental health
 - Resources for American Indian families
 - Caregiving and community support: resources for homeless, immigrants, refugees, teen parents and other family situations
 - Dental care: find and access affordable dental care
 - Basic needs: help with food, housing and transportation
 - Legal services: low-cost or free legal services and information
 - Emergency resources: support during crises
- Visit www.helpmeconnectmn.org.

Region Five annual award winners

Region Five Development Commission (R5DC) announced their 2024 Annual Award Winners and honors awardees at an event held at the Gull Lake Yacht Club in Brainerd, December 12, 2024. R5DC selected Allegra Marketing-Print-Mail of Brainerd as the recipient of the 2024 Exceptional Service Provider of the Year for their professionalism in providing outstanding marketing materials and customer service. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency was chosen as R5DC's 2024 Exceptional Regional Partner for providing supportive funding and working closely with cities in our region to address environmental concerns leading to more resilient communities. Bell Tech CNC Machinery and Simply Rustic Floral & Design were selected as 2024 Outstanding Business Partners of the Year.

Bell Tech CNC Machinery utilized the Motley Local Development Organization funds to purchase high-quality equipment that significantly improved efficiency and contributed to their growth in Motley. Simply Rustic Floral & Design navigated a challenging journey to open their floral shop, leveraging funding from the North Central Economic Development Association and drawing on mentorship and community assets to create a thriving business in Crosslake. R5DC recognizes the work of all these organizations and strongly applauds them for their positive community impact. R5DC also released its Annual Report, highlighting regional impacts from fiscal year 2024. To review the report: visit regionfive.org/annual-report.

Mark Your Calendar

January 30

'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 31

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.

February 2

CELEBRATE RECOVERY GROUP MEETINGS are held every Sunday at 6 p.m., at Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood St. E., Motley.

February 3

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

February 4

OLD TIME DANCE is held the first Tuesday of every month at the Wadena VFW. For information, call 218-639-0132.

RUBY'S PANTRY will be held

Tuesday, Feb. 4, from 4:30 - 6 p.m. at the parking lot of Central Lakes College in Staples.

WOMEN'S AA MTG Tuesdays, from 6 - 7 p.m., at Staples Church of Christ, on Hwy 210, south of Staples.

EXPERIENCE STRENGTH AND HOPE AA GROUP MTGS IN STAPLES are held at the Church of Christ, 27343 490th St., Tuesdays, 7 - 8 p.m. For info., call Dan at 218-640-7228.

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance
1512 8th St. NE, Staples.....218-894-2891
Jonny Olson, Associate Pastor
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:
Adult Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.

Faith Lutheran
430 12th Street. NE., Staples.....218-894-1546
Pastor Carl Larson
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.....218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn and Fr. Rick Aubol
MASS:
Sunday.....8:30 a.m.

Seventh Day Adventist
421 Dakota Ave. SE, Staples.....218-894-0033
Saturday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
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
Pastor Vicar Paul Koehler
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.....218-837-5831
Janet Eckman SMA
jre227@yahoo.com
Sunday Worship.....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
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
1st St. and Birch, Motley.....218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Saturday.....4:00 p.m.

St. Michael

280 1st Ave S, Motley.....218-894-2296
Fr. Aaron Kuhn and Fr. Rick Aubol
MASS:
Sunday.....10:30 a.m. (May - Nov.)
Saturday.....4:00 p.m. (Dec - April)

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, 2nd and 4th Sundays.....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 Uhren
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.

Verndale

Verndale Alliance
109 NW Brown Street, Verndale, MN 56481
218-445-5619
Senior Pastor Tony Stanley
Youth Pastor Joe Ward
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 Phagon, 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 Community Church
5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar)
Pastor James Middendorf, 320-260-4952
Sunday Service.....9:00 a.m.
Bible Study.....10:30 a.m.

St. Frederick Catholic Church
20 Mason Avenue NW
Vermdale.....218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn and Fr. Rick Aubol
MASS:
Saturday.....6:00 p.m.

St. Hubert Catholic Church
Bluegrass.....218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn and Fr. Rick Aubol
MASS:
Sunday Service.....10:00 a.m. (Dec. - April)
Saturday.....4:00 p.m. (May - Nov.)

Leaf River Township The Old Country Church
Leaf River Twp., Wadena County Rd. 6
Info. 218-837-5690 Call first.

Wadena

St. Helen's Episcopal Church
22 Dayton Ave. SW, Wadena, MN 218-631-3928
Sunday Worship.....10:00 a.m.

"What Time is It?"

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

In the Bible, there are two words for time. One reflects calendar and clocks. The other reflects of timeliness, appropriate timing and needed timing.

First, a word about calendar and clock timing. Like never before in my lifetime, we have seen a growing struggle with people "showing up on time." I don't know how many stories I've heard by employers being frustrated with employees not only NOT showing up on time, but somehow thinking that they should still have a job. Literally "thank YOU" if you're an employee that doesn't act like an independent silo and cares about both responsibility and respects your work colleagues around you. Thank you for showing up on time, ready to engage the work entrusted to you.

Now, let's consider a broader and deeper sense of time. It's an orientation that seeks and is molded by the larger picture of this life and the next. It very much is aware that as important place as each moment has, the whole picture is embraced by eternity. It brings me back to II Corinthians 4:16-18 (NIV) when we hear the apostle Paul say, "Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen

is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

So, I must ask myself, "Just how much of my daily perception is based on being aware of and living in the midst of the far larger unseen eternal world?"

A football analogy helps me. How many pivotable games have been determined by the literal final seconds? The last seconds interpret the entire previous game. Although we are bountifully provided for in Scripture about the true meaning of each day and each relationship, we have yet to come a soon event that will perfectly clarify everything. That event is Jesus' soon return. If people already were mocking its delay in the first century, you can about imagine how that has escalated today.

The time of Jesus' return, by the Father's design continues to be a welcomed mystery. Indeed, "The Heavenly Father Knows Best." But with the reality of Jesus' soon return (His next "fullness of time") we consistently hear Him say, "Be ready." Don't be in a spiritually slothful, slumbering state." Let's be on time, ready employees. Even more, let's be living in eternal time, anticipating and welcoming Jesus' return by being His intentional followers by receiving Him as our Savior and Lord, recognizing in John 14:6, that He is "the only Way, Truth and Life."

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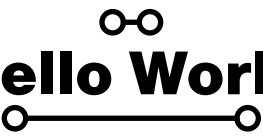
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Newspaper deadline for copy and advertising: 12 noon Fridays



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Student Achievements

ALEXA VANALST, Staples, was recently named to the Fall 2024 Dean’s List at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester,

N.H. To qualify, students must be full-time and have earned a minimum grade point average of 3.5.

BRIANNE HOVE, Staples, was recently named to the Fall 2024 President’s List at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, N.H. To qualify, students must be full-time and have earned a minimum grade point average of 3.7.

MICHAEL INGERSOLL, Staples, was recently named to the Fall 2024 President’s List at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, N.H. To qualify, students must be full-time and have earned a minimum grade point average of 3.7.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY has announced its Fall 2024 Dean’s List. To qualify, students must earn a 3.5 grade point average or higher and be enrolled in at least 12 class credits. Local students named include:

- Odin Trif, Motley
- Ellie Brown, Pillager
- Kayli Dorn, Pillager
- Talene Whiddon, Pillager
- Alex Black, Staples

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Obituaries

Ronald Peterson

extended family members and dear friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents and six siblings, Jack, Clarence, Gene, Jerome, Genevieve and Anton.

Dale loved spending summers at the family lake home and winters golfing in Arizona. He was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed fishing, golf, bowling, playing cards and deer hunting. He was an active member of the community, belonging to the Knights of Columbus (where he was a former Grand Knight), the Kentucky Colonels, the Lions Club, Sacred Heart Catholic Church and the Motley American Legion Post 124.

Dale will be remembered for his fun-loving personality and the joy he brought to all who knew him.

Memorials are preferred to the Shriners or St. Judes. Arrangements were by Taylor Funeral Home, www.halvorsontaylor.com.

w6c A00006B2025JN29

Ronald Claire Peterson peacefully passed on January 24, 2025. Our Lord and Savior welcomed him as he was surrounded by his loving family, ending his short yet brave battle against Lymphoma.

A funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on February 8, at Sacred Heart Church in Staples under the direction of Brenny Funeral Services. A visitation will be held on February 7 at Brenny Funeral Home in Staples from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Burial services at Evergreen Hill Cemetery will be held at a later date.

Born on March 7, 1941, in Wadena, the eldest son of Donald and Luzetta (Martin) Peterson. In 1961, Ron married Mary Ellen Klose at Sacred Heart Church in Staples. A union that celebrated 63 years of love and devotion. Together they raised seven children: Dureen (Patrick) Donahue, Steven (Pamela) Peterson, Kim (Joseph) Finn, Joseph (Christie) Peterson, Matthew (Nancy) Peterson, Kelly (Ryan) Hajek, and Mary Kathryn (Nathan) Noska. Ron’s life was filled with the joy of family, which extended to 19 cherished grandchildren: Danielle, Anna, Samantha, Benjamin, Noah, Owen, William, Laura, Cathryn, Joseph, Abigail, Cassidi, Jack, Alexis, Gavin, Chloe, Lyla, Ronnie and Charlie and seven great-grandchildren, including Lucy, Maggie, Jameson, Vera, Irelyn, Jude, Rylee Mae and the eighth great-grandchild expected later this summer. He is also survived by one sister,

Karen.

He was preceded in death by his parents and three siblings, Geraldine, Sandra and Lynn.

A respected businessman in Staples, Ron helped establish the local Jaycees chapter, served as President of the Sacred Heart School Board and was a member of the Knights of Columbus. Ron was also an Elder of the White Earth Band of Ojibwe and took great pride in his Native American Heritage. Ron’s true passion was supporting his children and grandchildren, never missing a moment to cheer them on in their athletics and school activities. He will be remembered by his family for his unwavering devotion as a husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

Ronald’s legacy of kindness, love, service and dedicated work ethic will remain forever in the hearts of those who knew him.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Sacred Heart School.

w6c A00006B2025JN29

Judith Palmer

Judith Marie Palmer, 85, passed from this life and entered the Church triumphant on January 16, 2025, at the Whitefish at the Lakes Senior Living in Crosslake.

Funeral services were held January 24 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Staples with Pastor Paul Koehler officiating.

Interment will be at Evergreen Hill Cemetery in Staples.

Judy was born April 11, 1939, to Edward and Mary Hagen. She was baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Judy grew up in Minneapolis with her parents and sister Patricia (Hagen) Feyo.

After graduating from high school in 1957, she attended the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, where she received her LPN nursing degree in 1959.

Judy was united in holy marriage to Lloyd Ross Palmer on September 19, 1959, at Christ Lutheran Church in Minneapolis by the Rev. Karl B. Stroming.

Judy and Lloyd enjoyed raising their three children Mark, Todd and Diana in Staples where Judy worked with her husband Lloyd running “Palmer’s Accounting and Tax Service.”

Judy was a faithful and caring wife and was an active member at Trinity Lutheran Church in Staples. She especially loved her children and grandchildren. She enjoyed playing cards, fishing, golfing and bowling.

Lloyd and Judy spent many years during the winter months at their home in Mesa, Arizona enjoying the sun, golf and

many friends from Minnesota. They enjoyed their time and friends at their summer trailer on Women Lake in Longville.

She will be deeply missed and is survived by two sons, Mark (Beth) Palmer of Bondel, WI and Todd Palmer of Maple Grove; one daughter, Diana (Joel) Ulring of Crosslake; grandchildren, Emily (Josh) Schimmels, Erica, Isaac, Anna (James) Lana and Abigail; Allie (Chris) Anderson, Jake (Jordan) and Paige; Alicia (William) Shupe, Joshua Ulring and Katlynn (Stephen) Batcher; great-grandchildren, Lydia, Sarah and Hannah Shupe; Teagan, Levi, Corbin and Paityn Ulring; Lola Batcher; Paislee and Hank Anderson; Emerald, Olivine and Joshua Schimmels; many nieces and nephews and one sister, Pat (William) Feyo.

Judy was preceded in death by her parents, Edward and Mary Hagen and husband, Lloyd Palmer.

Arrangements were by Taylor Funeral Home of Staples. www.taylorfunerals.com.

w6c A00006B2025JN29

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Girls wrestling at The Nest

Isabel Cole earns an escape as she wins a girls varsity wrestling match against Frazee. This match was wrestled during the boys duals tournaments, and gave

the girls wrestlers a chance to compete in front of a big crowd. Cole ended up winning the match. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Girls wrestlers place at two tournaments

The Staples-Motley girls wrestling team had a split squad competing on Jan. 25, with one group at the Bertha-Hewitt tournament and another at the Ninth Grade Wrestling League individual tournament.

At Bertha-Hewitt, the

Cardinals had four place winners, Addyson Holst 5th at 100 pounds, Madelyn Kist 2nd and Isabelle Dobson 4th at 112, and Isabel Cole 4th at 136.

At the Ninth Grade Wrestling League regional tournament, the Cardinals had

four champions and were tied for first place as a team. Placers were Kana Reese, 1st at 88 pounds, Mikaela Pesta, 1st at 94, Leah Greenwaldt 1st at 106 and Anika Tureson 1st at 170.

Cardinals continue to win in duals, tourney

The Staples-Motley boys wrestling team continued wrestling at a high level with two duals wins and a full tournament win, as Garrett Bjerga defeated five ranked wrestlers in five matches.

The Cardinals beat Becker 48-21 and Frazee 52-0 in a home meet on Jan. 23, then won the HighWater Ethanol Invite in Lambert, hosted by Red Rock Central on Jan. 24. Becker has been ranked in Class AA all season and Frazee has quality wrestlers at every weight but didn't matchup well against Staples-Motley.

Between the two events, Garrett Bjerga had five matches, all against ranked opponents, and he won them all. At RRC, he gave two undefeated wrestlers their first loss, including the top ranked wrestler in Class AA. Bjerga is currently ranked third in Class A.

Garrett's older brother Gage Bjerga also faced an undefeated wrestler in the final at the RRC tournament and got off to a 7-0 lead, but ended up with a 14-9 loss.

The team victory at the RCC tourney was never in question because of the depth of Staples-Motley.

Cayden Neisen and Colbe Tappe breezed through their brackets with little resistance, but nearly every other Cardinal wrestler overcame big challenges against high level opponents.

Sometimes it took doing the little things, such as Caden Kramer winning his title match with an escape in the final seconds. Eli Greenwaldt had a third period takedown to go up by one point, then rode out the final 1:20 and didn't allow the escape to clinch his title.

Some wrestlers learned from setbacks. Turner Beachy lost in the first round to a wrestler ranked second in the state, but he did get two takedowns to give him confidence. When he met the same wrestler in the third place match, Beachy scored two takedowns in the third period to tie the score at 11, then won in overtime with another takedown.

Staples-Motley showed they are still working on a flexible lineup when Riley Reese wrestled at 152 pounds after starting the season at 172. He lost in the final with a close match against a ranked wrestler.

At the upper weights, both Adrian Gomez and Steven Petrich nearly made the title match by throwing a scare into ranked wrestlers before falling with close decisions. They both stayed strong with two wins to get into the third place match, where Petrich won his. Gomez had defeated a ranked wrestler from Frazee the night before.

Luke Bjerga had a very stacked bracket and finished fifth after a close loss in the consolation bracket.

Team results

Staples-Motley 48, Becker 21

107 Garrett Bjerga W 3-0, 114 Caden Kramer W 17-2, 121 Gage Bjerga W fall, 127 Cayden Neisen L 12-3, 133 Eli Greenwaldt W fall, 139 Turner Beachy W fall, 145 Jackson Schouville L 16-1, 152



Upending

Garrett Bjerga turned the state-wide 107 pound weight class upside down by defeating some of the top wrestlers in the state. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

ff, 160 Colbe Tappe W fall, 172 Dustin Converse L fall, 189 Luke Bjerga W fall, 215 Adrian Gomez W 19-6, 285 Steven Petrich W ff

Staples-Motley 52, Frazee 0

107 Gt. Bjerga W 8-4, 114 Kramer W fall, 121 Gg. Bjerga W fall, 127 Neisen W fall, 133 Greenwaldt W 9-8, 139 Beachy W 13-5, 145 Schouville W 9-8, 152 Seth Cossentine W fall, 160 Tappe W fall, 172 Converse W 3-2, 189 Bjerga W 4-3, 215 Gomez W 7-5, 285 Petrich W ff

Red Rock Central HighWater Ethanol Tournament

Staples-Motley 227, New Ulm 159, Dawson-Boyd/Lac Qui Parle/Monteideo 141, Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg 128, Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted 126, West Central Area/Ashby-Brandon-Evansville 102, Martin County (Fairmont) 79, Eden Valley-Watkins 75, Pipestone 74, Adrian 72, MAHACA (Morris) 70, Fulda-Murray County 53, Jackson County Central 48, Red Rock Central 26, Worthington 23, Springfield 0

107 Gt. Bjerga 3-0, 1st place
107 Jusin Olson 0-2
114 Kramer 4-0, 1st place
120 Gg. Bjerga 2-1, 2nd place
127 Neisen 3-0, 1st place
133 Greenwaldt 3-0, 1st place
139 Beachy 3-1, 3rd place
145 Schouville 0-2
152 Reese 2-1, 2nd place
160 Tappe 3-0, 1st place
172 Zachary Tabatt 2-2
189 L. Bjerga 3-2, 5th place
215 Gomez 3-2, 4th place
285 Petrich 4-1, 3rd place

Cardinals win with second half rally, lose in two overtimes

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team had one good second half and one good first half in two different games, resulting in one win and one overtime loss. They came back from a 12 point deficit to beat Hawley 60-54 on Jan. 21, then built up a 13 point lead against Park Rapids before losing by one in double overtime.

Against Hawley, the Cardinals got off to an early lead when Conner Kuhns stole the tip and went in for a layup, then Avandre Brandt spotted up for a three pointer and a 5-2 lead. After that, the team started to miss shots and allowed open three pointers, falling behind by 10. They missed four straight free throws to fall behind by 15. Although they started to correct the slide, they ended up behind by 12 at halftime.

The second half was a long comeback before they finally pulled ahead with 2:30 left in the game on a long three pointer by Eli Rutten. When Hawley had a chance to score again, Noah Larson jumped in front of a pass and took it the other way for a basket and three point lead. Hawley made a long three to tie the score

but it was all Staples-Motley after that. Rutten made two free throws and Larson had another steal. In the final 30 seconds, Brandt and Kuhns made free throws as Hawley missed four three point attempts.

It was the opposite scenario against Park Rapids, with the Cardinals jumping out to a commanding lead, only to lose it in the second half. Staples-Motley had a 9-2 run in the final minute of the first half to go up 41-28.

They were still up by 14 in the second half when Park Rapids started getting inside for baskets and the Cardinals started getting in foul trouble. They eventually tied the game with an 11-0 run and the teams battled back and forth for the final five minutes of regulation. Staples-Motley pulled ahead by five on a three pointer by Alex Schultz, but then gave up eight straight. Down by three in the final minute, Rutten cut into the lane, received a pass and was fouled on his layup for a three point play. The Cardinals played good defense to force overtime.

Peyton Jares got the team off to an early lead in the

first overtime by driving to the basket and they kept it with a three pointer by Rutten and three point play by Brandt. But fouls kept getting called on the Cardinals and they fell behind by two. Park Rapids made a free throw with six seconds left for a three point lead, then Rutten took the inbounds pass, got a screen to get an open look at the basket and drained a 30 foot three pointer to tie the game and force a second overtime.

Jares again started the team with a lead in the second overtime, but the Cardinals missed some inside shots to fall behind again. Rutten hit another deep three with 35 seconds left to go up 94-93, but Park Rapids got another inside basket with three seconds left and Staples-Motley missed a half-court shot to lose by one.

Team results

Staples-Motley 60, Hawley 54

Scoring: Eli Rutten 28, Avandre Brandt 12, Conner Kuhns 8, Noah Larson 5, Peyton Jares 2, Josiah Burton 3, Alex Schultz 2

Staples-Motley 94, Park Rapids 95

Scoring: Rutten 29, Brandt 25, Schultz 18, Larson 9, Jares 8, Kuhns 5



Noah Larson gets to the basket after a steal in the Hawley game.

Two losses for girls hoops

The Staples-Motley girls basketball team lost at Wadena Deer Creek 77-22 on Jan. 21, then lost at home to Park Rapids, 75-41 on Jan. 24.

Against Park Rapids, the Cardinals fell behind by 20 early in the game before they started battling back. They played competitively the rest of the game but could never make up the early deficit.

Team results

Staples-Motley 41, Park Rapids 75

Scoring: Clara Maros 13, Ellen Lange 9, Sophia Luna 7, Livi Lorber 6, Hannah Cole 2, Addie Potter 2, Jocelyn Lenk 2



Peyton Jares scores over a defender

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

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

DATE OF MORTGAGE: January 6, 2006

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$195,000.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Kevin J. Bednar, and Penny K. Bednar, husband and wife as joint tenants

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

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on August 9, 2006 as Document Number 443619 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for the Specialty Underwriting and Residential Finance Trust Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates Series 2006-BC2 by assignment recorded on January 6, 2010 as Document Number 466298 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to Bank of America, N.A. by assignment recorded on September 5, 2023 as Document Number A537950 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County,

Minnesota; thereafter assigned to Nationstar Mortgage, LLC by assignment recorded on November 12, 2013 as Document Number 487120 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to U.S. Bank, National Association, as Trustee for the Holders of the Specialty Underwriting and Residential Finance Trust, Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-BC2 by assignment recorded on October 29, 2014 as Document Number A491803 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The North 436.14 Feet to the South 1183.43 Feet of the West 547 Feet thereof of the Southwest Quarter of Section 17, Township 133, Range 33 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, Todd County, Minnesota.

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 48218 COUNTY 9, 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: \$267,245.95

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: MILA, Inc. RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Nationstar Mortgage LLC

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 22-0017500

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1001752-0000289060-9

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 13, 2025 at 10:00 AM.

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 15, 2025.

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

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

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

Dated: January 10, 2025

U.S. BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE HOLDERS OF THE SPECIALTY UNDERWRITING AND RESIDENTIAL FINANCE TRUST, MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-BC2 Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.

By: _____/s/ _____
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Sung Woo Hong, Esq.
Alexa Marsh, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(24-0766-FC02)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.
4-9pnc

NOTICE OF BECKER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF AUDIT

Becker Township will hold their annual Board of Audit meeting after their regular 7:00 p.m. meeting on February 11, 2025 at the town hall. The public is invited to attend.

Mary Fitcher, Clerk
Becker Township

6pnc
LEADER COMMUNITY HALL BOARD

The Leader Community Hall Board will meet on Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Hall.

Mark Strom
Secretary

6-7pnc
NOTICE OF MAY TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING DATES

May Township 2025 meeting dates schedule:

February 11, 2025
March 10, 2025
March 11, 2025 (ANNUAL MEETING)
April 14, 2025
May 12, 2025
June 9, 2025
June 23, 2025 (second meeting road issues only)
July 14, 2025
July 28, 2025 (second meeting road issues only)
August 11, 2025
August 25, 2025 (second meeting road issues only)
September 8, 2025
October 13, 2025
November 10, 2025
December 8, 2025
January 12, 2026.

Bianca Wyffels, Clerk
May Township

6pnc

NOTICE OF MEADOWBROOK TOWNSHIP BOARD OF AUDIT

The Board of Audit for Meadowbrook Township will meet at 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at the Leader Community Hall, immediately following the monthly town board meeting.

Ty W. Peterson
Meadbrook Township

6pnc
NOTICE (ABBREVIATED ADVERTISEMENT) OF TODD COUNTY 2025 BITUMINOUS PROJECTS

Closing date: February 25, 2025

Sealed bids will be accepted until 10:00 a.m., February 25, 2025 by the Todd County Public Works Director/Engineer and County Auditor/Treasurer at 44 Riverside Drive, Long Prairie, Minnesota 56347 for the following construction projects:

SAP 077-603-010
SAP 077-622-014
CP 25:73
CP 25:78
CP 77-25-01

This is an abbreviated advertisement. A full advertisement can be viewed by going to the Public Works website at <https://egram.co.todd.mn.us/oneoffice/bidding>.

Loren Fellbaum
Todd County Public Works Director/Engineer

6-8pnc

Todd County Commissioners

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD ON DECEMBER 30, 2024

Call to Order
The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 30th day of December, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Becker. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present with Commissioner Denny absent.

Approval of Agenda
On motion by Noska and second by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the agenda as presented.

Consent Agenda
On motion by Neumann and second by Noska, the following motions were introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for December 16 and December 17, 2024 as presented.

Approve the resignation of Eligibility Worker Anjali Richter, effective December 18, 2024.

Auditor-Treasurer
On motion by Noska and second by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 403623 through 403662 in the amount of \$35,165.22 and (Regular) 58591 through 58634 in the amount of \$106,299.47 for a total of \$141,464.69.

On motion by Byers and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 806064 through 806098 and (Regular) 712637 through 712687 for a total of \$123,721.53.

On motion by Neumann and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 601520 through 601530 and (Regular) 518213 through 518226 for a total amount of \$88,009.40.

On motion by Neumann and second by Byers, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

COMMIT FUND BALANCE FOR BUILDING & GROUNDS IMPROVEMENT FUND

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners established a building & grounds improvement fund with the objective that the funds be utilized for current and future expenses and held within the County General Fund. The building & grounds improvement funds are appropriated and utilized each calendar year;

WHEREAS, the remaining balance of this account as of December 31, 2024 is \$1,577,424.73. State Auditors recommendation is to approve by resolution a commitment of this fund balance on an annual basis for transparent financial reporting;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby authorize the County Auditor/Treasurer to register the Committed Fund Balance account in Fund 01-General Revenue Fund with a balance of \$1,577,424.73 to track the funding plan for the Committed Fund Balance of Building & Grounds Improvement Fund, effective December 31, 2024.

On motion by Noska and second by Neumann, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

COMMIT FUND BALANCE

FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FUND

WHEREAS, beginning in FY2024, the Finance Committee recommended taking a proactive budget approach for future information technology expenses within Fund 01-General Revenue, and;

WHEREAS, the balance of this account as of December 31, 2024 is \$25,000.00 and the Finance Committee recommends that this balance be utilized to establish a Committed Fund Balance account for future information technology expenses to be reevaluated on an annual basis for transparent financial reporting.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby authorize the County Auditor/Treasurer to establish a Committed Fund Balance account in Fund 01-General Revenue with a balance of \$25,000.00 to track the funding plan for the Committed Fund Balance for Information Technology Fund, effective December 31, 2024.

On motion by Byers and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the attached Budget Request Form in the amount of \$24,230.00 for Dept 031 - Administration for the 2024 budget year.

On motion by Neumann and second by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the attached Budget Request Form in the amount of \$14,842.00 for Dept 121 - Veteran Services for the 2024 budget year.

On motion by Noska and second by Byers, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

COMMIT FUND BALANCE FOR FUTURE RETIREES' SEVERANCE FUND

WHEREAS, beginning in FY 2020, the Finance Committee recommended taking a proactive budget approach for future retirement severances within Fund 01-General Revenue, and;

WHEREAS, the County Board established the Committed Fund Balance for Future Retirees' Severance Fund with Resolution #20201229-08 for FYE 2020 and has recommitted the updated balance annually since its inception and;

WHEREAS, the remaining balance of this account as of December 31, 2024 is \$143,809.32. State Auditors recommendation is to approve a commitment of this fund balance on an annual basis for transparent financial reporting.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby authorize the County Auditor/Treasurer to register the Committed Fund Balance account in Fund 01-General Revenue with a balance of \$143,809.32 to track the funding plan for the Committed Fund Balance for Future Retirees' Severance Fund, effective December 31, 2024.

On motion by Byers and second by Noska, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

TRANSFER OF FUNDS – COUNTY DITCH 18 - PARTIAL REPAYMENT

WHEREAS, on December 28, 2017 the Todd County Board of Commissioners approved the advance of \$300,000.00 from the General Fund (Fund 01) to the Ditch Fund (Fund 40) per BA#20171228-06; and

WHEREAS, on September 4, 2018 the Todd County Board of Commissioners approved the special assessment payment terms, granting a 10 year repayment term with 2% interest to be credited to the General Fund (Fund 01). The first year of the special assessment collection began for taxes payable in 2019 per BA#20180904-07; and

WHEREAS, the amount collected thus far from 2018 through 2023 for Ditch 18 Special Assessment #7189 consists of a principal amount

of \$167,513.62 along an interest amount of \$17,489.39 and has been authorized for transfer; and

WHEREAS, the amount collected for Ditch 18 Special Assessment #7189 in taxes payable year 2024 is \$21,984.96 of the principal balance, along with \$2,254.74 of interest and is ready for transfer as a partial repayment to the advance made by the General Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby authorize the transfer of funds in the amount of \$24,239.70 from Fund 40-County Ditches/Ditch 18 to Fund 01 General Fund.

On motion by Neumann and second by Noska, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

TRANSFER OF FUNDS – SOLID WASTE LOAN FUNDING FOR BUILDING PROJECT

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2021 the Todd County Board of Commissioners adopted BA#20210316-19 which established a loan from the General Fund (01) to Solid Waste (51) to support the financing needed for construction of a new transfer station building in the amount of \$972,210.00; and;

WHEREAS, this loan funding is a vital part of the local cost of the project required per the Capital Assistance Program grant parameters which was reaffirmed after bids were opened and accepted and ultimate funding plan adopted by the County Board via BA#20240319-36; and;

WHEREAS, the Transfer Station Construction Project is well underway and funding for construction expenses is necessary to keep the project moving forward toward completion in 2025; and;

WHEREAS, audit standards require the County Board approval prior to transferring monies between two different funds.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby authorize the transfer of funds in the amount of \$972,210.00 from Fund 01-General Revenue to Fund 51-Solid Waste in accordance with Todd County's commitment of funding authorized with BA#20210316-19 to support the Transfer Station Construction Project.

Todd County Ag Society

Todd County Ag Society board members Mike Wielenberg, Tim Woeste and Garhard Hendricks provided the County Board with a summary of the 2024 events and financial reports for discussion.

Public Works

On motion by Byers and second by Neumann, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

FINAL PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION – 2024 HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

WHEREAS, the contract with Anderson Brothers Construction for the 2024 Highway Construction Contract known as SP 077-602-020, SAP 077-615-007, SAP 077-633-004, SAP 077-638-019, SAP 077-646-008, SAP 077-646-009, CP 24:86, CP 24:100, CP 24:103, CP 77-24-01 and CP 77-24-06 located on various routes in Todd County, has in all things been completed; and;

WHEREAS, construction work on this contract was scheduled and completed in 2024 with the value of the total work certified being \$5,714,675.73; and;

WHEREAS, partial payments amounting to \$5,424,243.46, have been previously been made to the contractor as work progressed; and;

WHEREAS, it has been determined that \$290,432.27 still remains to be paid to Anderson Brothers Construction.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners does here accept said completed project for and in behalf of the

County of Todd and authorize final payment as specified.

Planning & Zoning

On motion by Noska and second by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approval of the recommended list of appointments to the Planning Commission and Board of Adjustment effective January 1, 2025.

On motion by Byers and second by Noska, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH ARTICLE XII OF THE TODD COUNTY PLANNING AND ZONING ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Legislature enacted, and Governor signed, Chapter 63 – H.F. No. 100 which created comprehensive legislation relating to the legalization and establishment of cannabis related businesses in the State of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 342 allows Counties to establish reasonable restrictions as to the time, place, and manner of the operation of a cannabis business; and

WHEREAS, the Todd County Planning Commission has held public hearings and reviewed the proposed Ordinance language during the October, November, and December 2024 Planning Commission Meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Todd County Planning Commission has recommended the adoption of Article XII – Regulation on Cannabis Businesses; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners have held an additional public hearing on December 17th, 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Todd County Board of Commissioners now has adopted Article XII – Regulation on Cannabis Businesses which shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

Solid Waste

On motion by Byers and second by Neumann, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE 2025 SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE FUND BUDGET

WHEREAS, The Todd County Board of Commissioners is required to adopt an annual budget and certify it to the County Auditor.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the following as the 2025 Budget for the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund of the County of Todd, Minnesota and directs that it be forwarded to the County Auditor.

SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE FUND 2025 BUDGET

On motion by Noska and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Authorize the hiring of one Care Coordinator and the next vacancy in this unit will not be refilled.

Administration

On motion by Noska and second by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the amendment of BAF 20241203-08 to the correct resignation date of 12/11/2024.

On motion by Noska and second by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To renew the Hands of Hope Resource Center lease agreement with a 2% increase in rental fee terms, for January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

Closed Session

On motion by Byers and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To enter into closed

Description of Revenue Source	2025 Proposed Budget
Property Taxes and Penalties	\$881,600
Licenses and Permits	\$800
HHW Reimbursement & Stipend	\$14,500
SCORE Grant	\$70,000
Charges for Service	\$2,000,000
Recyclables	\$250,000
Equipment Disposal	\$00
Revenue Total	\$3,216,900

Description of Expense	2025 Proposed Budget
Personnel Services	\$621,650
Services and Charges	\$370,450
Supplies and Materials	\$182,150
Capital Expenditures	\$330,000
Tipping Fees	\$1,775,000
Other Expenditures	\$98,000
Expense Total	\$3,377,250

session pursuant to MN Statute §13D.03 at 9:50 a.m.

On motion by Byers and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To reopen the session at 11:49 a.m.

County Auditor-Treasurer's Report

The County Auditor-Treasurer reported that year end reporting is busy. Also a reminder regarding board agenda submission deadlines and the importance of adhering to the scheduled dates for the good of county business.

County Coordinator's Report

The County Coordinator attended meetings a Todd County coordination meeting, regional MACA meeting, and grant preparation workfiles. County Commissioner's Report

The Commissioners reported on meetings and events attended. Commissioner Becker attended the policy meeting and reminded of the union negotiations scheduled for Friday, January 3rd, 2025.

Commissioner Neumann attended the SRWD and policy meetings. Looking to renew conversations regarding speed concerns on County 11 in southern Todd County in light of a recent accident.

Commissioner Noska has nothing to report out of the ordinary.

Commissioner Byers visited with Solid Waste regarding their budget and met with Public Works regarding projects and future sales tax discussions.

Adjourn

On motion by Byers and second by Noska, the meeting was adjourned for the month of December 2024.

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS

VENDOR NAME	\$ AMOUNT
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES.....	\$2,215.80
AMERICAN SOLUTIONS FOR BUSINESS.....	5,455.83
ASSOC OF MN COUNTIES.....	2,450.00
CDW GOVERNMENT INC.....	2,789.80
CHAMBERLAIN OIL COMPANY.....	7,760.33
CHARM-TEX.....	4,599.90
CROSBY AND SONS CONSTRUCTION.....	24,580.14
EMERGENCY AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGIES.....	7,733.22
GUARDIAN FLEET SAFETY, LLC.....	8,369.12
LONG PRAIRIE LEADER.....	3,704.50
METRO SALES INC.....	4,659.13
NICK'S AUTO REPAIR AND EXHAUST.....	3,304.89
NYHUS CHEVROLET	

INC.....	3,248.26
OTTER TAIL COUNTY TREASURER.....	30,490.00
RED CEDAR CONSULTING, LLC.....	3,866.50
69 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000.....	26,237.27
Total:.....	\$141,464.69

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS

VENDOR NAME	\$ AMOUNT
11 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000.....	\$1,923.93
DHS - MSOP-MN SEX OFFENDER PROG.....	11,882.80
DHS - ST PETER RTC - 472.....	5,310.50
DHS - SWIFT.....	49,471.89
LUTERAN SOCIAL SERVICE OF MN - ST PAUL.....	4,954.96
V#17783 - COST EFF HEALTH INS.....	2,034.24
MCMAHON/DEENA.....	6,625.00
MERIDIAN SERVICES INC.....	3,424.65
PRESBYTERIAN FAMILY FOUNDATION INC.....	3,453.29
RESOURCE TRAINING AND SOLUTIONS.....	2,589.95
RURAL MN CEP INC.....	9,382.45
65 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000.....	22,667.87
Total:.....	\$123,721.53

VENDOR NAME	\$ AMOUNT
GERARD TREATMENT PROGRAMS.....	\$8,650.50
GREATHER MN FAMILY SRVS INC.....	17,520.43
PORT OF CROW WING BOYS HOME.....	4,899.72
PRAIRIE LAKES YOUTH PROGRAMS.....	10,903.07
STAGE.....	16,644.39
VILLAGE RANCH INC.....	20,209.20
19 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000.....	9,182.09
Total:.....	\$88,009.40

On a motion by Noska and second by Denny, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held December 30th, 2024 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held

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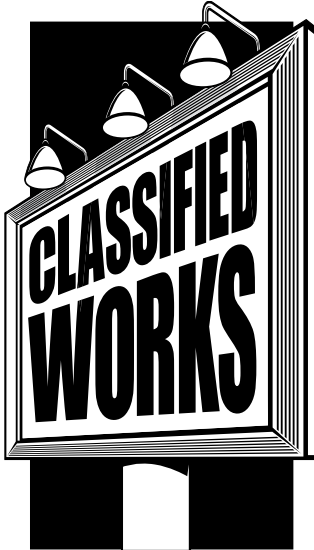
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209 For Sale

CASS COUNTY LAND DEPARTMENT
NOTICE OF ONLINE AUCTION FOR THE SALE OF TAX-FORFEITED PARCELS
Cass County is hosting an online public land sale auction that will begin **February 14 at 9 a.m.** and end **March 16 at 7 p.m.** Fifteen (15) parcels will be offered for sale by Public Surplus website. Properties are located throughout Cass County. Interested parties will need to create an account with Public Surplus by visiting www.publicsurplus.com and follow all requirements. All bids must be made using the Public Surplus website. Properties offered for sale can be viewed by visiting our Land Sale website at: <https://www.casscountymn.gov/1339/Land-Sales>. The Land Department website contains a list and other information about the parcels offered at auction. Interested buyers may also contact Land Department staff at 218-947-3338. Properties offered in prior years that remain unsold are available for direct purchases at any time over the counter. Information on how to purchase these properties is available by contacting the Land Department.



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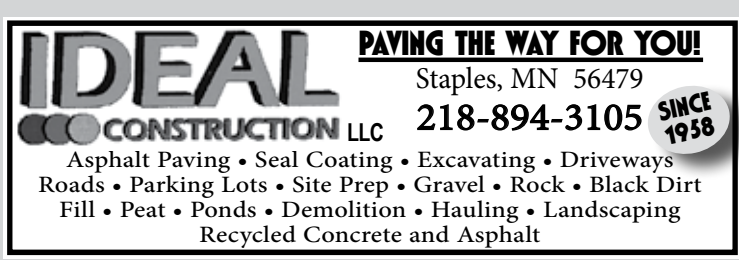
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sellnowj@sellnowlaw.com
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*Thomas Sellnow is a Real Property Law Specialist certified by Real Property Section of Minnesota State Bar Association.
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Todd County Feedlot Meeting March 20 at CLC in Staples

In 2024, the Todd County Annual Feedlot Meeting and Farmer Appreciation was back in action with “There’s a Hole in the Bucket!” There were 110 people in attendance for the meeting that was held at Shattuck’s Hub Supper Club on Long Lake near Burtrum.

This year’s meeting will be held at Central Lakes College, Staples on Thursday, March 20, 2025. The meeting is titled Wanted: Dead or Alive! Feedlot topics this year will pertain to: on the ground options for better farm, nutrient management, feedlot program updates, carcass disposal management and composting for feedlot owners. SWCD will have CFOs presenting on Feedlot Program Updates, the relationship between Land Application of Manure and Groundwater. Woven throughout the day will be mini presentations on The Wetland Conservation Act’s effects on farmers and a producer panel on cover crop successes.

Keynote “WOW” presenters will be Dr. Steve Baldwin from Freeport Veterinary Services discussing Identifying Avian Flu, other Airborne Pathogens and Feedlot Building

Construction. Brady Wulf from Clear Springs Cattle Company will discuss how they integrate grazing cover crops in their operation, Terry Sistad from Board of Animal Health and Kourtney Frank with MPCA will discuss Carcass Disposal Management and Composting. The end goal will be to get producers to think about long term animal agriculture resiliency and adaptation. A catered meal of chicken and meatballs, mashed potatoes, corn cole slaw and a dinner roll from the Clarissa Ballroom. Call 320-732-2644 to RSVP by March 13.

Cardinal Showcase

Celebrate “I Love to Read” month at elementary

Ryan Koenigs
Staples-Motley Elementary School Principal

February is a special time of year at Staples-Motley Elementary School as we join schools across the nation in celebrating “I Love to Read” Month. This month-long event shines a spotlight on the joys and benefits of reading, fostering a love for books and storytelling in children and adults alike.

“I Love to Read” Month has a rich history that dates back to the 1980s, when educators and literacy advocates sought to emphasize the importance of reading in schools and communities. Since then, February has been designated as a time to inspire young readers through engaging activities, themed events and a renewed commitment to literacy at home and in the classroom.

Reading every day is one of the most impactful habits children can develop. Studies show that regular reading not only improves vocabulary and comprehension but also strengthens critical thinking and

fosters creativity. At Staples-Motley Elementary, we encourage students to explore the world through books, nurturing a sense of curiosity and a lifelong passion for learning.

Staples-Motley Elementary School has many fun activities that will take place at school during the month of February to encourage students to read. Some of the highlights will include reading to a stuffed animal, reading game shows, mystery readers and much more. A calendar of events will be sent home with all students.

We invite families and community members to join us in celebrating “I Love to Read” Month by setting aside time each day to read with your children. Whether it’s a favorite bedtime story or a new adventure, reading together creates lasting memories and helps instill the value of literacy.

Thank you for your continued support in making reading a cornerstone of our students’ education. Together, we can open doors to limitless possibilities for every child at Staples-Motley Elementary School.



Textbook wrestling move

Gage Bjerga comes through on a double leg takedown. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



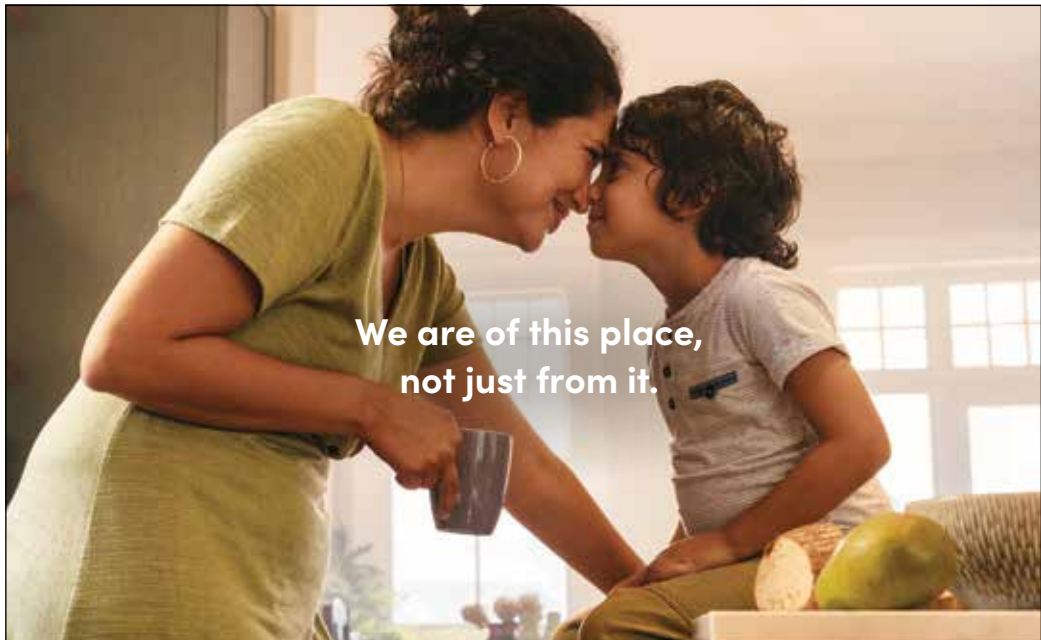
Learning through reading

Staples-Motley students settle in with their books. (Submitted photo)



Gaining an advantage

Eli Greenwaldt keeps a leg and tosses his opponent down. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



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