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Youth baseball



With new state guidelines, school district finances still unknown

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Business Manager Ellen Hill gave an overview of the Staples-Motley School District budget at the June 26 school board meeting.

“The budget should speak to what our values are,” said Hill.

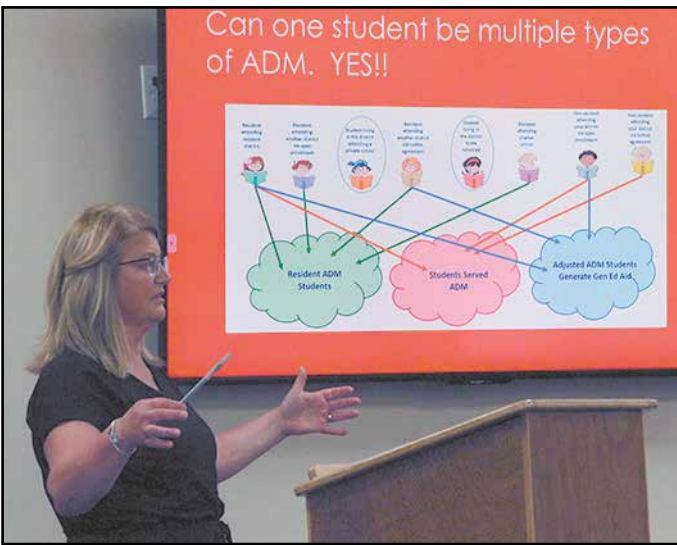
Hill said the school district receives a generous amount of donations from outside the district. “You have a lot of great community partners,” she said.

Hill said the 2022-23 revised budget shows that expenditures were down a little and revenue was up.

Future state funding is expected to increase, but Hill said they can’t report on it because the projection models from the state are not completed yet. “We can’t do your unpacking until the state does. There are major changes in many aspects,” said Hill. She said there are also new grants that the district may be eligible for.

Superintendent Shane Tappe added to the conversation about the new education rules from the state.

“One thing not in the budget are unfunded mandates that will come along with the budget,” said Tappe. “That is unpredict-



School funding discussion

Staples-Motley Business Manager Ellen Hill talks about the different levels of per-pupil funding. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

able, we will have to make our way through it as we watch closely.”

Hill said the food service budget was down a little, but they were able to purchase new equipment. With the state approving free meals for all students, the food service funding will look very different, said Hill.

Hill said the school expects enrollment to continue to decline, with fewer

students in the younger grades. “We will have to do more right-sizing” as the per-pupil revenue drops, said Hill.

Community service is an important aspect of the school budget, said Hill. Community Education for adults, youth and early childhood continues to be an important way for the school to connect to the community, said Hill. She pointed to the upcoming addition of the Lakewood Nest, the new walking track and wellness area, as a big opportunity for the school

See **SCHOOL** on page 10a

Dueling planters Two potato planters cross paths during the R.D. Offutt Twin Rivers Farm field tour on June 7. (Photo by Mark Anderson)

R.D. Offutt achieves water certification

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

After a multi-year comprehensive process of implementing best practices for agriculture, the R.D. Offutt Company’s Twin Rivers Seed Farm in Staples has been given the Agricultural Water Quality Certification from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. Twin Rivers Farm grows seed potatoes that supply many RDO farms around the Midwest.

The company held a certification presentation and farm tour on June 7, starting at the R.D. Offutt facility north of Staples and continuing at a field five miles north of Staples.

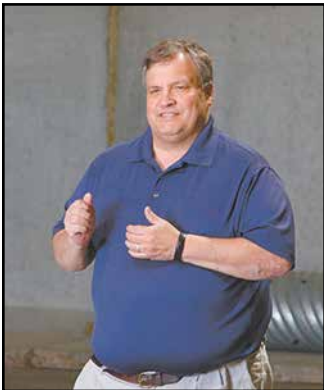
Warren Warmbold, RDO Vice President of Operations, noted that among the best management practices, the company planted “tons of trees” in the area.

“We are taking a lot of pride in the community,” said Warmbold.

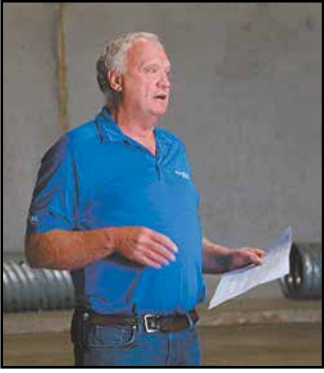
He pointed to joint projects with Central Lakes College, the University of Minnesota and North Dakota State University as examples of learning the best management practices.

Warmbold said a lot of progress has been made by adapting fields with technology. “We are on the leading edge of technology in agriculture,” he said.

Jake Jacobson, RDO Staples Farm Manager, said the farm in Staples started in the 1990s and converted into a seed farm around 2003. A



MDA Commissioner Thom Peterson



Warren Warmbold



Jake Jacobson

seed farm has a higher concentration on quality and biosecurity, said Jacobson, so they need to pay attention to food safety and water quality.

The Staples farm has fields in five area counties, fitting the potato crop in rotation with other local farmers who generally grow traditional crops in a five year cycle with the potatoes.

Jacobson said a lot of time is spent cleaning and sanitizing the surfaces and testing to make sure nothing is going wrong in the process.

In order to continue as a certified seed farm, they take many thousands of samples to get tested and the state of Minnesota takes several thousand samples to Hawaii to plant in a controlled environment.

Jacobson said last year RDO sent out 440 semi loads of seed from the Staples facility to their other farms throughout the country, with a main farm area in

Nebraska. This year they have brought in 80 loads to plant in the Staples area.

RDO Agronomist Chad Ingeman said RDO now plants six varieties of potato at the Staples farm, all related to russet potatoes, including a white skin russet. The most popular potato is the Burbank variety, which has been around for more than 100 years.

Ingeman said the seeds

See **CERTIFICATION** on page 10a



Water certification at R.D. Offutt farm in Staples

Celebrating the MDA Water Certification of R.D. Offutt’s Twin Rivers Farm in Staples, from left, Ken Heintzeman (Office of Congressman Pete Stauber), Ben Anderson (Office of Congresswoman Michelle Fischbach), Rep. Josh Heintzeman (R-Nisswa), MDA Commissioner Thom Petersen, Staples Mayor Ron Murray, Sen.

Paul Utke (R-Park Rapids), Jake Jacobson (RDO Staples Farm Manager, holding sign), Rep. Mike Wiener (R-Long Prairie), Jim Lahn (MDA Ag Water Quality Program Evaluator), Warren Warmbold (RDO VP of Operations). (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Weather

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
July 12	73	58	M. Cloudy
July 13	79	60	Sunny
July 14	82	56	M. Sunny
July 15	78	57	M. Sunny
July 16	77	54	Sunny
July 17	81	57	M. Sunny
July 18	82	58	P. Cloudy

Last Year, 2022

	High	Low	Cond.
July 12	81°	62	Sunny
July 13	78	58	Sunny
July 14	80	56	Sunny
July 15	87	68	Sunny
July 16	86	67	Sunny
July 17	84	63	M. Sunny
July 18	83	62	Sunny

Average Temps:
H = 81° Low = 59°
Have a great
Fourth of July!

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Todd Commissioners:

9A

Obituaries

Scott Nelson

Susan Rydbom

Vol. 134, No. 29 One Section Serving Your Community for 133 Years. www.staplesworld.com



Lending a helping hand

Ken Klose and Kathy Odden, both of Staples, took time out of their schedules recently to help weed some of the city's flower pots along 4th St. NE. Other volunteers have been spotted this summer as well, helping water flowers and the city's trees on occasion. Both Klose and Odden are long-time residents of Staples, have worked downtown for many years, and have a vested interest in helping keep their town looking its best. In the past, Klose was part of the former Downtown Beautification Board in Staples. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Motley area law enforcement report

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

- June 28 - July 4 July 4 - The MPD received a report of a male walking around the streets of Motley acting strange.
- July 4 - Connor Aho, 21, was issued a citation for speed from a Morrison County Deputy.
- July 4 - Morrison County deputies assisted the Todd

- County Sheriff's Office with a domestic involving a firearm. The incident took place at the 29000 block of 320th St., Cushing. Todd County deputies arrested the suspect prior to the Morrison County deputies' arrival.
- July 4 - The MCSO received a report of a suspicious individual looking around the Burlington Northern Santa Fe trucks at Bear Rd and Front St., Cushing.
- July 3 - A Morrison County deputy issued a

- citation to Megan Thomas, 31, for speeding.
- July 3 - The MCSO received a report of a stolen trailer at the 1800 block of 330th St., Motley.
- July 3 - The MCSO received a call from the Pine Ridge Golf Course in Motley, reporting harassment by some golfers.
- June 30 - Morrison County deputies arrested Dora Lynn Robinson, 56, for domestic assault. The incident took place at the 1000 block of 320th St., Cushing.

Motley Community Blood Drive July 21

A Motley Community Blood Drive will be held Friday, July 21, from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., at the Motley United Methodist Church located at 847 3rd Ave. S.

For more information and to schedule an appointment, call 1-800-733-2767, or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Motley Community.

Thanks for reading the Staples World!

Todd Commissioners consider Conditional Use Permit

Karin L. Nauber
Todd County correspondent

During the public comment period prior to the start of the regular June 20 meeting, Charles Anderson had submitted an application for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to establish a six-site commercial Planned Unit Development (PUD) in Little Sauk Township. The application was reviewed by the Todd County Planning Commission during its June 1 public hearing. The final recommendation from the Todd County Planning Commission was to deny the application based on the findings of fact identified:

- 1. Failure to adequately address sewage treatment standards.
- 2. Failure to address public safety based on proximity to Highway 71.

Anderson said that the site has very limited use because of the width. He said he had been asked if it would be a "deal-killer" if he were asked to install a holding tank which would cost him about \$10,400 before the first RV goes on the site.

He said that the CUP would actually activate when the fourth RV goes on the site because he already has three RVs there. It is a family camping area.

Commissioner Barb Becker made a motion to send this back to the planning commission for further investigation and clarification.

Commissioner Lew Noska agreed that there needed to be further clarification.

Planning and Zoning Director Adam Ossefoort asked that Anderson send him an email so the timeline could be extended.

The matter will be sent back to the planning commission.

- In other business:
 - Approved a gambling permit for the Long Prairie Lions to hold gambling activities on the premises of Shady's Midway Bar & Grill in Round Prairie Township.

- Approved a gambling permit for the NWTF Struttin' Blackbeards to hold a raffle event at Thunder Lodge in Long Prairie Township on August 25.
- Approved a one day dance license for Diamond Point (fenced area on north side of building), in Birchdale Township effective July 12.
- Approved a one day on sale temporary liquor license for the Long Prairie Lions Club at the Long Drive In located in Long Prairie Township effective July 12.
- Approved the hiring of Kellen Pulliam for the full-time deputy position with a start date to be determined (TBD).
- Approved the hiring of Lisa Bauer for the full-time jailer position with a start date TBD.
- Approved the hire of Amanda Blackstone as payroll and benefits specialist with a start date TBD.
- Background: The Todd County Board of Commissioners adopted Resolution #20211221-19 for Todd County's participation in the multi-state settlements relating to Opioid Distribution and Manufacturers and the Minnesota Opioids State-Subdivision Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).

Per the terms of the MOA, the opioid settlement funds shall not be commingled with any other money or funds of the participating local government.

The first allotments of settlement funding arrived in the fourth quarter of 2022 and the Opioid Advisory Committee has been building plans for use of these funds.

In order to be compliant with the MOA terms prior to funds being distributed for projects, the auditor/treasurer's office requests the county board's approval to establish a new bank checking account to receive and distribute these funds.

The current balance of funds is \$187,000+. Todd County, as well as other

counties in the state will receive funds over an 18 year period.

According to Commissioner Barb Becker, the annual fund amount will be changing.

Auditor/Treasurer Denise Gaida said that there are other lawsuits coming, too, that could add to the amount.

After discussion, the board approved the establishment of a bank account for the Opioid Settlement Funds.

- Approved the 2023 forfeited land sale to be held in the County Board Room at the Historic Courthouse on July 21 at 10 a.m.
- Approved a resolution for a private sale of tax forfeited property to adjacent owners only.
- Background: A letter of support has been requested for a 23 unit affordable housing complex known as Hilltop Square and Hilltop Square Auditorium and Wellness Center in Eagle Bend. The proposed project will provide a much needed housing option for seniors as well as provide a secure home environment with a variety of services to the senior population.

The board approved the letter of support.

Acting as Ditch Authority, the board acknowledged receipt of a Hold Harmless Agreement (HHA) petition to install pivot crossings across Ditch 19 on parcel 26-0022800 Ward Township, Section 25.

Approved the out-of-state travel to send two deputies to Field Training Officer training in Iowa in the month of August.

Sheriff Mike Allen said the training is a week long but he was unsure of the cost of it.

Approved an application for a CUP to establish a commercial furniture business in Iona Township for David E. Yoder with the following conditions.

- 1. There shall be no loading/unloading of materials within the public roadway.
- 2. Off-street parking shall be provided for all business traffic.
- 3. Storage of supplies and finished products shall be stored meeting all set-back requirements.
- 4. Land use permits shall be required for all future construction.
- 5. Applicant must abide by all other applicable federal, state, and local standards.
- An application from Haileigh Kruzel to establish an in-home day care in Burnhamville Township was approved with the following conditions.

1. Applicant must obtain additional licenses as required by Minnesota Department of Health.

2. Applicant must abide by all other applicable federal, state, and local standards.

Becker asked if this was considered commercial? Ossefoort said that some commercial activities can be done in other zones.

Correction

In last week's paper, an article about a special meeting held in Motley to discuss issues pertaining to its police department, wrongly attributed a quote to council member Nikki Bjerga.

In one section of the article, public member Amy Brichacek voiced her opinion that the city needs two full-time officers, going on to express frustration about the length of time it was taking for the council to get community feedback. The article stated Brichacek noted she'd taken time off from work to attend the special meeting, which could have been avoided. Brichacek (not Bjerga) went on to say, "You're wasting our time."

The Staples World regrets the error.

THANK YOU

for making a difference!

Congratulations to these 5-Star employees

Lewis Becker, Surgery Tech
Nominated by Stacey Sauve, RN, Director of Surgical Services

"We are very fortunate to have Lewie as part of our team as he displays all of Lakewood's values in his work that he does every day. Integrity: Lewie takes it upon himself to ensure that all the providers and staff have what they need to make their day go smooth. His attention to detail ensures our patient care is safe and efficient. Compassion: Lewie is always there for his fellow employees when we need him. Accountability: Lewie is a very hard worker who we can always depend on. He makes everyone's days go smoother when he is around. High Quality: His knowledge in the OR helps all those around him learn and continue to grow in their OR roles. Innovation: Lewie stepped up and took charge on the OR warehouse remodel. He ensured there was enough space to house all our current supplies and that they were accessible and easy to find for our employees."

Tiffany Lorber, Hospital HUC / Labor & Delivery Tech
Nominated by Nan Hanson, RN, Obstetrics

"Tiff is a very important part of many things that happen within the OB department. She was a leader to the other OB techs, as well as our labor and postpartum nurses, when we transitioned to our newborn screening protocols and has remained passionate about making sure the process goes smooth for our patients. She is currently working as part of a group that includes nurses and a provider that is gathering data on newborn hearing screens to help streamline the process as a state, to ensure that infants are getting the proper follow-up needed if there are any questions about their hearing. Tiff has also been a key person in creating and performing some of our units' multidisciplinary education drills, and is always looking at ways to streamline the workflow in the OB department to make life easier for everyone. She comes up with creative themes for our nursery that brings a smile to all generations that walk our halls. We are very fortunate to have her in our department."

Kerry McGrane, LPN Coordinator, Home Health/Hospice
Nominated by Debbie Toth, RN, BSN, Home-Based Services Director

"Kerry delivers exceptional care to each of her patients and goes out of her way to assist them in a manner that is most effective for them on a personal level. Examples of her undying devotion to the well-being and success of her patients includes making colorful pictograms for medication administration times, making laminated signs with dates and times of their upcoming visits, as well as making signs to assist the patient in remembering to pick up their prescriptions from the pharmacy. Despite the individual struggles her patients might experience, Kerry searches for ideas and solutions to help them overcome and succeed. Her compassion, devotion and absolute love for what she does is evident in all aspects of her work, making her a true asset to the home care team."

Dr. Paul Davis, Psychologist, Behavioral Health
Nominated by Amanda Svir, RN, BSN, CEN, Director of Emergency & Trauma Services

"Multiple times Dr. Davis went above and beyond by helping guide the ED team in a course of treatment and information we needed to obtain for a patient. One example is that Dr. Davis came to see a patient during his lunch break. After talking with the patient, he discussed with the ED provider and team about the best plan of care. The patient was able to discharge home safely. Most recently, Dr. Davis returned a call to the ED team late in the evening. We had a question about a patient in the ED and which path to take to ensure patient safety and confidentiality. He reached out to an additional resource and circled back with the ED team. His answers are always calm, clear, concise and so helpful during these times. He demonstrates true alignment with Lakewood values and TRUST culture."

Andrea Wickstrom, RN, Employee/ Occupational Health & Quality
Nominated by Ivy Ruzynski, RN, BSN, Quality Improvement Director

"Andrea comes to work each day with a great attitude and smile on her face. She gets bounced around to different departments frequently. There are times she has to be moved to a different department on short notice and her hours may change but she still has a smile. When asked to take on additional tasks or asked to help with a project she is always happy to help out and there is no hesitation. She takes her time to ensure she does a quality job. You can trust Andrea for accurate work. Andrea also goes above and beyond what is expected. Most recently an employee needed to be tested for COVID and the individual was not able to make it to the main campus for testing. Andrea went the extra mile and came up with a plan so the employee was able to get tested and get back to work. This plan did require Andrea to do additional driving and coordination which she did without hesitation. Thank you, Andrea, for the great work you do."

218-894-1515 lakewoodhealthsystem.com

Steve Fields
Minnesota Attorney

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Todd County court report July 5

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County June 27, 2023.

Justin Scott T. Sherman, Bertha. Traffic-drivers license-driving after revocation. Sentenced. \$275 Fee. Drugs-possession of Drug parapher-

nalia-use or possession prohibited. Dismissed.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County June 26, 2023.

Haley Christina Voigt, Bertha. Vehicle window restriction-tint too

dark. Sentenced. \$50 Fine. \$85 Fee.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County June 22, 2023.

Jamie Lee Becker, Avon. Traffic regulation-child passenger restraint system-child under 8 & under 57

inches, not F. Dismissed, conditions met or expired. Probation-adult (unsupervised monitoring without conviction, 6 mo).

Derek Roman Bienusa, Sauk Centre. Possess Ammo/any fire-arm-previous Felony conviction. Continued for dismissal. Probation-adult (unsupervised monitoring without

conviction, 1 yr).

Michelle Kay DeJarlais, Motley. DWI 4-operate motor vehicle-body contains any amount Schedule I/ II Drugs-not marijuana. Sentenced. Probation-Adult (supervised probation, 2 yr). \$50 Fine. \$100 Fee.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County June 21, 2023.

Fidel Issac Gonzalez Kjeldergaard, Sauk Centre. Threats of violence-reckless disregard risk. Dismissed. Probation-adult (unsupervised monitoring without conviction, 1 yr.) Disorderly conduct-offensive/ abusive/boisterous/noisy/obscene. Dismissed, conditions met or expired. Probation-adult Junsupervised monitoring without conviction, 1 yr.)

Breleigh Hilda Smith, Hugo. Speed 83/70. Dismissed. Probation-adult (unsupervised monitoring without conviction, 4 mo 22 Days). \$75 Fee.

The following cases were heard before Judge Antoinette C. Wetzel in Seventh District Court in Todd County June 21, 2023.

Caitlyn Irene McKnight, Bertha. Damage to property-3rd Degree-reduce value \$501-\$1000. Dismissed, conditions met or expired. Probation-adult (unsupervised monitoring without conviction, 6 mo). \$75 Fee.

Thomas Allan Poppler, Waconia. Theft-take/use/transfer movable property - no consent. Dismissed, conditions met or expired. Probation-adult (unsupervised monitoring without conviction, 6 mo). \$75 Fee.

Long Prairie Police Department

Erick Francis, Long Prairie. Drivers license-driving without valid license for vehicle class or type. \$100 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Edy Alejandro Hernandez Hernandez, Long Prairie. Drivers license-driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. \$100 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Jose Juan Parra Martinez, Long Prairie. Traffic-drivers license-driving after revocation. \$200 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Dalianjely Altagracia Quezada Peralta, Alexandria. Vehicle-window restrictions-tint too dark. \$50 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Ymanol Antonio Rivera Rojas, Long Prairie. Traffic-drivers license-driving after revocation. \$200 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Derek Lee Zigan, Long Prairie. RV-Fail to display valid ATV registration as required. \$25 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Minnesota State Patrol
Natasha Jade Magel, Wadena. Hands-free Law-engage in cellular phone or video call. \$50 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Joshua Thomas Simonson, Coon Rapids. Speed 90/65. \$70 Fine. \$155 Fee. No drivers license in possession. \$20 Fine.

Jon Mathew Ainali, Grey Eagle. Speed 70/60. \$40 Fine. \$85 Fee.
Shilo Leann Beving, Elbow Lake.

Speed 85/70. \$60 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Damain Paul Bostrom, New Effington, SD. Speed 82/70. \$50 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Brandon James Bundy, Sartell. Speed 70/60. \$40 Fine. \$85 Fee.
Timothy John Chermak, Maplewood. Speed 81/70. \$50 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Aric Anthony Dierkhising, Madison. Speed 71/60. \$50 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Sarah Ellen Eiden, Sauk Centre. Speed 65/55. \$40 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Alexander Thomas Eull, Maple Grove. Speed 83/70. \$50 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Anthony Francisco Fabian Rodriguez, Bayamon, OA. Speed 77/60. \$60 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Ashley Marie Gray, Long Prairie. Speed 65/60. \$40 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Fathi Hassan, Grand Forks, ND. Speed 80/70. \$40 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Peter Leslie Iverson, Delano. Speed 73/60. \$50 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Karen Ann Kampa Wurzer, Fargo, ND. Speed 84/70. Speed 84/70. \$50 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Raymond Matthew Mithun, Wayzata. Speed 80/70. \$40 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Long Mgoc Nguyen, St. Paul. Speed 97/70. \$100 Fine. \$185 Fee.

Reed William Reimer, Burnsville. Speed 88/70. \$60 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Antonio Joseph Rowe, Belgrade. Speed 65/55. \$40 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Luke David Schroeder, Fergus Falls. Hands-Free Law-access-video content/images/games/software applications. \$50 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Kelly Joel Tuttle, Albertville. Speed 83/70. \$50 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Lillian Veren Vanderveer, Waite Park. Speed 93/70. \$70 Fine. \$155 Fee.

Quran Whitlow, Cleveland, OH. No Minnesota Drivers License. \$100 Fine. \$85 Fee. Move over violation-2 lanes in same direction. \$50 Fine.

Worpoe Julius Woahloe, Brooklyn Park. Speed 85/70. \$60 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Staples Police Department
Tyler Jay Beach, Staples. DL-driving after revocation. \$200 Fine. \$85 Fee. Insurance-no insurance-driver. \$200 Fine. Vehicle registration expired. \$30 Fine.

Unessa Mae Flores, New Brighton. CRM-assault-5th degree inflict or attempt bodily harm. Dismissed.

Todd County Sheriff Office
Zachary Allen Lenz, Browerville. Traffic regulation-failure to drive in single lane. \$50 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Edison Reynaldo Soriano Arache, Alexandria. Drivers license-driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. \$100 Fine. \$85 Fee. Traffic regulation-driver must carry proof of insurance when operating vehicle. \$200 Fine.

John Vernon Tibbetts, Staples. Traffic-drivers license-driving after cancellation. \$200 Fine. \$85 Fee.

Susie Nadine Tibbetts, Fifty Lakes. Drugs-possession of drug paraphernalia-use or possession prohibited. \$50 Fine. \$85 Fee.

75 YEARS Ago - 1948

July 8, 1948 - Staples baseball team walloped the Pillager nine in a game played in Staples Sunday afternoon, July 4, by a score of 22 to 3. Although the game was only a seven inning contest, the Staples nine showed their power all the way through the entire seven innings.

Wayne Stewart, lanky pitcher of the Staples nine, did a splendid job on the mound allowing but three hits in the entire seven innings.

July 8, 1948 - The Staples Municipal hospital has a Candy Barr in the nursery. Now, don't get this wrong - and tell Mrs. Dusseldorf over the back fence when you're washing next Monday - that the hospital is feeding infants Milky Ways

- O -

Compiled by Dawn Timbs

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instead of formula, because you see, it isn't like that at all.

The Candy Barr referred to, is a baby girl who was born July 2 to Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Barr of Pillsbury, N.D.

Candy's real name is Candace Julene, and she weighed in at seven pounds and four ounces, stripped for gym.

Mrs. Barr is the former Lilah Trana, and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Trana of Staples.

50 YEARS Ago - 1973

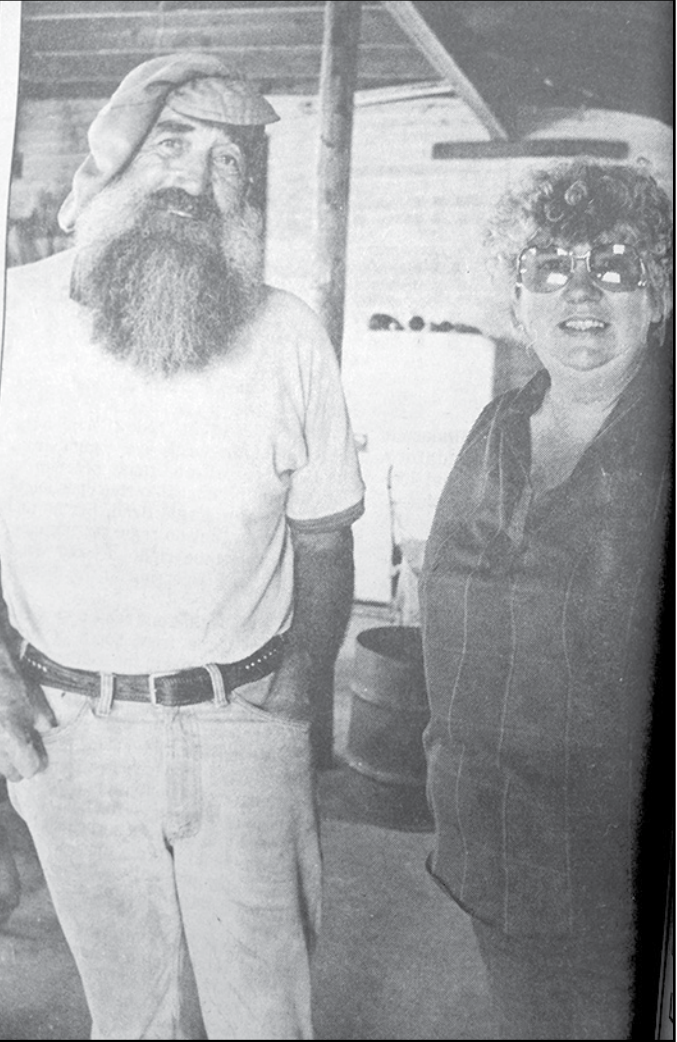
July 12, 1973 - An undetermined amount of damage resulted early Monday morning, July 9, as



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the June 28, 1973 edition of the Staples World featured Cathy Crawford, crowned '1973 Our Little Miss' at the third annual Our Little Miss Pageant, sponsored by the Staples Jaycees. Cathy, 11, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Crawford. Others earning crowns at the pageant were Lorree Farber, six, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Farber of Motley, crowned 'Miss La Petite'; Nancy Sadusky, 12, daughter of Mr. nd Mrs. John Sadusky, was the winner in the talent division. Held at the Staples Auditorium, the program centered on the theme, "In the Good Old Summer Time." Lynn Thornton president of the Staples Jaycees, wass the master of ceremonies and Mrs. C. Richard Longbella was the fashion commentator. Organ music was provided by Larry Correll. On hand to crown their successors were the three 1972 winners: Lori Lee, Our Little Miss; Darla Mertens, Miss La Petite; and Jnet Hoemberg, talent winner.

Sharon Crawford of Staples correctly identified her daughter, Cathy, adding that she is very proud of her. Thanks for participating in our mystery photo.



Mystery Photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from 1986. 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.

singers from Verndale will present the musical program. Sunday's music will feature "The Countrymen" consisting of Bud Bergquist of Verndale; Ron Selvey and George Pribbenow of Staples; and Eunice Bergquist at the piano.

July 9, 1998 - Over 500 people attended the 40th Anniversary Celebration of Camp Shamineau near Motley. The camp is affiliated with the Evangelical Free Church of America.

July 9, 1998 - Central Building supply is celebrating their 15th Anniversary Sale July 9, 10 and 11. Register for drawing; Food served all three days.

July 9, 1998 - Finally, some "Good News" for northern and central Minnesota...and you can watch it weeknights at 10 p.m. beginning Monday, July 13 on your public television station KAWK/KAWB-TV, Channels 9 and 22.

Lakeland News is committed to providing area viewers with a complete newscast focusing on local news, sports and weather.

Dennis Weimann will function not only as the news director, but primary anchor. Stacy Christenson will serve as Weathercaster/Reporter. Reid Ferrin will serve as Sports Director/Anchor.

Named as members of the building committee for the new church were Dr. Raymond O. Garland, Gary Schimpp, Robert Pederson and Charles Squires. The Rev. Eugene Eslinger, pastor of the church, is an ex-officio member of the committee.

The new church will be erected on the site purchased by the congregation from Nels Japke, which is located in Pine Crest Addition, north of the Japke Paint Store.

25 YEARS Ago - 1998

July 9, 1998 - Cass County authorities reported this week they are still investigating the death of a rural Motley man and have no major developments to report in the case.

Cass County Chief Deputy Randy Fisher reported on Monday, July 6, that the death of Tom Baumgartner, 38, has officially been ruled a homicide following an autopsy by the Ramsey County Medical Examiner's Office. The autopsy results found he died of head trauma consistent with a gunshot

wound, according to Fisher. His body was found in the yard of his farm eight miles north of Motley about 11:30 a.m. Monday, June 29. Baumgartner lived alone.

July 9, 1998 - Over 500 people attended the 40th Anniversary Celebration of Camp Shamineau near Motley. The camp is affiliated with the Evangelical Free Church of America.

July 9, 1998 - Central Building supply is celebrating their 15th Anniversary Sale July 9, 10 and 11. Register for drawing; Food served all three days.

July 9, 1998 - Finally, some "Good News" for northern and central Minnesota...and you can watch it weeknights at 10 p.m. beginning Monday, July 13 on your public television station KAWK/KAWB-TV, Channels 9 and 22.

Lakeland News is committed to providing area viewers with a complete newscast focusing on local news, sports and weather. Dennis Weimann will function not only as the news director, but primary anchor. Stacy Christenson will serve as Weathercaster/Reporter. Reid Ferrin will serve as Sports Director/Anchor.

10 YEARS Ago - 2013

July 11, 2013 - Hazel Bailey, who turns 99 in August, and Evelyn Adams, who turns 98 in October, are currently the oldest members at Staples Church of Christ, which is celebrating its Centennial birthday July 27 and 28. The women, who both reside at Lakewood Pines in Staples, recently shared memories about the church and their involvement over the years.

July 11, 2013 - The Staples Motley Relay for Life has a new location (Motley Fairgrounds), new events, new committee members and a new chairperson (Angie Niemi). Niemi is a cancer survivor who was diagnosed with cervical cancer 11 years ago.

July 11, 2013 - The Vagabonds will kick off the Summer Music in the Park Series in Staples July 14. The four-piece group plays country, old-time and swing music. Band members include Bill Berndt, Lauren Malley, Bruce Tollefson and Junette Blake.

Todd Cty Sheriff's report

June 26: Browerville - Todd County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) met with an individual reporting a romance/mail scam. The reporting party met an individual through an online dating application. Eventually, the scammer mailed money orders to the reporting party and requested they cash the checks at their bank. The reporting party was instructed to keep a portion of the money for themselves, then purchase BitCoin with the remainder. No monetary loss is reported at this time and the incident is under investigation.

If you are ever requested to cash checks or money orders, keep a portion for yourself, then purchase BitCoin or gift cards with the remaining amount, it is a scam. Report incidents like this and all mail/email/phone scams to IC3.gov or FTC.gov and your local law enforcement agency.

June 17: At approximately 9:14 p.m., the Todd County Sheriff's Office received a report of a vehicle fire on 171st Avenue, in Todd County south of the City of Verndale. It was determined that the driver, Cary Jasmer, driving a 1997 Buick LeSabre, when smoke started coming out from under the hood. He pulled over and the vehicle began emitting flames from under the hood. Verndale Fire Department responded and fought the blaze. No one was injured in the car fire. TCSO was assisted by the Verndale Fire Department and the Verndale Police Department.

You Can Make a Difference for kids that need you.

Become a Foster/Adoptive Parent.

Pinehaven Youth and Family Services, Inc.

For more information please contact us at (218) 828-2027

Bird life surprises us

I've never thought of myself as a "bird watcher" in the formal sense. Maybe that's because, for as long as I can remember, there has been—at least among my generation—in implication in this label that bird watchers were not serious outdoor types. Of course, this is blarney. One of my most respected former acquaintances—a decorated World War II fighter pilot, and avid grouse hunter and dog trainer—studied ornithology as a college career path, and was on intimate terms with both his birding binoculars and his 20-gauge shotgun. Considering how often I sit out on my deck with a pair of binoculars, consult my illustrated bird guide, photograph birds, or "listen" for them with a bird song app on the smartphone mounted on my bike when I ride, I, too, must be a birder.

To be fascinated with birds and their lives is not "sissified," as politically incorrect as that term may now be. Birds fascinate many of us because they are among the most diverse, abundant, adaptable, and beautiful creatures to come down to us through the millennia, departing as they did from the reptilian dinosaur lineage, and—though now so very different in appearance—surviving the last great extinction event 66 million years ago that ended the age of dinosaurs.

For as long as I have been an avid observer of birds, and as many common loons as I have seen and heard on waters both remote and close to home, before this past week there was one behavior that I had never before witnessed.

The behavior that puzzled and, in fact, first alarmed me, looked clearly like that of a bird in distress. It was first seen by my son, who with his family was visiting for the recent holiday. Out on the lake, down the hill that separates the shoreline from our cabin deck, he had watched a loon "being attacked by a muskie," the only explanation he could think of. Our lake is known for its muskie population, and it's beyond question that from time to time a muskie will make a meal of a loon chick, a duckling or gosling, perhaps even a very young, just-hatched cygnet—a baby swan. But attack an adult loon?

The possibility seemed, well, impossible, but I followed my son down to the shore, and witnessed the behavior, too. The loon would alternately thrash the water, paddle with one wing, attempt to dive under the water backwards, turn over on its back with its white breast to the sky, then partially disappear. Regaining its floating posture, the loon would momentarily sit quietly, then begin again to thrash the water, roll over on its back and paddle with its wings, giving the appearance—or so it seemed—of trying to fend off an attack.

After repeating this sequence multiple times, the loon became calm, riding the surface as if it was none the worse for wear. I asked myself what else could have caused this unusual and seemingly frantic behavior. Was the loon injured, and actually unable to dive? Had it been hit by one of the high-speed jet-skis cutting across the lake's surface? Struck by a fishing boat, a pontoon, or a ski boat? There was no tell-tale red to suggest a bleeding wound, which would have been almost inevitable if it had been struck.

As probably happens too often in these times, I eventually fell back on the advice given by my spouse when I'm puzzled: "You can google it." Good advice, in this case, for I discovered that in all likelihood this loon was "bathing"—quite violently, at that—as it attempted to rid itself of the tiny parasites that are found in the feathers of almost all birds, including waterfowl.

Loon are not immune to accidents, whether it's becoming entangled in fishing line, consuming crippling lead fishing tackle, or—yes—being hit by watercraft. But by all appearances this one was just doing what comes naturally; natural, but not so common that it is regularly witnessed.

Eagles nest in one of the tall pines down the shoreline. Sometimes we'll see them cruising the shore, looking for an easy meal in the form of a fish that might have washed up, or is floating shoreward under the influence of a south wind.

Part of the past week's entertaining of family included swimming and wading with young grandchildren in the shallows. If at such times you hear an exclamation of "gross!," it's a good bet that something dead is in the water, or has washed up on shore. In this case, it was a nice largemouth bass of about two pounds, sadly a likely victim of hooking mortality. Lying as it was on the neighbor's beach, it was easy to justify letting Nature take its course, knowing that some scavengers would eventually find and recycle it.

Next day, alone in a deck chair with a cup of very early morning coffee, I watched an eagle rise from below the

crest of the hill leading down to the beach. Suspecting that this eagle was the beneficiary of the dead bass's demise, I descended the steps down the hill. Several dock sections from shore was what little remained of the bass. Its bones from head to tail were picked almost clean, leaving the skin and skeleton for the next diners. In this case it was the flies that had detected the scent, and were attracted to the skin and the bits of bass flesh that still clung to its ribs and spine. One sweep of the dock broom, and the remnants were in the water, there to perhaps be cleaned up by crustaceans and other aquatic diners.

We typically picture great blue herons stalking patiently in the shallows of a lake or marsh on long, thin, stilt-like legs, their muscular, curved necks poised to uncoil and direct their long, pointed bill in a strike on an unsuspecting fish or frog. But I've often noticed that a heron flying over the lake's expanse will suddenly execute an aerial spin move, and spiral down to the lake's surface, where it claims a fish that is floating on the waves. Heron are not waterfowl in the duck, goose, swan, or loon sense, so we may not instinctively think of them as capable of resting on the water, afloat. But they do, and—hereabouts, anyway—they are frequent "cruisers" that get a meal the easy way.

This was also the week of my first-of-the-season juvenile ruffed grouse spotting. While on a morning bike ride, we spotted a hen and five half-grown chicks on the shoulder of a country road, birds that scattered into the roadside grass as we rode by. On the return leg of our ride I watched apprehensively for any evidence of one or more of the checks falling victim to a collision with a passing vehicle, and fortunately saw none. Young grouse face a number of hazards on the road to adulthood if they survive the early weeks after hatching, when cold, wet weather and a scarcity of insects can claim them. Hawks are high on that list of hazards, but death by motor vehicle always seems an especially untimely and unnatural end.

Of course, it's ironic that we might worry over the welfare of a young ruffed grouse as it tags after its mother along a country road in July, and in a mere three months might pursue and attempt to harvest it with our dog and a shotgun. Though some may dispute it, to me it means that we, too, are predators, but also have the capacity to value a creature for its own sake, beyond its practical and sporting value to us.

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Letters to the Editor

Forest management critical for quality of life

In recent weeks you may have noticed, the sky is no longer blue, stars are harder to see at night, and landscapes are discolored by a grayish hue. Wildfires in Canada and northern Minnesota are worse than ever and it has real consequences for our jobs and health.

As a farmer and educator, I notice it in my lungs after a long day outside. I am also worried because heavy smog means it's harder to grow crops and folks may begin to see rising prices for food at the grocery store.

The wildfires in Canada have already displaced a staggering 120,000 people and burned 5.4 million acres of forest. If the rate of fire activity continues at its current pace it will be the worst wildfire season in Canada's recorded history.

This isn't just a Canadian problem – numerous wildfires have burned this year throughout northern Minnesota in the Boundary Waters and Superior National Forest. While fire is a natural part of ecosystems, the harsh reality is that severe weather and a changing climate, particularly the increasing heat and dryness, have created fertile ground for uncharacteristically frequent, large, and severe wildfires.

The United States Forest Service manages 193 million acres of national forests and grasslands nationwide, an area roughly the size of Texas. The agency is trying to proactively

ensure forests and grasslands are more resilient to the growing threats of climate-induced fires and other natural disasters. Things like better pest management, prescribed burns, planting diverse tree species, and vegetation management that addresses overcrowding and supports forest health.

We need to get this right before the problem grows much worse. Our national forests and grasslands support us in so many ways - including hunting, fishing, recreation, wood production, cleaning our air and water, and a place of quiet solitude to reflect and be grateful for all we have. Resilience of national forests and grasslands would mean a stronger America.

Rick Hall
Moorhead, MN

Quote of the week

“There is always light. If only we’re brave enough to see it. If only we’re brave enough to be it.”

— Amanda Gorman

Gender issues promoted at Wadena County Fair

Press release from Minnesota Representative Mike Wiener, Minnesota Representative Tom Murphy and Minnesota Representative Krista Knudsen

This year during the Wadena County Fair the county BPOU of the DFL Party was handing out coloring books to children with content that is inappropriate for children. These included depictions of stylized characters in various cross-dress with accompanying text that covered sexuality, consent, and gender.

“Content and messaging specifically aimed at children have continued to be an issue for Democrats,” said incumbent State Representative Krista Knudsen (Lake Shore). “Topics around sex and sexuality are parent’s to teach when children are old enough and it is highly inappropriate for a political party to believe it is their place



Gender issue pages

Three of the coloring pages that were handed out at the Wadena County Fair. (Submitted photos)

to expose children to these viewpoints.”

“We have been consistently gaslit by Democrat leaders who say these materials are non-existent or don’t end up in the hands of children, yet here we have the actual coloring book that was being handed out,” said incumbent House member Tom Murphy (Underwood) on the books being handed out at the fair.

“Republicans across Minnesota want a big tent party for anyone who be-

lieves in the Constitution and limited government to feel welcome. These fear tactics have been a Democrat staple trying to split people into groups to make them feel like they must vote a certain way to fit in,” said Representative Mike Wiener (Long Prairie) on the DFL’s actions at the fair.

Ultimately, due to public pressure, the booth stopped distributing the controversial material at what is and should remain a family-friendly event.

Earth and sky meet with NASA-USDA partnership

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) signed a memorandum of understanding today strengthening the collaboration between the two agencies, including efforts to improve agricultural

and Earth science research, technology, and agricultural management, and the application of science data and models to agricultural decision making.

The agreement affirms the two agencies' interest in continuing their longstanding partnership on mutual

ly beneficial collaborative activities furthering education, communication, and outreach activities to inspire the youth in America to pursue careers in STEM and agriculture. This partnership will build on NASA's Bridge Program to foster workforce development

partnerships with higher-education partners including Tribal and Minority Serving Institutions and the USDA's newly launched NextGen program, which invests \$262.5 million to cultivate the next generation of diverse food and agriculture professionals.

“From the heavens to the Heartland, NASA and the Department of Agriculture are reaffirming our commitment to getting essential data in the hands of America’s farmers and preparing future generations to lead and strengthen America’s agriculture industry,” said NASA Administrator Bill Nelson. “As the climate continues to change, NASA’s Earth observation data will only grow more critical to our nation’s effort to create more climate-resilient food systems, helping our farmers develop more sustainable farming and aquaculture practices.”

“From ensuring that future generations are able to reach new heights as they pursue careers in STEM and agriculture, to providing producers with critical data and improving global agricultural practices, USDA is honored to strengthen our partnership with NASA,” said U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack. “We recognize the critical interface between planet-wide food security, climate change, and space, and together we are advancing cutting edge innovation, research, and workforce development to tackle some of Earth’s greatest challenges.”

Space exploration co-

operation with the USDA includes plant-related research on the International Space Station and other space and ground platforms that have led to new ways to improve American and global agriculture, protect the environment, and help improve human health.

Examples of recent and ongoing efforts include:

- USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) and NASA, along with North Carolina A&T, partnered to send 16 young people to NASA Space Camp in 2022.

- USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) and NASA created a free online tool called Crop-CASMA to help farmers and researchers use soil data to track droughts and floods, plan crop planting, and forecast ag yields.

- USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and NASA scientists are developing a hyperspectral imaging system to monitor plant health for astronauts to use in plant growth chambers for their pick-and-eat crops to eat during future space missions. ARS and NASA are also teaming up to discover other ways to grow sustainable, fresh food during space travel, such as plants that have the potential to continually flower and produce.

Staples World

Established in 1890. USPS 518-760

©2023 RMM Publications

Published Wednesdays by RMM Publications

Office located at 224 4th Street NE

Periodicals postage paid at Staples, Minnesota 56479.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100

Telephone: 218-894-1112 - Fax: 218-894-3570

Toll Free: 1-888-894-1112

www.staplesworld.com - E Mail: editor@staplesworld.com

Deadline: 12 noon, Friday

Official Newspaper for:

City of Staples, Todd County,

Staples-Motley School District, Freshwater Ed. District

and area townships.

Letters: Readers are encouraged to express their views by writing letters to the editor. Letters are verified for authenticity, so please include a name, address and phone number. Only the author's name and city will be published. Letters may be edited for spelling and grammar errors, libel, length and other factors. Private thanks, solicitations and libelous letters will not be published. Letters are printed on a space available basis. The editor reserves the right to reject letters.

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

Member: Minnesota Newspaper Association, MCAN Advertising

Publisher RMM Publications LLC

Owners Rick Gail, Mike Kremer, Mark Anderson

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Subscription Rates:

Local: (Todd, Wadena, Morrison, Cass Counties) \$53 per year

Website: \$50 per year

Minnesota: \$58 per year - Out of State: \$63 per year

Foreign: on-line only - Student Rate: (Sept. through Apr./in-state) \$43

There is a \$5 charge for address change from local to out-of-state.

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.

Note to Advertisers: Advertisers should check their ad following first publication. This newspaper shall not be liable for failure to publish an ad or for the typographic error or errors in publication except to the extent of the cost of the ad for the first day's insertion. Adjustment for errors is limited to the cost of that portion of the ad wherein the error occurred. The publisher reserves the right to cancel any advertisement at any time.



Tami & The Bachelor to perform at ‘Music in the Park’ series in Staples

Tami and the Bachelor will perform at the Music in the Park Series in Staples on Sunday, July 16, at 7 p.m. Bring a lawn chair.

Expect to hear a variety of music from this talented husband/wife duo, including pop, rock and classic country.

Comprised of Tamara (Tami) and Phil Barnett, the band’s set list contains hits made famous by Meghan Trainor, Neil Diamond, Johnny Cash and Patsy Cline; as well as classic bands like Fleetwood Mac, CCR and Journey. “We sing everything from Ger-shwin to Gaga,” says Tamara (Tami).

Although they hail from Northeast Minneapolis and perform all over the Midwest, Tami and the Bachelor are no strangers to the Staples-Motley community. Tamara (Kraft) Barnett is a Motley native, and 1975 graduate of Motley High School (MHS). She was involved in many activities while attending MHS, including music. She started playing guitar when she was 13, studied piano, sang in a number of bands after high school, and went on to become a professional musician.



Playing the favorites

Tami and the Bachelor will perform at Music in the Park Series in Staples on Sunday, July 16, at 7 p.m. Pictured are husband and wife duo Tamara (Tami) and Phil Barnett. The series is made possible with a gift from the Staples Host Lions Club. (Submitted photo)

Along the way, Tamara met her future husband Phil, a talented guitarist who’d hired her to sing in

his band, ‘Impact.’ Not long after, the two singers realized they’d like to make their duet permanent, and

‘Tami and the Bachelor’ was born.

The duo’s high-energy show is a favorite in the Brainerd Lakes area, often booked at Breezy Point and Madden’s each summer. They’re looking forward to sharing their music at the concert series in Staples, and perhaps seeing some familiar faces.

The Music in the Park Concerts are held in the Northern Pacific (NP) Park on Sunday evenings at 7 p.m. and will run through August 13. For more information on the Music in the Park series as well as the regular concert series, check out www.staplesmotleyarts.org.

Northern Pacific (NP) Park is located at 625 6th St. NE. Go north on 6th St. at the junction of Hwys 10 and 210 and go six blocks. In case of rain, the concerts will be moved to Faith Lutheran Church.

The Music in the Park Series is funded by the Staples Host Lions Club. The Series is organized by the Staples Motley Area Arts Council, with the assistance of the City of Staples.

Mark Your Calendar

July 13

‘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>

July 15

‘BARK IN THE PARK’ Sponsored by the Staples Area Chamber of Commerce, Saturday, July 16, 1 - 3 p.m., Lakewood Community Park, corner of 4th St. NE and Prairie Ave NE, Staples. Dog costume contest, dog parade, kids crafts, snack trailer, adoptable dogs from regional shelters. For info., 218-894-3974.

July 18

LIVING LEGACY GARDENS, STAPLES, WELCOMES VOLUNTEERS Tuesdays, from 9 - 11 a.m. Located at 26505 Co. Rd. 2.

EXPERIENCE STRENGTH AND HOPE AA GROUP MTGS IN STAPLES are held at the Staples Congregational Church, 204 5th St. NE, Tuesdays at 7 p.m. For info., call Dan at 218-640-7228.

July 19

STAPLES ALL VETERANS AND COMMUNITY PARK ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING Wednesday, July 19, 5:30 p.m., at Timbers Restaurant and Event Center, Staples. The public is invited to attend. To attend via Zoom, contact Bob Hamann at 218-894-3139.

Kitchigami Library plans visits to Leader

Kitchigami Regional Library’s Mobile Library has a new schedule for July to December 2023

The library will visit Leader and Backus on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of every month, except for Thanksgiving.

Dates are: Jul 13, 27; Aug 10, 24; Sep 14, 28; Oct 12, 26; Nov 9, *; Dec 14, 28

Backus visits will be 9:30-11 a.m. at the Backus School
Leader visits are 12:45-1:45 p.m. at the Amoco parking lot.

July activities at the Staples Library include The Dollipops

Events and programs at the Staples Library in July: **1,000 Books before Kindergarten**

Enjoy a fun program encouraging reading and early literacy skills. For ages birth to kindergarten. Check out the new app available to record books read. Sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library.

D.I.Y. Fun Activity
Check out our scavenger hunts. Each week a new activity and prizewinner. For ages 5 to 12. Sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library.

Tech Time
Trouble understanding your laptop, iPad, Kindle or other electronic device?

Would you like to download books from the library website or use eBooks, but aren’t sure how? Tech help will be available the first Wednesday of each month from 10:00 to Noon. Registration is required. For teens or adults.

Wednesdays; July 5 and Aug. 2
10:00 a.m. to Noon
Mobile Workforce Services

Get help with online applications, resumes, career explorations, interviewing skills, unemployment applications and other resources.

Stop and visit with Scott the first Wednesday of every month from 2:00 to 4:00

p.m.
Wednesdays, July 5 and Aug. 2
2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

The Dollipops!

Get ready to sing, dance, and laugh with the engaging, high-energy, highly interactive kids’ show! Dolli and Pop are sisters who have traveled all the way from Sweet Tart City to bring you on a magical and musical road trip that is sure to get kids (and their parents!) moving, grooving, and making memories. From classic beach tunes to current Hollywood and pop hits, Dolli and Pop use music to allow kids the chance to use their imaginations, to sing and dance

along, and even to enjoy their very own four and a half minutes of fame! For children and families. This program was made possible with Arts & Cultural Heritage Funds from Minnesota’s Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment.

Thursday, July 13
1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Great River Children’s Museum Hands-On Experience: Let’s Build a Kite

What’s that in the sky?! Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No! It’s a kite you built! Join Great River Children’s Museum staff for a fun day of crafty engineering while you test out materials and build a kite you can fly! For ages 4 and up. We

encourage adults to join their child(ren) in all Great River Children’s Museum programming to strengthen bonds and encourage the joy of play together.

Tuesday, July 18
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Great River Children’s Museum Hands-On Experience: Let’s Experiment!

Join Great River Children’s museum for an afternoon of mind blowing

science experiments. Then, take a few minutes to experiment with liquid densities and make your own Storm Sensory Bottles. For ages 3 and up. We encourage adults to join their child(ren) in all Great River Children’s Museum programming to strengthen bonds and encourage the joy of play together.

Tuesday, July 25
1:00 to 4:00

Pillager Fair runs July 13-15

Parade, exhibits, mud races, fireworks, UTV race, and more

The 124th Cass County Fair in Pillager will be held Thursday, July 3 - Saturday, July 15.

On the agenda are contests, food booths, fireworks, horse judging, UTV side x side drag race, mud races and a host of other activities for people of all ages, including a medallion hunt with a \$1,000 prize.

Many favorite events are on this year’s Pillager Fair roster, as well as some new ones. Some of the events are listed below:

Thursday

Entry day. Commercial vendors and competition exhibitors will be setting up. Clues for the medallion hunt will be posted each morning at 9 a.m. at the Community Center.

Food booths open at 10 a.m. Stop by the Community Center (at the fairgrounds) for Cash Bingo, starting at 6:30 p.m.

Friday

It’s ‘Judging Day’ on Friday. Stop by at 8 a.m. for breakfast (food

booths will be open) and at 9 a.m., visit the horse judging arena and exhibit booths as well.

At 10 a.m. vendor booths open, tours of the day care will be offered, and the History Building also opens. Starting at 11 a.m., the area with the inflatables opens up (Froggy Hops Inflatable Jumpers!); and at 3 p.m., the Beer Garden opens.

The Pedal Pull will be held at 5 p.m. (registration at 4:30 p.m.) and the UTV Side X Side Drag Race starts at 7 p.m. (registration at 4 p.m.)

Saturday

Saturday is ‘Family Fun Day.’ From 7 - 10 a.m., the Pillager Boy Scouts will sponsor a pancake breakfast. Horse Judging will be held from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; and the Color Splash Family Dash starts at 8 a.m., at the Pillager School.

At 10 a.m., be sure to take in the annual parade, which travels downtown Pillager along River Street. Later, young people will want to hitch a ride

on the Pillage Fair Express.

Beginning at noon, a Flag Retirement Ceremony will take place at the Community Center. This event is sponsored by the Pillager Boy Scout Troop and the Pillager Lions Club.

For those who like contests, Texas Hold ‘em will begin at 1 p.m.; and a horseshoe tournament at 2 p.m.

Don’t miss the Pillager History Display from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; the Mud Races at 5 p.m.; or the fireworks, which begin at 10 p.m. The inflatables will be open from 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Throughout the day, the food booth will be open, as will the exhibition building (from 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.). The Beer Garden will be open all day, beginning at noon.

The fair closes at midnight.
For a more detailed list of events, pick up a Pillager Fair Premium Book at area businesses and at the fairgrounds.



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- Accounts Payable Clerk – Howard Lake
- Human Resource Associate – All MN Locations
- Vendor Management Coordinator – All Locations
- Credit Analyst Lead – All Locations
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- Compliance Manager – All Locations
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Student Achievements

BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY recently announced it's Spring 2023 Dean's List. To qualify, students must be enrolled for at least 12 letter-graded credits and earn a grade point average between 5.5 - 3.99 during the semester. Local students named include:

- Cade Barrett, Motley
- Avery Jones, Motley
- Samuel Sauber, Motley
- Jordan Hines, Pillager
- Claire Japke, Staples
- Chase Reed, Staples
- Michelle Winter, Staples

KRYSTAL YODER, Motley, recently graduated from St. Cloud State University with a Master of Science degree in Marriage and Family Therapy.

Hello World

Obituaries

Scott Nelson

Scott Edward Nelson, 62, passed away July 2, 2023. Services were held July 10 at the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel in Staples. Scott Edward Nelson, was born April 6, 1961 in Robbinsdale. He was a 1980 Anoka Senior High School graduate. He lived in Anoka, Elk River, Verndale, Oregon, Nevada and California. On October 2000, Scott was severely injured in a bicycle accident in Elk River. He spent part of his life at the Care Center in Staples until moving to Orange County California in 2013. After nine years of nursing home life in Orange County, he moved back to Anoka in March of 2022. He spent the remainder of his years in his own home with the help of PCA's and family care. Scott enjoyed many travels along the way including cruising to Alaska, Mexico and Hawaii. He lived a good life despite his disabilities. A lover of music, he played drums and enjoyed singing karaoke. He was also a willing helper to all.



Scott is survived by his mother Gloria (Johnson) Stone; three sisters, Joelle (Stone) Alvord (Warren) Alvord), Jacquelyn Nelson and Linda (Nelson) Kriesel and many other family members. In lieu of flowers, donations are preferred to Achieve Services (in support of the disabled), 1201 89th Ave. NE #105, Blaine, MN 55434. Achieveservices.org. Arrangements were by the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

w29c A00006B2023JY12

Susan Rydbom

Susan Kay Rydbom, 69, of Motley, passed away June 20, 2023, at her home surrounded by her loving family. A Celebration of Life will be held July 26 at 11 a.m. at the Staples Alliance Church in Staples. Susan Kay Miegel was born July 26, 1953, to Clarence and Virginia (Betts) Miegel in Minneapolis. She graduated from Columbia Heights High School with the class of 1971. She worked as a waitress at Woolworths until she moved to California and then to Kansas. She settled back home in Minnesota where she took a position as a welder at ABEX and met Danny Rydbom. The couple were united in marriage September 29, 1978. They resided in Fridley and Ramsey where she was employed at ONAN. In 2000 Sue and Danny built a home in Motley. Sue was employed at Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank as a loan officer until she retired in 2016. She enjoyed teaching Sunday school with Danny for many years, gardening, growing flowers, spending time with family and friends. Most important to her were her grandchildren and was known by



them as Nama. Susan is survived by her husband, Danny; one son, Trevor (Tina) Rydbom of Blaine; one daughter, Jesci (Nick Hall) Rydbom of Brainerd; four grandchildren, Josey (Nick) McCullough, Kobie Wentland, Zoey Schmidt and Vaida Schmidt; many other relatives and a host of friends. Sue's witty and outspoken personality will be missed by so many. She is preceded in death by her parents and one brother, Donald Miegel. Visit www.karvonen-funeralhome.com to leave memorials and condolences on Susan's Tribute Wall. Arrangements provided by Karvonen Funeral & Cremation Service of Wadena, Minnesota.

w29c A00006B2023JY12

Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES continued from page 9a

NOTICE
PUBLIC SALE OF
TAX-FORFEITED
LANDS

**Friday, July 21, 2023
10:00 a.m.
Todd County
Commissioner board
room,
Historical Court House
215 1st Avenue S
Long Prairie, MN 56347**

**New Tax-forfeited parcels
will be on auction.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the parcels described in the List of Tax-Forfeited Land that is contained herein shall be sold to the highest bidder at public sale. The sale will be governed by the provisions of Minn. Stat. § 282.01 and by the resolution of the Todd County Board of Commissioners authorizing such sale. The resolution

reads as follows:
BE IT RESOLVED, that all parcels of tax-forfeited land listed on the List of Tax-Forfeited Land be classified as nonconservation land; that the basic sale price of each parcel on List of Tax-Forfeited Land, that is on file with the Clerk of the County Board, be approved and authorization for a public sale of this land be granted, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 282.01; that the sale will be held at 10:00 a.m., Friday, July 21, 2023, by the Todd County Auditor/Treasurer at the Commissioner board room in the Historical Court House, for not less than the basic sale price; and that all sales shall be full payment or on the terms set forth on the List of Tax-Forfeited Land.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the conditions and terms of the public sale shall be as described in the list of Tax-Forfeited Land contained here-in and approved by the Todd County Board of Commissioners.
Information about the sale of tax-forfeited land in Todd County can be obtained at the office of the County Auditor/Treasurer, Todd County Courthouse, 215 1st Avenue So, Suite 201, Long Prairie, Minnesota, 56347. Telephone: 320-732-4469, or online.

29-30pnc

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples
Staples Alliance
1512 8th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2891
Pastor Zach Jones 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 Church
310 4th St. NE, Staples
Church 218-894-2296
Pastor Fr. Aaron Kuhn
Parochial Vicar, Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Thursday and Friday 8:30 a.m.
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.

St. Michael
1st St. and Birch, Motley 218-894-2296
Pastor Fr. Aaron Kuhn
Parochial Vicar, Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
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 Malkore
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Pillager
First Lutheran Church
Pastor Marthew 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.
United Methodist Church
Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Kenneth Uhren
Sunday Services 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 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
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 Malkore
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.
**Leaf River Township
The Old Country Church**
Leaf River Twp., Wadena County Rd. 6
Info. 218-837-5690
Sunday Service 10 a.m.

Nowhere to hide

Pastor Robin Collins, Trinity Lutheran Church, Staples

“Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD.” -Jeremiah 23:24

He's coming. Where can we hide?
That is likely what Adam and Eve were thinking. Have you eaten the forbidden fruit. The one thing God has said "do not do," and they had done it. They were in trouble and they knew it.
I've been there, we all have. We've done something we know we should not have. How can we hide it or ourselves?
The words of Jeremiah remind us that there is no hiding from God. God knows everything that I have done, right or wrong, and it cannot be hidden from him. Neither can I run away from him because he fills not only the heavens and the Earth, the entire universe. He knows your sins also. There is no place where are you and I and our sin cannot be found out by God.

That thought should terrify us. The holy and righteous judge can always find us.
But, in truth, gods word here is GOOD NEWS! There is nowhere to hide. God can always find us. And just as for Adam and eve, God comes searching for us.
Our Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal son of God, became men in order to search, find, and rescue us sinners. He suffered and died for your sin and mine, rescuing us from the judgment, that our sin deserves.
By God's grace, through faith in Jesus, we are hidden in him. Our sins have been taken away.
So there is no place for us to hide from God's love for us in Jesus Christ. He calls us to turn from our sin and our sinful ways. He invites us to believe in him. And he assures us that there is nowhere and nothing that can separate us from his love.
Thanks be to God that we cannot hide from him. In Jesus name. Amen.

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:

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2nd Ave., Staples • 218-894-2242
Motley and Pillager

Ernie's Food Market
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Staples Veterinary Clinic
"Complete Animal Care"
Staples, MN 218-894-1775

Staples True Value
"Just Ask Rental"
Open 7 days a week.
Staples, MN 218-894-3263

Central Building Supply
Hwy. 10 West, Staples, MN
218-894-3794

Staples World
Your community newspaper since 1890
224 4th St. NE, Staples, MN
218-894-1112

Tower Pizza
Pizza, Pasta, Salads, Sandwiches
Staples, MN 218-894-3299

The Church Directory is supported by the advertisers listed above and the Ministerial Association.

***To update your church information or to advertise on the Church Directory, email: jwinter@staplesworld.com. or call 218-894-1112. As always, continue to email your Ministerial pastoral message or advertisement to: jwinter@staplesworld.com

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I can help!
Diane M. Hahn
29 years serving our area!
Rep. for Fergus Falls Monument Co.
Call 218-445-5685 or 218-640-2341



Baseball camp

The Staples-Motley baseball team held a youth camp in May to get area youth excited for the summer seasons. Pictured, varsity players and coaches run, hit, throw and catch with youth players. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



15U baseball action

The Staples-Motley 15U baseball team played June 29. Pictured above, Gabe Decker fields a ground ball while Elijah Kossan and Tyson Turner race to cover first base. The Cardinals lost to Perham 8-3. "I thought they were the best games we played all year," said Coach Billy Sauber. "We just need to tighten up our defense and smarter baserunning and we can make a run in the playoffs in mid July."



Bakle Blue



Corben Berg

(Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Xander Moranh



Evan Schultz



Eilajh Kossan with outfielder Chase Blue

[illegible]



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: July 19, 2019

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$171,830.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Matthew Suomi and Charity Rud-Suomi, husband and wife

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Cardinal Financial Company

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on July 22, 2019 as Document Number A515250 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC by assignment recorded on January 11, 2023 as Document Number A534985 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: All of Lots 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, and 15, Block 1, Odden Heights, according to the plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the Todd County Recorder, EXPECT the South 52 feet of Lots 8 and 15 previously conveyed by deed with Instrument No. 273649, and EXCEPT those parts of Lots 10, 11, 13, 14, and 15 previously conveyed to the State of Minnesota by deed with Instrument No. 266602;

AND

That part of Lots 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15, Block 1, Odden Heights, according to the plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Todd County, Minnesota, described as follows: Beginning at the Northeast corner of said Block 1; thence Southerly on an azimuth of 00 degrees 15 minutes 45 seconds along the East line thereof for 238.66 feet; thence Northwesterly on a non-tangential curve, concave to the Southwest, having a radius of 2436.48 feet, a delta angle of 09 degrees 10 minutes 43 seconds, and a chord azimuth of 50 degrees 30 minutes 00 seconds for 390.32 feet to the west line of said Block 1; thence Northerly along said west line for 2.30 feet to the Northwest corner of said Block 1; thence Easterly along the North line thereof for 300.00 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning.

Todd County, Minnesota.

Abstract property.

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 1010 8TH STREET NE, 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: \$169,904.02

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE

ORIGINATOR: Cardinal Financial Company

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Flagstar Bank, N.A.

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 38-0113700

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1000922-1400318832-7

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: August 17, 2023 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 February 20, 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: June 14, 2023

LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC
Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.
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
(23-0627-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

27-32pnc

See **PUBLIC NOTICES** on page 6a

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD ON JUNE 6, 2023

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 6th day of June, 2023 at 9 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Neumann. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Moment of Silence

The Todd County Board of Commissioners held a moment of silence in memoriam of Commissioner Rodney Erickson.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Noska and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the agenda as presented with the addition of 4.11 Promote Deputy Jacob Weishair to Sergeant.

Consent Agenda

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motions and resolutions were introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for May 16, 2023 and May 24, 2023 as presented.

GAMBLING PERMIT – HUTCHINSON AMERICAN LEGION POST 96

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for the Hutchinson American Legion Post 96 through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a Gambling Permit for the Hutchinson American Legion Post 96 to hold a raffle event at the Greystone Golf Club in Kandota Township at the address 10548 Andrews Drive, Sauk Centre, MN on July 10, 2023.

To approve the resignation of John DeCock as Sergeant effective 5/30/2023.

To approve the hiring of Preston Kraker as FT Jailer with the starting pay at grade 6 step 1, \$21.89/hr; a start date is to be determined.

To approve the hiring of Jacob Burdette as PT Jailer with the starting pay at grade 6 step 1, \$21.89/hr; a start date is to be determined.

To approve the hiring of Kellen Pulliam as PT Deputy with the starting pay at grade 10 step 1, \$27.65/hr; a start date is to be determined.

To approve the resignation of Child Services Supervisor, Mikayla Johnson, effective August 4, 2023.

To approve the hire of Kim DeCock to fill the open Health Services Manager position, at Grade 14, Step 9 on the salary grid, start date of June 6, 2023.

To approve the hire of Kellie Bitz to fill the open Seasonal EAP Office Support Specialist II position, Grade 5, Step 1, \$20.46. Start date: TBD

To approve Mickey Berg to fill the open Social Worker position, Grade 10, Step 3 at \$29.04. Start Date: TBD

To approve the promotion of Deputy Jacob Weishair to Sergeant with a starting pay at Grade 11, Step 5, \$32.96/hr with a start date of June 6, 2023.

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the May 2023 Auditor Warrants number (ACH) 903186 through 903285 in the amount of \$9,299,687.58 (Manual) 831 through 840 in the amount of \$988,440.34 and (Regular) 240960 through 241133 in the amount of \$1,130,940.80 for a total of \$11,419,068.72.

On motion by Noska and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 402585 through 402609 in the amount of \$53,421.43 and (Regular) 57004 through 57043 in the amount of \$26,636.20 for a total of \$80,059.63.

On motion by Denny and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 804097 through 804122 and (Regular)

710582 through 710640 for a total of \$55,850.85.

On motion by Becker 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) 600934 through 600943 and (Regular) 517369 through 517392 for a total amount of \$130,147.87.

Facilities Committee

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Master Gardeners moving forward with the proposed shelving project in the Grandstand and acknowledge donation of the shelving to Todd County once complete.

Public Works

On motion by Becker and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the attached Long Prairie Shop (Office Area) Roof Replacement Proposal from Buttweiler's Do-All Inc. of Alexandria, MN for \$33,340 with the estimated time period of Todd County's use of the building being 6 to 8 years.

Planning & Zoning

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the findings of the Planning Commission and grant the conditional use permit on parcel 12-0006903 with the following conditions:

1. All existing fencing shall be maintained for screening purposes as long as the proposed use continues to exist.

2. All salvage vehicles must be kept within the fence in area of the property.

3. All waste/automotive fluids must be disposed of in a manner that complies with all applicable federal, state, and local standards.

4. Applicant must abide by all other applicable federal, state, and local standards

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

Final Plat Approval – "Eastwood Shores First Addition"

WHEREAS, Applicant and property owner BMW Properties, LLC, applied to subdivide a property that is described as Outlot A of Eastwood Shores located in Government Lot 2, in Section 4 of Round Prairie Township with the plat to be known as "Eastwood Shores First Addition";

WHEREAS, Eastwood Shores First Addition consists of 5 lots; Block One Lot 1, 3.15± Acres; Block One Lot 2, 2.95± Acres; Block One Lot 3, 3.55± Acres; Block One Lot 4, 4.07± Acres; Block One Lot 5, 4.18± Acres; located in Shoreland Recreational Development and Agriculture/Forestry-1 zoning in Round Prairie Township.

WHEREAS, On March 3, 2023, the Todd County Planning Commission recommended the following property be considered for Subdivision pursuant to Todd County Subdivision Regulation and Ordinance:

EASTWOOD SHORES 4-128-33 Outlot A, EASTWOOD SHORES, according to the recorded plat thereof, Todd County, Minnesota.

Containing 17.91 acres more or less. SUBJECT TO ACCESS EASEMENT described as follows: An easement for ingress and egress purposes over, under and across that part of Outlot A, EASTWOOD SHORES, according to the recorded plat thereof, described as follows:

Beginning at the southwest corner of said OUTLOT A; thence on an assumed bearing of South 88 degrees 40 minutes 39 seconds East along the south line of said OUTLOT A 33.17 feet; thence North 07 degrees 03 minutes 49 seconds East 35.27 feet to the northwesterly line of said OUTLOT A; thence westerly along said northwesterly line and along a non-tangential curve, concave to the north, radius 75.00 feet, central angle 26 degrees 06 minutes 19 seconds 34.17 feet to the west line of said OUTLOT A, the chord of said curve bears South 84 degrees 00 minutes 40 seconds West 33.88 feet; thence South 07 degrees 03 minutes 49 seconds West 30.93 feet to the point of beginning.

WHEREAS, On March 21, 2023, the Todd County Board of Commissioners considered the Preliminary Plat for the above described property and approved the Eastwood Shores First Addition preliminary plat with 3 condition,

1. Establishment of a drainage easement for protection of the wetland area on lots 1 and 2. Drainage easement shall include the wetland area and a 25' buffer around all sides.

2. All driveway accesses must be approved by the Township.

3. Applicant must abide by all other applicable federal, state, and local standards.

WHEREAS, the Planning & Zoning Department has completed the necessary final plat review and find that all items required for final plat approval have been completed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the final plat of "Eastwood Shores First Addition" be approved as presented.

Solid Waste

An update was provided to the County Board regarding the Transfer Station Project and estimated timelines. The County also has recently learned that additional grant funding was provided by the State of Minnesota to assist with the project's costs. On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To schedule the Biannual Solid Waste meeting for August 10, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. at the Todd County Transfer Station.

Health & Human Services

On motion by Becker and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the Fraud Prevention Investigation Program Cooperative Agreement between Todd County Health & Human Services, Todd County Sheriff, and Todd County Attorney.

On motion by Denny and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Opioid Settlement funding request for the peer support program in the jail from Wellness in the Woods.

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Opioid Settlement funding request to provide administrative support.

On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To opt out of homecare license renewal, discontinue providing services and transition remaining clients to other providers.

Closed Session

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To enter into closed session pursuant to MN Statute §13D.03 at 9:54 a.m.

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To reopen the board meeting at 10:06 a.m.

Administration

On motion by Denny and second by Becker, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

ADOPTION OF CHANGES TO THE TODD COUNTY PERSONNEL POLICY ARTICLE VII SECTION 7.04 - HOLIDAYS

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners has recognized a need for strong, up to date personnel policy; and

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners and Personnel Committee have had an opportunity to review the policy revisions put forth in Article VII, Section 7.04, of the Personnel Policy and find the implementation to be in the best interest of the sound administration of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Todd County Board of Commissioners adopts the attached changes to the Todd County Personnel Policy and directs the County Coordinator to begin administration of said policy as of June 6, 2023, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is understood that this Resolution replaces and supersedes all prior County Board actions, oral or written, relating to the subject matter hereof.

On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve MOAs for the respective collective bargaining agreements where necessary to include Juneteenth (June 19) and change label of Co-

lumbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day, contingent upon agreement by the unions.

County Auditor-Treasurer's Report

The County Auditor-Treasurer informed that the Candidate Filing for the County Commissioner District 3 seat opened today at 8 a.m. and will close on Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 5 p.m. Interested persons should contact the Auditor-Treasurer's Office for more information on the filing process.

County Attorney's Report

The County Attorney had nothing to report at this time.

County Commissioner's Report

The Commissioners reported on meetings and events attended. Commissioner Denny had numerous meetings rescheduled. Commissioner Becker attended the Long Prairie Watershed, Facilities, CD42 Ditch Informational Meeting, AMC Workshop, Region V, Safety, Personnel, Wellness and TWCC committee meetings. Commissioner Neumann attended the MTWCHB meeting, Rainbow Rider, Solid Waste, SWCD, CPT and other internal committees. Commissioner Noska attended the HRA Board meeting and noted that they are still seeking an appointment for the District 4 representative.

County Coordinator's Report

The County Coordinator reported on the additional meetings with the Broadband Providers including CTC, Arvig, and West Central. Interviews have been held for the Payroll position.

Recess

Chair Neumann recessed the meeting until June 20, 2023.

AUDITOR WARRANTS

VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT
AMC (MCHRNA)	\$4,900.00
CLIFTON LARSON ALLEN, LLP	\$30,759.10
ESBO INC	\$267,120.03
HEALTH PARTNERS	
DENTAL	\$7,035.60
RINGDAHL ARCHITECTS INC.	\$2,035.00
TODD CO AUD-TREAS.	\$6,569.86
VERIZON	\$5,742.95
WEX BANK-SINCLAIR	\$2,075.83
17 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN 2000	\$5,567.97
COUNTRYSIDE RESTAURANT	\$3,321.45
LONG PRAIRIE SANITATION INC	\$6,286.89
MN DEPT OF FINANCE	\$6,149.50
MN DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	\$4,561.64
PETERS LAW OFFICE, P.A.	\$7,194.00
PRAIRIE LAKES MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE AUTH	\$8,883.00
SHIRLEY'S GAS & GROCERIES INC	\$2,612.47
STEP	\$9,949.91
TODD TRAILS ASSOCIATION	\$32,852.54
WIDSETH SMITH NOLTING INC	\$12,754.25
59 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN 2000	\$17,847.22
AXON ENTERPRISE, INC.	
	\$7,728.00
BRAATEN AGGREGATE INC	\$39,586.00
CARD SERVICES COBORNS	\$2,276.98
CENTERPOINT ENERGY	
\$2,147.45	
CENTRA CARE	\$11,532.50
COBORNS INCORPORATED	\$2,055.16
COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY	\$5,679.00
DOHERTY STAFFING SOLUTIONS	\$2,961.66
FLEET SERVICES/WEX BANK	\$8,160.51
GALLAGHER BENEFIT SERVICES INC	\$2,000.00
GRACIOUS LIVING CORPORATION	\$5,568.48
INTEGRITY FENCE LLC	\$3,200.00
KEYL \$2,500.00	
LONG PRAIRIE OIL COMPANY	\$7,019.17
MINNESOTA NATIVE LANDSCAPES	\$2,236.40
MINNESOTA POWER & LIGHT	
	\$16,508.47
MN DEPT OF NATURAL RESOURCES	\$3,990.00
MORRISON COUNTY	\$53,631.58
NORTHERN STAR COOP	
	\$3,076.04
STAPLES ADVANTAGE	\$3,746.33
TRIMIN SYSTEMS INC	\$22,924.50
VOYANT COMMUNICATIONS, LLC	\$3,449.60
WIDSETH SMITH NOLTING INC	\$2,882.00
WONDERLICH/SCOTT	\$8,833.00
40 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN 2000	\$12,752.44
CENTERPOINT ENERGY	
	\$4,641.47
LEADSONLINE LLC	\$2,612.00
LIBERTY TIRE SERVICES	

LLC	\$62,538.47
LIGHTWAY CONSTRUCTION LLC	\$8,648.52
LONG PRAIRIE OIL COMPANY	\$8,522.55
SCHUMACHER'S NURSERY & BERRY FARM	\$18,703.00
16 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN 2000	\$7,120.03
BIG SWAN LAKE IMPROVEMENT DIST.	\$8,240.85
CITY OF BERTHA	\$130,841.95
CITY OF BROWERVILLE	\$146,870.11
CITY OF BURTRUM	\$14,371.92
CITY OF CLARISSA	\$105,397.02
CITY OF EAGLE BEND	
	\$164,317.33
CITY OF GREY EAGLE	\$79,479.19
CITY OF HEWITT	\$39,417.69
CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE	\$727,275.76
CITY OF OSAKIS	\$98,500.42
CITY OF STAPLES	\$555,074.68
CITY OF WEST UNION	\$7,111.39
REGION V DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION	\$17,923.37
SAUK RIVER WATER SHED DISTRICT	\$60,258.72
SCHOOL DISTRICT 213	\$500,176.92
SCHOOL DISTRICT 2155	\$2,983.82
SCHOOL DISTRICT 2170	\$1,034,531.08
SCHOOL DISTRICT 2753	\$1,315,470.42
SCHOOL DISTRICT 486	\$323,694.80
SCHOOL DISTRICT 487	\$4,065.27
SCHOOL DISTRICT 740	
	\$62,487.20
SCHOOL DISTRICT 743	
	\$856,253.75
SCHOOL DISTRICT 786	
	\$336,414.60
SCHOOL DISTRICT 786-DEBT DIST 86	
	\$17,679.72
SCHOOL DISTRICT 787	\$562,210.98
SCHOOL DISTRICT 818	\$33,124.98
TOWN OF BARTLETT	\$51,480.71
TOWN OF BERTHA	\$57,455.71
TOWN OF BIRCHDALE	
	\$114,113.64
TOWN OF BRUCE	\$135,097.17
TOWN OF BURLEENE	\$49,712.26
TOWN OF BURNHAMVILLE	\$112,009.03
TOWN OF EAGLE VALLEY	\$61,227.56
TOWN OF FAWN LAKE	
	\$108,262.34
TOWN OF GERMANIA	\$37,528.12
TOWN OF GORDON	\$121,351.56
TOWN OF GREY EAGLE	\$118,975.92
TOWN OF HARTFORD	
	\$105,304.65
TOWN OF IONA	\$52,387.43
TOWN OF KANDOTA	\$58,387.87
TOWN OF LESLIE	\$94,144.09
TOWN OF LITTLE ELK	\$49,591.92
TOWN OF LITTLE SAUK	
	\$83,231.61
TOWN OF LONG PRAIRIE	\$96,418.10
TOWN OF MORAN	\$51,480.71
TOWN OF REYNOLDS	\$69,648.44
TOWN OF ROUND PRAIRIE	\$98,124.85
TOWN OF STAPLES	\$114,010.68
TOWN OF STOWE PRAIRIE	\$59,857.00
TOWN OF TURTLE CREEK	\$46,122.01
TOWN OF VILLARD	\$112,928.13
TOWN OF WARD	\$93,809.54
TOWN OF WEST UNION	
	\$74,854.16
TOWN OF WYKEHAM	\$67,663.49
5 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN 2000	\$4,698.38
ESRI	\$11,918.00
SANFORD HEALTH	\$3,069.15
TODD CO AGRICULTURAL SOC.	\$10,404.77
TODD SOIL & WATER CONS DIST	\$2,941.87
WEX BANK-SINCLAIR	\$2,928.42
30 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN 2000	\$14,236.24
MN DEPT OF REVENUE	
	\$42,508.13
US BANK	\$9,321.33
MN DEPT OF REVENUE	\$3,939.00
MN DEPT OF REVENUE	\$929,345.65
7 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN 2000	\$3,326.23
TOTAL	\$11,419,068.72

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS

VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$2,390.17
ELLINGSON PLUMBING & HEATING INC	\$2,737.43
JMD MANUFACTURING, INC	\$3,364.46
NUSS TRUCK & EQUIP.	\$2,825.79
STREICHER'S	\$6,567.42
TRUENORTH STEEL	\$38,643.12
59 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN 2000	\$23,531.24
TOTAL	\$80,059.63

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS

VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT
V# 15696 - COST EFF HEALTH INS	\$2,393.70

DHS - SWIFT..... \$5,594.79

FRESHWATER EDUCATION DISTRICT 6004..... \$14,450.00

LIND FAMILY FUNERAL HOME - ALEXANDRIA..... \$4,225.00

MORRISON CO PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE..... \$2,761.66

PERISH/ALAN..... \$2,886.26

WILLIAMS DINGMANN FAMILY FUNERAL HOME - LONG PRAIRIE..... \$3,500.00

78 PAYMENTS LESS

THAN 2000 \$20,039.44

Total: \$55,850.85

VENDOR NAME..... AMOUNT

DHS - MSOP - MN SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM..... \$5,534.10

DHS - ST PETER RTC - 472..... \$5,952.00

GERARD TREATMENT PROGRAMS..... \$5,670.90

GREATER MN FAMILY SRVS INC..... \$3,129.12

MID MINNESOTA DRUG TESTING INC..... \$3,019.00

NORTH HOMES CHILDREN & FAMILY SRVS..... \$20,294.40

PINEHAVEN YOUTH AND FAMILY SRVS INC..... \$2,339.40

PRAIRIE LAKES YOUTH PROGRAMS..... \$21,147.26

VALLEY LAKE BOYS HOME INC \$42,750.00

WEST CENTRAL REG JUVENILE CTR..... \$8,964.00

PAYMENTS LESS

THAN 2000 \$11,347.69

Total: \$130,147.87

On a motion by Denny and second by Becker, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held June 6, 2023 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on June 20, 2023.

Witness my hand and seal:

/s/ on file

Randy Neumann,
County Board Chairperson

/s/ on file

Denise Gaida,
Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD ON JUNE 13, 2023

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 13th day of June, 2023 at 5 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Neumann. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the agenda as presented.

Health & Human Services

On motion by Becker and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To eliminate Nursing Supervisor position effective 6/23/2023 allowing the employee to remain on paid status until that time and continuing health insurance for this employee for the month of July.

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To eliminate Home Health Aide / Homemaker positions effective 9/1/2023.

On motion by Noska and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To eliminate Homemaker position effective 9/1/2023.

Adjourn

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m. by unanimous vote.

On a motion by Denny and second by Becker, the preceding minutes of the County Special Board meeting held June 13, 2023 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on June 20, 2023.

Witness my hand and seal:

Randy Neumann,
County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida,
Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

29pnc

SCHOOL continued from page 1a

Q Comp for teacher quality

to relate to the community.

Q Comp

Curriculum Director Jenny Pantzke told the board about the school's Q Comp program, which provides teachers with professional development, evaluation and performance pay.

"The purpose is to improve learning through highly learning teachers," said Pantzke.

Pantzke said the Q Comp has goals for each level, high school, middle school and elementary, both for teachers and student performance. Career ladder positions are advanced after evaluation through the Q Comp program.

In other news, the board

- Approved hiring of Lloyd Allen, bus driver;

Wade Vangsness, Food Service Director; Jim Wimmer, Elementary Level 3 Teacher.

- Accepted retirement of Carol Webster, para-professional; approved non-renewal of contract for Lynette Vavreck, teacher.

- Reviewed school policies with no changes or minimal changes, for student discipline, suspensions, public data requests, crisis management, student promotion and retention and wellness.

- Reviewed policies with no or minimal changes, for weight room policy and credit card procedures.

- Approved educations identity and access management resolution.

- Reviewed 2023-24 Activities Handbook.

- Approved 2023-24 Local Literacy Plan.



Close up view of potato planting

A large crowd gathered to view the potato seed farm being planted at one of the Twin Rivers Farm's potato

seed field north of Staples. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

CERTIFICATION continued from page 1a

Water certification includes precision irrigation, cover crops

need to grow to the exact right size so they fit into the planter and don't need to be cut. In order to get the right size, every field has to hit seed fertility and water amounts just right, so the entire field grows at the same rate. In order to do that, RDO has water sensors in the ground so they know when to water, how much and where in the field it is needed.

Water certification

At the certification ceremony, Minnesota Agriculture Commissioner Thom Peterson came to Staples and talked about the long process that it takes for a large, multi-field farm to achieve certification.

"Technology is important," said Peterson. "nitrates are a big issue because they have to take steps to reduce nitrates in runoff and groundwater. They also have to implement cover crops and reduc-

ing tillage.

The water certification also involves preventing soil sediment runoff and phosphorus loss.

Peterson pointed out that this is a voluntary program that RDO chose to undertake.

Peterson said most of his job is centered around the biggest Minnesota crops such as corn and soybeans, so he is still learning about potatoes and sugar beet farming in central and northern Minnesota.

Three members from the Minnesota Legislature were at the event, along with aides from two U.S. congressional offices.

Rep. Josh Heintzeman of Nisswa said it was his first time in Staples. He is a member of the NRCS committee and said this is an example of sound science and good information that he can use in the legislature.

Rep. Mike Wiener of Long Prairie was impressed by the technology advances he witnessed. "It is phenomenal to know what's going on," said Wiener.

Minnesota Senator Paul Utke and representatives from the offices of U.S. Representatives Michelle Fischbach and Pete Stauber were also at the certification ceremony.

Field tour

At the field north of Staples, Jacobson talked about the differences between a seed potato farm and a food potato farm. Potatoes that are to be harvested for food



Chad Ingeman



Senator Paul Utke



Rep. Mike Wiener

are planted in rows, but RDO potatoes that are used for seed are planted in beds.

As part of the best practices, Jacobson said they do minimal plowing and use cover crops, commonly oats, rye, winter wheat, barley, mustard and radishes.

The irrigation system on the field can put precise amounts of water where it is needed. The farm managers can predict how much water is used each day and control the irrigation system with a cell phone.

On the corners of fields where the irrigation system doesn't reach, they plant pollinators. "It looks like weeds, but it is planted pollinators," said Jacobson.

Jacobson said the fields are not fertilized until it is needed, the same with pest control. They will knife in the fertilizer so it is better utilized by the plants and it saves on fertilizer.

RDO works with other area farmers who are water quality certified, includ-

ing Central Lakes College, which has the same certification.

Commissioner Peterson said Minnesota has been hosting a lot of foreign countries to look at Minnesota agriculture products. He said the water certification process is not only good for the environment, it helps the prospective trade partners see that Minnesota has the highest quality of products.

"We can prove our quality," said Peterson.



Potato field

Potatoes to be harvested for food are planted in rows of hills, compared to the seed potato field, which is planted in

a flat bed. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Pasture management during drought

From Todd County NRCS

Good grass grows good cows. So how do you grow grass during drought? The best time to plan for drought is in the years before it happens by keeping your forages and pastures in good condition. There is as much root structure underground as there is leaf structure above ground. The more root structure the better resilience to drought and faster recovery after drought. Typical management, often is to open all the pasture gates and let livestock remove as much

leaf material as desired. A better management plan would be to confine livestock to one area and supplement feed harvested or purchased feed stocks. When weather conditions improve the remaining pastures will recover much faster and animals can be rotated through them. Depending on how long supplement feed has taken place you may need to reseed only one paddock instead of the entire pasture. This sacrifice area should not be grazed as heavily in near future to allow forages and root

structures to rebuild and fortify themselves. Generally cool season grasses (brome, timothy, orchard grass) should not be grazed shorter than four inches, and warm season grasses (switchgrass, Indian grass, bluestem) should not be grazed shorter than six inches. These minimum guidelines should maintain the function of the plants and soils.

For more assistance to design and build resiliency into your livestock operation, contact your local NRCS office at 320-732-6618 ext. 3.



Q Comp for teachers

Staples-Motley Curriculum Director Jenny Pantzke shows the school board how the Q Comp program works at the school. (Staples World photo by Mark

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The \$300 bonus for a new Kasasa checking account will be earned after 60 days if account qualifiers are met. The \$300 bonus will be paid within 30 days of meeting the requirement (approximately 90 days after opening the account). No minimum balance is required to earn the bonus or open a Kasasa account. The \$300 bonus is reportable income for which you will receive a tax document. A \$300 penalty will be imposed if the checking account is closed in the first six months. Checking promotion will end at the discretion of MMFCU. *Account transactions and activities may take one or more days to post and settle to the account and all must do so during the Monthly Qualification Cycle (which means a period beginning on the last business day of the month and ending on the second to the last business day of the month) in order to qualify for the accounts rewards. The following activities do not count toward earning account rewards: Transfers between accounts, non-retail payment transactions and purchases made with debit cards not issued by our credit union. Reward Information: Rewards vary by account. Depending on what Kasasa account you open, you will receive the following rewards when you meet your account's qualifications during a Monthly Qualification Cycle. Kasasa Cash: Balances up to \$10,000 receive APY* of 3.50%; and balances over \$10,000 earn 0.15% APY Kasasa Cash Back: 2.00% cash back on PIN-based/signature-based debit card purchases that post and settle to the account during that cycle period. A maximum of \$8 cash back may be earned per Monthly Qualification Cycle. ATM Fee Refunds: you will receive reimbursements up to \$25 (\$4.99 per single transaction) for nationwide ATM fees incurred during the Monthly Qualification Cycle in which you qualified. ATM receipt must be presented within sixty (60) calendar days of transaction for reimbursements of individual ATM fees of \$5 or higher. When your Kasasa cash account qualifications are not met all balances in a Kasasa Cash account earn 0.01% APY; cash back payments are not made, and ATM fees are not reimbursed. ATM Cash Back reimbursements and rewards will be credited the last business day of each month to the appropriate Kasasa account(s). Dividends will be credited on the last calendar day of each month to the appropriate Kasasa account(s). APY = Annual Percentage Yield. APYs accurate as of 2/3/23. Rates and rewards are variable and may change after account is opened. Fees may reduce earnings. Additional Information: Account approval, conditions, qualifications, limits, timeframes, enrollments, and other requirements apply. No minimum deposit is required to open a Kasasa account. Qualifications and rewards may vary by account. Monthly qualifications include: 1 ACH Debit or Credit, 12 Debit Card purchases, and receipt of electronic statements. If account doesn't qualify for three consecutive months, account will be transferred out of Kasasa product and into Simply Checking. There are separate disclosures for Simply Checking account. Limit 1 account per social security number. There are no recurring monthly maintenance charges or fees to open or close this account. Contact MMFCU Member Services for additional information, details, restrictions, processing limitations and enrollment instructions. Certain restrictions apply. Federally insured by NCUA.