

Inside this issue:

- Motley June Fest plans
- Record setting ice-outs
- Boys basketball falls in section semifinal
- Spring sports start outdoors



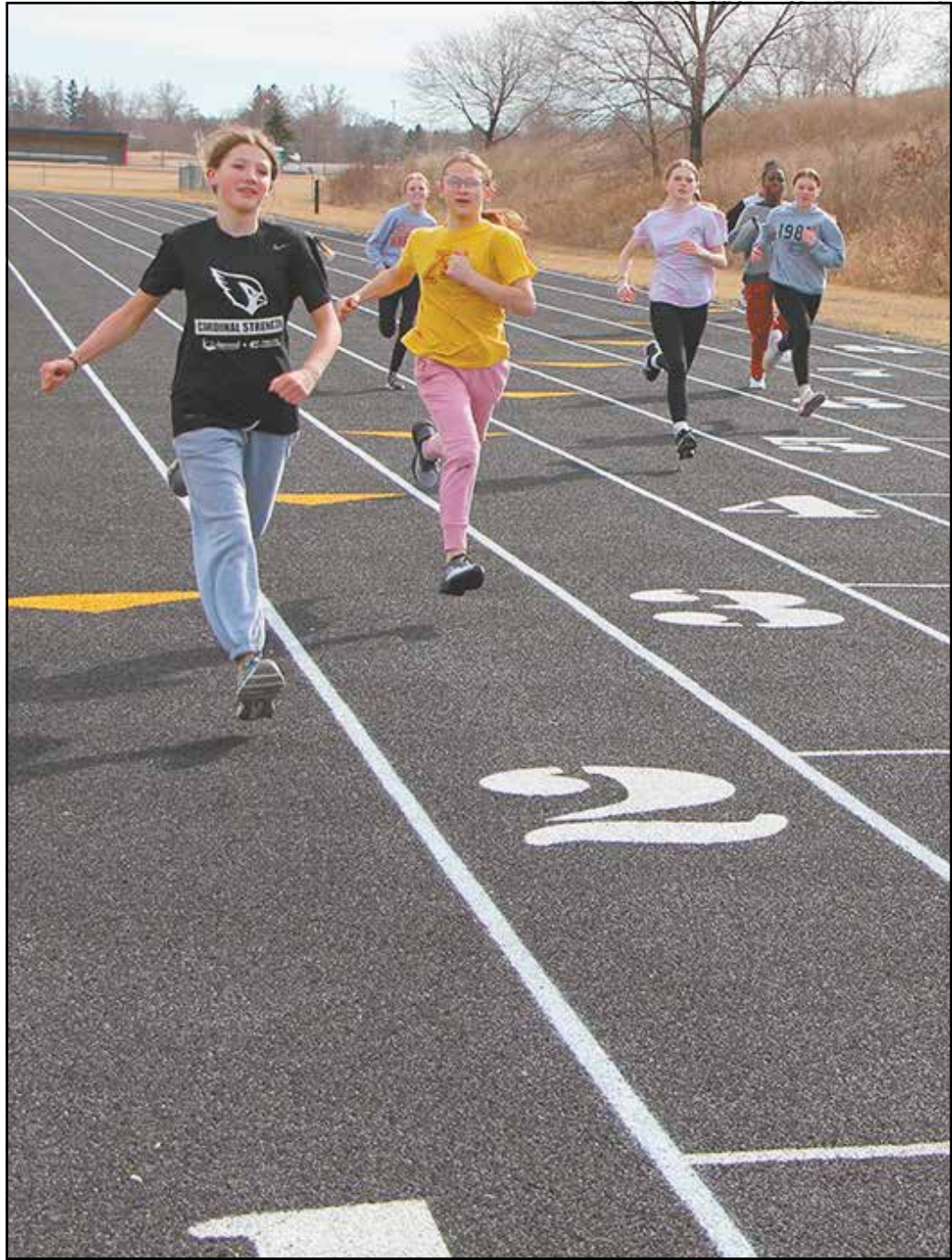
Wednesday, March 20, 2024

Staples World

Staples, Minnesota

\$1.25

New track speed Staples-Motley track and field athletes run a workout on their newly surfaced track. Varsity boys above and junior high girls below. The runners reported that the new track, which was resurfaced last summer, is bumpy and uneven, with cracks forming already. (Photos by Mark Anderson)



Jewison talks energy policy in Washington, D.C.

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Staples City Council member John Jewison traveled to Washington, D.C., to talk to members of Congress about electricity. He traveled with a contingent from Missouri River Energy Services (MRES), the company that sells electricity to Staples, and Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association. The event hosted by the American Public Power Association was officially titled “The 2024 APPA Legislative Rally”. Through this process, Jewison was able to meet with Minnesota lawmakers in their D.C. office, including Senators Tina Smith and Amy Klobucher, plus Representatives Brad Finstad and Michelle Fischbach. He also attended an open forum meeting with those same lawmakers plus all of the other Minnesota Representatives: Ilhan Omar, Angie Craig, Pete Stauber, Betty McCollum and Tom Emmer. “What stood out the most was the speed at which everything moved,” said Jewison. “The people we met with and spoke to and their aids moved and worked quickly. No long-winded Minnesota good-byes for them.” Jewison also was impressed with the “knowledge and passion everyone in politics had.” “They aren’t in the posi-



Storming the Capitol

Staples City Council member John Jewison in front of the U.S. Capitol steps in Washington, D.C. tions they are in to get a paycheck and get through their workdays. Agree or disagree with them, they really do seem to love what they do,” said Jewison. “We See **ENERGY** on page 10a

Peterson returns to manage The Vintage Golf Course

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Vintage Golf Course opened on March 1, the earliest opening in recent memory. The course will continue to be open when the weather permits. “We’ve had some really good days, people are enjoying the good weather,” said new Golf Course Manager Lynn Peterson, the former teacher and basketball coach at Staples-Motley schools. Peterson was forced out of the school and out of coaching under unfavorable circumstances in 2010, but he still considers Staples to be his home. “I’ve lived in Staples for 30 years. I’ve had good experiences and developed good friendships,” he said. Peterson doesn’t think See **VINTAGE** on page 10a



Making changes at the clubhouse

Lynn Peterson, new manager at The Vintage Golf Course, in front of the deck being built at The Vintage. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Weather

2024 This Week's Forecast			
	High	Low	Cond.
Mar. 20	28	16	Sunny
Mar. 21	29	15	Snow
Mar. 22	33	13	P. Cloudy
Mar. 23	31	18	Cloudy
Mar. 24	32	18	Snow
Mar. 25	35	20	Snow
Mar. 26	34	17	Snow
Last Year, 2023			
	High	Low	Cond.
Mar. 20	33°	10	Sunny
Mar. 21	18	16	Cloudy
Mar. 22	28	22	Snow
Mar. 23	30	10	Sunny
Mar. 24	32	4	Sunny
Mar. 25	40	24	Sunny
Mar. 26	30	9	Sunny

Average Temps:
H = 44° Low = 25°
Enjoy the SNOW!

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

- Becker: 9A
- May: 9A
- City of Staples 9A
- Wadena Cty Public Hearing: 9A
- Todd Cty Surface Marking: 9A

Obituaries

Stan Edin
Faye Stevens



Staples-Motley speech team at tournament

Staples-Motley speech team at the Sauk Centre Mainstreet Madness tournament. Group at left, Molly Hoemberg, Sarah Kroll, Joshua Cushing, Lexi Ann, Brynn Bestland, Raina Mikhaeil and Maria Halverson; group in the center, Hailey Richardt, Lily Davis, Jessi

Bursch, Laken Hines, Naila Mikhaeil, Olivia Opheim, Sabina Moe, AJ Neinow and Maddock Harvey; group at right, Lydia Tkalcich, Caleb Bestland, Alex Tkalcich and Addie Brenny. (Submitted photo)

Speech team second at Mainstreet Madness

On March 9, the Staples-Motley competitive Speech team travelled to Sauk Centre for the Mainstreet Madness Speech Tournament. Staples-Motley took a close second place in the “big school” team sweepstakes. As for individual placings, AJ Neinow and Joshua Cushing took

third and fourth place respectively in the category of Creative Expression. In Discussion, Sabina Moe took fourth. The Duo of AJ Neinow and Maddock Harvey placed first, while the Duo of Brynn Bestland and Joshua Cushing took fourth. Walker Johnson placed second in the cate-

gory of Extemporaneous Reading and placed third in Prose. In the category of Great Speeches, Brynn Bestland, Raina Mikhaeil, and Jaden Johnson placed second, third, and seventh, respectively. Laken Hines took the first place spot in Humor, with Lily Davis taking sixth and Naila

Mikhaeil taking seventh in that category. Olivia Ophiem took second in Informative Speaking and seventh in Prose. Hailey Richardt placed fourth in Original Oratory. In the category of Storytelling, Laken Hines placed first and Maddock Harvey placed fifth.

Staples Police Department report

Recent reports taken by the Staples Police Dept. include;

March 5, Staples Police responded to a car/deer crash on the 1200 block of Airport Rd NE. The driver, Betty Erbe, 68, of Staples, was traveling northbound when she struck multiple deer. Erbe was transported

to the hospital by the Staples Ambulance. Erbe's vehicle sustained minor front end damage.

March 5, Staples Police received a complaint involving a juvenile refusing to go home. Police spoke with the juvenile and parent and after a period of time, the juvenile agreed to go home.

March 7, Staples Police assisted MN State Patrol with a two vehicle injury crash on Hwy 10/Cty. Rd. 83. State patrol reported that Irene Lee, 90, of Staples, was turning onto Cty Rd 83 from Hwy 10 and collided with Caleb Packo, 23 of Evensville. Lee sustained minor injuries.

March 7, Staples Police assisted Staples Fire Dept. at a residence in the 700 block of 4th St. NE for a smell of something electrical burning. Fire crews checked the residence, believe they located the source of the smell. Homeowner was told to call an electrician.

March 7, Staples Police made contact with a city resident who was making fake emergency calls to a woman he met online, to emergency services in New York. Police spoke to the party at his residence and advised him to stop calling these New York agencies.

March 7, Staples Police responded to the 600 block of Kansas Ave. SW for a black lab and brown German shepard running at large. Officers found both dogs, returned them to their owner, warning him of the city ordinance.

Motley's 'June Fest' set for June 15

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Mark your calendars to attend Motley's 2024 June Fest event, scheduled for Saturday, June 15. It will take place at Ernie Converse Park, the Motley Fairgrounds, as well as along certain city streets.

At their regular meeting March 11, the Motley City Council heard about the upcoming festival from representatives of the Motley Community Events Organization (MCEO). The council also approved their requests, which included:

- Granting them a special event permit and waiving all of the fees;
- Allowing city employees to work various festival activities 'on the clock';
- Closing streets as needed for the run, parade and other events
- Approved granting a temporary liquor license; and
- Donating \$6,000 to the event from the 10 percent gambling funds.

In other matters the council:

• HEARD the monthly report from Fire Chief Brad Olson, learning there were seven fire calls in February.

• HEARD the monthly report from Police Chief Al Yoder, which included 45 calls during February.

• APPROVED an agreement for Axon services between the Morrison County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) and the Motley Police Department (MPD). As per the contract, the cost to the MPD will be \$4,298.15 per year beginning in January of 2025 and commencing annually through 2031.

• APPROVED the ERPO (Extreme Risk Protection Order) Firearms Storage Policy. As per the policy, Motley's Police Officers shall take possession of firearms as authorized and required by an ERPO. The officers shall process and securely store the items according to established Motley Police Department's policies and procedures for firearm storage. The policy notes that the officers will ensure that the firearms are unloaded and rendered safe. Chief Yoder noted that this sort of order might take place in the case of a domestic situation. He also noted that there is no set length of time, and they could store the firearms indefinitely. After some discussion, it was noted that “where” they store these firearms is still to be determined.

• APPROVED the Police Pursuit Policy. The primary purpose of this policy is to ensure officers and any member of the Motley Police Department respects the sanctity of life when making decisions regarding vehicle pursuits. The intent of this policy is to provide officers with guidance in balancing the safety of the public, safety of other officers and themselves, and law enforcement's duty to apprehend violators of the law, while minimizing the potential for pursuit related crashes.

• APPROVED a resolution showing their support of the Motley Public Works Department in the purchase of a plow, dump body and toolbox for the public works vehicle, and also the upgrades to the well #6 with three phase power. In addition, the council approved the public works department in submitting a Community Impact Funding application to Sourcewell to request financial support for the aforementioned upgrades.

• APPROVED a resolution showing their support of the Administrative Department's purchase of a new website from Town Web, Ordinance Codification from American Legal Publishing, and to pay a consultant to troubleshoot the utility billing/computer issues. Per the resolution, the council also supports the Motley Administration Department in submitting a Consultant Services Reimbursement Funding application to Sourcewell to request financial support for those projects.

• SET next regular council meeting for Monday, April 8, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be preceded by a work session at 4:30 p.m.

• HELD a closed session for preliminary consideration of allegations against an individual subject to the council's authority pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 13D.05 subd. 2(b). Once the closed session was done, the council then went into open session to adjourn the meeting as no further action was needed.

Motley area law enforcement

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

March 6 - 12

March 11 - Motley Police responded to a domestic situation at the 400 block of Pine Ave. S., Motley.

March 11 - Motley Police reported an ordinance violation at the 300 block of 3rd Ave. S., Motley.

March 10 - Motley Police received an animal complaint from someone at Riverside Ln., Motley.

March 8 - Motley Police received a report of fire at the 300 block of Cedar St. E., Motley.

March 8 - Motley Police issued a citation to Randall Hanson, 62, for an expired registration.

March 7 - Motley Police received a call from a Motley resident who reported seeing a vehicle run over a street sign at 396 Cedar St. E., Motley.

March 12 - The MCSO received a call from Cass County requesting Motley Fire be paged for a vehicle fire at 11785 Hwy 64 SW, Motley.

March 10 - The MCSO received a call from Cass County requesting Motley Fire be paged for a controlled fire that had gotten out of hand at 7969 65th Ave SW, Motley.

March 10 - Morrison County deputies responded to a welfare concern at the 3000 block of Azalea Rd., Motley.



Angie Burke

Join me
Friday, March 29
from **9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**
for an
Open House
with coffee and cookies and let's sit down and discuss your goals this year.

Hello, I'm Angie Burke, I am the Branch Manager/Loan Officer of Mid Central National Bank in Staples. I have been in our Staples office for over 2 years and at Mid Central for over 21 years with 20 of those years working in our loan department. I specialize in conventional mortgage loans, equity loans, vehicle and recreational loans. One of the successes of my position is helping my customers accomplish their goals. Whether it is to purchase a home or vehicle, my customers success is my success. Now that spring is right around the corner let me help you with a purchase of a new home or tap into the equity of your home to do some updates that you have been thinking about. Or maybe you're dreaming about being out on the lake with your new pontoon.

Let me help you with accomplishing your goals for 2024!



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for reading
the
Staples World



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Long Prairie: Great River Regional Library, 2-3 pm	Apr 23
	May 28
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Steve Fields
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Looking back

75 YEARS Ago - 1949

• March 24, 1949 - Better than the “Campbells are Coming” is what is being said of the forthcoming Senior Class play at Motley High School. By the same playwright, “Faith, Hope and Flarity” combines the rollicking humor of the “Campbells” with a plot designed for a full evening of delightful entertainment for the entire family. The play will be performed April 8 and 9.

Cast members include Robert Blake, Ross Dickey, Mary Jane Hazuka, Donna Hanson, Jim Coverston, Lowell Schrupp, Beatrice Ackerson, Barbara Johnson, Darlene Kahlner, Alvin Riggs, Eugene Rosvold, Wilma Cruse and Gerald Hanson.

• March 24, 1949 - Reburial military services

• O •
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
• O •



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week’s archive photo is from 1999. 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.

will be conducted in Staples Friday afternoon, April 1, at 2 p.m., for Sgt. Howard O. Baird, who was killed in Okinawa on June 14, 1945. His body arrived in Staples today, and will lie in state at the Huff Funeral Home until the hour of the service which is at the Seventh Day Adventist church.

Sgt. Baird was born the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Baird in Moran township on March 2, 1922. He attended the schools in Staples, and the rural schools of his community.

• March 24, 1949 - During the past week two new 4-H clubs have been originated in Todd County, according to R. W. Palmby, county agent, making a total of 35 organized clubs with a total membership of approximately 635 to date.

The two clubs organized were in Turtle Creek township, around school district 106 which selected as their name, The Busy Bees. Thelma Post, teacher of the school, has taken an active part in the organization of the group.

The second club last week included boys and girls from Gordon township around District 63 school. Harland Stendl and Sylvia Johnson were selected as this group’s adult leaders.

• March 24, 1949 - Arrangements have been made for a half hour broadcast program of the Staples Men’s Civic Chorus over radio station KWAD at Wadena on Monday evening, March 28, from 8:30 to 9 o’clock.

The program will originate in Staples Auditorium which has a direct leased wire to the KWAD studios.

50 YEARS Ago - 1974

• March 21, 1974 - Jerry Cleveland of Staples finished fourth in the N.A.I.A. National Wrestling Tournament held last week. Cleveland is a junior at Bemidji State College.

Cleveland, who finished the season with a record of

22 wins and 4 losses, lost to eventual champion, Kit Shaw of Central Washington.

• March 21, 1974 - Doug Grossman, owner and operator of Doug’s Electric was chosen by the membership of the Staples Lions Club as the president of the organization of the 1974-75 year. He will succeed Nels Japke as head of the group.

• March 21, 1974 - Two girls have earned the top scholastic honors of the graduating class of 1974 from Staples High School.

Earning the number one ranking in the class is Jeanne Hesse, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Hesse. She will graduate as the class valedictorian.

Earning second in the class and graduating as the salutatorian will be Suzette Jay, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Jay.

• March 21, 1974 - The Motley Speech team split to attend two tournaments last Saturday, March 16. Six members attended the International Falls Kiwanis Tournament and 16 members attended the Staples tourney.

Lesley Jones brought back a ribbon for her efforts in Serous Prose from the International Falls meet. Russ Hart received three A’s in Discussion, Tamara Kraft earned two A’s and a B in Serious Prose, and Kathy Jenkins received three A’s and a B in Serious Poetry.

Ribbon winners at the Staples meet included Randy Rittenhouse in Humorous Interpretation; Gerry Anderson and Judy Dubbels in Original and Non-Original Oratory; and Gary Blake in Serious Poetry.

• March 21, 1974 - Stern’s “Fair Lady”, Staples’ newest ladies’ store, opened for business last Saturday

morning. Mrs. Don Stern is the owner of the store. Her helpers include Donna Stern and Pat Huss.

25 YEARS Ago - 1999

• March 25, 1999 - A telephone bomb threat Tuesday morning emptied the Staples Motley High School building just as classes were about to begin. “There is a bomb in your building” was the message received at the high school principal’s office. The caller was identified as an adult male and one source identified it as an angry voice.

School officials immediately had the building cleared. “At about 8:25 a.m. our high school office received bomb threat. We evacuated the high school immediately, according to our emergency plan that has been in place,” Superintendent Ken Scarbrough said in a prepared news release.

Staples Police Chief Kyle Huber said the bomb threat was not a specific threat, which led to the decision to evacuate all the school buildings in District 2170. A decision was made to call off all classes, with students dismissed at 11 a.m. from Staples Elementary, Motley Elementary, and Motley Staples Middle School. Sacred Heart classes also were dismissed.

Starting at about 2:30 p.m., school personnel joined law officers and Staples Fire Department personnel in conducting a through search of the high school building. Huber said that after a thorough search, nothing was found.

• March 25, 1999 - Air National Guard Airman 1st Class Kenneth P. Swecker has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San

Antonio, Texas.

Swecker is the son of Kenneth D. and Paula Swecker of Motley. He is a 1998 graduate of Staples Motley High School.

• March 25, 1999 - Staples Motley High School guidance counselor Ron Storbakken was named the central Minnesota Counselor of the Year last week at a meeting of the Central Minnesota Counselors Association.

10 YEARS Ago - 2014

• March 20, 2014 - Dean Ogg of the Staples Host Lions Club presented a \$3,000 check recently to Fran Mertens, director of the Staples Food Shelf, as part of the March food shelf fund drive.

Mertens said donations are down overall this March compared to other years. At the same time, she said the number people using the food shelf is increasing.

• March 20, 2014 - An “Exhibition of Religious Art During Lent” will be held at The ArtsPlace in Wadena March 20 - 24, from noon - 6 p.m. each day.

• March 20, 2014 - The 30th Annual Fiddler’s Contest in Pillager will take place Saturday, April 5, at the school located at 323 E. 2nd St.

• March 20, 2014 - Kylee Helling, from Staples Motley, received the Blue Devils “Hobie Baker” Memorial Hockey award at the team’s awards banquet in February.

The Blue Devils girls hockey team members are from Browerville, Long Prairie-Grey Eagle, Staples Motley and Wadena-Deer Creek High schools. Helling, the only senior on the team, has been playing hockey since elementary school.



Staples-Motley runners on their new track.

Court report March 13

Long Prairie Police Department

Robert Alexander Mata Otega, Long Prairie. Fifth Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance-Felony. Dismissed. Fifth Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance- Gross misdemeanor. Dismissed. Possess Small Amount of Marijuana-No remuneration. Dismissed. Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Dismissed.

Daren Wilhelm Myren, Alexandria. Speed 38/30. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Cheng Cha, Miami, Okla. Fishing-special management waters- quality sunfish reduced daily limit. Fine \$150. Fee \$110.

David Francis Moris, Long Prairie. ER Big Game- take deer with invalid bonus permit. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Minnesota State Patrol

Brayan Alejandro Ambriz Parra, Long Prairie. No Minnesota Drivers’ License. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Richard Ray Backhaus, Little Falls. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Brayden Michael Bischof, Long Prairie. Speed 50/30. Fine \$70. Fee \$155.

Jaida Faith Bischof, Long Prairie. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Salena Marie Capetz, Long Prairie. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Hunter Redding Cavallero, Long Prairie. Display expired registration. Fine \$30. Fee \$85.

Diego Alonso Chavez Hernandez, Long Prairie. Hands-Free Law-engage in cellular phone or video call. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Isah Bloah Dartoe, Coon Rapids. No Minnesota Driver’s License. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Jackson Melving Fore, Hewitt. Driver fails to stop for stop sign. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Josh Michael Gapinski, Sauk Centre. Speed 72/60. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Tara Leigh Hauglie, Fargo N.Dak. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Tahmeah Brenda-Bettye Jackson, Fargo, N.Dak. Speed 89/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Devin James Lokken, Brainerd. Seatbelt required. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.

Trevor Allan May, Osakis. Seatbelt required. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.

Milissa Sue McDuffee, Little Falls. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Diane Jean Mensen, Belgrade. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40 Fee \$85.

Jory Ray Miller, Minneapolis. Speed 86/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Garret Richard Moses, Fergus Falls. Instruction permit violation (18 years or older). Fine \$50. Fee \$85. No proof of insurance. Dismissed.

Thomas Keith Olsen, Burnsville. Fail to yield right of way stop signs/ blinking. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Willow Renee Skar, Oneida, Wis. Speed 81/70. Dismissed.

Mary Kay Stocco, Long Prairie. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Frank Anthony Torres, Long Beach, Calif. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Aliyah Quentorria Towner, Gulf

port, Miss. Speed 94/70. Fine \$70. Fee \$155.

Hung V Truong, Ewa Beach, Hawaii. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Staples Police Department

Noah James Peichel, Paynesville. Speed 93/60. Fine \$150. Fee \$235. No proof insurance. Fine \$200.

Todd County Sheriff’s Office

Delvi Miguel Capellan Pena, Long Prairie. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Veronica Estrada, Long Prairie. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Sheila Diane Fearing, Osakis. Speed 90/55. Fine \$150. Fee \$235.

Megan Sue Fletcher, Browerville. Speed 64/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Emmanuel Antonio Rodriguez Pena, Long Prairie. Speed 80/60. Fine \$70. Fee \$155.

The following cases were heard before Judge Kurt J. Marben in Seventh District Court in Todd County Feb. 29, 2024.

Caitlin Rae Johnson, St. Paul. Fifth Degree Possess Controlled Substance-Gross Misdemeanor. Dismissed, conditions met or expired.

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

Jose Guadalupe Ambriz Hernandez, Melrose. Speed 99/60. Fine \$150. Fee \$225. Local confinement 30 days. Stay 30 days for six months. Unsupervised probation, six months. Careless driving- operate any vehicle carelessly on street or highway Dismissed.

Tiffany Myhanh Nguyen, High Point, N.C. Speed 108/70. Fine \$150. Fee \$225. Local confinement 30 days. Stay 30 days for six months. Unsupervised probation, six months. Reckless driving; consciously disregarding a subst. or unjustifiable risk. Dismissed.

Justin Lee Ash, Verndale. Second Degree Driving While Impaired. Dismissed. Second Degree Driving While Impaired—blood alcohol content greater than 0.08 within two hours of driving. Amended court decision. Sentenced. Local confinement 90 days.

Myles Jay Smith, Milaca. Assault Domestic. Dismissed. Disorderly conduct—offensive, abusive, boisterous, noisy, obscene. Fine \$100. Fee totals \$175. Local confinement 90 days. Stay 88 days for one year. Credit for time served two days. Supervised probation, one year.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County March 6, 2024.

Joseph Richard Wysocki, Browerville. Threaten crime of violence. Dismissed. Disorderly Conduct-offensive, abusive, boisterous, noisy, obscene. Sentenced. Local confinement 90 days. Stay 88 days for one year. Credit for time served two days. Fine \$300. Fee \$75. Supervised probation, one year.

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Mystery solved

Last week’s mystery photo published in the March 14, 1974 edition of the Staples World featured members of the Staples Police Department who were honored by the Staples Lions Club at their March 4 meeting. From left are Nels Japke, Lions president; William Card, chief of police; and patrolmen Jess Doud, Clinton Trana, Dwaine Winter, Michael Carr and Wes Klema.

David Erbe of Staples recognized Card, Doud, Winter and Carr; Monica Johnson of Staples recognized Card, Doud, Trana and Winter; Ken Klose of Staples recognized all except Japke and Klema; Bob Sorenson of Staples recognized all except Japke. Thanks for participating in our Mystery Photo.

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Early ice-outs punctuate a topsy-turvy winter

One of the most reliable Minnesota-isms is our pre-occupation with the weather. It easily beats out “yeah, sure, you betcha,” and other distant contenders. One of the surest signs is the emphasis Minnesota news media place on the weather. One Twin City TV station—its name withheld to protect the guilty—always talks weather in the first five minutes of its half-hour dinner time broadcast, a set-up for the more complete picture that will be presented farther down the news agenda. Making sure, of course, to tell us they’re not trying to alarm us; just ensuring that we’re informed and prepared for the conditions that lie ahead.

One of the most important manifestations of weather at this time of year gives the news folks an alternative to the usual how-to-dress-kids-for-the-bus-stop advice, and cautions about icy bridge decks, and slick spots. This manifestation is the record pace at which the ice has left our Minnesota lakes.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has a 144-name list of lakes across the state on which it keeps ice-up and ice-out records annually. It’s part of an effort to track changes in weather and climate, with an eye toward how Minnesota’s natural resources—plants and animals included—may be affected.

On that DNR list is a lake that is a next-door-neighbor to the one where my wife’s family has had a cabin presence for 70 years. This neighbor lake—Fish Trap, in Morrison County—lost its ice on Wednesday, March 13, a date the DNR listed as a new record. Given the fact that the DNR is expanding its “ice watch” list, not all of these 144 lakes have a long track record. Fish Trap has DNR-verified records dating back only to 1983; not a

long history, by any means. Still, when viewed from the reverse angle, this year’s recorded ice-out was the earliest in those 41 years. Knowing what I do about Central and Northern Minnesota weather, I’m confident that if this lake had been on the DNR’s list before 1983, its new “earliest” record would stretch much farther back in time.

Closer to home—literally connected to that smaller lake by a flowing thoroughfare channel—our lake lost its ice two days later, on Friday, March 15. A bullying southwest wind completed the job in our bay, as the last shimmering ice fragments near shore undulated with a rising and falling only slightly gentler than the waves farther out in open water.

The definition of “ice-out” by DNR standards is when 90 percent of a lake’s ice is gone. How anyone determines this with precision is anyone’s guess; especially for larger lakes, and those that do not have roads in close proximity to their shoreline around their entire perimeter.

An alternative definition of ice-out was used by the Freshwater Society and the Hennepin County Sheriff’s Department’s Water Patrol, as they assessed this year’s ice status on one of the state’s very largest lakes—Minnetonka—on the western edge of the Twin Cities metro area. They make their assessment by boat, and declare “ice-out” when—as they put it—“a boat is able to safely navigate from any shore to any other shore, through any channel and around any island.” For the record, Lake Minnetonka just missed—by a mere two days—tying an earliest-ice-out record that has stood since 1878.

Record early ice-outs have been recorded on a number of lakes across the state. Detroit Lake—name-sake of the city by that same name in Becker County—was one. Ice-out was reported in the Detroit Lakes Tribune as occurring on March 16, “the earliest date on which the lake has been ice-free in the 131 years of Detroit Lake’s ice records.” It broke the record by a full week. Detroit Lake is said to be one of Minnesota’s lakes

with the longest ice-up/ice-out histories.

Our family has by no means kept accurate ice-out records over the 70 years we’ve had a presence on this lake. Though it’s a large, popular lake, it is not on the DNR’s list. Our earliest previous recollection of ice-out was March 30, in 2021. Paradoxically, ice-out in 2023—following a winter with unusually deep and lingering snow—was April 30, a full month later.

Those who are climate change skeptics may point to those two very different ice-out dates as evidence against climate change. But a scientist would likely answer that climate change and higher world-wide average temperatures are not likely to give us smooth changes in weather patterns. Rather, less predictable and more extreme weather.

Not only did our lake have an ice-out date that was earlier than we can ever recollect. It also had a shorter period being ice-covered. We’ve been used to winters when freeze-up came consistently the last days of November, or early December, and remained all the way to spring. This year it arrived the first week of December, but—with the coming of unseasonably warm temperatures, rain, and wind—the lake reopened and did not refreeze until the first week of January. All told, ice covered our lake for a period roughly five weeks shorter than the previous winter. Similarly, Detroit Lake—cited above—had an icebound period this winter that was reported to be the shortest on record, the shortest in 131 years.

When you combine the unseasonable warmth with the minimal precipitation we experienced this year—compared to just a year ago, or to even an average winter—this winter was one that by any objective measure, “wasn’t.” Though most of us eagerly await spring each year, the things that have routinely made a Minnesota winter what it has traditionally been—a season’s worth of ice fishing, snowmobiling, and skiing, among them—these things would be sorely missed if the current winter became the model for a new normal.

Quote of the week

“Children require guidance and sympathy far more than instruction”
— Anne Sullivan, who trained Helen Keller, a blind and deaf child, to read and speak

Developing creativity important for children

Submitted by the University of Minnesota

From artistic expression to problem-solving, creativity is an essential skill for young learners. It is also one that can be overlooked in traditional education. Research shows measured creativity peaks in fourth grade, but experts agree it is possible to continue developing creative skills into the teen years and beyond.

Brad Hokanson, a professor in the College of Design, answers questions about prioritizing creativity in schools and at home to help student achievement.

Q: Why is creativity an important skill to develop?

Hokanson: Creativity is highly correlated with success, more so than raw intelligence. It is the distinguishing factor that sets someone apart from the crowd. It’s how you develop and present new ideas, new directions or new thoughts that can advance any field. The larger goal of any university is the development of new knowledge, inventing new solutions and new answers to old problems. It’s this ability we need to instill in learners of all ages to find innovative solutions.

Q: How can creativity be built into school curriculums?

Hokanson: School and university curriculums frequently focus on content knowledge, the information at the center of every field, not on the skills needed to advance. This often drives out innovative approaches including the ability to be creative, that is, the ability to develop and examine divergent ideas. Creativity

can be addressed across the curriculum but often it gets nudged out by the need to address content. Learners need to consider all sorts of alternatives and select the best one rather than developing a single answer. As I say frequently in my courses, the only wrong answer is one answer.

Q: How can families nurture creativity?

Hokanson: Families can have a great effect on the development of creativity. What is most important for children — and adults — is a variety of experiences at home, at school and through travel. Encouraging different ideas and exploration is key and can occur through a range of activities such as attending cultural events, spending more time in nature and holding time for creative exploration. We should support this at an early age and continue the practice during formal education. We see this in action on campus in the University’s Breakerspace in Walter Library, where students are welcome to draw, make or craft.

Q: Does screen time hinder creative development?

Hokanson: Screen time does affect creativity generally, but it varies. How screens involve children can happen in several ways, from passive to active engagement. Television, for example, is a passive experience of simply watching what is presented. Computer use, however, can be more active, and encourage a wide range of creative activities. In the case of small screens often used for texting, you should consider how that is taking the place of another source of cre-

ative development: in-person communication. As noted MIT learning researcher Mitch Resnick said: “Would you rather that your children learn to play the piano, or learn to play the stereo?”

Q: What are you currently working on related to creativity in schools?

Hokanson: I’m involved with several efforts related to creativity in schools. I currently have a U of M-sponsored massive open online course on creative problem solving which currently enrolls about 248,000 people. One of my doctoral students, Stephanie Heidorn, is developing and testing an after-school curriculum to develop creativity in fourth graders.

I’ve also been extending the teaching of creativity to several local high schools through the University’s College in the Schools program, where U of M courses are taught in high schools by local teachers trained for the course. It’s been extremely successful. This year, four high schools are offering creative problem solving and at least one other is joining next year. Results have been very strong with tested performances that are equivalent to gains in my on-campus classes. The high school students improved their creative capability from about 55 percent to over 90 percent.

Brad Hokanson is a professor of graphic design at the College of Design. His areas of expertise include critical thinking, creativity and innovation. His research focuses on the relationship between creativity and achievement in school children.

Government wants to help

Amy Klobuchar, U.S. Senator from Minnesota

Minnesotans seek assistance from U.S. government agencies for a variety of reasons, whether it’s to get answers about Social Security, access to veterans benefits or assistance with renewing a passport. But, too often, bureaucratic red tape gets in the way. That’s why our state office makes it a priority to cut through this red tape to get action and answers. Last year alone, our office assisted nearly 8,600 people with issues regarding the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Social Security Administration,

passport applications and more.

When our seniors don’t receive their Social Security checks, our office steps in to correct the situation and make sure seniors get their hard-earned benefits. One Elk River resident recently reached out to our office about his Social Security payments. Despite paying into Social Security for three decades, he had trouble receiving his payments on time because he received disability benefits after a medical procedure early in his career. He deserved some financial security in his retirement, so we contacted the Social Security Administration on his behalf. As a result, he received his hard-earned benefits in full, because after a lifetime of hard work, Minnesotans deserve to retire with dignity.

When Minnesota veterans are having trouble accessing their benefits, we work to cut through the layers of bureaucracy so our men and women who served get the support they need. For example, our office recently helped a veteran from Cloquet who struggled for years to get the oral surgery he needed through his Veterans Affairs health benefits. My team reached out to the VA’s Community Care system, and he finally got the care he needed. Or, a veteran’s daughter from Northwestern Minnesota noticed that her late father’s Bronze Star certificate misspelled his last name. She contacted the National Archives to fix this mistake and didn’t hear back after six months. Once my team stepped in, the Archives corrected the mistake, and the woman’s father’s grave marker now includes his

Bronze Star with his name spelled correctly.

Our office can also break through inefficiencies that prevent Minnesotans from getting their tax refunds on time. In a number of cases, we have worked with small business owners to ensure they received the full amount of tax refunds they are owed, and we have also helped families resolve issues with the IRS. For example, our office worked with a father in Moorhead who claimed a Child Tax Credit but never received it. After our office stepped in, he and his family got the payment they deserved.

Of course, Minnesotans aren’t only concerned about monetary benefits, and when their passport renewals get delayed or tangled up in red tape, we help them out. For instance, a Mora resident wanted to serve as a missionary to help Ukrainian refugees. She applied for a passport and was cleared to receive one, but it was lost in the mail on the way to her home. Our office got in touch with the passport agency and explained the situation, and they expedited a new passport for the woman so she could go abroad and serve. In fact, we opened and closed nearly 3,000 passport cases last year alone, giving thousands of Minnesotans the opportunity to make it to loved ones’ weddings, visit friends or family abroad or even simply take a well-deserved vacation.

Our office appreciates every opportunity to assist a Minnesotan in need. If you need assistance navigating a problem with a federal agency, call our office at (612) 727-5220 or visit www.klobuchar.senate.gov for more information.

Celebrate women in agriculture

Submitted by University of Minnesota Extension

Women from the breadth of Minnesota’s agriculture community are invited to share their stories with legislators and key leaders at the Minnesota State Capitol for Women in Ag Day on Monday, March 25.

Organizers seek to celebrate the role of women in agriculture and raise awareness of issues and challenges they face in their work. All involved with agriculture are encouraged to

attend.

“We want to work with legislators and other leaders to help inspire more women to pursue dreams of farming and other ag-related work,” said Susanne Hinrichs, University of Minnesota Extension ag business educator.

The Day at the Capitol on March 25 includes viewing the Senate floor while in session, as well as attending the Senate Ag Committee meeting at 3 p.m. A reception for networking with other participants and lead-

ers will follow. Registration is requested to help organizers plan. For more information, go to this website: z.umn.edu/DayAtTheCapitol2024.

This event is being hosted by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Minnesota Office of Farm Service Agency, and University of Minnesota Extension.

For more information, contact Susanne Hinrichs at susanneh@umn.edu or visit the Women in Ag Day site at: z.umn.edu/DayAtTheCapitol2024.

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



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Unity Bank donates to Ruby's Pantry

In 2023, Unity Bank employees, along with our community members, raised \$7,415 by donating two dollars for the opportunity to wear jeans on Fridays. Unity Bank matched those donations for a total of \$14,830 in financial support to local community nonprofit organizations. For fourth quarter 2023, the Staples branch chose to donate their Jeans For a Cause funds to our local Ruby's Pantry that is hosted by Staples United Methodist Church and held at Central Lakes College (CLC). In that time, the Staples branch was able to raise \$566.70 thanks to donations from Unity Bank employees, community members, and Unity Bank's matching funds. Employ-

ees from the Staples branch have been volunteering for Ruby's Pantry since May of 2023 and report having a lot of fun helping out.

Pictured, from left, are Gloria Palmer, community member; Caleb Besmehn, CLC student; John Hageman, CLC student; Erich Heppner, CLC employee; Nathan Fiedler, CLC student; Ashley Hanson-Dumprope, Unity Bank employee; Russell Kleinschmidt, community member; Sean Humphrey, CLC student; Jerald Carpenter, community member; Joanne Carpenter, community member; Danielle Carpenter, community member. (Submitted photo)

New Mpls Heart Institute provider seeing patients at Lakewood Health System

Lakewood Health System, Staples, welcomes Jason Vang-Erickson, certified nurse practitioner, who provides cardiac care to Lakewood patients through their partnership with Minneapolis Heart Institute (MHI). Vang-Erickson began seeing patients at Lakewood on Feb. 21, and joins Drs. Tim Dirks and Peter Stokman, MHI cardiologists who also see patients at Lakewood. Specializing in cardiovascular disease, Vang-Erickson also has interests in preventative cardiology, heart failure, ischemic heart disease, cardiac electrophysiology, and integrative cardiology.

"I strive to treat patients with respect and care," said Vang-Erickson. "I enjoy getting to know patients and listening to their stories for seeking care. I hope patients feel heard and valued during our time together." In his free time, Vang-Erickson enjoys art, biking, family activities, hiking, meditation, music and traveling. Lakewood has partnered with MHI for cardiology services since 2020. A wide variety of cardiac testing, including nuclear stress, exercise treadmill, and stress echo, as well as Holter and



Jason Vang-Erickson, CNP event monitoring, is done right in Staples.

DEADLINE

for all classified ads and copy is 12 noon Friday

For the Staples World

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Formerly Crosby Eye Clinic

Dr. Stacy Sjoberg, MD, Ph.D.
Evaluations and Surgery close to home!!
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Easter Egg Hunt
at Staples Alliance Church, 1512 8th St. NE
Saturday, March 30, 9 - 11 a.m.
Family Fun Event for All Ages

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Mark Your Calendar

March 20, 21
FREE TAX-AIDE Wednesdays, 1-4 p.m. and Thursdays, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m., through April 11, Staples City Hall. Must call for an appointment at 218-296-6616. For low to moderate income taxpayers.

'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>

March 22
WOMEN'S OPEN AA RECOVERY MEETING Every Friday in person, 10:30 a.m., Motley Free Methodist Church (lower level), 33 Wellwood St. E. Motley. All women welcome.

March 24
CELEBRATE RECOVERY GROUP MEETINGS are held every Sunday at 6 p.m., at Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood St. E., Motley.

March 25
AA GROUP MTGS IN MOTLEY

are held at the United Methodist Church, 847 3rd Ave. S., on Mondays at 8 p.m.

March 26
CARE MINISTRY FREE MEAL Tuesday, March 26, 4:30 - 6 p.m., at Sacred Heart Church, 310 4th St. NE, Staples. The free meals are held on a monthly basis to promote fellowship, connection and nourishment.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP offered by Lakewood Health System, will be held Tuesdays (through April 23), from 3 - 4:30 p.m., at Sourcewell, 202 12th St. NE, Staples. Anyone grieving the loss of a loved one, child or any other loss is welcome to attend.

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

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

Cardinal Calendar

SM school events

- March**
- **POLAR PLUNGE** March 20, 1 p.m., at the MS/HS
 - **SADIE HAWKINS DANCE (GRADES 9 - 12)** March 23, 7:30 - 10:30 p.m.
 - **VOCAL LARGE GROUP CONTEST AT STAPLES-MOTLEY** March 27, all day event

Easter Eggstravaganza is March 23 in Staples

Children age 10 and under are invited to meet the Easter Bunny Saturday, March 23, from 9:30-11 a.m. at the Staples Community Center, 425 4th St. NE. This event is sponsored by the Staples '93 Lions Club, and includes games, story time, prizes, crafts,

Lions vision screenings, and more.

♥Staples '93 Lions♥

Easter Eggstravaganza
Saturday, March 23
9:30 - 11 a.m. Ages 10 and Under
Staples Community Center
•Visit the Easter Bunny!
Come, Celebrate! Games, Story Time, Prizes, Crafts, More!
Lions' Vision Screening

First Lutheran Church, Pillager
Invites you to...

•**PALM SUNDAY:**
March 24, 9:30 a.m.

•**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE:**
March 29, 7 p.m.

•**EASTER SUNDAY:**
March 31, 9:30 a.m. Service
All are welcome!
The church is located at 717 River St. S., Pillager

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SHS Classes 64, 65, 66 reunion Aug. 17, 2024

Staples High School graduates from 1964, 1965 and 1966 are looking ahead to their class reunion during Railroad Days this

summer.

The event will be held at Holst Acres in Staples on Saturday, Aug. 17. To RSVP, call 218-296-2469.

Obituaries

Stanley Edin

Stanley Allen Edin, 88, educator, entrepreneur, photographer and devoted family man, died March 10, 2024, surrounded by his loving family at Covenant Living of Colorado, Westminster, Colorado, after a long battle with Parkinson's disease.

A viewing will be held at the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, 309 4th St NE, Staples, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Friday, March 22.

The burial service will take place on March 23 at 1:00 p.m. at Thomastown Covenant Church, 15940 251st Ave., Staples.

Stan was born in 1936 in Staples to parents Alfred and Lydia (Westberg) Edin. He completed grades one through eight at Wadena County School #44, a one-room schoolhouse and graduated from Staples High School in 1954. Stan



attended North Park University in Chicago for two years, where he met his future wife, Rose Anderson, of Dassel. He moved to Minneapolis in 1956 to continue his engineering education at the University of Minnesota. While there, Stan worked several jobs, including managing a team for the Minnesota Statehood Centennial Train, which visited nearly 100 communities and hosted 630,000 visitors in the

summer of 1958.

Stan and Rose wed in September of that year and moved to Sierra Vista, Arizona, as Stan had been drafted into the Army as an Electrical Engineer at Fort Huachuca. After his discharge in October 1960, Stan and Rose relocated to Minneapolis where both worked at Bloomington Covenant Church. He received his degree in 1961 and hired on to Minneapolis Honeywell.

Daughter, Kathy, was born in 1962. The following year, Stan accepted an offer to move back to his hometown to teach at Staples Area Vocational Technical Institute. He had realized that he preferred a more "human and personal" line of work than the more "abstract and physical" job of engineering (as he wrote later). In 1964, Stan was appointed Assistant Director of the college. Son, Jon, was born the following year. While serving as Assistant Director, Stan and Director Mike Matanich founded the Central Minnesota Irrigation Center and developed a 320-acre Experimental Farm. Many new programs, including diesel mechanics and several training courses on Native American reservations were established.

During this time, Stan earned his Master of Education degree at Colorado State University in Fort Collins. In 1972 he enrolled in the doctoral program in Vocational Education at the University of Minnesota on a selective scholarship through the U.S. Department of Education, finishing coursework in one year. He received his Ph.D. in 1979. In 1980, Stan led a Group Study Exchange from Rotary International to Sri Lanka and southern India, organizing 47 meetings during the 45-day trip.

Stan served as Director/President of the Staples Technical College from 1981 until 1991 when he led a merger with the Brainerd Technical College (forming the Staples-Brainerd Technical College). In his decade of leadership, the Staples campus moved from a location in the local high school to a multi-campus presence. After the merger, he led the effort to establish an interactive television network connecting the two campuses and area high schools.

Stan served as President of the Minnesota Technical College Presidents from 1990-1991. Later that year, he headed a Minnesota State Department of Education

delegation to India and Sri Lanka, lecturing to faculty in Delhi and other sites. In 1993 he spearheaded a larger merger between the Staples and Brainerd Technical and Community Colleges, forming Central Lakes College in 1995. With the successful completion of that merger, Stan retired (he received a gasoline can with his name embossed in gold in honor of his tendency to run out of gas as he traveled across the state on college business).

While living in Staples, Stan was part of an informal breakfast gathering known, somewhat facetiously, as the "Table of Knowledge." With several friends from this group, he started a number of small businesses, including a photography studio, tree farm and clothing manufacturing firm.

After retirement, together with professional artist and wife, Rose, they formed Art Adventures, taking groups to paint on locations around the world, including trips to China, Singapore, India, Austria, Italy, Croatia, Morocco, Sweden, Norway, England, Ireland, France, Greece, Russia, Egypt, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Namibia, Botswana and South Africa. Stan taught photography on these trips and developed a portfolio of thousands of photographs.

Stan and Rose purchased a cabin in Nestor Falls, Ontario, Canada, in 1979. In the early 1980s, Stan and his friends reconstructed a second cabin on the property from the logs of an abandoned cabin on a nearby island. It was here that Stan indulged his love of boating, fishing and woodworking, worshipping each Sunday at the local United Church. Stan especially relished gatherings with family at the cabin each summer.

In 2005, Stan and Rose relocated part-time to Venice, Florida, and full time in 2017. In 2021, they moved to Covenant Living in Westminster, Colorado. Stan was a leader in many of the churches where they were members, first in Minneapolis, then at Thomastown Covenant Church, in Wadena County and later at Bay Indies Covenant Church in Venice, Florida. Since coming to Colorado, Rose and Stan worshipped at Arvada Covenant.

He is survived by his wife, Rose; one daughter, Kathy; one son, Jon; five grandchildren; one great-grandchild and one brother, Richard.

w13c A00006B2023MR20

Faye Stevens

Faye Irene Stevens, 90, of Motley, passed away peacefully surrounded by family on March 13, 2024, at the Lakewood Health System Care Center, Staples.

Services were held March 18 at the United Methodist Church in Motley.

Faye was born September 14, 1933, in Grant County to Laverne and Pauline (Cave) Jenkins. She married Jerry Stevens on April 23, 1952. They made their home in Thief River Falls. Throughout the years while raising their family they also lived in Brainerd, East Grand Forks, Red Wing, then settling in Motley where they owned and operated The Hitchin Post Grill and Tavern. You could find Faye playing Randy Travis music on the jukebox and two-stepping around pool tables with her grandkids.

Faye had a knack for writing beautiful poetry and she proudly wrote poems for her family, making sure that

each one was specially tailored to them from her. She received several awards for her poetry and her thoughtfully scripted words can be found in her poem book, "with love, mom." She enjoyed crocheting, fishing at Lake Shamaneau with friends and family, playing the piano, guitar and accordion and cheering on the Minnesota Twins. She was a friend to many, a second mom to several and will be missed by all who knew her.

She is survived by one son, Mike; one daughter, Michelle (Owen) Judge; one daughter-in-law, Deb Stevens; one brother-in-law Jerry Sharon; ten grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

Faye is preceded in death by her husband, Jerry; two sons, Mark and Mitch; parents; siblings and one daughter-in-law, Sheila.

Arrangements were by the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

w13c A00006B2024MR20

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

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

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

Church of Christ
27343 490th St., Staples.....218-894-2609
Pastor Barry Klein
Facebook Live
Bible School (youth and adult).....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY:
Adult Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.

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

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

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

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

Trinity Lutheran
1000 4th St., NE, Staples.....218-894-2372
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
Janet Eckman SMA.....218-837-5831
jre227@yahoo.com
Sunday Worship.....8:30 a.m.

Cushing

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

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

Cushing Baptist
26298 Bear Rd., Cushing
Office Hours:.....320-749-2583
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Worship.....10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible study.....7:30 p.m.

Leader

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

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

Motley

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

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

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

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

Oylen

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

Pillager

First Lutheran Church
Pastor Mathew Sundquist
717 River Street S, Pillager, MN
218-746-3775
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday School, 2nd and 4th Sundays
.....8:30 a.m.

Casino Assembly of God
Pastor Dan Johnson
114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146 Hewitt, MN
N. of Motley, Hwy. 64, E. on Cty 34 to Cty. 104.
Phone.....218-746-3839
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....7:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY.....7:00 p.m.

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

Hewitt

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

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

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

Writing God's Word on Our Hearts

Pastor Chris Mathiason, Faith Lutheran Church, Staples

In the book of Jeremiah, the Lord says. "I will put My law within them, and I will write it on their hearts and I will be their God and they shall be My people. No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other "Know the Lord," for they shall all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest."

This is the dream of every student of the Bible. We will no longer need to go to Bible Study, pay attention during Confirmation class or go to Sunday School. Instead what God's wants will be written on our hearts, we will know what God is calling us to do. This is a day we all long for. But we are not there yet.... Faithful Christians disagree about many things. I worry about those Christians that are always certain that they understand God's will perfectly. While we should not live in constant confusion, God's call to faith should make us wonder if we are fully living as God has called us.

Let me give you an example. One of Jesus

teachings is that we should care for the poor. Many people give to charity, through their church and other caring groups. If you never consider if you are giving enough, say a Billionaire giving one dollar away, are your truly caring for the poor as you should? Or is your giving just spare change?

So while we long for the day when God's law will be written on our hearts, we are not there yet. I have told students that what we seek to do is to write God's law on our own hearts. What I mean is that we seek to learn God's word so that it becomes part of who we are. That the words of scripture, the stories of the Bible, the teachings of the church are part of who we are.

As we end the season of Lent and look forward to Holy Week, the week before Easter, we look forward to Joy of Easter. The day when Jesus defeated death. So take the Bible off your shelf and keep writing God's Word on your heart.

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Cardinals unable to catch up a second time

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team came back from a big deficit in the first half, but couldn't repeat it in the second half, falling 67-43 to Pequot Lakes in the Section 7AA semifinal game on March 13.

The Cardinals fell behind 9-0 in the first few minutes of the game, then spent the rest of the half working their way back into it. Grant Bestland gave them a boost with two three pointers and they finally tied it at 22 on a three point shot by Avandre Brandt. But PL made two scores and added a three pointer at the end of a half to make it 29-22 at halftime.

In the second half, the Cardinals allowed the first 13 points to go down by 20. Again they started a comeback with Eli Rutten leading the scoring, but PL was able to counter with inside baskets and they got hot from the outside, hitting multiple long shots to build the lead back up.

Staples-Motley finished the season with a 16-13 record. That ranked them 46th in Class AA, according to minnesota-scores.net. The Cardinals advanced to the section semifinals for the first time since 2010, when they lost in the section finals in overtime to the eventual state champions. This year, Pequot ended up winning the section title in their next game game to advance to the state tournament.

Team results
Staples-Motley 43, Pequot Lakes 67
Scoring: Eli Rutten 12, Conner Kuhns 8, Avandre Brandt 7, Grant Bestland 6, Alex Schultz 6, Noah Larson 4



Grant Bestland (Submitted photos)



Eli Rutten



Avandre Brandt



Spring athletes unleashed

For the first time in recent memory, the Staples-Motley spring sports teams were able to start their first week of practice outside on March 11. Pictured, Cardinal softball, baseball and track and field athletes practice hitting, throwing, catching, running and jumping. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



NOTICES

Lost/Found

FOUND: Old Military photo with the name "Jim Johnson" written on it. From the Staples area; Jim used to work for Alfred Love-lace. Family members may claim photo at the Staples World office (weekdays).13x

SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT

205

Help Wanted

TODD COUNTY HHS EMPLOYMENT OPPOR-TUNITIES: Todd County HHS is looking for reliable, service-oriented individuals to serve the citizens of Todd County in the following po-sitions: **Social Worker -Child Services (full-time). **Paraprofessional Case Aide (full-time). To learn more about these openings and how to apply, visit the official Todd County website at <https://www.co.todd.mn.us/>. Questions can be directed to Todd County Ad-ministration 320-732-6155. EOE

13c



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13-14c

208
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611

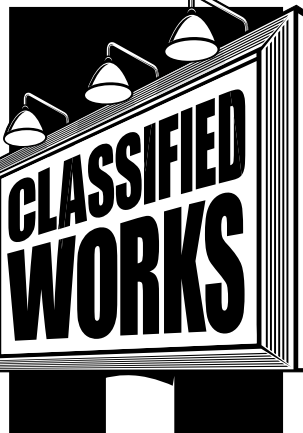
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GARAGE SALES

701

STAPLES ASSEMBLY OF GOD YOUTH: Now accepting donations for upcoming garage sale. Call Kathy at 218-296-1647 for drop off or pick up. 11-18c



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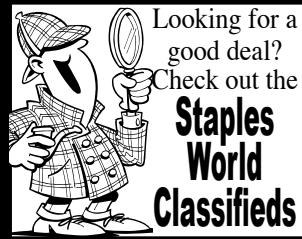
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*Thomas Sellnow is a Real Property Law Specialist certified by Real Property Section of Minnesota State Bar Association.
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Todd County Commissioners Minutes

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD FEBRUARY 20, 2024

Call to Order
The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 20th day of February, 2024 at 9:00 AM. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Becker. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present except Commissioner Byers.

Approval of Agenda
On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the agenda as presented with the addition of item 12.2 Lighting of Cupula for Burnsville Officer Memorial.

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

To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for February 6th, 2024 as presented. To approve a Seasonal On Sale and Sunday Liquor License for Birchwood Resort at the address of 22182 Birchwood Loop, Sauk Centre, MN in Birchdale Township effective April 15, 2024 through October 15, 2024. To approve a one year Dance License for Rebecca L. Pratt dba Clarissa Ballroom at the address of 19281 Kottler Road, Clarissa, MN in Eagle Valley Township effective April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025.

To approve a one year On Sale and Off Sale 3.2 Malt Liquor License for Rebecca L. Pratt dba Clarissa Ballroom at the address of 19281 Kottler Road, Clarissa, MN in Eagle Valley Township effective April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025.

To approve a one year Setup License for Rebecca L. Pratt dba Clarissa Ballroom at the address of 19281 Kottler Road, Clarissa, MN in Eagle Valley Township effective April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025.

To approve a one year Wine License (including Strong Beer) for Rebecca L. Pratt dba Clarissa Ballroom at the address of 19281 Kottler Road, Clarissa, MN in Eagle Valley Township effective April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025.

To approve an Off Sale, On Sale and Sunday Liquor License for T.J.'s Diamond Point Inc dba Diamond Point Supper Club/Lounge at the address of 12867 Bayview Dr, Sauk Centre, MN in Birchdale Township effective April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025.

To approve a Seasonal On Sale, Off Sale and Sunday Liquor License for Rainbow Lodge at the address of 20576 Banks Trail, Sauk Centre, MN in Kandota Township effective April 15, 2024 through October 15, 2024. To approve a Setup License for Rainbow Lodge at the address of 20576 Banks Trail, Sauk Centre, MN in Kandota Township effective April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025.

To approve a Seasonal Off Sale and On Sale 3.2 Malt Liquor License for Rainbow Lodge at the address of 20576 Banks Trail, Sauk Centre, MN in Kandota Township effective April 15, 2024 through October 15, 2024. To approve a Setup License for Rainbow Lodge at the address of 20576 Banks Trail, Sauk Centre, MN in Kandota Township effective April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025.

To approve an Off Sale, On Sale and Sunday Liquor License for the Rock Tavern LLC at the address of 11977 County 47, Grey Eagle, MN in Grey Eagle Township effective April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025.

To approve an Off Sale, On Sale and Sunday Liquor License for Full O Fun LLC dba Saukinac Campground at the address of 21914 Bay Loop, Sauk Centre, MN in Kandota Township effective April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025.

To approve a one year On Sale and Sunday Liquor License for Shady's Golden Eagle at the address of 13218 County 103, Burtrum, MN in Grey Eagle Township effective April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025.

To approve a one year Off Sale, On Sale & Sunday Liquor License for Michael Shattuck dba Shattuck's Hub Supper Club at the address of 30905 County 13, Burtrum, MN in Burnhamville Township effective April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025.

Auditor-Treasurer
On motion by Denny and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 403040 through 403068 in the amount of \$13,401.90 and (Regular) 57739 through 57794 in the amount of \$99,285.34 for a total of \$112,687.24.

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 805011 through 805085 and (Regular) 711555 through 711629 for a total of \$135,668.24.

On motion by Denny 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) 601170 through

601200 and (Regular) 517701 through 517727 for a total amount of \$130,159.66.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND SWCD SUPERVISOR JOINT MEETING

Chair Becker suspended the current meeting to allow for the Joint Meeting with the SWCD Supervisors to be held at 9:06 a.m.

Separate minutes of the Joint Meeting are attached.

Chair Becker resumed the regular board meeting at 9:38 a.m.

Public Works
On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the correction to Board Action 20240206-08 with the change in start date to March 4th, 2024.

An update was provided to the County Board regarding the announcement from the Minnesota Department of Transportation regarding a 2026 Federal HSIP Funding Award for Todd County for a 6" Wide Pavement Striping Project in FY2026.

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the attached state bid quote from Midwest Machinery for the purchase of a new John Deere 6155M Cab Tractor and Diamond Rotary Mower for \$182,446.51.

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the purchase of a new equipped plow truck per the attached purchase agreements for \$308,981.67.

County Sheriff
On motion by Neumann and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To change the current title from Sheriff's Office Clerical to Administrative Assistant.

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To acknowledge the donations received in 2023 for the Canine Project in the amount of \$1,720.00 and Drone Project in the amount of \$600.00.

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the carryover of the Sheriff's Office Canine, Contingency and Forfeiture Funds with a total of \$66,120.10.

On motion by Neumann and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the carryover of the Sheriff's Vehicle and Vehicle Equipment Funds with a total of \$184,967.83.

Solid Waste
On motion by Denny and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Authorize Solid Waste Director to sign proposal with Wideseth for professional services for \$17,500.

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Authorize Solid Waste Director to sign proposal with Barr for professional services for \$14,000.

On motion by Neumann and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To authorize the department to sign the 2024 Step Contract.

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To authorize the department to sign the 2024 Step Contract.

Planning & Zoning

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approval of the General Obligation Note and Resolution in order to receive loan funding through the Clean Water Partnership for a County Septic Loan Program. Full Resolution wording is on file in the Auditor-Treasurer's Office upon request.

On motion by Noska and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To provide authorization of Adam Ossefoort as the Official with Authority to sign documents related to the PLSS Monument Grant application.

On motion by Noska and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To remand back the Review of CUP-2020-027 to the Planning Commission for further review of the time period.

On motion by Denny and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To table the request for CUP on parcel 14-0009600.

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the findings of the Planning Commission and grant the rezoning of parcels 23-0018700 and 23-0018701 from AF1 to AF2 with the following conditions.

1. All future land uses shall abide by Todd County Planning and Zoning Ordinances.

2. Land owner shall abide by all other applicable federal, state, and local standards

Health & Human Services

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

A Resolution Establishing Support for Clay County to Request Minnesota Bond Funds for Infrastructure in the Development of a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility in Clay County

WHEREAS, throughout Minnesota there is inadequate capacity in the continuum of care to support children with high acuity, complex and/or co-occurring conditions that include

violent or sexually inappropriate behavior and/or physical health challenges, and;

WHEREAS, Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTF) are a part of this continuum for children and youth under age 21 with complex mental health conditions and aggression, and;

WHEREAS, currently there are four PRTF facilities operational in Minnesota with a total capacity of 166 beds and an additional PRTF set to open soon; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for additional PRTF beds in the State of Minnesota to meet the needs of children with serious and complex mental health needs; and

WHEREAS, the location of PRTF beds must be spread across the state to ensure equal access and proximity to a child's home community, family, and service providers; and

WHEREAS, Clay County is committed to establishing a PRTF and will partner with an eligible provider in the delivery of PRTF services; and

WHEREAS, Clay County is seeking Minnesota bond funds to aid in land acquisition and building a PRTF;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Todd County Board of Commissioners supports Clay County to request Minnesota bond funds for infrastructure in the development of a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility in Clay County.

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

RESOLUTION IN FAVOR OF ALLOWING THE STATE MANAGEMENT OF THE WOLF POPULATION

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners recognizes the importance of balanced wildlife management and believes that returning wolf management to the state of Minnesota would enable more effective stewardship of local ecosystems, and;

WHEREAS, The Todd County Board of Commissioners acknowledges the necessity of sustainable wildlife population control measures, including regulated hunting, to maintain ecological equilibrium and safeguard the interests of both humans and wildlife.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby expresses its support for advocating Senator Amy Klobuchar to endorse the removal of wolves from Federal protection, thereby empowering the state of Minnesota to responsibly manage wolf populations and implement a regulated hunting season as deemed appropriate by state wildlife authorities. This resolution is grounded in the belief that localized management strategies are essential for promoting the coexistence of wolves and local communities while ensuring the conservation of Minnesota's diverse ecosystems for future generations.

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

A RESOLUTION FOR BLUE LIGHTING OF THE HISTORIC COURTHOUSE CUPULA FOR THE REMAINDER OF FEBRUARY 2024 IN MEMORIAL TO THE FALLEN BURNVILLE FIREFIGHTER AND TWO POLICE OFFICERS

WHEREAS, the County Board supports the persons serving in law enforcement and firefighter/paramedic roles in the State of Minnesota, and;

WHEREAS, on February 18, 2024 Burnsville Police Officers Paul Elmstrand and Matthew Ruge and Firefighter/Paramedic Adam Finseth were killed in the line of duty.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners does hereby authorize the Historic Courthouse Cupula to be displayed with Blue Lighting in memorial to the fallen Burnsville Police Officers and Firefighter/Paramedic for the remainder of the month of February 2024.

County Auditor-Treasurer's Report

The County Auditor-Treasurer reported that the Presidential Nomination Primary will be held on March 5th, 2024 countywide, preparations for audit continue, will be attending the MACO conference this week and 2024 tax statements are in final preparation steps for release in March.

County Attorney's Report

The County Attorney had no new information to report.

County Commissioner's Report

The Commissioners reported on meetings and events attended.

Commissioner Denny missed some meetings due to family health concerns but was able to attend some monthly via zoom meetings.

Commissioner Becker attended the ditch info, solid waste bid opening, TWCC, Personnel, Dept Head, CHB, and Financial Solid Waste group meetings.

Commissioner Noska attended the TCDC and TWCC meetings. Commissioner Neumann attended the AMC Ditch Conference, Personnel, CPT Personnel, Dept Head, Park Board, Solid Waste, SR 1W1P meetings.

Adjourn
On motion by Noska and second by Neumann, the meeting was adjourned for the month of February 2024.

VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT
BROWERVILLE TRUCKWASH/ BIG BOYZ.....	2,736.21
ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE INC	\$4,621.75
INTRADYN.....	\$2,080.00
METAL CULVERTS INC.	\$36,407.40

MOMENTUM TRUCK GROUP	\$6,134.35
MORRIS ELECTRONICS INC \$10,468.48	
NORTHERN STAR COOP	\$2,049.07
NOW MICRO INC.....	\$2,075.00
VERTEX UNMANNED SOLUTIONS, LLC	\$6,783.00
WHITMORE INC.....	\$2,370.00
WIDSETH SMITH NOLTING INC	\$6,719.00
74 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	\$30,242.98
Total:	\$112,687.24

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS

VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT
ANDERSON FUNERAL HOME	\$3,500.00
DHS - SWIFT.....	\$2,843.14
FRESHWATER EDUCATION DISTRICT 6004.....	\$17,613.00
NOW MICRO INC.....	\$9,882.60
PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC	\$3,776.99
RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE - UPPER MIDWEST	\$3,720.00
RURAL MN CEP INC ...	\$15,401.45
STAR BANK	\$4,050.00
VILLAGE CAPITAL & INVESTMENT LLC	\$5,005.59
WELLS FARGO HOME MORTGAGE	\$2,005.92
140 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	\$67,869.55
Total:	\$135,668.24

VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT
# 16704	\$6,705.30
# 16095	\$3,249.10
# 17324	\$6,959.19
HEARTLAND GIRLS RANCH	\$31,024.80
HOLISTIC FAMILY EDUCATION SRVS.....	\$4,079.65
LITTLE SAND GROUP HOME	\$11,351.58
#17183	\$2,308.98
STEP	\$7,786.44
VALLEY LAKE BOYS HOME INC	\$14,820.00
VILLAGE RANCH INC.....	\$4,845.61
25 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	\$37,029.01
Total:	\$130,159.66

On a motion by Denny and second by Neumann, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held February 20th, 2024 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on March 5th, 2024.

Witness my hand and seal:
/s/ on file
Barbara Becker, County Board Chairperson
/s/ on file
Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

NOTICE MAY TOWNSHIP ASSESSMENT MEETING

The Board of Appeal and Equalization for the Township of May, Cass County, Minnesota shall meet on Monday, April 1, 2024 at 12:00 noon at the May Town Hall. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether taxable property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor, and to determine whether corrections need to be made.

Bianca Wyffels, Clerk
May Township

NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING WADENA COUNTY

Wadena County Board of Commissioners

The Wadena County Board of Commissioners will be holding a Public Hearing regarding the proposed County Road Turn-back and will provide an opportunity to citizens to give comment relating to the same.

Written comments will be received by Darin Fellbaum, County Engineer, until April 5, 2024 at 221 Harry Rich Dr., Wadena, Minnesota 56482.

The meeting is scheduled to be held on **Monday, April 8, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** at the Aldrich Township Hall, 18118 150th Street, Verndale, Minnesota 56481.

Heather Olson, Wadena County Auditor/Treasurer

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF TODD DISTRICT COURT SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PROBATE DIVISION Court File No. 77-PR-23-1040

In Re: ESTATE OF DIANE M. KNAKE Decedent.

NOTICE AND ORDER FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on March 25, 2024 at 10:14 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at Todd County, Minnesota, on petition for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Decedent's Will dated October 20, 2003, and for the appointment of Lisa Goraczkowski, as personal representative of the Decedent's estate in an unsupervised administration.

This Hearing will be held:

X This will be an administrative hearing, and your appearance is not required. If there is an objection to this petition, you will be notified of another date and time.

Any objections to the petition must be raised at the hearing or filed with the Court prior to the hearing. If the petition is proper and no objections are filed or raised, the personal representative will be appointed with the full power to administer the Decedent's estate, including the power to collect all assets; pay all legal debts, claims, taxes, and expenses; sell real and personal property; and do all necessary acts for the Decedent's estate.

Notice if further given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3.801, all creditors having claims against the Decedent's estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court within four (4) months after the date of this notice or the claims will be barred.

Dated: February 29, 2024

BY THE COURT
Daniel Benson
Judge of District Court

Kim Peterson,
Court Administrator

SKOOG LAW
Grant K. Skoog
MN# 0403246
24 Colfax Ave. SW

Wadena, MN 56482
Telephone: (218) 631-1228
E-mail: Grant@Skooglaw.com
ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER

NOTICE BECKER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF APPEAL AND EQUALIZATION MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting for the Township of Becker, Cass County, Minnesota shall meet on Monday, April 1, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the Becker Township Hall.

The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether taxable property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor, and to determine whether corrections need to be made.

Mary Fitcher, Clerk
Becker Township

ASSESSMENT NOTICE CITY OF STAPLES COUNTY OF WADENA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Board of Review - *Equalization of the City of Staples, Wadena County, Minnesota, will meet at the Office of the Wadena County Assessor, Wadena MN at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 4, 2024. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, please contact your assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you disagree with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the County Board of Appeal and Equalization.

Tara Greer, Clerk
City of Staples

(ABBREVIATED ADVERTISEMENT)

NOTICE TODD COUNTY 2024 PAVEMENT MARKING PROJECT Closing date: April 9, 2024

Sealed bids will be accepted until 10:00 a.m., April 9, 2024 by the Todd County Public Works Director/Engineer at 44 Riverside Drive, Long Prairie, Minnesota 56347 for the following construction project:

C.P. 77-24-03 Pavement Marking Application Various County Highways (256.14 miles)

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

Loren Fellbaum,
Todd County Public Works Director/Engineer

(ABBREVIATED ADVERTISEMENT)

NOTICE TODD COUNTY 2024 GRAVEL SURFACING PROJECT Closing date: April 9, 2024

Sealed bids will be accepted until 10:00 a.m., April 9, 2024 by the Todd County Public Works Director/Engineer and County Auditor/Treasurer at 44 Riverside Drive, Long Prairie, Minnesota 56347 for the following construction projects:

CP 24:82 CP 24:84

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

Loren Fellbaum,
Todd County Public Works Director/Engineer

The Open Book

Now Online

Search public notices published in local newspapers from across the state in one convenient place. Stay in the know at www.mnpublicnotice.com

Energy funding still available

The Energy Assistance Program helps Minnesota households pay for current and past-due bills for electricity, natural gas, oil, biofuel and propane, emergency fuel delivery, and repair/replacement of homeowners' broken heating systems.

To be eligible for the program, you must meet income guidelines. There are no asset limits.

The income guidelines

are found on the Instructions page of the application.

For an application, call Todd County Energy Assistance at 888-838-4066 or 320-732-4516

Or go to the website <https://mn.gov/commerce/consumers/consumer-assistance/energy-assistance/>.

To apply online, print an application or request an application by mail.

VINTAGE continued from page 1a

New events, opportunities at The Vintage

the school firing will be detrimental coming back 14 years later. He said it was hard and his family suffered for a long time, but he sees that as the past.

After leaving the school, Peterson stayed active, following his grandchildren through their activities. He took various jobs such as a basketball scout for NBA coach David Joerger, one of his former players. He also was a motorcoach driver for tours and events.

Peterson said all his experiences were positive, but he found a niche when he started managing golf courses.

Peterson worked at a golf course at Willmar, then moved to a course at the Wisconsin Dells during the Covid pandemic. He worked at Mount Frontenac golf course near Red Wing, and this year decided to take the job at The Vintage.

"I have lots of great memories from Staples, former players and parents of players are here," he said. Many of them come out to golf or are helping out at the golf course.

"It's great to be back, I was excited from day one and it has grown more every day," said Peterson. "Ernie (Rose) is a great owner, we share the same vision for the course," he said.

Both the owner and manager would like to see more events at the course, either golf or social activities. Peterson has borrowed several ideas from the other courses he has managed.

First on the list is to have a golf event on April 14, the final day of The Masters tournament in Georgia. In this format, local golfers will get paired up with one of the pro golfers at The Masters and their scores will be linked together.

Peterson said they will try to be creative and are open to any suggestions for events. One idea is to get school staff from area schools to come out for a friendly scramble tournament.

"Some events will work, some will fail, but you never know until you try it," he said. "We'll see what people like and what's available."

Peterson said they will continue the course's goal of getting more women involved in golf. They plan to host a wine and cheese event to ask interested women if they want to form a league or have day events.

Traditionally, Tuesday has been the ladies night and league, while the mens league is Wednesday evenings. Peterson said they will continue with "Throw-

back Thursdays" with lower pricing for golf.

Peterson said they are developing new membership specials for young adults and weekday pricing that includes lunch with a round of golf.

Youth On Course, a program from the Minnesota Golf Association, allows golfers ages 6-18 the opportunity to play golf for \$5 or less on courses throughout Minnesota and around the country. Peterson said The Vintage will now be one of the Youth On Course spots.

The course is trying new ways to foster social opportunities. They are building a deck onto the clubhouse and will add chairs and tables to create a new relaxing outdoor spot.

"You can watch holes one, nine and ten from the deck, you could sit out with a drink and enjoy the course," he said about the new vision.

Congratulations on your retirement DEB!



Congratulations!

JOIN US

Thursday, March 28 • 10:30am -1pm

For Deb Stevens' open house celebrating 29+ years of serving our member owners.

"With 29 plus years with Mid Minnesota, starting as a teller in Staples and moving to the accounting department. I have worked with many wonderful team members. I will miss everyone."

— Deb Stevens, Accounting Services



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ENERGY continued from page 1a

Electric policy affects both sides of the aisle

discussed governmental goings ons all day, and then we went to dinner with a great many of them and they segued right into the next political topic. No hot-dish recipe swappings with the boy from Minnesota, all business."

The municipal power representatives had several main topics that they discussed with the lawmakers, including:

- Protecting Resource adequacy
- Protecting supply chain
- Permit reform
- Protecting grid security
- Municipal tax issues

MRES provided fact sheets for each talking point that included specific legislation which they urged the lawmakers to adopt or strengthen. For example, there is currently a national shortage of transformers, at a time when the City of Staples is in the market for a backup transformer. MRES is pushing for a law that prevents changing conservation standards that will slow down transformer distribution even further.

Jewison was impressed with how the city's power supplier was able to work well with Congress.

"People should be aware of the issues, because they may not know we are the owners of our electricity," he said. "Missouri River is a non-profit organization who is going to bat for us. They aren't an Xcel who has stockholders and a small number of investors making a lot of money. We really are fortunate here to have their voice representing us."

The talks are especially important to the cities that make up the Missouri River Energy consortium, because of the changing landscape of energy production.

"Minnesota is supposed



In the halls of Congress

John Jewison, back left, with members of Congress. (Submitted photo)

to go carbon free by 2040. This daunting task seems impossible," said Jewison. "Hydro power has also been eliminated from the conversation. We currently get a large portion of our power from dams on the Missouri river. After 2040 we will no longer be able to do that."

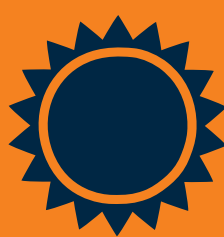
To help with that transition, MRE is urging Congress to support existing power plants operating to the end of their useful economic life so that consumer investments are not stranded and energy resources are not compromised.

While Congress is known as a body that works for special interests instead of the general population, Jewison noticed how much the Minnesota lawmakers want to help with this issue.

He quoted one of the Senators as saying "It's very important to reach out to the other side of the aisle to make your voice heard. Don't reach out to representatives who already agree with you. We already agree on these topics so what's the point. You need to email, write or call people who don't agree with you."

That was an awakening for Jewison. "In years past I would write congressmen that had similar opinions to my own, I should've been reaching out to people who didn't have the same opinion," he said.

We see where the sun don't shine.





Jay Lenz, MD

WE GET IT – talking about what happens where the sun don't shine can be uncomfortable. But at Lakewood, we believe in shedding light on your health with a colonoscopy screening. Your well-being is our priority, and it's time to face it head-on. If you're age 45 or older, **IT'S GO TIME!**

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