



Donations to the Motley Area Food Shelf

The Motley Area Food Shelf (MAFS) recently received donations from area organizations totaling \$15,500.

Above, Dan Noss, with the Randall VFW, presented two checks to the MAFS: one from the Randall VFW for \$3,000 and another from the Randall Lions for \$2,500. Pictured, from left, are Jim Kaup, MAFS volunteer; Sherry Frisk, MAFS director; Noss; Fran Kokett and Lorrie Brathol, MAFS volunteers.



Lower photo: Lion Bruce Brotherton, center, presented a \$10,000 check to the food shelf from the Motley Lions. Also pictured are MAFS Director Frisk (left) and MAFS volunteer Kokett. (Submitted photos)



Special shirts donated to Lakewood

The Pillager & Area Lions Club recently donated 16 shirts to the Infusion Therapy center at Lakewood Health System (LHS) Hospital, Staples. The shirts, which have zippers, make it easier for patients to access their ports during chemotherapy infusions, without having to pull off their shirts or other invasive measures. Pictured, from left, are LHS Oncology staff Michael Cole, Alicia Miller, Emily Berg, Brooke Rohl; and Pillager Lions Holly Thiers (who sewed all the zippers) and Cathy Johnson-Tripp (who organized the project). Kim Pilgrim (not pictured) made labels for the shirts.

Johnson-Tripp, who is treasurer for the Pillager & Area Lions, shared that she had been diagnosed with breast cancer

this past September and had her last chemo infusion at Lakewood at the time of this photo. On her first visit there, the nurses gave her a shirt with a zipper, mentioning that it had been donated to the cancer infusion center. After learning they were low on stock, Johnson-Tripp checked with her Lions club to see if it was a project they were interested in being a part of. The Pillager & Area Lions Club immediately made up 16 shirts to give to the infusion center and are working to expand the project to the district level. Anyone interested in donating new T-shirts are asked to call Johnson-Tripp at 218-838-9285. The Pillager & Area Lions will supply the zippers and labor to make the 'port shirts' to be donated to local hospitals. (Submitted photo)

Drugs seized, two arrested, after traffic stop in Motley

Two St. Paul men were arrested following a traffic stop in Motley March 18, during which law enforcement located a large quantity of drugs in their vehicle.

The incident took place at Hwy 10 South and Spruce Road. According to a news release, a Motley Police Officer observed a vehicle drive past him in the City of Motley, having dark window tint and expired registration. The officer conducted a traffic stop and identified the driver as 41-year-old Timothy Salazar; and the passenger as 64-year-old Steven Sutton, both of St. Paul.

Both subjects were initially placed under arrest for outstanding warrants. The officer also observed drug paraphernalia in plain view in the vehicle. The officer searched both subjects and located what was believed to be controlled substances on both of them, including methamphetamine, cocaine, prescription pills and suspected fentanyl. During a search of the vehicle, more suspected controlled substances were located inside of the vehicle. An estimated total of 102 grams of methamphetamine, 243 suspected fentanyl pills, six grams of cocaine and 24 other prescription pills were located in the search.

Both subjects were transported to the Morrison County Jail in Little Falls. The press release states that Salazar was booked with felony third degree controlled substance possession and felony introduction of contraband into the jail. Sutton was booked for felony first degree controlled substance possession, second degree controlled substance possession, and prohibited possession of a stun gun.

The Motley Police Department was assisted on scene by the Staples Police Department and the Morrison County Sheriff's Office.



Pillager Family Council receives \$20,000 grant

The Bernick Family Foundation recently awarded \$20,000 to the Pillager Family Council, with the funds designated to go toward improving the city's skating rink (adding cement, surrounding boards and lighting) and building a warming house, all of which are located on the Pillager Fairgrounds property. Pictured, from left, are Jason Bernick from the Bernick Family Foundation; Eric Fornshell, local business owner; Betty Doss, Pillager Family Center; and Lori Blumke, with the City of Pillager.

The Pillager Family Council is a group

of community members from area organizations, area businesses, the City of Pillager and the Pillager School, who meet monthly to discuss good things happening in town, and what things need improvement. They are excited to start work on the above-mentioned project this spring and are grateful to the Bernick Family Foundation as well as others who have donated materials, supplies and labor. This group meets the second Wednesday of each month at the Huntin' Shack in Pillager at 12:30 p.m. All are welcome. (Submitted photo)

Motley area law enforcement report

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

March 15 - 21

March 16 - The MPD received a report of a vehicle off the roadway along Hwy 10 at River Road West,

Motley. There were no injuries and no damage to the vehicle. The driver was calling for a tow-truck.

March 16 - The MPD issued a speeding citation to Kyvan Quarry, 33.

March 15 - The MPD assisted the MCSO with a dog bite at the 100 block of Eldredge St. E., Motley.

March 17 - The MCSO responded to a report of a turkey barn on fire at the 37000 block of Bugle Rd., Motley.

March 16 - The MCSO responded to a one-vehicle rollover on Hwy 10 and Azure Rd., Cushing, and assisted Minnesota State Patrol.

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Enjoying Friday's fish and fellowship

Hundreds of people stopped by Sacred Heart Church in Staples on Fridays during Lent to enjoy the weekly fish fry dinner, the 10th annual fundraiser for Sacred Heart Area School. Volunteers for the meal (which included fish, scalloped potatoes, baked beans, coleslaw, bread, seafood salad and dessert) included parishioners, parents, students and staff. The final fish fry will be held March 31. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Looking back

75 YEARS Ago - 1948

• March 25, 1948 - Apparently people of Staples will not be short of ham for Easter but there will be tightening of meats of some kinds before the first of next week, according to some of the local dealers of meat.

At the American Legion Bingo party Monday evening of this week, some 50 hams were given away, and there are still plenty of hams on the local market, state Staples dealers.

• March 25, 1948 - Mr. and

- O -
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
- O -

Mrs. William Fox returned to Staples last week from a 10,000 mile trip to the west coast and other states.

They had spent two and a half months visiting at the home of their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Julian Erskine and family, and visiting friends in and around Monterey, Calif. They also visited at San Diego, and on their return trip went through Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa before returning to Staples.

In the 10,000 miles they traveled, they had no car trouble, not even changing a tire in all those miles!

• March 25, 1948 - Sarah Jordahl, from the eighth grade, was the Motley representative in the Morrison county spelling bee, which was held in Little Falls last Saturday. Though not a winner, she tried very hard and her classmates are proud of her. There were 24 contestants in Little Falls this year.

• March 25, 1948 - The Irish Operetta, "Bits of Blarney" was entertaining and enjoyed by a large crowd Wednesday evening of last week in the Motley school auditorium. The romance between Peggy (Donna Hanson) and Patrick (Doug Frisk) with Mike O'Toole (Clarence Johnson) playing "Cupid" brought a lot of laughs and was truly "Bits of Blarney."

• March 25, 1948 - The graduating members of the Cardinal basketball squad of the Staples high school, walloped their "younger brothers" in a benefit game played at the Staples gym Tuesday evening of this week by the decisive score of 62 to 30, thus further proving to Staples fans that



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our April 13, 1989 edition. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photo? Do you have a memory to share? Email your an-

swers 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.

the "state championship team" should have been in Staples this year, had the "breaks" been anywhere near in their favor in the district game played against a sixth place team of the state tournament in their old rivals, Crosby-Ironton.

50 YEARS Ago - 1973

• March 29, 1973 - Stephen J. Greenwood of Staples was bound over to District Court last Wednesday following a preliminary hearing held in County Court in Little Falls, at which Greenwood was charged with second degree murder in connection with the death of a Little Falls man in late February.

Greenwood is charged in connection with the death of Cletus (Bud) Reintjes, 55, a resident of Chi Rho community. Reintjes was found dead in his apartment in the housing development about noon, Feb. 27.

• March 29, 1973 - Some 600 education leaders from throughout the state will gather March 29-31 for the 50th annual Delegate Assembly of the Minnesota Education Association in Minneapolis.

Representing the Staples Education Association will be Bruce G. Nelsen, machine shop teacher at the Staples Area Vocational-Technical Institute.

• March 29, 1973 - The Motley Lions Club held their meeting March 22 at the El-Ray with 20 mem-

bers present and four visitors. New members are Erv Wehrenberg, Dale Rostad, Joe Zak and Harold Dayton. This months project is the sale of light bulbs.

• March 29, 1973 - Mr. and Mrs. Charles Squires of Staples attended a concert Sunday afternoon at the Brainerd State Hospital. The concert was given by the Burnsville High school senior choir of 90 voices and accompanying instruments under the direction of Loren Squires, the Squires' son.

• March 29, 1973 - The membership of the Staples Council No. 1803 Knights of Columbus was increased Sunday, March 25, when eight young men joined the organization. They included Tom Kirk, Roy Olander, Doug Rach, Tim Shea, Bob Rego, Doug Ludovissie, Steve DesMarais and Mark Adamietz.

25 YEARS Ago - 1998

• March 26, 1998 - Plans for major improvements to the course, a revitalized pro shop, and a new club house and restaurant were among the items that are in the works for this summer at The Vintage Golf Course at Staples.

The first year of operation under new ownership should find some wider fairways and better drainage especially on some of the holes on the new nine of the former Terrace National Golf Course.

David Grzan is executive director and one of the new owners of the course. At a recent session at the First Integrity Bank annex in Staples, he introduced Adam Guili, the new golf pro, along with Robert Hegernes, the course's new grounds superintendent.

• March 26, 1998 - Staples Host Lions President Jack Shriver last week presented a \$4,000 check from the Lions lawful purpose gambling funds to the Staples Food Shelf. Treasurer Fran Mertens accepted the check for the Food Shelf, which is conducting its annual March Food Share Month fund drive.

• March 26, 1998 - Three athletes who wrestled for the Staples Motley High School Cardinal wrestling team this year have been selected to the annual Minnesota Academic All-State Wrestling team. They include seniors Jesse Jennissen and Paul Detloff; and junior Mark Carlson.

• March 26, 1998 - Pillager Community Theatre, under the direction of Dave Vieths, will present "Onions in the Stew" March 27 - 29 in the old gym.

• March 26, 1998 - Six area candidates are entered in the Todd County Dairy Princess contest to be held on Saturday, April 4, in Staples. One of the candidates is Lisa Detloff, the 19-year-old daughter of Jerry and Lois Detloff of Bertha. The Detloffs farm 435 acres and milk 60 Holstein cows.

10 YEARS Ago - 2013

• March 28, 2013 - Choir, band and orchestra students at Staples Motley High School headed east March 21, to begin their '2013 Music Tour to New York.'

• March 28, 2013 - Friendly Rider is celebrating 10 years of service. Free rides will be offered April 1 and 5, along with open house events at Ernie's Food Market and Jon's Family Foods, both in Staples.

• March 28, 2013 - Juno-award winning singer/songwriter Steve Bell will be in concert April 6, at the United Methodist Church in Motley.

• March 28, 2013 - Lamp-lighter Community Theatre will present *Sandbag, Stage Left (or, One Dead Dolly)* April 11, 12 and 14, at Town's Edge Restaurant, Bar & Event Center in Staples.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the Feb. 7, 1980 edition of the Staples World featured cub scouts who had won awards for having the fastest cars at the Cub Scout Pinewood Derby. Pictured are Paul Petrich (lf), Todd Hammond, Jeff Kittelson, Mark Lelwica, Peter Gorton and Paul Perry.

Rosemary Petrich of Staples cor-

rectly identified her son, Paul, and all but Mark Lelwica, whom she guessed to be Art Nelson. Judy Wolak of Staples correctly identified Hammond, Lelwica Kittelson and Gorton. She thought she also recognized Bill Koehn and Patrick Maloney. Thanks for participating in our mystery photo.

LAKEWOOD continued from page 1a

Grants include training, education for technologists

technology so they can continue to provide top-notch healthcare close to home," Panzirer said. "These grants help ensure that facilities across Minnesota have the latest and greatest ultrasound equipment and training."

The grants were announced March 21 during a news conference at Hennepin Healthcare in Minneapolis.

More than half of the 196 devices purchased through the grants (109) are POCUS machines, which are used by providers at the bed or tableside for immediate

assessment of a patient to quickly determine a course of action. The grants will also provide 69 general ultrasound systems and 18 cardiovascular ultrasound systems, which aid in imaging of the heart.

The initiative also includes more than \$8.1 million to train new sonographers, offer continuing education to sonographers and ultrasound technologists, and provide comprehensive POCUS training to doctors, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners. The training grants include more than \$917,000

to the Minnesota Rural Health Association to support sonographer training in rural and underserved areas of the state, more than \$1 million to the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities to expand St. Cloud Technical & Community College's sonography program, and nearly \$6.2 million to the Minnesota Academy of Family Physicians Foundation which will partner with High Quality Medical Education (HQMEDED) to provide POCUS training across the state.

"These grants are a game changer for rural hospi-

tals across the state," said Thomas Pahl, PA-C, an emergency department clinician, instructor with HQMEDED, and member of the Minnesota State Trauma Advisory Council. "Clinicians and sonographers will not only have access to the newest ultrasound equipment on the market, but they will also be able to pursue educational opportunities to become more proficient at use of the equipment, expand the studies they can perform, and incorporate these skills into their clinical practices."



Timbs wins award

Staples World reporter Dawn Timbs was awarded second place in the Minnesota Newspaper Association Better Newspaper Contest for human interest story, for newspapers with 1,501 to 3,000 circulation. The story, "My dad's about-face journey with Covid," appeared in the Dec. 22, 2021 edition of the Staples World. Pictured, Timbs receiving the award from MNA President Chad Koenen.

Staples Police report

Recent reports taken by the Staples Police Dept.

March 15, Staples Police received a report of what sounded like gun shots around 5 a.m. around the 500 block of 7th St. NE. Caller stated they didn't see anyone. Caller stated on the way to work they noticed the back window of a vehicle had broken glass. Police will follow up.

March 16, Staples Police assisted MN State Patrol with a one vehicle rollover with injuries. Todd County Sheriff's Dept. arrived on scene and took care of the crash.

March 17, at 2:04 a.m., Staples Police assisted MN State Patrol with a disabled vehicle on Hwy 10 near 255th Ave. The vehicle was towed because it was parked partially in the traffic lane and was a hazard.

March 17, Staples Police responded to the 900 Block of Wisconsin Ave. SE for a report of a subject having issues with a trailer. Police arrived and found the complainant drove down a dead end road and was unable to back the vehicle and trailer up. Police assisted by backing the vehicle for the complainant and giving them directions.

March 16, Staples Police assisted MN State Patrol with a vehicle rollover on Hwy 10 at Trapper Dr. No injuries.

March 17, Staples Police assisted Todd County Sheriff's Dept. with a rollover on Cty Rd 21 just north of Cty Rd 24. No injuries.

March 17, Staples Police received a report of a school bus stop arm violation near 6th St. NE and Michigan Ave. Police are investigating the incident.

March 18, Staples Police responded to Family Dollar for a report of shoplifting. A juvenile involved was identified, and the subject was advised not to return to the store. The parents of the juvenile were notified and advised that they will handle the situation.

March 18, Staples Police were called to the Mill Townhomes for a neighbor pounding and screaming at a residence's door.

March 18, Staples Police were requested by the Wadena County Sheriff's Dept. to assist with a warrant arrest of a party just outside of the city limits. Also responding was the Todd County Sheriff's Dept to assist. Wadena County took the party into custody without incident.

March 19, at 2:45 a.m., Staples Police assisted the MN State Patrol with a roll over crash on Hwy 210, east of Motley. Officers conducted initial care and helped with traffic. While on scene a second rollover occurred. Officers checked for injuries and continued to run traffic. MN State Patrol is investigating both crashes.

March 19, Staples Police responded to the 200 block of Roosevelt St. SW for a report of a domestic disturbance. Police stood by as one of the subjects gathered belongings and left the residence without incident.

March 19, Staples Police responded to the Staples-Motley High School for an alarm. Officers escorted two juveniles off of the premises.

I am Kristine Spadgenske

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Quote of the week

“I still believe that if your aim is to change the world, journalism is a more immediate short-term weapon.”
— Tom Stoppard

Newspapers lead effort to expand Minnesota Supreme Court transparency

By Mark Anfinson
Minnesota Newspaper Association Attorney

The Minnesota Supreme Court has announced a major change in the rules governing the use of cameras in state criminal cases. On Wednesday, March 15, the Court filed an order which effectively means cameras and other audio-visual devices will be allowed in courtrooms during many criminal trials, for the first time in state history. The new rules will take effect Jan. 1, 2024.

The Court’s order eliminates the long-standing prohibition on cameras in criminal trials unless all parties and the judge consented — something that virtually never happened. Under the new rules, cameras will be permitted at the discretion of the trial court judge presiding in each case. The objections of the parties are no longer controlling.

While this change won’t automatically enable camera coverage of all crim-

inal trials, the experience we’ve accumulated over the past few years since the high court gave trial court judges discretion to allow cameras in the courtroom during criminal sentencing hearings strongly suggests that many judges will accept cameras during the trial phase of a criminal case, because many have permitted them during sentencing hearings. And there’s reason to believe that as the trial courts in Minnesota become more familiar with the presence of cameras, allowing them will become increasingly common.

The Supreme Court did adopt certain “guardrails,” as it calls them, limiting the use of cameras in some situations. Those include jury selection, testimony of victims without their consent, coverage of minor witnesses and defendants, and pre-trial proceedings. In other words, the new rules aren’t a complete victory for audio-visual access. But the Court’s order on Wednesday represents what is by far the biggest move forward in state history on this issue.

And again, as experience with cameras accumulates, and the judicial system acquires further evidence that camera access not only provides substantial benefits for the general public but for the court system as well, it’s plausible that many of the remaining restrictions on camera access will be removed.

The Minnesota Newspaper Association took the lead in the effort to persuade the Court that it should expand camera access in criminal cases, partnering with the Minnesota Broadcasters Association by submitting a detailed memorandum to the Court describing the reasons for supporting that access. MNA and MBA also appeared at the hearing conducted by the Court last September, represented by attorney Mark Anfinson.

If you would like to review a copy of the Supreme Court’s Order itself along with the specific amendments to the Rules of Criminal Procedure adopted by the Court, you can find them on the state court website at: <https://bit.ly/3ZQnZVh>.

Minnesota’s unique upland migrant will be arriving soon

Most of the upland game birds that are hunted in Minnesota are year-round residents. This is true of the ruffed grouse, the ring-necked pheasant, wild turkeys, sharptail grouse, and—restricted by limited harvest permits—the pinnated grouse or greater prairie chicken.

Their habitats differ markedly, from deciduous woodlands, to mixed-crop agricultural lands, to prairie, to brushy grassland. But none of these birds leaves us in the fall to spend the winter elsewhere.

The exception to this upland game bird residency rule is the American woodcock, a quail-sized migrant that departed at freeze-up last fall, and can be expected to arrive back in Minnesota soon, returning from the South as winter loses its grip on the Minnesota landscape.

The woodcock is primarily a creature of aspen, birch, and alder woodlands. An important common denominator, however, is the nearness of these woodlands to moisture, whether it be an adjacent marsh or swampland, a shallow pond or lake, or a meandering stream or brook. This proximity to surface water generally means that the soil underlying these woodlands will be moist, except perhaps during times of seasonal drought.

This is important, because the woodcock’s primary food source—60 percent, or more—is earthworms, and moist soil means earthworms will be near the surface and available, whether the diner is a robin or a woodcock. Woodcock are true gastro-nomic specialists, and have a simple digestive system that is well suited to processing these soft, wriggly creatures, which are 80-85% water.

Beyond their overwhelming preference for earth-

worms, woodcock are also known to eat ants, caterpillars, centipedes, spiders, crickets, and larvae of several insect species. This is especially true when, for one reason or another, earthworms are in short supply, or unavailable.

Foods that woodcock are not well suited to processing are hard items, like the buds and catkins of trees and shrubs, seeds and nuts, and the like. They do not have a gizzard designed to grind such foods to extract their nutrition. Though woodcock may at times be seen on forest trails or even roadsides, they are not there to gather sand or grit for the digestion of such foods, as grouse and wild turkeys will regularly do.

Woodcock come from a very different branch of the evolutionary tree than grouse, pheasants, or wild turkeys. Deep in their ancestry are members of the shorebird clan, which includes the snipe, sandpipers, and plovers. Those birds are typically encountered while they are flighting or feeding on tidal flats and beaches, or along the margins of lakes, ponds, or river flood plains. To one degree or another, many shorebirds have bills that are disproportionately long, well-suited to probing soft sand and soil for insects, worms, mollusks, and crustaceans.

Though the woodcock’s evolutionary path has taken it from shorelines and watery environments to living in woodlands, it has—not by coincidence—retained the long bill shared with so many of its distant shorebird relatives. Instead of probing beaches and flats for clams or oysters, the woodcock uses its long bill—which varies from two and one-half to two and three-quarters of an inch long—to deeply probe moist soil for earthworms. The tip of its bill is actually hinged, facilitating the grabbing of earthworm prey.

Compared to pheasants, wild turkeys, or ruffed grouse, comparatively few upland game bird hunters intentionally or actively pursue woodcock. Their habitat preferences to some extent overlap those of

Minnesota’s ruffed grouse, and many are harvested by hunters primarily seeking grouse, as opposed to those who identify as woodcock hunters. Small in size and weight compared to grouse or pheasants, they are nevertheless considered a prize and a delicacy by a devoted group who hold them in high esteem. Some of these hunters become bird banders, and—with the aid of their pointing dogs—seek the woodcock in spring for the purpose of banding hens and their chicks for scientific inquiry.

Spring of 2023 could be a later year for the return of woodcock from the Gulf Coast and southern Atlantic states, where many winter. But woodcock are a species inclined to “push the envelope,” to arrive as early as possible to take advantage of small habitat niches, places where spring-like conditions are present even while the broader landscape nearby is still wintry and inhospitable.

Places, perhaps, where springs and seeps emerge from the earth, where slightly warmer subsurface moisture has thawed the soil. Or south-facing slopes, where the most direct sunlight has melted the snow cover, and warmed and thawed the earth. It’s common for a venturesome woodcock to find such almost invisible places, there to stake out a territory in anticipation of the breeding season to come.

While much of the northland still has a deep layer of snow remaining, it is also true that this snow cover has in many places prevented frost from penetrating deep into the subsoil. This being the case, the disappearance of snow cover as we return to temperature regimes consistently in the 40’s will present a landscape welcoming to returning woodcock. As our year-round resident game birds engage in their mating rituals and begin nesting, woodcock will begin their seasonal residency. They will conduct their own unique and fascinating rituals, find mates, select nest sites, and begin raising the next generation of these truly unique upland game birds.

Pass tax cuts before Bonding Bill discussion

By Senator Paul Utke

Senate Democrats brought forward a divisive Bonding Bill that funds Democrats’ pet projects by putting \$2 billion on the state’s credit card. Folks, we have a historic \$19 billion surplus. For some reason, Senate Democrats are unwilling to discuss meaningful tax relief or the full elimination of the tax on social security, but they sure are willing to borrow billions to fund their priorities. Luckily, a bonding bill requires a 3/5 majority to pass, and Senate Democrats were unable to get even one Republican on board with their plan.

Senate Republicans have been saying this since the start of Session: we are not opposed to the discussion of a bonding bill, but tax relief needs to come first. Unfortunately, we have been in Session for over 2 months and have no meaningful tax relief to show for it. But we sure do have a lot of spending bills that have been floating around. Democrats also promised to revisit the discussion surrounding the social security tax elimination, yet they’ve voted against hearing that

bill multiple times.

We’re at a point where it seems Democrats have no real intention to help the people of Minnesota. Tax relief is the number one topic I hear about, and I know the Democrats are hearing about it too, because they promised it would be a priority this year. So far, that’s a promise they refuse to deliver on. Even worse, Democrats have continued to march forward with an unwillingness to work with Republicans in any way—it’s evident in the way they handle every bill, including the bonding bill. As long as they keep doing so, they’re essentially hitting “mute” on half the state, therefore silencing greater Minnesota.

On the topic of tax relief, I want folks to know Senate Republicans haven’t given up. We have continued to bring forward the elimination of the tax on social security, because that is what Minnesotans want. Democrats have consistently argued that the bill needs to “go through the process,” despite having bipartisan and bicameral support. Yet when Democrats have a priority they want to push through, suddenly the “process” is out the window and

rules don’t apply—we’ve seen that with a number of bills they’ve brought to the floor. It’s frustrating for us as legislators who are here to support our constituents, and it must be just as frustrating to those in greater Minnesota who feel their needs are being ignored. Before bringing up the bonding bill, Democrats made an attempt to bring forward a bill eliminating the tax on social security, but still refused to give it a vote... They simply moved it to “general orders” as a political ploy with no intent on giving the bill a vote. We asked for a vote on the bill, and again, they voted against our efforts and refused to engage.

I’m disappointed in the negative turn this session has taken, and the bonding bill’s path is just another example of how divisive things have gotten. We could have provided tax relief and a bonding bill, and we could have done some great work that every single person in the state would have benefited from. Instead, Democrats continue to play political games and ignore the pleas of Minnesotans. I’m disappointed, but not surprised. This is not the way democracy is supposed to work.

Amtrak service increases as part of rail merger

From the Rail Passengers Association

Statement of Rail Passengers Association President Jim Mathews on the Surface Transportation Board’s (STB) decision to approve the acquisition of Kansas City Southern Rail-

way Company (KCS) by Canadian Pacific Railway Limited (CP):

“Based on CP’s public commitment to work with Amtrak on adding several new passenger train services as part of this merger, in combination with CP’s current status as an industry-leader in Host Railroad on-time performance, Rail Passengers is optimistic that today’s STB decision will result in a better U.S. rail network for passengers.

“However, Rail Passengers is pleased to note that the STB has included comprehensive data reporting requirements that will allow the Board to monitor operational patterns on an ongoing basis as this merger is implemented. We are particularly sensitive to the concerns of Illinois passengers who are worried that this acquisition will result in more delays for Metra trains. Generally, the U.S. rail industry has suffered

from too much consolidation, resulting in regional monopolies and duopolies, slower operational speeds, and industry stagnation; it is critical that the STB exercise its regulatory powers to ensure CP’s good operational culture is transmitted to KCS, and not the other way around.”

As part of the conditions for approval of this merger, CP has committed to supporting several new Amtrak services, including:

- New service between New Orleans and Baton Rouge, LA;
- Adding additional trains between Chicago, IL and Milwaukee, WI;
- Studying a new service between Dallas/Fort Worth, TX and Meridian, MS (with the eventual goal of connecting to Atlanta, GA);
- Adding a second daily round trip between Chicago, IL and St. Paul, MN;
- New service between Detroit, MI and Toronto, ON.

Quote of the week

“If at first you don’t succeed, try, try again. Then quit. There’s no use being a damn fool about it.”
— W.C. Fields

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Mark Your Calendar

March 29, 30

FREE TAX-AIDE Wednesdays, 1-4 p.m. and Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., through April 13, Staples City Hall. Must call for an appointment at 218-296-6616. For low to moderate income taxpayers.

March 30

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

March 31

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

April 3

STAPLES AREA RETIRED EDUCATORS (REAM) MEETING Monday, April 3, 9:30 a.m., at the Staples Historic Depot. Tom Kajer with the Staples Historical Society will have the program.

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

April 4

RUBY'S PANTRY is held on the first Tuesday of each month at the parking lot of Central Lakes College in Staples beginning at 6 p.m.

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

'GRIEF SHARE' GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP is held on Tuesdays from 6 - 8 p.m., at Motley Free Methodist Church, through May 30. For more information, call 218-352-6888.

EXPERIENCE STRENGTH AND HOPE AA GROUP MTGS IN STAPLES are held at the Staples Congregational Church, 204 5th St. NE, Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

LAKEWOOD GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP is held on Tuesdays from 3 - 4:30 p.m., at Sourcewell in Staples (202 12th St. NE), through April 25. For info., call 218-894-8093 or email pauljohnson@lake-woodhealthsystem.com.

April 5

DEMENTIA CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP offered by Lake-

wood Health System of Staples, meets the first Wednesday of the month, 11 a.m. - noon, in the Burlington room, located through Door C at Lakewood's Senior Campus (401 Prairie Ave. NE), Staples. For info., 218-894-8851 or 218-894-8067.

April 16

OLD WADENA HISTORIC SOCIETY'S ANNUAL MEETING will be held Sunday, April 16, at the Staples Historic Depot starting at noon, with doors opening at 11:30 a.m. We will go over last year's events and upcoming events. Speaker is Deana Malone. For more info., call Darlys Hamberg, Chair, at 218-894-2608.

April 29

STAPLES SPORTSMEN'S CLUB FIELD DAY AND ONLINE ALL DAY FIELD DAY Saturday, April 29, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Students must be 12 years old by the start of this year's deer hunting season. *Traditional FAS classes begin April 17.* For info., to register, call Darlys or Jon Hamberg at 218-894-2255 (8 - 4 Mon. - Fri.) or 218-894-2608 after 6 p.m.; or Bob Koenig at 218-352-6390.

TCCA volunteer recognition to be held April 19 in Clarissa

Todd County Council on Ageing will hold a volunteer recognition, training and monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 19, from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Clarissa Ballroom, Highway 71 north of Clarissa.

The event is free and the public is invited to attend. Registration is due by April 10. Call 239-851-8322.

The event starts at 10:30 a.m. with a pop-up volunteer fair. Music will be provided by the Singleton Street Band. A free dinner will be served at noon to registered attendees.

Volunteer services that will be honored include: Bundled Services Drivers, Echoes Volunteers, Senior Center Boards and Volunteers, Red Cross, Hilltop Kitchen Volunteers, RSVP, Food Shelf Volunteers from Browerville, Long Prairie, Staples and Bertha, TCCA, NAPS, Senior Companions, Tax Aides, Bundled Services Coordinators and Drivers, Hospice Volunteers, Treasured Treats Bakers, Senior Dining Program-Meals On Wheels, Senior Transportation Drivers, Foster Grandparents,

Blandin Volunteers, Nursing Home Volunteers, Great River Regional Library, Affordable Senior Housing Volunteers, Broadband Volunteers, Americorps, Quilt Bingo Quilters and Volunteers, EMT.

At 1 p.m., a program titled "Dementia Friends" will be provided by dementia champions Eleanor Burkett, Kali Christensen and Verna Toenyan. The program will be followed by a brief TCAA meeting, bingo and drawings.

Cardinal Calendar

SM school events

March

◦ **VOCAL LARGE GROUP CONTEST AT PILLAGER** March 29

April

◦ **INSTRUMENTAL SOLO/ENSEMBLE CONTEST AT SEBEKA** April 5

◦ **VOCAL SOLO/ENSEMBLE CONTEST AT PEQUOT LAKES** April 12

◦ **MUSIC ENSEMBLE SHOWCASE - CAFETERIA** April 14, 4 p.m.

May

◦ **DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS AWARDS NIGHT** May 3, 7 p.m.
◦ **PROM** May 6

All Staples-Motley Upcoming Events are subject to change. Go to www.isd2170.k12.mn.us for up to the minute information.

Special School Board meeting April 3

The Staples-Motley School Board will hold a special meeting Monday, April 3, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the District Office, 905 4th St. NE, Staples.

The agenda includes the Continuous Improvement Plan and Communication Review and discussion and action regarding the Motley building.

Student Achievements

COLIN KLEFFMAN, Pillager, recently graduated from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse with a Bachelor of Science degree in Exercise and Sport Science.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA-TWIN CITIES recently announced its 2022 Fall Semester Dean's List. To

qualify, students must complete 12 or more letter-graded credits while attaining a 3.66 grade point average. Local students named include:

- Shaylyn Johnson, Pillager
- Hailey Turner-Hubbard, Pillager

HAILEE COLGROVE, Pillager, played the role of Announcer in "Gallantry" by composer Douglas Moore during Bemidji State Opera Theater's production of "The 1950s in Three Short Operas" this past February.



New windows, siding, at Timbers Event Center

Crews from Salber Construction and Central Building Supply were at work March 21, at Timbers Event Center in Staples. Jordan Goodwater, General Manager at Timbers and the adjacent Timberlake Hotel, said that

the project included installing new windows and siding at the event center, to match that of the hotel's. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Birthday Open House
for
Betty Farber
Sat., April 1
5 to 8 p.m.
Holst Acres, Staples



90th Birthday
Rose Marie Pietz
riding yet?

Happy 90th Birthday on April 5 to the best Mom, Grandma, Great-Grandma and teacher.

LOVE,
Ron, Cindy, Christopher, Rhonda, Jeremy, Jessa and Josephine.

Staples '93 Lions

Easter Eggstravaganza

Saturday, April 1

9:30 - 11 a.m.

Staples Community Center



- Visit the Easter Bunny!
- Lions Vision Screening

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Obituaries



Derek Meide

Derek Meide, 35, of Staples, passed away March 18, 2023, peacefully at home.

A gathering of friends and family will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 1 at the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples with services at 2 p.m.

Derek was born June 22, 1987, in Staples to David Meide and Diane Miller. He attended Staples High School and worked at UPS for several years. Derek loved to fish, play golf, frisbee golf, computers, playing guitar, drawing and reading.

Derek is survived by his parents; one brother, Alex Jares; one sister, Sabrina (James) Lenk; one niece, McKenzie Fletcher and step siblings.

He is preceded in death



by grandparents, Jay and Billie Miller, Calvin Meide, Ruth (Denny) Wold; two uncles, Craig Miller and Mark Meide and one aunt, Shirley Huennekens.

Arrangements are by Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

w14c A00006B2023MR29

Monica Neznik

Monica Neznik, 96, of Pillager and formerly of Staples, passed away March 17, 2023, in Pillager.

Funeral services will be held Friday April 21 at 11:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Staples. Family and friends are invited to gather Thursday, April 20 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel in Staples.

Burial will be at Evergreen Hill Cemetery in Staples.

Arrangements are with the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples..

w14x A00006B2023MR29

Heidi Schmidt

Heidi Michelle Schmidt, 54, of Motley, passed peacefully at home March 20, 2023, holding her husband Mike's hands, after her 14 month journey with cancer.

A "Send-Off" will be celebrated on Sunday, July 8, 2023, at their home. Follow their Caring Bridge Site for details.

Heidi was born October 20, 1968. She graduated from Chisholm High School and moved to Brainerd in 1986. She graduated with a two-year accounting degree from Central Lake College and began her career with Wal-Mart (Store #1654) on May 18, 1991. She was proud to call herself an Associate to so many...and her smile and laugh could be seen and heard from aisles away.

Heidi and Mike were married on June 10, 1998 at Disney World with daughters Carissa and Corrina as their attendants. Camryn and Cade were not far behind over the next few years. Together, they played, traveled, grew, endured, lived and loved. The memories now are just that. However, Heidi was instrumental in ensuring they were made.

She had a passion for supporting her children,



husband, friends and friendships. She enjoyed family, laughing, decorating, traveling, music, sunshine, water and having green grass under her feet. She truly enjoyed sharing the simplest of times and knew how to "just be".

Heidi is survived by her husband; three daughters, Carissa (Ron) Ozan, Corrina Schmidt with son, Samuel (grandson) and Camryn (Ryle) Jordan; one son, Cade Schmidt; friends and extended family... and all of "Team 417".

"Heidi, my love, it was an honor to be yours. What an 'us' we shared."

Arrangements are by Taylor Funeral Home of Staples.

w14c A00006B2023MR29

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 Ray Miles
Small Groups (Bible classes for all ages).....9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship Service.....10:30 a.m.
Children's Church (Kids start in main worship service).....11 a.m.
Prayer Meeting.....5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Sonlight (kids ages 4 yrs.-6th grade).....After school to 5:30 p.m.
Youth Group (Teens, 7th-12th grade).....After school to 5:30 p.m.

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

First Congregational Church, UCC
firstcongregationalstaples@gmail.com
204 5th St. NE, Staples.....218-894-2571
Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Fellowship, refreshments following service

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

Sacred Heart Church
310 4th St. NE, Staples
Church.....218-894-2296
Pastor Fr. Aaron Kuhn
Parochial Vicar, Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Thursday and Friday.....8:30 a.m.
Sunday.....8:30 a.m.

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

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

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

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

Aldrich

Balsamlund Lutheran
19550 490th Street, Aldrich
Eric Clapp.....701-261-2394 (cell)
Sunday Worship.....8:15 a.m.
Sunday School.....8:30 a.m.

Cushing

Bethany Lutheran
25430 Bison Rd.Cushing, MN
230-749-2140
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.lincolnfree.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.
WEDNESDAY
Community Meal.....5:30 p.m.
Family Night.....6:00 p.m.

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

Leader

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

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

Motley

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

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

St. Michael
1st St. and Birch, Motley.....218-894-2296
Pastor Fr. Aaron Kuhn
Parochial Vicar, Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Tuesday.....6:30 p.m.
Saturday.....4:00 p.m.

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

Oylen

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

Pillager

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

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

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

Hewitt

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

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

United Methodist Church
Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Kenneth Uhren
Sunday Services.....10:30 a.m.
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.

Verndale

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Scott Johnson

Scott L. Johnson, 64, of Leader passed away March 21, 2023, at Essentia St. Joseph's Hospital in Brainerd.

A celebration of life will be held Weds., March 29 at 11:00 a.m. at the Motley Free Methodist Church with Pastor Jim Johnson officiating. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the services at the church.

Scott was born January 22, 1959 to Gordon and Lillian (Bendson) Johnson in Staples.

Scott enjoyed fishing, especially at Lard Lake, working on cars and Farmall tractors, spending time on his four wheeler and taking Sunday cruises on his motorcycle. Scott worked as a Heavy Equipment Operator and later became a grader operator for Cass County until his retirement. Scott always had a positive attitude, a big smile and lived life to the fullest in whatever he did. He looked forward to deer hunting season, a family tradition. Even if he didn't go out hunting, or have bullets in his gun, he enjoyed the time he spent with everyone.



Scott will be deeply missed by the love of his life, Jeanne; one sister, Karen (Neil) Brownell; three brothers, Curtis (Kip), (Debby) Johnson, Greg (Diane) Johnson and Jeff (Linda) Johnson; many nieces and nephews (whom he loved to instigate and give crap to); two sisters-in-law, Irene Johnson and Judy Johnson and his four legged buddy, Ziggy Stardust Johnson.

Scott is preceded in death by his parents; infant sister, Linda and two brothers, Barry and Lonnie.

Arrangements are by Taylor Funeral Home, Staples.

w14c A00006B2023MR29

Phyllis Willis

Phyllis L. Willis, 81, of Plymouth passed away March 18, 2023.

Visitation will be held April 1, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Gearty-Delmore Plymouth Chapel, 15800 37th Ave. N. Memorial Mass will be held April 1 at 11 a.m. at St. Anne's Catholic Church, 200 Hamel Road, Hamel.

Interment will be at St. Anne's Cemetery following Mass.

Phyllis was born Jan 4, 1942 in Staples.

She was always ready to lend a helping hand to any in need. Her spirit will live on through her family and friends. Phyllis and her husband, Mike, spent time at their cabin on Lake Shamin-eau in northern Minnesota. They enjoyed sitting on the deck and soaking up the sunshine with a good cup of coffee. They hosted all of their friends and family at



the cabin and made memories to last a lifetime. Phyllis was a kind woman who was proud of her family.

She is survived by her loving husband of 61 years, Michael; three daughters, Carla (Mark) Lother, Lisa (Daniel) Batten and Aimee (Jeffrey) Dagen; one son, Oran Willis; five grandchildren, Michael (Caitlin) Lother, Michelle Lother, Allison (Gerald) Awunti, Audrey Morton and Taylor Willis; three great-grandchildren, Lucy and Jayden Awunti and Nox Willis; two brothers, Larry (Diane) Brastad and Einar Brastad and other family and friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Henry Noska and Lucille and Stanley Brastad and two sisters, Patricia Keegan and Karin Frenz.

w14p A00006B2023MR29

Faith in "DI"

Don Reigstad, Senior Pastor, Lincoln Evangelical Free Church

I downloaded it from the App Store: "Genie Chat GPT". It says it's designed to increase my productivity and that would seem to be a good thing. "Unlimited Questions and Answers," "Higher Word Limit" and "The Most Advanced AI Model GPT-4", is how it is described. "3 days for free, then \$6.99/wk."

Now I'm hesitating...stay tuned.

Our world is changing so quickly that if you don't keep up you may soon feel "out of it." AI (Artificial Intelligence)

has the capacity to revolutionize our societies. I heard that Vladimir Putin said the country that leads in AI will control the world. Exciting?! Scarey.

Personally, I think it is more important to keep up with DI (Divine Intelligence). Don't be afraid, but stay close to Jesus; stay in His Word. We know Who's behind DI, but does anyone know who's behind AI? Who is the Programmer?

DI will win over AI.

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:

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Motley and Pillager

Ernie's Food Market
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Staples, MN 218-894-1072

Staples Veterinary Clinic
"Complete Animal Care"
Staples, MN 218-894-1775

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Taking the plunge

Staples-Motley students raised more than \$18,000 for Special Olympics during the Polar Plunge event, held March 22. Students, staff and supporters jumped into a tank of cold water in freezing weather. Above, Lauren Rutten and Georgia Kruchten show what happens when a wedding party jumps into a frozen lake. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Cole Greenwaldt was the top fundraiser for the event. Apparently, he got his money's worth.



Football coach Drew Potter shows a new tackling/bellyflop technique.



A wet Willie Wonka and a soaked Oompa Loompa leave the plunge tank. They were two of the best costume winners.



Indoor baseball practice

The Staples-Motley baseball team started their spring training indoors on March 20, because of several feet of snow still on the outdoor field. The first game is scheduled for April 11, but there will have to be a lot of snow melting and field drying for that to take place. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)





AM REGULAR ROUTE
BUS DRIVING POSITION

Verndale School District is seeking a morning Bus Driving Position to work as a part of our team. Based upon current position pay equals approximately \$28.66/hr and includes personal leave, sick leave, 403b plan, PERA pension plan. Position can do extra-curricular and sub PM driving as well. Come, join us!

Please contact Wade Kern

Verndale School District
Wade Kern, Transportation and Buildings and Grounds Supervisor
411 SW Brown St, Verndale, MN 56481
Phone: 218-445-5184
wkern@verndaleschool.org

FULL TIME
CUSTODIAL POSITION

Verndale School District is seeking a Full-Time Custodial Position to work as a part of our team. Based upon current position pay equals \$15.68/hr with a \$.25 shift differential option and includes leave options, 103b plan, health insurance and PERA pension plan. Come, join us!

Please contact Wade Kern

Verndale School District
Wade Kern, Transportation and Buildings and Grounds Supervisor
411 SW Brown St, Verndale, MN 56481
Phone: 218-445-5184
wkern@verndaleschool.org

EXTRA-CURRICULAR/
SUBSTITUTE DRIVERS

Verndale School District is seeking 2 Extra-Curricular/ Substitute Drivers to work as a part of our team. Pay is \$17.52/hr for extra-curricular. Substitute driving pays \$48.50/route or \$97 for both AM and PM routes. Free training to obtain your CDL and Passenger, School Bus Endorsements. Get paid while you watch sporting events. (This position qualifies for the PERA pension plan.)

Please contact Wade Kern

Verndale School District
Wade Kern, Transportation and Buildings and Grounds Supervisor
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SERVICES &
EMPLOYMENT
205

**Help Wanted
PRIVATE HOME
CAREGIVER** for elderly woman in Baxter. \$25/HR + perks. Call Stacy, 218-270-2565. 13-15c

Longbella Drug is looking to hire a **full time person for the clerk position** at our Longbella Drug Clinic pharmacy. Apply at Longbella Drug downtown or online at Indeed.com. 12tfc

TODD COUNTY HHS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: Todd County HHS is looking for reliable, service oriented individuals to serve the citizens of Todd County in the following positions: ****Registered Nurse - Care Coordinator (FT).** ****Home Health Aide (PT).** 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 Administration, 320-732-6155. EOE 14c

209
Business
Services

Your major appliance parts source. Parts for all major brands. One day service, **Staples True Value**, Staples. 218-894-3263. 26tfc

FOR SALE
303

Hay, Feed, Seed
ALFALFA GRASS: First and third cutting. 5 x 5 net-wrapped bales. 218-894-3012 14-16p

REAL ESTATE

602
Apartments
for Rent

STAPLES: Downtown, 1 - 2 bdrm., recently remod-

eled, NO pets, non smoking, 218-894-3108. 6tfc

611

Wanted to Buy
40+ ACRES between Wadena/Pillager, with or without house, 218-831-3521. 14-17p

EASTWOOD
APARTMENTS

in Motley MN.
is now accepting applications for FUTURE 2-3 bedroom apartments
Laundry facilities available on site, garage included with apartment. All utilities paid. Applications are available at: **956 Hwy 10 S., Motley**
For information and qualifications **contact Nicole at 218-751-6881**
An Equal Housing Opportunity

FRONTIER
TOWNHOMES

FOR RENTAL INFO CALL **218-296-5031**
Under new ownership

We are accepting applications for 2 and 3 bedroom townhomes in Staples, a community you can get attached to. Rent based on income. Now professionally managed by **BRUTGER EQUITIES, INC.**
Income guidelines apply.

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. 5-15c

-SUMMER EMPLOYMENT-
THE LAKE SHAMINEAU
LAKE IMPROVEMENT
DISTRICT

is looking for responsible adults to serve as inspectors of boat launching uses about Cleaning, Draining, boat & trailer and Disposing of used bait. The program runs from May 15 (opening fishing) through September 4 (Labor Day), typically 4-6 hour shifts on Fridays, Saturday, Sunday and Holidays. Requirements: must be at least 18 years of age, must attend a paid (\$20 per hour) 3 hour AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) training, in person or online with a DNR Regional Watercraft Inspection Supervisor. Interested applicants contact **Bob Koll, 218-296-2933.**



Cook,
Bartender/Wait
Staff.

•Flexible weekend and week nights; will work with your schedule.
Pick up application at:
THE FRIENDLY INN
2321 330th Ave., Motley or call 612-801-4463 with questions. 413-14c

FOR RENT

Japke's North 8th Street Mini Storage, 894-1551 6x20, 10x12, 10x20, 10x24

SEASONAL
GROUNDSKEEPER

Must have valid driver's license.
Call Cory, 218-838-8330

Central Todd County Care Center
•Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs)•

Central Todd County Care Center is seeking personable and friendly Certified Nursing Assistants to help our residents with their Activities of Daily Living as described in each resident's individualized plan of care. We have both **part-time** and **full-time** positions available. For those interested, but not currently certified, we offer financial assistance and reimbursement for the certification classes. Additionally, we offer nursing scholarships that cover most of the cost for obtaining your LPN or RN licensure. Wages may be adjusted based on years' experience. The individual must pass a background study.

•NURSES (RN and LPN)•

We are in search of a RN or LPN who is looking for a rewarding career in the Nursing field, has a care giving personality, and wants to make a difference in our older adult population. Various shifts are currently available (including every other weekend and holiday). Must be a TEAM player and possess a special interest in working with Long Term Care residents, families and visitors.

CTCCC offers a wide variety of benefits and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Central Todd County Care Center
Contact Tyler Kliniske at tkliniske@ctcccinc.com or call 218-756-3636 ext. 12
Pick up an application in the Business Office, Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. or after hours at the Nurse's Station.
CENTRAL TODD COUNTY CARE CENTER IS LOCATED IN CLARISSA, MN.

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Long Prairie, MN

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Jason R. Sellnow
sellnowj@sellnowlaw.com

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229 Central Ave., Long Prairie
320-732-1919 • Toll free: 877-297-1125

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

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NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORCLOSURE SALE

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

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

DATE OF MORTGAGE: March 19, 2015

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$113,264.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Jennifer L. Winkler, a single person

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Central Minnesota Credit Union

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on March 23, 2015 as Document Number 493489 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC by assignment recorded on April 8, 2020 as Document Number A518778 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The South 100 feet of the following described parcel of land to-wit; A part of Lot 7 and a part of Lot 8 Block 2 of the Townsite of Round Prairie, Todd County, Minnesota; also a part of the N½ of NW¼ of Section 18, Township 128, North, Range 33, west of the 5th P.M. being more particularly described as follows, to-wit; Beginning at the Northeast corner of Lot 6 Block 2; thence on an assumed bearing of N17°27'E and along the east line of Lot 5, said Block 2 a distance of 5.0 feet; thence N72°33'W. 142.0 feet to a point on the west line of Lot

5, said Block 2, said point being 5.0 feet northeasterly of the Southwest corner of Lot 5, said Block 2; thence continuing N72°33`W. 23.0 feet; thence N17°55` E. 131.63 feet; thence N77°13` W. 78.91 feet; thence S17°55` W. a distance of approximately 309.55 feet; thence S72°26` E. 100.91 feet to a point on the west line of Lot 8 of said Block 2, said point being 16.0 feet Northeasterly of the Southwest corner of Lot 8, said Block 2; thence S73°21` E. 142.01 feet to a point on the east line of Lot 8, said Block 2; said point being 18.0 feet northeasterly of the Southeast corner of Lot 8, said Block 2; thence N17°27` E. and along the easterly line of said Block 2 a distance of 176.0 feet to the point of beginning, Todd County, Minnesota.

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 18907 ELDERBERRY DR, LONG PRAIRIE, MN 56347

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

THE A M O U N T CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$98,657.90

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Central Minnesota Credit Union

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Nationstar Mortgage LLC

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 21-0041400

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1011283-0001100334-7

THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has

been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.

PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: May 04, 2023 at 10:00 AM.

PLACE OF SALE: Todd County Sheriff's Office, County Detention Center, 115 Third Street South, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on November 6, 2023.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

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

Dated: February 28, 2023

LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Sung Woo Hong, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(23-0146-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

11-16pnc

NOTICE MEADOWBROOK TOWNSHIP BOARD OF APPEAL AND EQUALIZATION

The Meadowbrook Township Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting will be held Friday, April 14, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at the Leader Community 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.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, please contact your Assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you are still not satisfied with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization. The board shall review the valuation, classification, or both if necessary and shall correct as needed. Generally, you must appeal to the local board before appealing to the County Board of Appeal and Equalization.

Ty Peterson, Clerk
Meadowbrook Township

13-14pnc

NOTICE BARTLETT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF APPEAL AND EQUALIZATION

Important Information Regarding Property Assessments

This may affect your 2024 property taxes.

The Board of Appeal and Equalization for Bartlett Township will meet on April 14, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at the Assessor's Office. 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 Local Board of Appeal and Equalization. The board will review your assessments and make corrections as needed. Generally, you must appeal to the local board before appealing to the County Board of Appeal and Equalization.

Jan Jares, Clerk
Bartlett Township

14pnc

NOTICE BECKER TOWNSHIP ANNUAL ROAD TOUR

The Becker Township Annual Road Tour will be held on Tuesday, April 11, 2023. Meet at the town hall at 4:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

Mary Fitcher, Clerk
Becker Township

14-15pnc

NOTICE MOOSE LAKE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF APPEAL AND EQUALIZATION

Important Information Regarding Assessment and Classification of Property

This may affect your 2024 property tax payments.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the **Board of Appeal and Equalization for the Township of Moose Lake**, Cass County, Minnesota shall meet on **Thursday, April 14, 2023 at 11:30 a.m.** This meeting is at the Leader Community 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.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, please contact your Assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you are still not satisfied with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization. The Board shall review the valuation, classification, or both if necessary, and shall correct it as needed. Generally, an appearance before your Local Board of Appeal and Equalization is required by law before an appeal can be taken to the County Board of Appeal and Equalization.

Karen Roubal, Clerk
Moose Lake Township

14-15pnc

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 3, 2023, 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

13-14pnc

NOTICE MAY TOWNSHIP ASSESSMENT MEETING

The Board of Appeal and Equalization for the Township of May, Cass County, Minnesota shall meet on Monday, April 3, 2023, 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.

Biannca Wyffels, Clerk
May Township

13-14pnc

CITY OF STAPLES COUNTIES OF TODD AND WADENA STATE OF MINNESOTA

Notice of Public Hearing on Proposed Application for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the City Council of Staples, Minnesota will meet in the Council Chambers of the Staples City Hall, located at 122 6th Street NE, Staples, Minnesota, 56479, at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 11, 2023, thereby dedicating a portion of their regular monthly meeting to identify community development and housing needs, including the needs of very low and low income persons, as well as other needs of the community that might be addressed through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The public hearing will include a review of the proposed CDBG activities, their benefiting location(s), overall cost and proposed financing, and the implementation schedule. Citizens will be provided the opportunity to comment upon the original Citizen Participation Plan, or to the activities for which CDBG funds will be used.

Information and records regarding the proposed use of CDBG funds will be available at Staples City Hall during regular business hours.

All interested persons may appear at the hearing and present their view orally or in writing.

Dated this 22nd day of March, 2023.

BY ORDER OF THE CITY OF STAPLES

Jerel Nelsen,
City Administrator

14pnc

Staples-Motley School Board Minutes

ISD #2170 SCHOOL BOARD MEETING #15 Feb. 27, 2023, 6 p.m. District Office

MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order with Anderson, Reese, Winkels, Trout, Reeck and Wright present. Also attending: Supt. Tappe, Principals Berg and Ferdon, Williams and Pangrac representing ICS, a couple of staff, Staples World Editor Anderson and Recording Secretary Walz. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Reeck, seconded by Anderson to adopt the agenda. MC

Recognize the Public
Chair Winkels recognized the staff and public in attendance.

School/Community Forum - none Consent Agenda

Approve Minutes from Jan. 25 (2023) Board Meeting and Feb. 6 Work Session
Accept the resignations of:

- Josh Johnson, Custodian
- Tanley Lego, Business Manager (effective March 10, 2023)
- Chloe Litts, Head Speech Coach
- Kristine Lezer, Custodian
- Heather Erholtz, Girls Golf Coach
- Thomas Johnson, Middle/High School Music Teacher (end of contract 2022/2023)

Approve Heather Sams as Interim Head Speech Coach.

Approve the hire of Penny Sebring, Middle/High School Paraprofessional

Approve the hire of Amanda Notch, Middle/High School Paraprofessional

Approve the Fundraiser application's for REACH.

Approve the SR- ECFFE Service Agreement with FED for 2023-2024. Considered separately below

Other

Motion by Trout, seconded by Wright, to approve the consent agenda. MC

onded by Wright, to approve the consent agenda. MC

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Reeck to approve the SR-ECFFE Service Agreement with FED for 2023-2024. MC with Winkels abstaining.

Donations and In-Kind Contributions

Motion by Wright, seconded by Trout, to approve the Resolution to accept Grants and Donations in the amount of \$1,234.83 and In-Kind Contributions in the amount of \$1,258. MC

Finance Items

Financial Report presented by Supt. Tappe.

Motion by Reeck, seconded by Winkels, to authorize payment of the vouchers. MC

Motion by Trout, seconded by Anderson, to approve the removal of John Regan as authorized signer on Mid-Central National Bank account. MC

Motion by Wright, seconded by Winkels, to approve removal of Brad Anderson as authorized signer and the addition of Jeremy Reeck as authorized signer on FIBT accounts. MC

Motion by Reeck, seconded by Winkels, to approve the Resolution amending Prior Resolution Stating the Intention of the School District to Issue Certificates of Participation, Series 2023A. Reese, Trout, Wright, Anderson, Reeck and Winkels voted in favor, none opposed. MC

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Trout, to approve the Resolution amending Prior Resolution Stating the Intention of the School District to Issue General Obligation Facilities Maintenance Bonds, Series 2023B. Reeck, Anderson, Trout, Reese, Winkels and Wright voted in favor, none opposed. MC

Facilities

Facilities Update provided by Williams of ICS.

Motion by Reeck, seconded by Reese, to approve the award of contract for Work Scope #2 Concrete, to Vanvickie Masonry. MC

Policy

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Winkels, to

adopt Policy # 535 Service Animals in Schools. MC

Personnel

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Wright, to accept the retirement of Teresa Dockendorf; DAPE/Heath/PE/CIS/Coach effective May 30, 2023. MC

Thank you, Terri, for 22 years of dedication to our students and to the district.

Other

Motion by Trout, seconded by Winkels, to approve the 2023-2024 School Calendar. MC

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Wright, to approve sealed bids for miscellaneous items. MC

Reports

School Board
FED - 1/25/2023 Minutes
Sourcewell - 12/20/2022 Minutes

Other
Principals Activities
Superintendent
SMEA
Other - CEAC minutes

Adjournment

Motion by Reeck, seconded by Anderson, to adjourn the meeting at 6:31 p.m. MC

--Approved minutes submitted by Loren Walz, Recording Secretary, Staples-Motley School District

14pnc

School Board Special Meeting #16 March 10, 2023, 7:30 a.m - District Office

MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order with Reese, Winkels, Trout and Wright present. Also attending: Supt. Tappe, Principal Berg, several staff, Zesbaugh from Ehlers and Recording Secretary Walz. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Reese, seconded by Wright to adopt the agenda. MC

Consent Agenda

Approve the agreement with School Business Management Services, LLC.

Accept the resignation of Emily Dewes, Elementary Music Teacher (eff. end

of 22/23 school yr)

Approve the contract for and hire of Daren Blanck, MS/HS Science (eff. 2023/24 school yr) at MA+30 Step 11.

Approve the hire of Ellie Hill, Business Manager. (eff. 4/1/23)

Motion by Wright, seconded by Reese, to approve the consent agenda. MC

Finance

Motion by Trout, seconded by Wright to approve:

a. Official Depository Signers: REMOVE Tanley Lego and ADD Chuck Herdegen

b. Officials to Invest Funds: REMOVE Tanley Lego and ADD Chuck Herdegen

c. Officials to make Electronic Investment Transfers: REMOVE Tanley Lego and ADD Chuck Herdegen.

d. Signature Approvals: REMOVE Tanley Lego and ADD Chuck Herdegen to execute agreements and/or financial documents as necessary on behalf of the district. MC

Approve the Resolution Ratifying the Award of Sale of Certificates of Participation. (Roll Call)

Motion by Trout, seconded by Reese, to approve the Resolutions Ratifying the Award of Sale of Certificates of Participation. Members Trout, Wright, Reese and Winkels voted in favor. Members Anderson and Reeck were absent. MC

Approve the Resolution Ratifying the Award of Sale of Facilities Maintenance Bonds. (Roll Call)

Motion by Reese, seconded by Winkels, to approve the Resolutions Ratifying the Award of Sale of Facilities Maintenance Bonds. Members Wright, Reese, Winkels and Trout voted in favor. Members Reeck and Anderson were absent. MC

Adjournment

Motion by Wright, seconded by Reese, to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 a.m. MC

--Approved minutes submitted by Loren Walz, Recording Secretary, Staples-Motley School District

14pnc

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SCHOOL continued from page 1a

Asbestos abatement bids come in close to \$100,000 higher than expected

tine, Cory Lawrence

Track - Head coach Bruce Fuhrman; assistants Steve Jennissen, Steve Fligge, Marly Simmons; 6-8th grade Chris Jennissen

Softball - Head coach Darren Holst, assistants Ben Bestland, Deanna Anderson, Sam Schimpp; 7-8th grade Brittany Giber-son, Emma Gerard

Golf - Head coach Glen Hassleberg; assistants Bruce Lund, Brad Ander-son; 6-8th grade Eric John-son, Paul Mithun

• Approved agreement for Spanish classroom with Bertha-Hewitt to share an instructor.

• Approved policies with minimal or no changes: consent agenda, public participation at board meetings, criminal or civil action against school district, administrator ethics, pledge of allegiance and investments.

• Approved bid for summer asbestos abate-ment to Mavo Systems for \$490,245 and alternate bid for 2024 asbestos abatement for \$165,450. Facility plan-ners ICS said the combined bids were around \$100,000 more than expected, but will still fit within the con-struction budget.

• Approved fee for onsite air monitoring to IEA for between \$62,000 and \$71,000 in 2023 and between \$53,000-\$61,000 for 2024.

• Approved transition to the Heart Of Lakes Con-ference starting in the fall of 2024. Activities Direc-

tor Josh Lee said the con-ference would have nine teams with the addition of Staples-Motley and Park Rapids, and would like to get up to 12 to 16 teams so they can split the confer-ence into two divisions.

• Heard from Elementary Principal Allen Berg, who said there are 41 students now enrolled in next year's kindergarten class. This year's kindergarten class has 61 students.

• Heard from Berg that the new Cardinal Way pro-gram has tracked over 5,000 positive interactions by ele-mentary students. "We're tracking the data on how awesome our kids are," said Berg.

• Heard from Berg that the elementary school would like to add a Setting 3 sAspecial education class-room to give more special-ized instruction to students. The high school has Setting 3 instruction, but not the elementary.

• Met new District Busi-ness Manager Ellen Hill, who is starting to learn about the district before starting full time on April 3.

• Heard from Tappe that the high school is working on a partnership with Central Lakes College for the meat cutting program to be offered to high school stu-dents.

• Heard from Tappe that the school received a grant to provide all school buses with cameras to record stop-arm violations.

MSHSL continued from page 1a

Offerings multiplied by God through congregation's work

laughed, sharing that he'd told Kathy, "I'll never make that." He always admired Pastor Olson, Roy said.

It didn't take long for the Miles family to feel at home in Staples. They were over-whelmed by the kindness of their new congregation. "People loved us," Kathy said. They were a con-gregation that was willing to work, too, Roy said. That was impressive.

As they got to know their church family more, Pastor Roy and Kathy learned that they'd been beaten down in the past. They were a con-gregation that looked at themselves as poor, Roy said. A highlight for him these past 40 years, is to see how the congregation has gone from being downtrodden, to not being ashamed of their offerings to the Lord. "Our people have come so far," Kathy adds.

For a 'poor little church,' Pastor Roy and Kathy are amazed that they are debt-free. Roy noted that they were able to burn the mort-gage for the parsonage a year after their family's arrival. Since that time, Sta-ples AG has embarked on building projects at both the church and parsonage, all of which were paid for upon completion. "We worked our tails off," he recalled of those projects.

As time went on, they learned that, "God loves a cheerful giver," Kathy said. "Let's give God a chance and see what He'll do," she added.

Collectively, they've been amazed at how God has multiplied their offer-ings. On top of being debt free and covering all their regular program expenses, the church has been able to increase what they give away. Over the past six years alone, the Staples AG has given \$100,000 a year to missions. That doesn't count what they already give to Lakes Area Preg-nancy Support and Hab-itat for Humanity. "God is good, and God has blessed," Pastor Roy says.

In addition to their church members, both Roy and Kathy say they've been blessed to be a part of the Staples community in gen-eral, these past four decades.

Kathy recalled an inci-dent that took place at the grocery store, shortly after they moved to Staples. Her young daughter Candice, who suffered from rheuma-toid arthritis, was waiting at the front of the store while Kathy shopped. At the checkout, another customer asked Kathy if she knew who the young girl sitting down was. Kathy told her it was her daughter. The woman, who turned out to be Meredith Dahl, said that she and her husband, Russ, wanted to sponsor Candice, enabling her to go to the Shriner's Hospital. Both Kathy and Roy were overwhelmed by this act of kindness from people they'd never before met.

They love Staples and have been blessed to call it "home" these past 40

years. All of their kids went to school here (it's a great school, Kathy adds), and Roy has served on the Staples City Council for 20 years. "I've seen a lot of great things happen in Sta-ples," Roy says, noting the overpass, Dower Lake Pier, the new city hall and library building, renovated police station, and most recently, the new sewer plant. It was great to be a part of those projects, he added.

Between their church family and the town in gen-eral, Pastor Roy said, "I'm always happy to get back to Staples after vacation."

It was during their tenure in Staples that Roy and Kathy felt called by God to help children. Over the years they provided foster care for 25 kids at their home, ultimately adopting six of them. At their son Curtis's high school gradu-ation, they realized they'd been raising kids for 47 years. They'd do it again in a heartbeat.

The Miles' house has always been open to other young people as well, includ-ing the weekly 'youth group night' at the parsonage, where kids stop by to learn about the Lord, and get fed supper, to boot.

They've collected many rich memories in the span of 40 years, as was evidenced at their ministry milestone celebration. Pastor Roy noted that there were at least seven adults present who'd been a part of the church since their arrival in '82...Prindle and Killian are two of the last names that come to mind. He's seen their children grow up, and has now had the joy of min-istering to the next genera-tion. At the celebration, Joy (Prindle) Weyer shared that Pastor Roy is the only pastor her children (now grown) have ever known at Staples AG. Being long-term pastors has been a great experience for Roy and Kathy, who feel they've been able to be more effective in ministry just by knowing families as well as they do. "It's been a bless-ing," Kathy said.

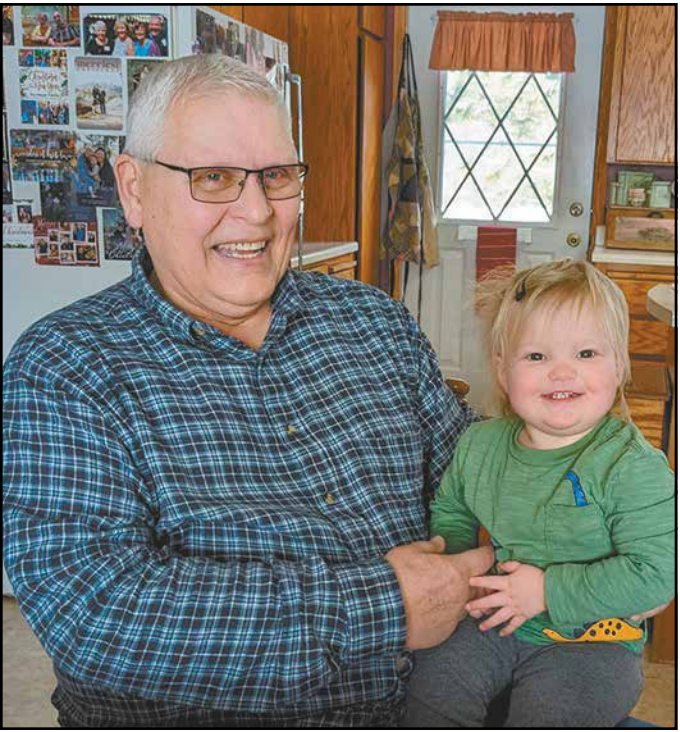
Little did he know what the journey would look like when he answered God's call to ministry during his college years. Growing up in Mondovi, Wisc., Roy said he'd always wanted to be a carpenter. "But I got saved one summer," he went on, recalling an incident fol-lowing his freshman year at the University of Wis-consin-Stout. He was in his grandmother's living room and it was there that had an experience of being filled with the Holy Spirit, after which, "my life has never been the same," Pastor Roy said.

Upon his mother's urging, he visited North Central University in Min-neapolis (affiliated with the Assembly of God Church) and eventually enrolled. He didn't think he had what it took to be a pastor, but God had other plans. In addition to answering the call to min-istry there, North Central was where he would meet



Their first year in Staples

'New minister installed' was the caption for this photo in a 1982 edition of the Staples World, announcing Roy Miles as the new pastor at Staples Assembly of God Church. Pastor Roy is pictured with his wife, Kathy; and their four daughters, Angela, Candice, Melodee and Melissa. The installation service was held Nov. 7, 1982.



A heart for children

Pastor Roy Miles spends some time with grand-daughter Edith, at the parsonage in Staples. He and his wife, Kathy, have always had a heart for children, they said. In addition to their four biological children, over the years the Miles have welcomed 25 foster children into their home, of which six they adopted. They currently have 18 grandchildren, one great-grandchild, with another on the way. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

his future wife Kathy, an Assembly of God gal from Aitkin. They were married in 1972 and have been min-istering together ever since.

No, it hasn't always been easy...there have been strug-gles along the way, includ-ing a cancer diagnosis for Roy in 2004. But through it all, they've experienced God's goodness and mercy. Like Moses in the wilder-ness, they've learned to keep their focus on God, no matter the circumstances. "The Word of God says, 'trust me,'" Kathy says.

God has provided for them in so many ways these past 40 years, Pastor Roy and Kathy said. They have no doubt He will continue to do so, and they look forward to seeing what God has in store for the Staples AG congregation, and all those who, as the old hymn says, "are bound for the Promised Land."



Ministry headquarters

The Assembly of God Church, located at 914 3rd Ave. NE in Sta-ples, has been shepherded by Pastor Roy Miles and his wife, Kathy Miles, since 1982. Their congre-gation hosted a special anniversary party for them Feb. 26, to express their gratitude for their service to the church and commu-nity over the past 40 years. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

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Injury in rollover

to the sun was believed to be a contributing factor.

March 16: At 5:09 p.m., TCSO responded to a one vehicle rollover on US Hwy 10 near 285th Ave, east of the city of Staples. Law enforce-ment arrived on scene to find a 2015 Dodge Ram truck over-turned in the median. The driver and lone occupant of the vehicle was identified as 38-year-old Marco Cepeda, Brownsville, TX. Cepeda was still in the vehicle when Staples Fire Dept. arrived on scene and was extricated by firefighters. Cepeda was transported to Lakewood Health System Hospital with minor injuries.

Road conditions were icy and poor at the time of the crash.

The Sheriff's Office was assisted on scene by the Sta-ples Police and Fire Dept., Lakewood Health System Ambulance and Scott's Towing.



Time for celebrating

Family members, past and present parishioners and longtime friends stopped by Staples Assembly of God Church recently to celebrate Pastor Roy and Kathy Miles' 40th anniversary at the church. The special event, spear-headed by Pastor Roy and Kathy's daughter Candice Miles,

followed the regular Sunday worship ser-vice. Attendees enjoyed lunch, special anniversary cake, as well as sharing mem-ories of the Miles' ministry in Staples over the past four decades. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

THANK YOU

for making a difference!

Congratulations to these 5-Star employees

Lacey Dailey, LPN, Home Health / Hospice
Nominated by Debbie Toth, RN, BSN, Home-Based Services Director
"Lacey shows true compassion and support to each patient. She has been known to mark special milestones for them on her calendar to be sure to celebrate their gains, while supporting them to continue on their personal journey to success. Lacey's devotion does not stop with her patients. She picks up additional visits for her team members, delivers items to patients and their family members, makes suggestions for improved patient care, and will always ask if she can assist in other areas when time allows. Lacey is loved and appreciated by her team and has proven herself to be an integral member of the home care team."

Debbie Foster, Home Health / Hospice Health Unit Coordinator
Nominated by Marnee Pogreba, Patient Accounts Representative
"Debbie embodies all of the Lakewood Values: Integrity, Compassion, Accountability, High Quality and Innovation. There is not enough time to express all of Debbie's contributions to the Home Care/Hospice department. Debbie sincerely cares about everyone, her compassion for our patients comes through over the phone when she is talking to them, and she is always looking out for her co-workers as well. When someone has a need, Debbie is the first to think of them. Recently Debbie reached out to our area Senators and Representatives asking them to preserve the 'Access to Home Health Act', as CMS has proposed payment cuts that would impact the invaluable support to our elderly and homebound populations who need care in their homes. Debbie is always willing to go the extra mile."

Morgan Kanten, CRA/TMA, Care Center
Nominated by Ashley Wallgren, RN, Care Center Director of Nursing
"Recently our team went through a turnover within the Health Unit Coordinator (HUC) position - a crucial role that helps lead and run the day-to-day operations of the care center. Without hesitation, Morgan rearranged her home life to assist in covering the open position until a new person was hired. While covering this position, she found some inefficiencies with workflows that needed to be updated or changed and proposed these changes back to the team. Morgan's strong compassion and commitment to ensure this important transition was seamless, showed true leadership and integrity for our team. There are no words to thank Morgan enough for leading this transition and seeing it through to the end. Our team is very thankful for her natural leadership and for always going above and beyond expectations."

Cindy Lemke, Patient Access Representative
Nominated by Connie Cushing, Patient Access Representative
"Cindy performs her job at the STAR Award level every day. She always shares her smile and compassion with patients and coworkers. Cindy is the first one to jump to help in any way she can. When Cindy has a day off, she is missed by the patients and asked about all day long. The Browerville Clinic has had constant changes especially through the COVID Epidemic, along with adding in the contracts for external company new hire processes. Cindy has worked with the nurses and made the processes for those procedures as easy as can be for all involved. She works hard so everyone's work flows in that clinic are the least complicated as possible. She is humble and just sees it as 'doing her work', but we all know that Cindy is a Rock Star no matter what is thrown her way."

Rita Sorgert, ARRT, ARMDS, Ultrasound/ARRT, Artery
Nominated by Tarissa Halvorson, Radiology Operator / Phlebotomist
"Rita is the person who is always at work early getting things ready to go for the day. She is someone who genuinely cares about her patients and co-workers. She is constantly adding patients on to her schedule throughout each day, many days working through her lunch to make it possible for patients to receive the best care. She is always willing to help coworkers work through problems using her vast knowledge and years of experience. She has even given up time off to come in and help another train on a new machine. If she has a patient that also requires to have lab work or another appointment done that day, she's always helping the patient get where they need to be. Rita is a huge asset to the ultrasound team here at Lakewood."

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