

Remembering Jerry Riewer

Jerry Riewer died Nov. 16. Just two weeks earlier, he enjoyed hanging out with his 1983 baseball team at the Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame ceremony, pictured above. It was the third Hall of Fame award for Riewer, who was inducted as a coach and had cross country and baseball teams inducted. Riewer attended every baseball game and cross country meet he could make it to. He also impacted many lives as a driving instructor, teaching Staples-Motley students his little songs to remind them of their driving habits. See page 6a. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

‘Wadena County is Calling’ to attract new residents

The Economic Alliance, in partnership with Wadena County, has launched a resident recruitment campaign aimed at attracting newcomers to the region. The campaign, called Wadena County is Calling, shares and celebrates the many reasons why Wadena County is Minnesota's greatest frontier.

The campaign targets two primary audiences—rural rebounders and remote workers. Rural rebounders are those who grew up in Wadena County and moved away to attend college or start their career. They understand and appreciate the region but may not know how to logistically move back.

“I have had so many conversations with folks visiting for the holidays or summer festivals that would love to move back but just don't know if it is a realistic option. By sharing the community's housing, employment, and recreation opportunities, we can help them make this dream a reality,” stated Katie Heppner, Executive Director of the Economic Alliance.

Remote workers are those who can live anywhere there is high-speed internet, and their careers are not location-dependent.

Cabin on Cottingham Drive hit with bullets

On Nov. 14, 2022 the Wadena County Sheriff's Office received a call of a cabin that had been shot several times with a fire arm. The cabin is located in rural Wadena County on Cottingham Drive, north of Staples.

A deputy responded to the residence to find the cabin had been shot approximately 11 times, with two rounds going through the walls and into the cabin. In addition there were 13 dents on the siding that appeared to have come from a BB or pellet gun.

This incident took place sometime between November 6 and November 13, 2022. No one was at the cabin at the time of the incident.

Anyone with any information regarding this case is asked to call the Wadena County Sheriff's Office at 218-631-7600 or submit a tip at www.crimestoppersmn.org. You can remain anonymous.

“The pandemic definitely made more people in larger cities appreciate rural lifestyles. One of the greatest assets of Wadena County is the availability of high-speed internet. You can live on 40 acres of land and still have broadband,” Heppner continued.

The campaign offers several resources for those seeking to answer the call of Wadena County. The website wadenacountyiscalling.com features key information to help turn newcomers into neighbors. The first section of the site is an Employer Connection page. This page features Wadena County employers who are open to being proactively contacted about potential job opportunities. The Employer Connection aims to provide a “warm handshake” introduction to job-seekers and provide more in-depth information on area employers. The second section of the site features a printable New Neighbor Thrival Guide. The thrival guide has need-to-know connections for newcomers to help them settle in and become more connected in the community. The next two sections of the website feature a link

See **WADENA** on page 3a

Ray Garland continues to be a blessing to others

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Thanksgiving is a time to count our blessings...not only of material things like food and shelter for which we are grateful, but of those people we've encountered along the way who've made our lives richer for having known them.

People like Dr. Ray Garland.

A life-long resident of Staples, 88-year-old Ray sowed seeds of love and kindness in an abundance of ways as he served his community over seven-plus decades...from his dental practice, to church, to civic organizations, and as a long-time member of the school board in years past. In all of these areas, Dr. Ray, as he's often called, has been about the business of blessing others.

For anyone who's ever called Staples 'home,' chances are you know the gentle giant of a man whose red Corvette, in recent years, could often be spotted at Tower Pizza around lunch time. Most likely he took time to shake your hand and ask how you're doing. He might have even picked up your tab without your knowing.

Ray quietly left town this past October, moving to the Twin Cities area to be closer to family. As news of his imminent departure hit the community, people from Ray's circles had mixed emotions...happy to learn he'd found a safe, comfortable



‘Goodbye’ for now

Ray Garland waved as he drove off in his red Corvette following the Rotary Club meeting at Timbers in Staples Sept. 28. Although he's moving to the Twin Cities area to be closer to family, Garland said Staples will always be 'home' and he plans to stop back for a visit now and again. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

place near family to spend the next chapter of his life, but sad that they wouldn't be seeing his familiar face around town on a regular basis anymore. They wanted Dr. Ray to know how much he'd be missed.

At Ray's church, Staples Alliance, Pastor Zach Jones took time to recognize the long-time member the Sunday before he left town. He noted how the Garland name has been intertwined with Staples Alliance since the beginning. It was Ray's great-grandmother who helped start the church over a century ago, inviting folks from the neighborhood to home Bible studies until a

permanent place of worship was established.

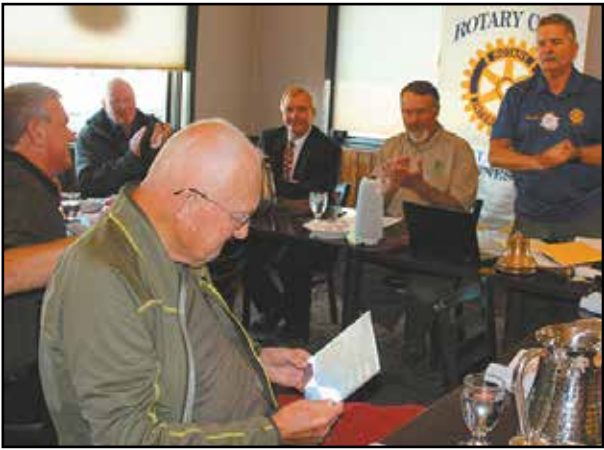
Ray recalled attending there with his family as a small boy. They lived just a few blocks from the church, located on the south side of Staples at that time.

Just as Ray would later serve as a mentor to many young people at church, his Sunday School teacher, Foster Bens, played a vital role in his own life. In a letter he'd written to his church family (read by Pastor Zach), Ray shared of the influence Dr. Bens (a dentist) had on his life. In addition to inspiring Ray

See **GARLAND** on page 10a



Thanks for serving



Staples Rotarians recognized longtime member Ray Garland at their meeting Sept. 28, at Timbers Restaurant in Staples. Garland has been active with the group since he joined in 1964. Above, from left, are Rotarians Brenda Halvorson, President Kurt Wilson, Dr. Ray Garland, Marv Rothstein, Bob Hamann. At left, Garland opens a gift from the club. In back, from left, are Dan Orth, Jim Vogel, Chuck Mayer, Jerel Nelsen, President Wilson. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Mertens family's hunting wall of fame

Family members gathered at the Chris Mertens residence in rural Staples, where several deer mounts from previous hunts were on display in Mertens' large shed. The hunting tradition, which includes four generations, was started 24 years ago by Clarence Mertens. All of the mounts (with at least one 14-point rack) were done by Dewey's Taxidermy in Wadena. Their hunting party of family and friends usually has 15 - 18 members. Pictured

above, from left, are Lexi Knudson, Josh Mertens, Brandon Mertens (holding a picture of his late father Chad Mertens), Hunter Knudson, Morgan Swenson, Steve Wilkins, Lori Smith (standing), Jake Knudson, Jeff Knudson, Clay Mertens, Opie Mertens, Jess Mertens, Chris Mertens, Carson Mertens, Kim Trana. The family reported that this year's opening was a little slow, but they all had a good time. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Weather

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Nov. 16	26	16	Cloudy
Nov. 17	20	4	Cloudy
Nov. 18	13	6	Cloudy
Nov. 19	14	-1	M. Cloudy
Nov. 20	17	4	P. Cloudy
Nov. 21	21	11	M. Sunny
Nov. 22	29	17	P. Cloudy

Last Year, 2021

	High	Low	Cond.
Nov. 16	39°	30	M.Cloudy
Nov. 17	33	32	Cloudy
Nov. 18	26	23	Cloudy
Nov. 19	39	26	Sunny
Nov. 20	38	28	M. Sunny
Nov. 21	32	29	M.Cloudy
Nov. 22	30	16	Cloudy

Average Temps:
H = 36° Low = 22°

*Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher*



Public Notices

ISD #2170 **9A**

Obituaries

*Betty Beachy
Jerry Riewer*



Thank you for subscribing!

Schmidt elected Motley Mayor; Bjerga and Borash elected to city council

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

It's official. Mike Schmidt will serve as mayor for the City of Motley during 2023 and 2024 (a two-year term); and Nikki Bjerga and Brenda Borash will serve as council members from 2023 through 2026 (a four-year term).

At their regular meeting Nov. 14, the Motley City Council canvassed the results of the General Election that took place Nov. 8.

In the uncontested race for mayor, Mike Schmidt received a total of 158 votes (152 votes from Morrison County and six votes in Cass County). There were six write-ins for mayor in Morrison County and one in Cass County. Schmidt has been serving as Motley Mayor on an interim basis since last August, filling the seat vacated following Mayor Al Yoder's resignation in July.

There were two council seats up for election - one held by Jace Carlson and the other by Bjerga, who replaced Amy Hutchison when she resigned in July. Bjerga and Borash were the only two to file for these open seats.

Per the certified results, Bjerga received a total of 130 votes (122 in Morrison County and eight votes in Cass County); and Borash received a total of 101 votes (100 votes in Morrison County and one vote in Cass County). There were 13 write-in votes for council member in Morrison County.

In other matters the council:

- HEARD an update from Fire Chief Brad Olson regarding the FEMA

grant the MFD is applying for. If awarded, the funds will go toward new turnout gear and SCBAs (self-contained breathing apparatus), as their current ones are unsafe, undependable and are no longer NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) compliant. The total budget cost of the project is \$157,500, which includes 15 complete SCBA units with face pieces and 15 complete sets of turnout gear (there are 15 seated positions on the MFD trucks and 15 firefighters). Chief Olson said that if they are awarded the grant, their share will be \$7,875. Olson also thanked City Clerk/Treasurer Darci Odden for her extra work in helping write the main narrative for the grant.

- HEARD an update from MPD Chief Jason Borash regarding the Blomquist property abatement. As the Blomquists had put up a fence at their property (keeping items from the public's sight), there was nothing to abate at this time.
- APPROVED Chief Borash's request to attend the Chief's Conference in April, including hotel, mileage and meals.
- APPROVED Chief Borash's vacation request.
- SCHEDULED a public hearing for administration citations and certifications to be held Tuesday, Nov. 29, 6 p.m., prior to the planning and zoning commission meeting.
- LEARNED from Public Works Director Bruce Brotherton that the chemical they use in the wastewater ponds during the winter is being discontinued, so they will be searching for something else. Other than that, everything has been

going well in their department, Brotherton said.

- Clerk/Treasurer Darci Odden gave an update on the 2022 General Fund Budget. The total revenues budgeted were \$421,602.19; actual funds used were \$289,248.26; with a variance of \$132,353.93. The General Fund's cash balance, as of Nov. 10, 2022, is \$808,233. Mayor Schmidt asked Odden if the city was "on target" and she replied, "Yes."
- APPROVED Odden's maternity leave as presented.
- APPROVED Odden's request to purchase a Dell Technologies Laptop for \$857.99. This will enable Odden to work from home as needed.
- APPROVED hiring Elaine Hanson as the temporary clerk/treasurer, with her first day being Monday, Dec. 5. Hanson will be paid \$30 an hour plus mileage. She will be at city hall two - three days a week and will attend council meetings. Mayor Schmidt noted that Hanson comes to the city with many years of experience, citing budgeting as one of her strengths. "We are in good hands," the mayor said.
- APPROVED a resolution accepting donations to the city from the Staples Fire Department (fire equipment); and Jeremy and Melissa Pape (\$6.12 toward the fire truck fund).
- APPROVED a resolution extending the assessment for nuisance administrative fees and abatement costs (for Bob and Georgia Pollis's property) to be paid over a period of six years instead of five.
- APPROVED a motion

to establish the Fund Transfers Committee which includes Bruce Brotherton, Jason Borash, Darci Odden, Brad Olson, Pat O'Regan and Mike Schmidt.

- APPROVED the 2023 Base Pay and Step Structure for full and part-time employees, plus a four percent cost of living increase. The total increases for employees are between five and seven percent. This is the result of a wage study completed recently by Paul Ness. Mayor Schmidt noted that because there are policies already in place regarding these issues, they've had to move slower than anticipated in setting increases. Schmidt went on to say he didn't think what they'd approved that night had to be permanent, but that they needed to make these decisions in order to move forward with the 2023 budget.
- APPROVED a resolution establishing precinct boundaries and designating polling place locations for the 2023 elections.
- APPROVED a resolution certifying unpaid charges to the Morrison County Auditor. There were four separate properties that had past due utility bills and assessment fees, with the total from all being \$1,020.48.
- APPROVED donating \$654 to the Hilltop Regional Kitchen in 2023, which provides meals to residents across Todd and Wadena counties. Motley is in their service area.
- SET Final 2022 Budget/Levy Public Hearing for Monday, Dec. 12, at 6:30 p.m., followed immediately by the regular council meeting.



Enjoying the turkey dinner

Dozens of people attended the Fall Harvest Turkey dinner at Motley United Methodist Church Nov. 16, enjoying a traditional Thanksgiving meal complete with stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, squash and assorted pies. Above, Connie Macheel (left) serves pie to Anita Sutton of Motley, as Anita's husband, Glen, is next in line. Below, Vern Peterson of Cushing looks forward to joining friends at a table and enjoying the turkey dinner. (Staples world photos by Dawn Timbs)



Motley area law enforcement reports

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

Nov. 9 - 15

Nov. 15 - The MPD responded to a vehicle accident at the intersection of Highway 10 and Highway 210 in Motley.

Nov. 15 - The MCSO received a call from a Pillager resident reporting she'd gotten scammed again after just recovering from the previous one.

Nov. 14 - The MCSO received a report of a vehicle that went off the road at the 8000 block of Dollars Dr., Pillager. The responding deputy made contact with the subject who stated he'd hit a slippery spot and lost control. No damage was done other than to his car.

Nov. 14 - The MCSO received a report of a domestic situation at the 2000 block of White Pine Ln., Motley.

Nov. 14 - The MCSO received a call from a resident at the 2000 block of Pine View Blvd., Motley, reporting that someone keeps placing garbage in his dumpster. He does not know who it is and requested extra patrol.

Nov. 14 - The MCSO was

dispatched to a vehicle roll over on Highway 10 in Motley, near 320th St. Upon arrival, the deputy made contact with the driver who stated he was okay and declined medical treatment.

Nov. 14 - While on patrol, the MCSO came across a vehicle in the ditch near Bear Rd. and 280th St., Cushing. The vehicle was unoccupied and there was no property damage. The deputy reported seeing tracks in the snow, indicating the driver had been picked up by another vehicle.

Nov. 12 - The MCSO issued a speeding citation to Ethan Sczublewski, 29.

Nov. 11 - The MCSO issued a speeding citation to Darryl Mudge, 59.

Nov. 11 - The MCSO issued a citation to Paul Blomquist, 36, for driving after revocation and no proof of insurance.

Nov. 11 - The MCSO issued a citation to Jewel Swanson, 20, for speed. While handing her the citation, the deputy could smell an odor of marijuana present. The driver handed over her pipe and the deputy disposed of it.

Nov. 11 - The MCSO assisted state patrol with a crash at Highway 10 and Highway 210 in Motley.

Predatory Offender Registration verifications completed in Morrison Cty

Morrison County Sheriff Shawn Larsen announced that his office, in cooperation with all local police departments in the county, have recently completed the annual Predatory Offender Registration (POR) verifications for Morrison County.

Each year the sheriff's office organizes a verification check for all predatory offenders who are on the registry and resid-

ing within the county. It's important to note that Minnesota only began registering predatory offenders in 1991 and did not assign risk level until 1997. Only those offenders who have been sentenced to prison and who were released after Jan. 1, 1997 have been assigned a risk level.

Offenders sentenced to probation or juvenile offenders are not assigned

a risk level. Level 1 offenders are those deemed by Department of Corrections officials as those least likely to re-offend while Level 3 offenders are considered most likely to re-offend.

During the most recent round of checks, multiple predatory offenders were checked in Morrison County. Fifty-nine predatory offenders were checked by the Morrison County

Sheriff's Office, Pierz Police Department, Motley Police Department and Royalton Police Department. Of that number; 24 were Level 1 offenders, six were Level 2, four were Level 3 and 25 offenders were not assigned a risk level. Forty-one predatory offenders were checked by the Little Falls Police Department, which are not part of the breakdown.

All but four individuals were found to be compliant with conditions imposed upon them. James Michael Juetten, 46; Dustin Gene Ayres, 40; Wesley David Pagel, 54; and Christopher James Collins, 39, have been charged for failing to register their current addresses, which is a felony. According to Sheriff Larsen it's important for us to keep tabs on the predatory offender registry. "I feel it is extremely important that these people remain aware that we know who they are and our office will continue to hold them accountable."



LET'S CHECK IN

Scheduling a wellness visit is a simple, easy way to take care of yourself. Whether it's face-to-face or virtually, we're committed to providing the right care for you.

Schedule online with a family medicine provider at
EssentiaHealth.org/CloseToHome



Essentia Health

St. Joseph's-Pillager Clinic
218-746-4527

Thank You Cass County!



I am so grateful for your encouragement and support during the entire election process, and I look forward to serving as your new sheriff!



Paid Advertisement: Prepared and paid for by the Committee to Elect Bryan Welk Sheriff,
PO Box 161, Remer, MN 56672

The Staples World office will be closed Nov. 24-25. Have your ads and copy into the office by 3 p.m. on Weds., Nov. 23 for the Nov. 30 issue.

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Thank you for reading the Staples World.

How to fredagsmys like a Swede

By Johnaé De Felicis
Blue Zones

The Swedish work ethic is one like no other. Swedes take their jobs very seriously. It's not in their nature to dilly-dally around on the clock. Instead, they reserve playtime for Friday evenings.

After a hard week's work, it's Swedish tradition to unwind at home every Friday night. Swedes call it "fredagsmys," which means "Friday cosiness." They use this time to relax with family and friends. A typical fredagsmys includes games, TV time, and plenty of snacks and tacos to stuff your bellies.

Sound familiar? You're not having déjà vu. Other European countries have similar concepts, like Norway with fredagskos and Denmark with fredagshyge.

Fredagsmys history

Sweden not only ranks as one of the hardest-working countries in the world. It's also known as one of the happiest countries on earth. Why is that? I suppose that fredagsmys and other Swedish traditions play a role. The countrymen and women do a swell job maintaining a healthy work/life balance.

Swedes rarely spend time in front of a television from Monday through Thursday nights. During weeknights, Swedes make time for their favorite hobbies and activities that are good for their well-being.

Lutheran ideals influence their mid-week approach, which stemmed from the Middle Ages. Such values place precedence over hard work and minimal relaxation on weekdays. That's why they've designated Friday evenings as a rest period. Most won't even indulge in libations (alcohol) until the weekend.

Friday nights have been a family high point of the week since the 1990s. The focus of family time shifted from festive Sunday dinners in the 1950s to informal Saturday celebrations in the 1960s. Advertisers later introduced fredagsmys on television.

Sweden had a state monopoly on television until the late 1980s. That all changed during the latter half of the decade.

After a change of heart, the government loosened its grip on programming and opened the market to commercial players. This widened the show selection available for family viewing, which caused an uptick in ratings with this demographic.

As families increasingly engaged with available programming, advertisers of European and American comfort foods had set their sights on reaching this audience. Swedish crisp brand OLW were the originators of the term fredagsmys. They pioneered the movement after coining this term in a television advert.

Their initial marketing

campaigns positioned potato crisps as a "go-to" snack for fredagsmys nights. Advertisers aimed to normalize spending one night a week at home to relax and "pig out" on junk food. Ad messaging further encouraged Swedes to realize that they deserved it after a week of hard work and healthy eating.

Fredagsmys has been an embedded fixture in Swedish culture ever since. According to results from a survey released by Tex-Mex brand Santa Maria, a third of the Swedish population (ages 15-70) participates in fredagsmys each week, and 78 percent take part in fredagsmys once a month. Most Swedes would rather enjoy fredagsmys on a Friday night than exercise, sex, or a night out.

In 2006, fredagsmys officially earned a spot in the Swedish dictionary.

"Taco Friday"

The concept of fredagsmys has slightly evolved. In the 1990s, tacos became the staple dish for this Friday night of fun.

Swedes are big-time Mexican food lovers. According to Malin Eriksson's book, Taco Mexican Style, they're Europe's largest consumer group of the cuisine. In the consumer survey, it was revealed that 85 percent of locals consume Tex-Mex foods regularly, and 55 percent prefer Tex-Mex meals on Fridays.

This explains the country's love for tacos and why Swedes now save "taco nights" for fredagsmys. They call it "Taco Fredag" (or Taco Friday).

A 2020 national survey confirmed that tacos still hold the title of "most popular dish" in Sweden.

The only thing that's changed is how they stuff their tacos. For health-related reasons, more Swedes are opting for vegetarian-based taco fillings. They've gotten quite creative with their toppings, which now ranges from nuts and cucumbers to bananas and yogurt.

Rules of fredagsmys

All families and friendship circles have their way of doing it, but most approaches to fredagsmys share a few commonalities.

While you can partake in fredagsmys alone, it's more enjoyable to do it with others. The average Swedish home spends fredagsmys bonding with family or catching up with friends after a long workweek.

Ideal attire also leans on the comfier side. Families like to enjoy 'fredagsmys' in their snuggliest pajamas with fluffy blankets nearby. Games and movie nights are common activities following mealtime. While engaging in these activities, it's normal to get comfy on the couch and cozy up by the fireside or with candles in the background.

As you can see, there are no real rules for fredagsmys. What matters most is enjoying the quality time spent together.

From University of Minnesota Extension

The holiday season is right around the corner, and families and friends across the state will soon be gathering around the dinner table to share a special meal together.

Joanne Slavin, Ph.D., RDN, a professor in the Department of Food Science and Nutrition in the University of Minnesota's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, answers questions about how you can make the most of your holiday dining experience both at your own kitchen table and out in your community.

Q: What is special about holiday eating in Minnesota?

Dr. Slavin: Walleye, wild rice and wild game are all special Minnesota treats that can be enjoyed during the holidays. Load up on vegetables to make sure you get the vitamins and minerals you need. Pumpkins, apples, nuts and cranberries make eating festive and healthy. Holiday drinks, especially hot versions, are a fun tradition during our cold winter months. Remember the importance of rituals and family customs in holiday eating, and don't diss Aunt Eleanor's jello salad, the white buns that make an appearance at holiday meals or the sweet potato hot dish with marshmallows. Sure, these items don't meet many of our new nutrition norms: whole grains, low in added sugar, mostly whole food ingredients – but small helpings of most items can be enjoyed with family and

friends. We know that food keeps us healthy, but it is much more than the nutrients that come from food.

Q: How has our understanding of "healthy" changed in 2022?

Dr. Slavin: The FDA has recently proposed changes to what food products can be termed "healthy." If approved, the new language would allow food companies to use the word "healthy" on their packaging only if their product contains a certain amount of food from at least one of the major food groups, such as fruit, vegetables, grains, dairy or protein. In addition, the product would need to have limited added sugars, saturated fat and sodium. However, as a dietitian I believe that calling any one food healthy or unhealthy is skating on thin ice. Many traditional foods that are important in different cultural practices are put in the "unhealthy" category, when in reality no one food should be called unhealthy. We want to be sure that our overall diet contains all the nutrients we need and no more calories than we should be consuming based on our activity levels. Packaged foods already contain critical information on calories and nutrients so consumers have access to food composition data that allows them to manage their diet as needed.

Q: What food safety measures should I keep in mind this year?

Dr. Slavin: We are fortunate to live in a country where our food safety standards are high and consumers can feel good about the foods they buy at the gro-

cery store. After foods leave the grocery store, consumers can practice good food handling practices to avoid food safety outbreaks. For example, avoid leaving the stuffed turkey sitting out as you watch the football game. Even more important, don't stuff the turkey at all. Consider cooking the stuffing separately and filling it with healthy ingredients like fruit, nuts and vegetables. Additionally, canning, freezing, smoking, baking and all food handling practices are more complicated than food novices appreciate, so please contact your local University of Minnesota Extension office before you decide to gift your homemade salsa, venison jerky or vegan cheese to your friends and relatives. Foodborne disease outbreaks have originated from all types of foods and beverages, including salads, fruits, vegetables, meats, dairy products and eggs. Appreciate the importance of protecting your family and friends when they eat at your house or when you share a food gift with them.

Q: How can I connect with local farmers and producers during this holiday season?

Dr. Slavin: I would love to see more folks connecting with farmers, either by buying a holiday tree, visiting a farmstead to buy local cheese, or going to the pumpkin patch or apple farm. It makes the point that food does not start at the grocery store; there are dedicated farmers that supply our wonderful foods in the U.S. Minnesota is a leading producer of turkeys, but

also a leader in regenerative agriculture, including use of cover crops and perennials to make sure that we care about our health but also the health of our soil. We are so lucky to live in the breadbasket of America. Deep winter greenhouses keep us supplied with healthy greens in the winter. Thank you Minnesota farmers.

Q: How can I connect with my community and support neighbors who might be dealing with hunger this year?

Dr. Slavin: Food security is a basic right and the Farm Bill invests in many programs to help provide food for those struggling with hunger. But it takes a village to feed everyone, so community partners like religious groups, soup kitchens and food shelves are the important safety nets to make sure our neighbors have the food they need. Many of us do our part during the holidays to donate gift cards to grocery stores and restaurants or spend time volunteering for non-profit organizations that help feed those in need. But the need is always there. Every community needs drivers for Meals on Wheels or food donations for food shelves. Hunger is all around us and sharing a hot meal and support with our neighbors is what Minnesotans do.

Joanne Slavin, Ph.D., RDN is a professor in the Department of Food Science and Nutrition in the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences (CFANS) at the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities.

Thanks to our meal makers

From the Minnesota Department of Agriculture

As consumers peruse store shelves, they are in search of ingredients for their traditional Thanksgiving meals. Maybe it's a classic stuffing recipe or the special cranberry sauce that's the hallmark of your family meal. Or the perfect pumpkin pie. Those tasty dishes are the product of hard work by the nation's farmers and producers, truckers, processors, grocery stores, and veterinarians.

Midwest Ag Leaders joined together to share their appreciation for essential agricultural and food workers, who continued to work throughout the pandemic and are a key piece to the fabric of our neighborhoods and communities.

Thom Petersen, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA):

"We're grateful for everyone who helps get food from the farm to our

dinner table. Your hard work and dedication throughout the year feeds us and the world."

Jerry Costello II, Director, Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDA):

"Thank you to the farmers and producers who feed our country. The work you put in 365 days a year allows us to feed our families local, safe and nutritious products."

Bruce Kettler, Director, Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA):

"Grocers have faced a few difficult years, like we all have, from hiring challenges and supply chain issues to now infant formula shortages, they have persevered to keep people fed. Grocers are the final link in our food supply chain and we cannot thank them enough for connecting consumers to farmers, growers and suppliers."

Gary McDowell, Director, Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development (MDARD):

"From farm to plate, our truckers

help us feed our communities and businesses, keep our cars fueled or homes heated. Thank you for keeping things moving every single day."

Dorothy Pelanda, Director, Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA):

"Veterinarians keep our livestock healthy and free of dangerous diseases, which means safe food for everyone and a thriving agriculture and livestock industry. We couldn't do any of this without them - we are so thankful for our veterinarians!"

Randy Romanski, Secretary, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP)

"The Midwest is full of dairy, meat, produce, and other processing facilities. Thank you to all of the processors who provide a market for producers and ensure consumers have access to diverse, safe products to consume. In this season of thanks, please buy local to thank and support your community processors."

Fischbach sponsors police act

By Michelle Fischbach
U.S. Representative

Republicans are commit-

ted to getting this country back on track, and one of the most important things we can do is remind this country of the importance

of its law enforcement agents.

Unfortunately, especially over the last few years, we have seen what happens when police officers are painted as villains in our communities and what happens when there is less accountability for dangerous criminals. We have seen what happens when the "Defund the Police" agenda gains ground. Police officers are targeted and demoralized, leading to early retirements and a lack of recruitment, and of course all of that leads to an increase in crime. This is all happening before our eyes and I find myself constantly pushing back on a lot of efforts by my colleagues on the Left who want to see this pattern continue. There was even a point this Congress where my colleagues wanted to end qualified immunity. Morale is low and crime is increasing but somehow my colleagues still believed Washington should strip away police officers' ability to do their jobs effectively.

Republicans have solutions and are eager to get to work. We intend to prioritize increasing the number of officers in the force through recruiting and re-

tention bonuses. For example, earlier this year I introduced the Law Enforcement Education Grant Program Act that would provide education grants to students pursuing their first degree in a law enforcement or criminal justice-related field. The Social Security Fairness Act, of which I am a proud co-sponsor, is another big step work towards solving this problem.

We have seen a horrific rise in assaults and killings of police officers, so we also need to do more to ensure these crimes are punished severely. That is why I am a co-sponsor of the Protect and Serve Act, which would create a penalty between 10 years and life in prison for knowingly assaulting a police officer.

Maybe as importantly as any of these things, showing respect for our law enforcement needs to start at the top. Representatives in Washington need to set an example of respect for our laws and those who risk their lives every day to enforce those laws and protect our communities. Rest assured, the Republican majority in Congress will set that example.

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Reading Buddies sought for elementary students



Sparks at Rotary

Rynell Schock, left, was the guest speaker at the Nov. 16 meeting of the Staples Rotary Club at Timbers Restaurant. She is the chair of the recently revitalized SPARKS program working to provide Reading Buddies for children at Staples-Motley Elementary School. The program is seeking

volunteers willing to give one or two hours a week. From left are Schock and Rotarians Marv Rothstein, Kurt Wilson, Jim Hofer and Brenda Halvorson. For more information see staplesmotleysparks.org.

Young adults with a mentor are 55 percent less likely than their peers to skip a day of school, 78 percent more likely to volunteer regularly, and 130 percent more likely to hold leadership positions. These are just a few of the statistics and the many reasons why mentors are so important in the lives of children. They were presented by Rynell Schock at the Nov. 16 Staples Rotary Club meeting.

Schock is the chair of the recently revitalized SPARKS program working to provide Reading Buddies for children at Staples-Motley Elementary School. She shared her personal experience of volunteering just that morning at the school, seeing first hand how a kind word and an attentive listener can positively affect a child. Her presentation showed that "Mentoring, at its core, guarantees young people:

- that there is someone who cares about them,
 - assures them they are not alone in dealing with day-to-day challenges, and
 - makes them feel like they matter."
- Schock challenged Rotary members to identify people in their lives who were mentors, whether a family member, teacher, church friend or an acquaintance. She noted how sometimes even a chance encounter or a sentence or two at the

right time can change a perspective or a direction in a child's life. The program is seeking volunteers to become Reading Buddies in the elementary school. Presently there are about 15 volunteers but Schock said the need is for 50 to 60 people willing to give one or two hours of time (or more) per week. Scheduling is flexible to the needs of the volunteers. About an hour and a half of training is required

as well as a background check. The focus is on intentional mentoring with the components of creating self-awareness and self-regulation in the child as well as a purpose and a challenge to improve, both in reading and personally. The training includes reading prompts and strategies as well as prompts for building relationships and communication. This outline is for just the first year of the SPARKS program. In subsequent years they hope to establish Lunchtime Buddies for students through eighth grade, Career Buddies for grades 1-12, Math Buddies for grades K-12 and eventually leadership opportunities. "Building self-awareness through guiding relationships nurturing character in youth" is the tagline for the organization. The values are listed as kids, the

inherent potential of every student, our community, accountability and collaboration. Schock shared that the need for a program more extensive than reading was created when the Kinship program was no longer able to operate in the Staples and Motley communities. The needs for those types of services did not go away. Donations of funds and materials as well as volunteers are needed to sustain the program. More information can be found at staplesmotleysparks.org. Julie Mertens is the Reading Buddies coordinator. She can be reached at sparksmentoring@gmail.com or 218-296-2625, Schock can be reached at the same email address or at 218-270-0291. Other board members include Rosie Blessing, Hallie Bergeson, Gail Honek and Cory Lawrence.

FRESH

revival
renewal
refreshing

FIRE

MINISTRIES

FOR YOUR LIFE

FOR YOUR MARRIAGE

FOR YOUR MINISTRY

FOR YOUR CHURCH

Evangelists Bill and Beth Juoni

Whitewater, Wisconsin

Staples Assembly of God

914 3rd Ave NE, Staples, MN

Sunday, November 27th | 10:30am | 6:00pm

Monday – Wednesday, Nov. 28-30 | 6:00pm

"rekindling and fueling the fire"



Staples Host Lions donate to SM Cross Country team

The Staples Host Lions Club recently donated \$1,500 to the Staples-Motley Cross Country Team. Pictured, from left, are Kathy Robben, member of the Booster club; team members Aften Robinson, Kyanna

Burton, Ashley Robben, Addisyn Cichos, Gabe Kroll, Dillan Robben; and Lion President Steve Sing. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Mark Your Calendar

- November 24

'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>
- November 25

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.
- November 26

FREE COMMUNITY BREAKFAST Saturday, Nov. 26, 9 - 10:30 a.m., at Motley United Methodist Church, 847 3rd Ave. S., Motley.
- November 28

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

Staples Area Men's and Women's Choruses present

For all the Saints

A Community and Alumni Choir Celebration

All-school choir reunion to coincide with the 2022 Community Christmas Concert.

Saturday, December 10, 2022 at 7 p.m.

Staples-Motley High School Gym
401 Centennial Dr. - Door #23

Tickets are available on-line at staplesmen.org, at the door, or:
Nelson Insurance Agency, Staples
Markus Hair Design, Motley
Local Legends Bar, Staples
Men's and Women's chorus members

Adults: \$10
High school students: \$5
12 and under: free

We hope to see you there!
(Spread the word - tell your friends.)

Are you a SMHS alumni?
Email smhscardinalchoirs@gmail.com to join us for the all-school choir reunion!

FIVE WINGS ARTS COUNCIL

This activity made possible, in part, by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Five Wings Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

LakelandDental

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Clarissa Office: (218) 756-2234
Long Prairie Office: (320) 732-6141

HEALTHY MOUTHS.... One smile at a time

THANK YOU

for making a difference!

Congratulations to these 5-Star employees

Danelle Denman,
Behavioral Health Unit Coordinator
Nominated by David Frovarp,
BHU Program Director

"Danelle is the definition of a team player, always going above and beyond to help ensure our unit and staff feel supported. Danelle always maintains a positive attitude and leads by example completing her duties/tasks while offering to assist others when needed. She demonstrates great communication skills, and ensures pertinent information is relayed in a timely manner to ensure daily operations are efficient as possible. A large part of the strength of our unit can be traced back to Danelle, and we are very grateful to have her as a valued member of our team."

Amanda Rickbeil, RN,
Behavioral Health Case Manager
Nominated by Amanda Mithun,
LMFT, Behavioral Health Home Specialist

"Amanda has been an amazing addition to our Behavioral Health team. She has been 'all in' since her first day and brings new and innovative ideas to the team. She consistently makes our patients needs a priority. Recently, she went above and beyond to assist one of our patients. This gentleman recently had a health scare and was at the ER where a CT was ordered. A plan was created that he would return later in the week with a driver, so he could take medicine to help him be more relaxed for the CT. Unfortunately, the day before this appointment, his driver cancelled on him. Amanda did not hesitate to offer to meet him for this appointment and to go to the CT scan with him. Thanks to her support and willingness to be with him during this time, they were able to successfully complete the scan. Amanda continues to shine here at LHS and we are so happy to have her on our team."

Matthew Singh, CRNA, Anesthesia
Nominated by Christine McGrane, RN,
Outpatient Services

"Matthew always does a double check into his patient's charts that he is assigned to in the morning to make sure nothing new has changed. Matthew brought it to Outpatient Services attention that a surgical patient had recently been into the ER at another facility for new onset A-fib after his History & Physical and had not had a follow-up with his primary care provider. He then called the surgeon to make him aware that this patient needed to be rescheduled for his safety until he had cardiac workup completed. The patient was called and was appreciative. Going above and beyond to check his assigned patient's charts the morning of surgery is something Matthew does on a regular basis."

Debbie Toth, RN, BSN,
Home-Based Services Director
Nominated by Home Based Services Department

"Debbie came into the department listening intently. She is hands on when it comes to delving into challenges with staffing and patient needs. Her bright and jovial personality brings a lightness to the department even through difficult conversations. She is respectful, compassionate, and willing to listen to the perspective and ideas of others for the team to be cohesive. The foundation of where we want our department to go has been poured and she is showing that she can lead the team to be successful."

218-894-1515 lakewoodhealthsystem.com

Hello World

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:

Removed for online version at the request of LHS.

Obituaries

Jerry Riewer

Jerry Riewer, 85, of Staples, passed away November 16, 2022.

Visitation will be held Fri., December 9 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Sat., December 10 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Staples. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. Dec. 10 at the church.

Arrangements are by Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

w48x A00006B2022NV23

Betty Beachy

Betty Lee (Powell) Beachy, 72, passed away November 7, 2022 at the St Cloud Hospital.

A memorial service for Betty will be held at a later date.

Betty was born March 10, 1950, to Oscar and Geneva (Casey) Clark in Winnfield, Louisiana. Betty achieved a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and worked in a range of nursing care, including Renal, Oncology, Post Op, Clinical and Home-Health Nursing.

Betty openly shared her life with family, relatives and friends, through poetry, calligraphy and letter writing. She loved knitting scarves, shawls and cross-stitching creations. She loved nurturing her patients, children, family and her rose gardens. Betty had a great sense of humor that naturally drew out the best in those she loved.

Left to cherish her



memory are her beloved husband of 53 years, Mark; son, Shaun (Shannon) Beachy; mother, Geneva Clark; one brother, Oscar, Jr; one sister, Jennifer Leavell and many nieces and nephews.

Betty is preceded in death by her father, Oscar and one brother, Clifford.

Arrangements by Taylor Funeral & Cremation Care - Staples.

w48p A00006B2022NV23

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance

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

Assembly of God

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

Church of Christ

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

First Congregational Church, UCC

firstcongouccstaples@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 218-894-2296
Church.....
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 & 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)
Sunday School (for grades K-12 and adults) 9:15-10:15 a.m.

Aldrich

Balsamlund Lutheran

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

Cushing

Bethany Lutheran

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

Lincoln Evangelical Free

1354 320th Street, Cushing, MN 56443
Phone: 218- 575-2449
www.lincolnefree.org
Facebook Lincoln E Free
Office Hours: Tues. - Thurs., 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Senior Pastor: Don Reigstad
Community Life Pastor: Jim Brown
Associate Pastor: Joe Reigstad
SUNDAY
Church Worship Gathering..... 10:00 a.m.
YouTube Channel 10:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Community Meal..... 5:30 p.m.
Family Night 6:00 p.m.

Cushing Baptist

26298 Bear Rd., Cushing 320-749-2583
Pastor Dan Holmes
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
Sunday Worship..... 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.
facebook live..... 9 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
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.
Sunday 10:30 a.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, Pastors
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
Childrens' Pastor Kenneth Kjeldergaard
SUNDAY
Sunday School 8:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting 5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Night Life Groups 6:30-8 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.

CLC Performing Arts Center announces fall, winter lineup

Central Lakes Community Performing Arts Center announces the fall and winter line-up for their 2022-23 season. Between September through January, the Performing Arts Center will present artists of local and national renown through its Cultural Arts Series and produce a slate of plays with Brainerd Community Theatre.

Paula Poundstone, known for her smart, observational humor and spontaneous wit, performs at the Gichi-ziibi Center for the Arts. Paula Poundstone is recognized by Comedy Central as one of the Top 100 Comedians of All Time. Time Magazine, in the March 2020 "Best of" issue, listed Paula's HBO special "Cats, Cops and Stuff" as on The 5 Funniest Stand-Up Specials Ever. Paula can be heard weekly as the host of the comedy podcast Nobody Listens to Paula Poundstone and as a regular panelist on NPR's comedy news quiz "Wait Wait... Don't Tell Me!" October 19. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Show at 7 p.m.

Brainerd Community Theatre presents Neil Simon's classic coming-of-age comedy "Brighton Beach Memoirs" in the Chalberg Theatre. It is September, 1937; dreaming of baseball and girls, 15-year-old Eugene Morris must cope with the mundane existence of his family life in Brooklyn: formidable mother, overworked father and his worldly older brother Stanley. Throw into the mix his widowed Aunt Blanche, her two young (but rapidly aging) daughters and you have a recipe for hilarity, served up Simon-style. This bittersweet memoir evocatively captures the life of a struggling household where, as his father states "if you didn't have a problem, you wouldn't be living here." Join us for this side-splitting and whimsical tale that tugs on the heart-strings and reminds us of the importance of family and love in the most trying of times. October 25-27 and November 1-3. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Show at 7 p.m.

The Midtown Men perform live in concert at the Gichi-ziibi Center for the Arts. Join stars from the original Broadway cast of Jersey Boys on their 10th Anniversary Tour singing a decade of 60's hits. November 4, 2022. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Show at 7:00 p.m.

Brainerd Community Theatre presents the holiday classic "A Christmas Carol" in the Dryden Theatre. Patrick Barlow, writer of the Broadway and West End hit The 39 Steps, has retold Charles Dickens' holiday classic in a thrilling new adaptation that uses only five actors to bring

some of Dickens' most beloved characters to life. From Scrooge and Tiny Tim to Bob Cratchit and Mrs. Fezziwig, Barlow's A Christmas Carol uses nothing more than some simple props, fresh physicality, and the power of imagination to convey this timeless story of redemption. Witness Ebenezer Scrooge's transformation from a stingy miser to a man who generously celebrates the spirit of the season all year long, in this highly theatrical adaptation. December 13-15. A pre-show dessert reception, included with all tickets, begins at 6 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Show at 7 p.m.

The "Rock & Roll XMAS Spectacular", the most requested holiday show in PAC history, performs at the Gichi-ziibi Center for the Arts. December 16. Doors open at 7 p.m. Show at 7:30 p.m.

GreatWorks Theatre Company performs "Mythomania!" at the Chalberg Theatre. A fast-paced, raucous comedy that presents the greatest hits of Greek Mythology in under an hour. Fun for the whole family. January 14, 2023. Doors at 1:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., with shows at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., respectively.

"OboeBass!" performs at the Dryden Theatre. This internationally known, multi-faceted instrumental duo creates a sense of wonder for their audiences with original works and re-imaginings of classic standards. January 23, 2023. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Show at 7 p.m. Free ticket reservations open on December 23.

Brainerd Community Theatre presents "9 to 5 The Musical" at the Chalberg Theatre. "9 to 5 The Musical", with music and lyrics by Dolly Parton and book by Patricia Resnick, is based on the seminal 1980 hit movie. Set in the late 1970s. this hilarious story of friendship and revenge in the Rolodex era is outrageous, thought-provoking and even a little romantic. Pushed to the boiling point, three female coworkers concoct a plan to get even with the sexist, egotistical, lying, hypocritical bigot they call their boss. In a hilarious turn of events, Violet, Judy and Doralee live out their wildest fantasy - giving their boss the boot. While Hart remains "otherwise engaged," the women give their workplace a dream makeover, taking control of the company that had always kept them down. January 24-26 and January 31 - February 2, 2023. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Show at 7 p.m.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.clcperformingarts.com.

"Being Grateful"

Fr. Aaron Kuhn, Pastor, St. Michael Catholic Church, Motley; Church of the Sacred Heart, Staples

Gratitude is our proper response to receiving a gift. "Thank you." It shows reverence for the graciousness of the blessing bestowed on us and a sign of respect for the giver. It's our gesture of acceptance and recognition of the good will of the other. The giver knows that their gift is received well, because we display thankfulness in our appreciation. We love seeing people enjoy a blessing and it furthers our feeling of satisfaction when we hear a heartfelt oration of acknowledgement: "Thank you."

When it comes to God, we can never be thankful enough. For through God we have received life itself, the planet upon which we live, the oxygen and food we need for sustenance, the capacity to communicate and the capacity to know and express love. God loves us with an infinite love. God does not need anything from us in order to be happy, for God is happiness itself. Rather, our existence is be-

cause God wants us to share in His being, His self, His happiness. We are here because God wants us to exist, to thrive, to know and express love. This is something to be grateful for.

Our worship of God is our response of thanksgiving. God is worthy of our gratitude. "It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give You thanks, Lord, Holy Father, almighty and eternal God. For, although You have no need of our praise, yet our thanksgiving is itself Your gift, since our praises add nothing to Your greatness but profit us for salvation through Christ our Lord" (Common Preface IV of the Roman Rite).

If it has been awhile since you have gone to church, I pray that this season of Thanksgiving will be your opportunity to give God the thanks He deserves. God loves you. Why not show Him you love Him too?

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:

Longbella Drug Store

"The Prescription Store"
2nd Ave., Staples • 218-894-2242
Motley and Pillager

Ernie's Food Market

Groceries - Gas - Convenience - more
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 for Jan or email: jwinter@staplesworld.com. As always, continue to email your Ministerial pastoral message or advertisement to: jwinter@staplesworld.com



Scrapes and narrow escapes sometimes part of a hunter's life

If you Google “dangerous pastimes,” or “risk-filled hobbies,” it’s unlikely that you’ll find hunting up near the top of the list. This, despite the fact that potentially deadly firearms are an integral part of the hunt, as well as the skill building practice that takes place at the range, and on the trap, skeet, or sporting clays fields. Every season we will likely hear a news report about someone who has been injured or killed while hunting. But it is so rare as to be the exception that proves the rule: most who hunt and target s h o o t become familiar with their firearms, learn to be cautious in their handling and use, and are highly unlikely to ever be injured or killed, or to do the same to another.

It is far more likely that threats to our safety will come from some outside element, rather than the shotgun or rifle we carry into the grouse woods, the pheasant slough, or take with us into our deer stand. In fact, it’s the elements in the meteorological sense that often are the source of any real danger.

We’re reminded of this on an almost annual basis when Veterans Day rolls around on November 11th. Older Americans know this also as Armistice Day, which marked the date when soldiers laid down their arms to end World War I, in 1918. It has since been renamed Veterans Day in honor of those who served in any of the conflicts during our nation’s history.

In addition to being a day to appreciate and thank our military veterans, November 11th is the date back in 1940 when the most publicized winter storm in Minnesota’s post-settlement history began. The storm is linked not only to an important date in our history, but memorable for a death toll of more than 150 Minnesotans, Iowans, and Wisconsinites. One out of every six deaths—twenty-five, in all—was a duck hunter. They were unprepared for a lightning-speed change from a balmy Indian summer morning to full-on winter, with vicious winds, drifting snow, and plunging temperatures by that same afternoon.

In that era, the forecasting of severe weather was not as sophisticated as it is today, and the average citizen did not have access to weather reports that we take for granted, obtained in real time with the push of a few buttons on our smartphones. Legendary Minnesota Vikings coach Bud Grant, then a high school age young man living in Superior, Wisconsin, was caught in the storm, but was one of the lucky duck hunters who survived, as was recently recounted in a story by Minneapolis Star-Tribune outdoors columnist Dennis Anderson.

Staying safe is not only about forecasting, however. It’s also about using good judgment. Several decades ago, while employed as a reporter for a weekly newspaper, I learned from a news media outlet of the fate of two duck hunters on Leech Lake, that immense and popular northern Minnesota lake that is appealing not only to anglers, but to duck hunters—and many thousands of ducks—during the fall migration.

Two hunters had outfitted their boat with elevated sides made of netting,

into which vegetation was woven for concealment. But the netting’s virtues for concealment had the downside of catching the wind, and becoming ice-laden under very wintry conditions. Their boat was swamped by wind and waves, and the two hunters lost their lives on this, their final duck hunt.

I survived a similar experience, though on a much smaller scale. During college years I would often car-top a homemade 10-foot jon boat to a small lake west of Minneapolis, row out to one of its bulrush islands, set out my decoys, and wait in hopeful anticipation of ducks. One afternoon I rowed out on its calm waters, set out the decoys, and began my vigil.

There was no expectation of bad weather, but a southwest wind gradually shifted to the northwest, and then began a steady escalation. By the time I summoned the good judgement to weigh anchor and head for shore, rolling waves were licking at the gunwales of my shallow draft boat. I made the tortured but wise-in-retrospect decision to leave my decoys and make for shore as rapidly as I could.

To avoid taking on water, I kept the boat’s nose pointed into the wind, let the waves take me downwind, then rowed back upwind at an angle slight enough to avoid taking on much water. I did this in repeated cycles: drift downwind, then row upwind at a shoreward angle, over and over until I reached the landing. My decoys, still anchored out on the lake, were retrieved the next day when the wind had abated. I could just as readily have become a statistic as did those hunters on Leech Lake, but for a combination of good fortune and the good sense to abandon the hunt when I did. Perhaps a little divine intervention, too.

It is both humbling and chilling to contemplate a “but-for-the-grace-of-God” incident that may have ended well, but could have been disastrous. During high school years, before duck boats and decoys, a companion and I got most of our ducks by “jump-shooting,” walking along the edges of sloughs to scare up birds, with his dog along in case we downed a bird we could not wade out to recover. While heading across a field to a likely looking wetland, walking side by side, my pal’s shotgun discharged, blasting my eardrum while the charge of #4 shot erupted toward the heavens, just a step or two ahead of me. Did he forget to put the gun on “safe?” Did the safety fail? We could not determine, but what overshadowed the question was the knowledge of how badly it could have ended.

I once had the frightening experience of having my deer rifle discharge a bullet into the ground at my feet, as I attempted to gently let the hammer down on the shell in my rifle’s chamber. None of my companions was close enough to be at risk, but it was no less mortifying. Events like this underscore the vital importance of never-fail safety practices, foremost among which is to never allow your firearm to point in the direction of another person. “No harm, no foul,” is never an excuse for mishandling a firearm.

Over a lifetime of outdoor adventures, there is a very real possibility that inexperience, miscalculation, overconfidence, or just pure chance will put a person in a dangerous or even life-threatening predicament. That we escape intact can be attributed to preparedness, caution, and sometimes just plain old good luck.



Nice buck

Gary Sampson of Motley shot this 10-point, 240-pound buck shortly after 7 a.m. Nov. 13, day two of the firearms deer hunting opener. Sampson said he shot it while sitting in his brother Jeff’s deer stand. (Submitted photo)



Racing the wind

Audrey Brownell runs through a strong wind and below freezing temperatures at the NXR Heartland Rising Stars race. (Submitted photos)

Brownell races with rising stars

Audrey Brownell placed fourth in the Girls Rising Stars division of the Nike Cross Regionals Heartland race in Sioux Falls, S.D. on Nov. 13, with a time of 18:41 for the 5K race.

The Heartland Regional has top cross country runners from Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin.



Exhausted runners

Following the race, Brownell, right, shares a fence with Anjalee Aho of United North Central, who finished one place behind her. At the Minnesota State Cross Country race a week earlier, Brownell had finished right behind Aho.

College cross country

Below, Hunter Klimek leads the NCAA Midwest Region cross country race on Nov. 11 in Columbia, Missouri. Emmet Anderson, right, passes an opponent in the same race. The two former Staples-Motley runners competed for their respective colleges, Klimek is at North Dakota State University and Anderson is running for the University of Minnesota. There were 200 runners in the race, on 27 teams from colleges in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma. Klimek led the race for the first two kilometers of the 10K race. “I felt like going out fast and I didn’t want to be caught in the pack,” said Klimek. Anderson raced in the middle of the the big pack before things started stringing out in the second half of the race. Anderson’s first 5k was 15:05 and he finished in 52nd place in 30:35. Klimek faded a little after his fast start but came back strong, finishing in 55th place in 30:38. Klimek was the top finisher for NDSU in this race, earlier in the season, he set the NDSU school record for an 8k race, 23:29 at the Summit League Championship. Anderson was the top runner for the U of M in every race this season, until this final race when he was the third team finisher. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



NOTICES

101

Card of Thanks

I want to THANK everyone, as I am forever grateful, for the care I received from Lakewood Health System EMS, ER Staff, Dr. Chad and Kattie Norris, Hospital floor staff for the week I was in the hospital and continued Lakewood Home Care Staff.

Thank you again,
Ted Bristlin
48p

SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT

205

Help Wanted

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.



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.

HELP WANTED

The City of Motley is accepting applications to fill the position of
PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE/
ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT.

Minimum requirements: HS Diploma or equivalent, coursework or training in bookkeeping/accounting, some clerical experience in account billing including regular customer contact. Starting pay for this position is \$16.48 per hour. The position is 20-30 hours/week. A resumé, cover letter, and city application are required. Applications and a full list of hiring requirements can be found online at www.cityofmotley.com or at City Hall.

Completed application materials can be emailed to cityofmotley@brainerd.net, dropped off at City Hall during office hours, or mailed to City Hall (316 Hwy 10 S, Motley, MN 56466).

Position is opened until filled.

First review of applications will be November 23, 2022. Contact Clerk-Treasurer Darci Odden at 218-352-6200 or cityofmotley@brainerd.net with questions about the position or hiring process.



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208

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209

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312

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CHRISTMAS TREE FARM: Open daily, 2-1/2 miles north of Verndale and 1 mile west on Cty. Rd. 4. ALSO: Guitar lessons. 218-408-3365. 48-50p

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602

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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

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320-269-6640 ext 21

www.vanbllc.com

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

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610

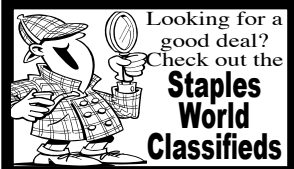
Land for Sale

11.8 ACRES on Long Prairie River, Todd County, Moran Twp. Sec 23. Must sell for market value. 320-267-7647. 47-49c

611

Wanted to buy

40+ ACRES between Wadena/ Pillager. 218-831-3521. 46-48p



The Staples World office will be closed Nov. 24-25.

Have your ads and copy into the office by 3 p.m. on Weds., Nov. 23 for the Nov. 30 issue.

Staples World

Classifieds: office@staplesworld.com

Copy: editor@staplesworld.com

Obits: jwinter@staplesworld.com

224 4th St. NE, Staples, MN, 218-894-1112

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Thomas H. Sellnow*

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Jason R. Sellnow

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

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NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

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

DATE OF MORTGAGE: May 31, 2017

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$85,700.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Norene M. Carlson, a single person

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Midwest Minnesota Community Development Corporation

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on June 6, 2017 as Document Number 504344 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Freedom Mortgage Corporation by assignment recorded on May 12, 2020 as Document Number A519322 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The East 50 feet of Lots 9, 10, 11 and 12, Block 8 and the West 10 feet of the South 100 feet of the alley in Block 8 all in the Town Plat of the Village (now City) of Browerville, Todd County, Minnesota.

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 120 3RD ST W,

BROWERVILLE, MN 56438
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Todd County, Minnesota.

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$80,300.83

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Midwest Minnesota Community Development Corporation

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Freedom Mortgage Corporation

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 30-0015000

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 101106900019601723

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: December 08, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

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

to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually

paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on June 8, 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: October 12, 2022

FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION
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
(22-0344-FC02)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

43-48pnc

CITY OF STAPLES NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED ASSESSMENTS

Notice is hereby given that the Staples City Council will meet at 7 p.m. on December 13, 2022 at 122 6th St NE to consider and possibly adopt assessments for non-payment of nuisance abatement charges against property.

The proposed assessment roll is on file for public inspection at the city clerk's office. Written or oral objections will be considered at the meeting.

Tara Greer, City Clerk
48pnc

NOTICE VILLARD TOWNSHIP BIDS FOR SNOW REMOVAL

Villard Township is now accepting bids for snow removal in Villard Township. All bids will be accepted until 5 p.m. on December 13, 2022.

This bid must include the snow removal on approximately 38.2 miles of township roads and the contract will be effective immediately after the December 13, 2022, deadline. This contract will be a two (2) year term.

Please forward your bid to the Clerk of Villard Township, 31836 Timberlane Road, Staples, MN 56479.

Mary Trantina-Koenig, Clerk
Villard Township
48pnc

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Rep. for Fergus Falls Monument Co.

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SECTION 00 11 13 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

TITLE:
Staples-Motley High School Addition & IAQ Upgrades

LOCATION OF WORK:
401 Centennial Drive
Staples, MN 56479
OWNER:
Staples-Motley Public Schools ISD #2170
905 4th Street NE
Staples, MN 56479

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER:
ICS Consulting, LLC.
1139 Franklin Ave., Suite 1
Sauk Rapids, MN 56379
(320) 360-5506
Contact: Jorden Pangrac
ARCHITECTURAL:
JLG Architects
525 Broadway
Alexandria, MN 56308
(320) 408-7008
STRUCTURAL:
Northland Consulting Engineers
102 South 21st Ave. West
Duluth, MN 55806
(218) 727-5995

CIVIL, MECHANICAL & ELECTRICAL ENGINEER:
CMTA
2201 12th Street N, Suite E
Fargo, ND 58102
(701) 280-0500

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The project consists of multiple work scopes for all of the work necessary for the construction of an approximate 22,000 sf gym and wellness center addition and indoor air quality upgrades to the existing school. Work scopes include but are not limited to: Earthwork, Concrete, Precast Concrete, General Construction, Masonry, Steel Material, Steel Install, Roofing & Metal Panel, Aluminum Doors Windows & Glazing, Flooring & Tile, Acoustic Ceilings & Acoustical Treatment, Wood Athletic Flooring, Fluid-Applied Athletic Flooring, Paint & Wall Coverings, Gymnasium Equipment, Bleachers & Fixed Bench Seating, Fire Suppression, Mechanical, and Electrical.

BID DATE AND LOCATION:

Sealed Bids will be received at **Staples-Motley School District ISD #2170 District Office, 905 4th Street NE Staples, MN 56479** then publicly opened and read aloud. Bids will be received and stamped in prior to **2:00 p.m. local time on December 14, 2022.** Bids submitted after allotted time will be discarded, **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

EXAMINATION OF DOCUMENTS:

Bidders may view drawings and specifications for the project at the office of the Construction Manager.

For Electronic access to the bidding documents, please contact **Angie Stahnke at 218-336-5901.** The Construction Manager can also provide locations of Builders Exchanges holding plans for contractors to access. Bidders are responsible for any and all costs associated with the production of plans and specifications for their use.

BIDDING REQUIREMENTS:

Each Bidder must comply with the following requirements to reassure acknowledgment and recognition of their Bids:

Bids must be accompanied by Bid security in the

form of a certified check, cashier's check, or Bid bond in the amount of five percent (5%) of the base Bid submitted, made payable to the owner, as guarantee that Bidder will, if awarded, enter into contract in accordance with contract documents and submitted Bid.

Submit Bid on the prescribed form, which is furnished with the specification, with full name and address of the Bidder.

Completely fill in all blank spaces on the Bid Form, in ink or typewriter, in both words and figures.

Sign in longhand, executed by a principal duly authorized to enter into an agreement. If a Bidder is a co-partnership, then signatures on the Bid shall be by an authorized member of the firm, with names and addresses of each member of partnership.

Base Bid and all alternate Bids shall be stated both in writing and in figures. In all cases, written and numerical figures must agree; otherwise at Owner's option, it shall be cause for rejection of Bid. Complete form without alterations.

Submit alternate prices (Bids) for either increasing or decreasing the costs, as called for on Bid form and Description of Alternates. Submit a Bid for all alternates.

Owner may make such investigations as they deem necessary to determine the ability, competency, and responsibility of the Bidder to perform the work. Any Bidder shall furnish to Owner all such information and data for this purpose, as the Owner may request. Owner reserves the right to reject any Bid if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of, such Bidder fails to satisfy the Owner that such Bidder is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract and to complete the Work contemplated therein. The competence and responsibility of Bidder will be considered in making an award, including, but not limited to; (1) proof of financial responsibility, (2) quality of similar work, (3) amount of experience with similar projects, (4) facilities, personnel and equipment, (5) reputation for performance, and (6) the ability to complete the work within specified time.

Owner reserves the right to: (1) accept Bidder's Base Bid only, (2) accept any one or more of Bidder's Alternate Bids, in any order regardless of the order in which they were listed, (3) reject all Bids, (4) award contract based on their investigation of Bidders, as well as acceptance of alternates, all of which the Owner deems to be in their best interest, (5) waive informalities or minor irregularities in Bids and waive minor irregularities or discrepancies in Bidding procedure.

Upon award of Contract, Contractor shall provide AIA A312 Performance and Payment Bonds in the amount of 100 percent (%) of Contract Sum in accordance with General Conditions and Amendments to General Conditions.

BIDDING DOCUMENTS & SITE REVIEW:
Each Bidder (including subcontract Bidder where appropriate) is required to visit the site and to fully inform themselves and record

their own investigations as to the extent of the Work, the extent of the Work performed by other contractors under other construction packages, conditions under which the Work is to be performed, existing buildings and streets, conditions of the area, existing utilities and other features, type of soil, available facilities and difficulties that may be encountered in connection therewith, and other relevant items which will affect their Bid or the Work.

Prior to submitting a Bid, each Bidder is required to examine all of the bidding requirements, all Contract Documents, all drawings, and specifications for the Project (including those primarily for other Subcontracts). Contractors shall become thoroughly familiar with the scope of the Project and all factors and items of work which will affect their Bid or the Work, whether shown or specified in documents primarily for Work of others or Work of this Contract.

No extras will be allowed the Contractor as a result of misunderstanding of the extent of scope of the Work as a result of their failure to study and record their own findings. Submission of a Bid shall be proof that such examinations have been made and that Bidder has recorded their own investigation and has become thoroughly familiar with all contract documents (including all addenda). The failure or omissions of any Bidder to examine any form, instrument or document shall in no way relieve any Bidder from any obligation in respect to their Bid. Nor shall it be the responsibility of ICS or its counterparts to ensure you have read all documentation. This is the sole responsibility of the Bidder and its Sub-Contractor(s).

PRE-BID CONFERENCE:

A Pre-Bid conference will be held at **2:00 p.m. on December 6, 2022 at Staples-Motley School District ISD #2170 District Office, 905 4th Street NE Staples, MN 56479.** If Bidders want to visit the physical site, a site review will take place immediately following the Pre-Bid conference at Staples-Motley Elementary School. No extras will be allowed because of the Bidder's misinterpretation as to the amount of work involved, Bidder's own error, negligence, or failure to examine the site.

START DATE:

Work will begin after receipt of the signed contract from the Owner. The anticipated award date is **December 19, 2022.** Pre-construction and submittals work related to the project is to commence immediately after receipt of the signed contract. The onsite work will begin on the premises no later than **June 2, 2023.**

SUBSTANTIAL AND COMPLETION DATE:

Owner requires all work to be substantially complete by:
IAQ Phase 1: August 25, 2023
IAQ Phase 2: August 23, 2024
Wellness Center Addition: September 27, 2024

END OF SECTION 00 11 13
48-51pnc

where opportunities start, skills develop, and success emerges.

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Swift County Administrator Benson, Minnesota

The County Administrator will provide overall management and administration for all county functions, taking direction from the County Board of Commissioners.

- Development and implementation of the County budget
- Collaborate with Department Heads for goals and structure.
- Oversee Human Resources functions, incl. performance reviews
- Provide Administrative support to the County Board.
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