



Wednesday, January 12, 2022

Staples, Minnesota

\$1

Weather

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Jan. 12	30°	22	
Jan. 13	29	18	Cloudy
Jan. 14	25	7	Snow
Jan. 15	17	11	P. Cloudy
Jan. 16	26	4	Cloudy
Jan. 17	14	3	M. Cloudy
Jan. 18	15	-2	M. Cloudy

Last Year, 2021

	High	Low	Cond.
Jan. 12	34°	12	M. Sunny
Jan. 13	41	28	P. Sunny
Jan. 14	35	32	Cloudy
Jan. 15	29	25	Snow
Jan. 16	19	15	Cloudy
Jan. 17	25	16	Cloudy
Jan. 18	17	14	Cloudy

Average Temps:
H = 21° Low = 3°
Total Snow for Week:
2-4"

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

CLC: 9A

Obituaries

Janis Goff
Ann Vorgert



Thank you for subscribing!

Legendary mat Staples-Motley wrestlers warm up on their new mat, dedicated "In Memory of Don Dravis", after their former coach who died in 2019. (Photo by Mark Anderson)

School board financial audit presented

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

In other business, the board

The Staples-Motley School Board held their annual organizational meeting on Jan. 3, where they heard good news from the annual school audit.

Jon Archer, of Schlenger Wenner & Co. accounting firm, told the board "your numbers look good" with an unmodified (clean) audit opinion.

The district's general fund increased by \$250,000 as expenditures were "significantly lower" than the budget for 2021. Revenues were close to what had been budgeted. Because of the discrepancy, "You are seeing savings in most categories," said Archer.

Archer said the district's financial health has grown over the last five years. The district has been spending down on building expenditures as they prepare for the building project that is getting underway this year.

The audit also covered the school's coronavirus relief money and other special funds. Archer said there were no notable findings, with all of the district's finances meeting established standards.

• Re-elected Bryan Winkels as board chair. Other board titles are Bruce Lund as vice chair, Mary Freeman as clerk and Brad Anderson as treasurer. Bonnie Madson was approved as assistant to the clerk and John Regan was approved as assistant to the treasurer.

• Set committee positions.
• Set work sessions for first Monday of every month and regular meetings on the second to last Monday of every month except for meetings on Monday, Feb. 28 and Monday June 27.

• Approved school board salaries for 2022, at \$3,377 per year.

• Approved resolution allowing the school district to purchase supplies or services from a school board member. Superintendent Shane Tappe said this is an annual approval that the board does every year, but is needed this year because board member Jeremy Reeck owns a building supply company. Board Chair Winkels said "this is the reason we get those clean audits, because we set these things in place."

Todd County Board assesses violations, year-end matters

By Karin L. Nauber
Todd County correspondent

There were a number of assessments made for properties that had various planning and zoning ordinance violations. There were several second year violations as well as one property with a third year violation.

The properties owned by the following received a second year violation assessment of \$2000 each for failure to complete the restoration order.

Updates on each property were given during the December 21 work session. There have been no improvements to any of the properties and for the most part, there has been minimal to no contact made with the owners although attempts have been made.

- Marianne Gervin
This property is in violation for accumulation of public nuisance items including trash, junk, and household garbage.

- Linda Jean Hansen
This property is in vio-

lation for an open septic tank that qualifies as an imminent public health threat.

The tank has been filled in but was not properly abandoned and the appropriate paperwork has not been submitted to the county.

- Harold G. Harkcom

This property is in violation for accumulation of junk vehicles and accumulation of other junk items that constitute a public nuisance.

- Jeffrey J. and Kristine Kuhlmann

This property is in violation for accumulation of public nuisance items including old cars, trailer homes, and structures in need of repair.

A fence has been installed but there were no other improvements and no contact has been made with the planning and zoning office.

- August Langseth

This property is in violation for accumulation of trash, junk, and inopera-

See **COUNTY** on page 3a



Second place National FFA winners

The Agricultural Communications Career Development Event (CDE) challenges students to sharpen and demonstrate their skills in written, visual and oral communication using cutting-edge technologies. Pictured above is the sec-

ond place national team which consisted of students from the Staples-Motley FFA Chapter. From left are Colton Converse, Ben Olander, Addison Lorber and Brooke Converse. (Submitted photo)

Staples-Motley FFA excels at National Convention

Eight students from the Staples-Motley FFA Chapter attended and excelled at the 94th Annual National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Ind. during October of 2021, receiving awards for their accomplishments in agricultural communication, work-based learning, chapter leadership, and more.

The chapter shattered past records, receiving the highest ever national competition ranking it has ever had along with its first ever national-winning proficiency award. Members who attended the convention were Brooke Converse, Colton Converse, Camryn Ferris, Owen Hageman, Addison Lorber, Caden

Mrazek, Allison Olander and Benjamin Olander.

Of the delegation that attended, four students participated in the 2021 National FFA Agricultural Communications Career Development Event (CDE). The team consisted of Brook Converse, Colton Converse, Addison Lorber and Benjamin Olander and was coached by their FFA advisor, Joe Ramstad. Dr. Courtney Gibson of Texas Tech University served as superintendent of the event.

The team received second place in the nation and all students received gold rankings, along with Addison Lorber landing a spot in the top 10 individ-

ually, earning a \$400 cash award. The cash awards and the agricultural communications event are sponsored by Bayer and Osborn Barr Paramore. This competitive event tests students' skills in all areas of the agricultural communications field and evaluates how well they can apply classroom knowledge to real-life situations. In August, the students completed an editing exercise, communications quiz and attended a simulated news conference. They then used the information gathered to complete individual practicum in writing, electronic

See **FFA** on page 10a



Fun at the convention

While at the National FFA Convention, members (including those from Staples-Motley) had the opportunity to attend

the largest student-focused career expo and college fair, a rodeo and much more. (Submitted photo)



First baby of 2022 born at Lakewood

Twenty-twenty-two brings the celebration of birth for Meghan and Justin Gangestad, Baxter, who welcomed their new baby girl, Catherine Therese, into the world on Jan. 3, at Lakewood Health System Hospital in Staples. Catherine was born at 5:16 a.m., weighing 8 pounds, 6 ounces, and measuring 21 inches. She is welcomed home by her four big brothers.

The delivering provider was Dr. Jenny Bunio, OB/GYN. To celebrate Catherine's birth, the Lakewood Health System Foun-

ation and Piecemakers Quilting Club of Staples presented gifts to the family in honor of the New Year. The Foundation gave a gift of \$100 and the Piecemakers Quilting Club gave a beautiful handmade baby quilt, prepared just for the first baby of 2022. The first baby of the year is annually given gifts to help celebrate their arrival.

Pictured above are Dr. Jenny Bunio; Justin, Catherine and Meghan Gangestad. (Submitted photo)

Help for low-income families to buy or repair homes

From USDA

USDA Rural Development is accepting applications for very low- and low-income individuals and families seeking to purchase or repair a home in a rural area.

The Direct Home Loan program offers financing to qualified very-low and low-income applicants that are unable to qualify for traditional financing. No down payment is required, and the interest rate could be as low as one percent with a subsidy. Applicants must meet income and credit

guidelines and demonstrate repayment ability. The program is available in rural communities of generally 35,000 people or less.

The maximum loan amount is \$20,000 at a one percent interest rate, repayable for a 20-year term and can be used to improve or modernize homes and do essential repairs. Grants of up to \$7,500 are available to homeowners 62 and older and must be used to remove health or safety hazards, such as fixing a leaking roof, installing indoor plumbing, or replacing a furnace.

Contact a USDA Rural Development Housing Spe-

cialist in your area today, to see if you qualify.

USDA Rural Development loans and grants provide assistance that supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community services such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural areas. For more information, visit www.rd.usda.gov/mn.

Contact USDA Rural Development, 900 Robert St. NE, Suite 103, Alexandria, MN 56308; phone: 320-763-3191 ext.4.

Law enforcement reports, Motley area

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

Dec. 30 - Jan. 5

Jan. 4 - The MPD received a report from Holiday Gas in Motley that a male subject has been using counterfeit car wash coupon books for several months and receiving car washes without properly paying for them.

Jan. 4 - The MPD assisted the MCSO with a suspicious vehicle at BRICKS

Travel Plaza in Motley. Subsequently, Samuel A. Bevins, 19, was arrested on multiple warrants as well as a current DANCO (Domestic Abuse No Contact Order) violation with the driver of the vehicle.

Dec. 31 - The MPD responded to a report of a parked vehicle that had been hit at the 200 block of Mill Pond St., Motley.

Dec. 31 - The MPD issued a citation to Deangelo Thomas, 34, for driving after suspension.

Dec. 30 - The MPD issued a citation to Jakob Hall, 21, for tint too dark on his vehi-

cle.

Dec. 30 - The MPD issued citations to Ruben Rendon, 47, and Carol Whitefeather, 61, for no proof of insurance.

Jan. 1 - The MCSO arrested Jose Garay Aviles, 31, for DAC-IPS during a traffic stop at the 1000 block of 320th St., Cushing.

Jan. 1 - The MCSO responded to a report of a physical domestic assault and strangulation at the 3000 block of Scandia Dr., Cushing. Joshua Scott was arrested and booked into the Morrison County Jail on probably cause.

Two injured in one-vehicle accident in Cushing Township

Two Bemidji women were transported to St. Gabriel's Hospital in Little Falls by ambulance with unknown injuries, following a one-vehicle accident near Cushing the early morning of Jan. 8.

The Morrison County Sheriff's Office reports that at approximately 3:44 a.m. Jan. 8, they received a report of a one-vehicle acci-

dent on Hwy 10 near 270th St., about one mile north of Cushing in Cushing Township.

According to the sheriff's office, 20-year-old Madalynn Frenzel of Bemidji was traveling west on Hwy 10. She fell asleep behind the wheel and drove the vehicle off the road, hit a snowbank and rolled in the median. Frenzel and her

21-year-old passenger Toni Kimble of Bemidji were transported to St. Gabriel's Hospital in Little Falls by ambulance with unknown injuries.

The Morrison County Sheriff's Office was assisted at the scene by the Scandia Valley Fire Department, Randall Fire and Rescue and Mayo Clinic Ambulance.

Motley Lions 50th anniversary



At the head table

Motley Lions President Don DeLude (right) and Lion Bruce Beck, Past International Director, enjoyed their meal and conversation at the 50th Anniversary Cel-

ebration of the Motley Lions. The event was held Dec. 11, 2021, at the Ten-Hi in Motley. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Correction

Last week's paper incorrectly identified all three people above as being related to the late Ernest Converse, a charter member of the Motley Lions Club. Pictured at far left is Landen Converse, a great-grandson of Ernest. Also pictured are Mary Munger (center) and Jazmyn Hall, neither of whom are related to Ernest Converse. Munger is the grandmother of Landen and Jazmyn. The Staples World regrets the error.

Chow time

The Motley Lions enjoyed a meal catered by The BBQ Smokehouse at their recent 50th Anniversary Celebration which was held Dec. 11, 2021, at the Ten-Hi in Motley. Pictured, from left, are Lion President Don DeLude, Motley Lions; Lion Allen Bailey, Past District Governor; and servers Micah Stowe and Jazmyn Hall. *A story about the 50th Anniversary Celebration was published in last week's paper.* (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Predator Offenders 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 residing within the county. It is 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. Sixty-one predatory offenders were checked by the Morrison County Sheriff's Office, Pierz Police Dept., Motley Police Dept., and Royalton Police Dept. Of that number, 23 were Level 1 offenders, eight were Level 2, three were Level 3 and 27 offenders were not assigned a risk

level. Forty-seven predatory offenders were checked by the Little Falls Police Dept., which are not part of the breakdown.

All but four individuals were found to be compliant with conditions imposed upon them. Amanda Ann Tesch, 41; Christopher James Collins, 38; Michael James Whitty Sandaker, 39; and Tobias Osric Smith, 42, have been charged for failing to register their current addresses, which is a felony. According to Sheriff Larsen it is 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."

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items for the
Staples World is
Friday noon.



COUNTY continued from page 1a

Todd County year-end business includes transfer of funds, audit compliance

ble vehicles that constitute a public nuisance.

There has been no recent contact with our office and no noticeable improvements.

- Georgann M. and David W. Larson

This property is in violation for accumulation of public nuisance items.

There has not been any effort to clean up this property.

Contact with the land owners has been made on several occasions. The land owners have had many health issues and have not agreed to conducting a site visit.

- William J. and Marsha K. Owen

This property is in violation for accumulation of public nuisance items and an unpermitted mobile home.

A claim was made that a clean up effort took place. A site visit was conducted and found that there was no changes to the property.

The following assessment is for a third year violation and is in the amount of \$3000.

- Timothy Forcier

This property failed to take corrective actions to resolve violations for miscellaneous public nuisance items.

There has been no noticeable progress and very limited contact with our office.

In other business

• The county has been budgeting for retiree severance payouts in the general fund. Due to a retirement in the assessor's department, the finance committee recommended amending the 2021 budget to help align the realized budget to actual amounts for 2021.

It was approved to transfer \$36,210 to the 2021 budget to cover this expense in the assessor's office.

• The county board previously approved a resolution to establish a Committed Fund Balance for Future Retirees' Severance Fund within the general fund.

The Finance Committee has reevaluated the amount available in this committed fund with an updated committed balance of \$63,790 at fiscal year end 2021.

The commissioners approved the amount in this fund.

• The board had previously established a building and grounds improvement fund with the objective that the funds would be utilized for current and future expenses and held within the general fund. The building and grounds improvement funds are appropriated and utilized each calendar year. The remaining balance of this account as of December 31, 2021 is \$829,659.

The State auditors recommendation is to approve by resolution a commitment of this fund balance on an annual basis for transparent financial reporting.

The commissioner's

approved the resolution.

• Todd County has received the first tranche (payment) of funding via the Federal American Rescue Plan (ARP/SLFRF) Act and have used the funds within the allotted time frame indicated in the federal terms.

These expenses have impacted several different funds and departments from August 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 which were not able to be expensed directly to Fund 19-ARP/SLFRF. Because of this it is now necessary to put it into the fund accounts of the department to which the eligible expense occurred.

In order to comply with audit standards, the commissioners approved these expenses and to transfer funds from Fund 19-ARP/SLFRF totalling \$59,829.71 to the general fund in the amount of \$44,829.71 and to the solid waste fund for \$15,000.

• On July 9, 2021, the ownership of a parcel in the city of Burtrum succumbed to tax forfeiture to the state of Minnesota.

Since that time, the Auditor/Treasurer's Office has identified that a Contract for Deed was not satisfied that has legal bearing as a claim to this property. The Contract for Deed holder was not notified of the tax forfeiture on this parcel and therefore is a "cloud" on the current title that must be resolved before tax forfeiture proceedings and then eventually the sale of the property can be completed by the State with Todd County as the acting agent.

The commissioners approved a resolution for the cancellation of forfeiture on this parcel.

• The Todd County Parks and Trails Board has provided their passed recommendation of re-appointing Gloria Nokes as District 1 Representative, Les Levin as District 3 Representative, Lee Christopherson as District 5 Representative and Jim Ostendorf as their At-Large member.

The board approved the recommendation.

• The 2021 Road and Bridge Budget contained \$32,900 in the budget for a planned retirement. The retirement didn't happen and so the board approved rolling the money into the 2022 budget when the retirement is again planned for.

• The board approved rolling money for the road and bridge account into 2022 for pavement stripping as it was not all able to be done in 2021 due to the unavailability of the paint. The amount rolled over is \$15,898.

• The board approved the rollover of funds of in the amount of \$37,682.90 for the purchase of a replacement one-ton truck. Due to the Chrysler Corporation shutting down vehicle ordering, Dodge of Burnsville was unable to order and deliver a truck this fiscal year.

75 YEARS Ago - 1947

• Jan. 9, 1947 - From Chief of Police Jesse Marr comes the news that a total of 198 arrests were made in the city of Staples during the 1946 year. Of this total, 54 of the offenders were confined to the city jail, and 54 were released after paying their fine or receiving the reprimand of the police department.

• Jan. 9, 1947 - Sixty-eight brand new band uniforms arrived in Staples last week for the members of the Staples High School band. The uniforms were assigned to the members the latter part of the week, according to Erling Lian, director of the

- O -
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
- O -

organization.

The uniforms are in keeping with the school colors, and have a brilliant cardinal jacket, trimmed with gray. A gray leather belt, brass buttons and other trimming complete the jacket. The trousers are a gray with a cardinal trim. The caps are cardinal color with a gray leather band. To complete their uniforms, the members of the band will wear white shirts with black ties.

The new uniforms will be used for the first time in Staples at the Staples-Detroit Lakes game on Saturday evening, Jan. 11.

• Jan. 9, 1947 - Wadena county law enforcement officers were informed late Monday evening that the police department of the city of Chicago was holding Bill Wensmann, age 16, for the Wadena officers, in connection with the murder of his father, Alfred C. Wensmann of Aldrich, Dec. 4.

Sheriff Gust Tullgren, the new sheriff of Wadena County, left Tuesday morn-

ing for Chicago, and will return young Wensmann to Wadena county to face charges of first degree murder in connection with the death of his father.

Young Wensmann and his father engaged in an altercation the early morning of Dec. 4. As the argument became more bitter, the boy grabbed a bottle and struck his father over the head and later used a hammer on him. He then took money from the cash register, and his father's 1940 Chevrolet, and made his getaway, before authorities could get any trace of him. An extensive search took place prior to his being located in Chicago.

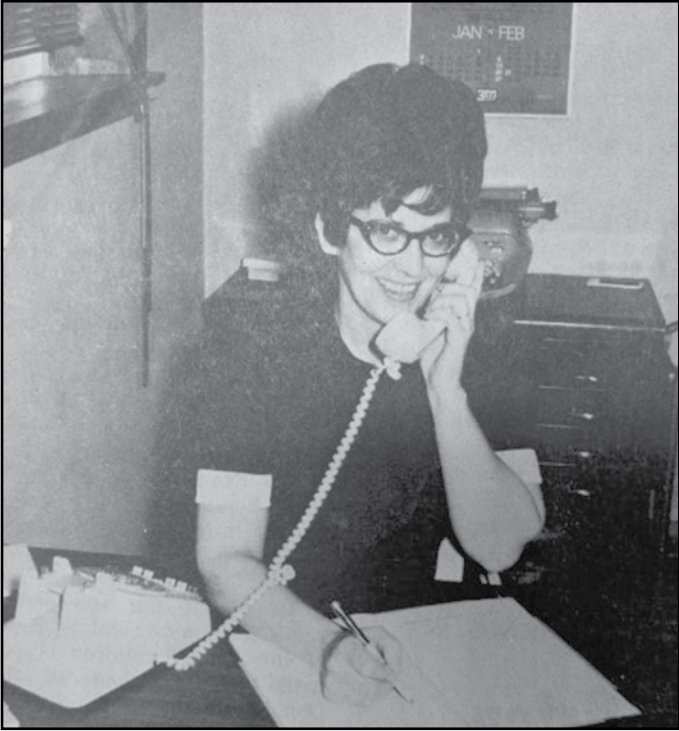
50 YEARS Ago - 1972

• Jan. 13, 1972 - "The New You in '72" is the theme of a beauty clinic planned by members of the Staples Hospital Auxiliary in an effort to raise funds for the new Staples ambulance. The self-improvement event is set for Feb. 5, at the high school cafeteria.

Joey Walthall, chairman of the beauty clinic, told The World that Mrs. Carol Bell, a Minneapolis model, will be in charge of the clinic. She is to be assisted by Mrs. Nancy Stidger, who is director of fashion merchandising for the MN School of Business. The clinic will consist of sessions on visual poise, makeup and skin care, and wardrobe and fashion trends for spring '72.

• Jan. 13, 1972 - Guy Doud of Staples is directing the melodrama, "The Cleanest Town in the West," as one of the three one-act plays being presented in the winter quarter at Brainerd State Junior College.

Doud is also a member of the cast of the play, "The Lesson," written by Eugene Ionesco and directed by Jeff Koep of Brainerd. He plays the role of the professor. A 1971 graduate of Staples



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our Jan. 13, 1972 edition. Do you know who this person is and perhaps the context of the photo? Do you have a memory to share? Email your answers and where you are 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.

high school, Guy is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jess Doud, Staples.

• Jan. 13, 1972 - The meeting of the Boy Scout Troop No. 61, Staples, was held Jan. 4. Dr. Raymond O. Garland, scoutmaster, presided. Some scouts worked on first aid merit badges with Mr. Williams, and other members of the troop made plans for a patrol window display.

Jim Johnson was awarded his Tenderfoot badge and then Johnson led the scouts in the closing ceremony.

• Jan. 13, 1972 - Thirty-seven persons in the area contributed blood to the blood bank at the Staples Municipal Hospital during the month of December; it was reported this week.

• Jan. 13, 1972 - Members of the Staples Toastmasters Club met a week ago to lay further plans for their guest night. Club members included Dave Nordell, Len Bain, Philip Pancholi, Don Moe, Ray Olin, Dennis Neisess, Bharat Patel, Chuck Balzer, Pat McDonn. Motley High School Principal H. Lyle Jones attended as a guest. The club meets the first and third Tuesday evening of each month at Holm's Cafe in Staples.

25 YEARS Ago - 1997

• Jan. 9, 1997 - Karla Peterson took her oath of office as the new mayor of Motley at the January city council meeting. Peterson's husband, Chuck Lubowitz, their sons, Dave and Michael, her folks, and other friends were in attendance.

In addition to Mayor Peterson, Motley City Clerk Patricia Crawford led re-elected council member Kathy Storry and new council member Patsy Roberts in their oath.

• Jan. 9, 1997 - Local recording artist, singer and composer, Tom Schrader will be sharing his original and traditional styles of the "blues" at the Centennial auditorium in Staples Jan. 11

• Jan. 9, 1997 - "I can't

remember anything quite like that!"

The snow storm of 1997 evoked more than one comment like that over the past weekend as central Minnesota began the week digging out from around two feet of snow that fell Friday night, all day Saturday and early Sunday.

10 YEARS Ago - 2012

• Jan. 12, 2012 - Mike Vacek has backpacked over 8,500 miles on foot since he graduated from Staples Motley High School in 1995. He has hiked international trails (in Peru, Spain and Germany), and thru-hiked all three U.S. National Scenic Trails (totaling 7,600 miles) to achieve the Triple Crown of Hiking.

After he finished thru-hiking the Continental Divide Trail (CDT) Nov. 4, 2011, Vacek took a Greyhound bus from Albuquerque to Staples, in time to celebrate Thanksgiving with his mom, Joyce Vacek, and other family members at his homeplace in rural Staples.

• Jan. 12, 2012 - "It's a great facility," Kent Smith said as he was doing some work at the former T Maxwell's at the east side of Staples, soon to become Town's Edge Restaurant.

There is an "opening soon" sign on the door and the road signs advertise "new owners - booking events." Kevin Jenkins said he has sold the restaurant to an owner who has hired Kent and his wife Amy to manage the restaurant.

• Jan. 12, 2012 - Dr. Seth Dokken, O.D. has purchased the Staples Eye Clinic at 222 4th St NE. He and his wife, Brooke, and daughter Adriane moved to Staples in early January.

Seth and Brooke both grew up in small rural towns and knew with the birth of their daughter in July they wanted to move to a smaller community. "There's just something about raising children in a small town that is really appealing to us," said Seth.

Radon can be detected in homes

From Todd County Health and Human Services

People spend the majority of their day in their homes and unfortunately issues within our homes cause some of the most serious health problems for both children and adults. It is estimated that 21,000 people die each year in the United States from lung cancer due to radon gas, which is considered to be the number one cause of lung cancer among non-smokers.

Have you had your home tested for radon?

Other issues like pests and mold also account for a large portion of housing related preventable illnesses. Todd County Health and Human Services was recently awarded funding from the Minnesota Department of Health to address these housing issues in our area. We are currently

conducting free healthy homes assessments by certified healthy homes practitioners. Technicians will come into your home and do an overall inspection of the property, identify areas of concern and work with you to find solutions to any identified issues. Homeowners and renters who qualify will also be eligible to receive free pest control, non-slip surface materials, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers and dehumidifiers as deemed necessary. If repairs are beyond the capabilities of our funding we will work with homeowner/renters to identify other sources of financial support.

For additional information contact David Determan at 320-732-4271 or email at david.determan@co.todd.mn.us. For Spanish speakers, contact Sergio Aguilera at 320-732-2221 or email at Sergio.aguilera@co.todd.mn.us.

Paver list correction

In the list of Veterans Park pavers dedicated at the Veterans Day event, three names listed should be:

• Cpl Thomas Bergs USMC
• 2nd Class Radarman Douglas Bergs USN
• Cpl Merlin Bergs US Army



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HOF ommission

In the Year in Review recap of the Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame ceremony, Coach/administrator John Rengel was omitted from the list of names inducted in 2021.

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Top small town trends for 2022

By Becky McCray
Publisher, SmallBizSurvival.com

I've been following rural trends and writing about them since 2009. My trends reports have been commissioned or quoted by Main Street America, Emergent Research, the Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues at the University of Kentucky, Farm Bureau's Rural Community Building, Small Business Trends and the George H.W. Bush Points of Light Foundation.

There's a lot of uncertainty right now. These are larger scale trends that will be in play for years, not super micro trends that are already obvious or so small they're subject to change next week.

Top 5 Rural and Small Town Trends for 2022 and beyond:

New residents arriving

After saying for years that remote work would bring more people to choose a rural residence, here we are: Zoom Towns!

The real trend isn't an explosive exodus from major tech and population centers, but the more subtle diffusion of opportunities to a broader swath of places.

We're seeing the conver-

gence of multiple factors:

- a pandemic that forced a major adoption of remote work
- pent up demand for rural living
- improving rural broadband
- the great resignation and re-evaluation of life choices
- climate and disasters shifting relocation decisions
- increased rural tourism through the boom in road trips

Bonus trend: People are eager to belong. With more people relocating, expect an increase in deliberate community building, reaching across polarizing divides.

Watch for projects in: Neighboring; Beautification; Belonging

Natural environment regenerating

The shift from simple awareness or protection of the environment to deliberately trying to make things around you better.

Innovative farmers and ranchers are being better stewards, improving the land and environment with each successive season.

Indigenous People and Native Tribes are gaining control of more of their traditional lands, fostering regeneration and advocating environmental policy im-

provements.

Natural resources are changing, and new sustainable natural resources booms are coming that make sense in rural places including:

- timber and lignin
- mushroom and other natural fiber materials
- dirt, clay and earthen buildings
- renewable and greener energy

Leadership and power shifting

Much like the surge in new residents, the shift in leadership started a long time ago. In 2015, we developed our Idea Friendly Method to help you understand and adapt to the shift from the formal to informal, from centralized to community, from control to chaos.

Awareness of the change is finally percolating up, even to the World Economic Forum. And it's also percolating down, to the level of local organizations and officials in small towns.

Watch for:

- Less emphasis on joining boards or committees to talk about issues
- More emphasis on joining activities you enjoy to take action

Rural healthcare reimaged

Pressured by financial

crises, closures and staff shortages before the pandemic, rural health care is due for reimagining. Between improving telemedicine and rapid advances in smart everything, will we still need general hospitals in small towns in 10 years? Do we really need them now?

We're already seeing rural communities come up with innovative answers that improve health care without focusing so much on the building.

Keep an eye on:

- Community involvement in health care facilities and futures
- Smart use of technology to improve people's health

Economic barriers falling

Equitable economic development is the buzzword of the moment in grants, programs and planning. For small towns, it's really about making entrepreneurship easier for more people and creating a fairer economy.

Small towns are the testing grounds for the future, and rural people innovate. Want to be resilient in the next big crisis? Tap our innovative spirit.

Focus now on developing:

- Local supply chain
- Small makers
- Artisans
- Tiny manufacturers

USDA invests in rural infrastructure

From USDA

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Acting State Director for Minnesota Cynthia Morales today announced more than \$37 million to help expand access to high-speed internet, clean water and reliable electricity in people's homes and businesses across rural Minnesota.

"Investing in rural infrastructure is more than just investing in a facility or new piping," Morales said. "It's investing in the ability for a household to conduct business, take a class or connect with family hundreds of miles away. It's investing in a community to have safe, affordable drinking water. It's investing in the reliability that a home or business will have power each day. Today's investments are a great example of USDA's continued dedication to assisting rural communities with Building a Better America."

This announcement reflects the many ways USDA Rural Development's programs are helping people, businesses and communities address critical infrastructure needs to help rural America build back better.

For example:

- Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative will use an \$8 million Electric Infrastructure loan to build and improve 144 miles of line. This loan will help connect 485 people to reliable electricity in Becker, Cass, Douglas, Hubbard, Morrison, Otter Tail, Todd and Wadena counties.

- Lake Region Electric Cooperative will use a \$12 million Electric Infrastructure loan to build and improve 149 miles of line. This loan will help connect 1,890 people to reliable electricity in Becker, Clay, Douglas, Grant, Otter Tail, Todd, Wadena and Wilkin counties.

- Consolidated Telephone Company will use a \$2.3 million Community Connect grant to build a 67-mile Fiber-to-the-Premises system. This is for 1,102 people and 20 businesses in the Irondale Township of Crow Wing County. Funds also will help build a community center where residents can access the free high-speed internet.

- Red River Valley Coop Power Association will use a \$5.1 million loan under the Electric Infrastructure Loan and Loan Guarantee Program to build 61 miles of line. This loan will help connect nine people to reliable electricity in Clay, Norman, and Polk counties.

- MiEnergy Cooperative will use a \$40 million Electric Infrastructure loan to build and improve 473 miles of line. This loan will help connect 1,230 people to reliable electricity in Fillmore, Houston, Mower, Olmsted, and Winona counties.

- The city of Onamia will use \$2.62 million under the Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program to construct a water treatment facility. The project will help bring clean drinking water for nearly 900 people.

- The city of South Haven will use \$3.8 million to make improvements to water and sewer infrastructure. The project will help to improve water treatment for nearly 200 people.

- The city of Bagley will use \$13.4 million to make improvements to the water, wastewater and stormwater systems. This project will also help to add unserved surrounding areas to the stormwater system and as a whole will benefit nearly 1,400 people.

Quote of the week

“The best audience is intelligent, well-educated and a little drunk.”
— Alben W. Barkley (Vice President for Harry S. Truman)

Minnesota reaches highest traffic deaths since 2007

From the Minnesota Department of Transportation

Four hundred and ninety-seven is the highest number of traffic fatalities since 2007 when there were 510 traffic deaths, according to preliminary figures reported by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety.

Minnesota has averaged 378 traffic fatalities a year from 2016-2020.

Minnesota reported the first traffic fatality of 2022 on New Year's Day when a 51-year-old unbelted male driver was killed in Goodhue County. Alcohol and driving too fast for the conditions are suspected in contributing to the crash.

Sadness and anger

"I'm saddened knowing how many families lost a loved one in a traffic crash in 2021," said Mike Hanson, Office of Traffic Safety director. "With sadness, there is also anger. Anger that so many motorists are taking the privilege of driving for granted. Some drivers are deliberately exceeding the speed limit, failing to put down the phone, refusing to buckle up and making the poor choice of driving impaired. Until every motorist takes responsibility for their own actions, we'll continue to see the carnage on our roads. Let's make sure 2022 isn't as heartbreaking for Minnesotans."

Speed and unbelted motorists

Speed was the largest contributing factor in fatal traffic crashes in 2021.

In 2021, reported figures show:

- 162 speed-related deaths were a 33 percent increase from 2020 and a 116 percent increase from 2019.

- Speed was a factor in 33 percent of all traffic fatalities in 2021 compared with 26 percent over the five

years of 2016-20.

- 109 unbelted fatalities in 2021 were 4 percent higher than 2020 (105 in 2020), and 49 percent higher than 2019 (73 in 2019).

Bad choices, tragic results

In addition to deaths in speed-related crashes, preliminary information shows:

- 124 alcohol-related deaths compared with 135 in 2020 and 114 in 2019.

- 24 distracted-related deaths compared with 32 in 2020 and 34 in 2019.

- 109 unbelted motorist deaths compared with 105 in 2020 and 73 in 2019.

The 497 traffic fatalities include:

- 67 motorcyclists compared with 64 in 2020 and 44 in 2019.

- 58 pedestrians compared with 45 in 2020 and 50 in 2019.

- Nine bicyclists compared with 10 reported in 2020 and 10 in 2019.

Recent deaths on Minnesota roads include:

- A 26-year-old male driver was killed in Pine County when his vehicle ran off a state highway and struck a tree.

- A 63-year-old unbelted male driver was killed in Dakota County when his vehicle ran off the road, hit a guardrail, and rolled. Speed was a factor in the crash.

- A 72-year-old female passenger was killed in St. Louis County when the vehicle she was in was hit head-on by another vehicle that spun out and crossed the center line. Speed of the oncoming vehicle was a factor in the crash.

- An 8-year-old girl was killed when she was struck by an oncoming vehicle at the intersection of a Brooklyn Center city street and a state highway. The vehicle that struck the pedestrian left the scene.

Put your wild harvest on the menu

The Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays in late November and December are usually accompanied by a heightened focus on food. It's true in my family at least. When we gather to celebrate these tradition-rich events, many of us pull out all the stops in planning and preparing memorable feasts for ourselves, our friends, and loved ones.

The main attractions on American dining tables for these events are likely to be a bronzed, crisp-skinned roast turkey, perhaps a well-seasoned baked ham, or maybe a roast prime rib of beef. Few holiday hosts today serve that once-common throwback to the age of Charles Dickens, Scrooge, and the classic A Christmas Carole—the Christmas goose. Chances are good that where you find one, you'll also find a waterfowl hunter who harvested that goose or gander. It's the rare butcher in whose window you'll find one hanging, as Dickens' Bob Cratchit could.

Those who hunt and fish have an opportunity to add variety to our menus. Unfortunately, it's all too easy to let the fruits of our hunts and our fishing outings remain in our freezers too long, unused and underappreciated. Out of sight too often means

out of mind.

I've more than once had to wear the mantle of guilt when a freezer-burned duck or grouse breast surfaced, long past its prime. It's hard to defend the waste of edible food. It feels especially wrong when the food that goes to waste is a once-wild creature that we have harvested.

The dynamics of hunting and of fishing differ in an important way. Unless a fish has been hooked deep or in a manner that injures its gills, is brought up rapidly from great depth, or is played to exhaustion, most can be released and will survive. Angling attitudes and ethics have moved quite far in this direction, manifesting the view of the late angling legend Lee Wulff, who claimed way back in 1938 that "game fish are too valuable to be caught only once." Still, there is nothing unethical about judiciously keeping some fish from time to time, especially those species at the base of the food chain that are most abundant, and—in some waters—may actually become stunted from too much competition and too little predation or harvest.

Hunting does not offer a capture-and-release option. If we are successful when ducks or geese come in to our decoys, or when our springer spaniel or Labrador rousts a rooster pheasant out of the cattails and into the air, the final act in these timeless dramas ends in the taking of a creature's life. That's why there are daily bag, possession, and sometimes season harvest limits on hunted game species, these in theory de-

signed to permit reasonable harvest, yet at the same time maintain a vigorous population capable of sustaining itself.

When we voluntarily keep some of the fish we catch, and when a hunt ends successfully, we owe to these creatures to not waste them. They deserve a place on our menus. This can sometimes be tricky, depending on the fish, fowl, or mammal they happen to be, and—not a small thing—the tastes of those with whom we share our households.

But there are workable strategies even in those cases where the hunter or the angler is the only household member with an appetite for wild fish and game. If encouragement to "just try a couple of bites" doesn't turn a doubter into an avid consumer, you can do what my hunting partner of many years does in his home. His wife, a very good cook in her own right, has never overcome her hesitancy to embrace duck, pheasant, or venison on the menu.

His solution is a feed-the-friends game and fish cook-off, with "banquets" scheduled several times a year, and all the main dishes wild caught or wild harvested. His spouse vacates the premises to avoid the kitchen clatter and the mingled aromas—not to mention the high-decibel talk and laughter, and occasional rowdiness—for social time elsewhere.

But, whatever you do—putting fish and game on the menu for your family, or a more extreme approach like my hunting partner's—don't stumble blindly into its preparation. If you're not

accomplished or relatively experienced in the kitchen, get some help. That help starts in a partnership with wild game cooks who know what they're doing.

This guidance can come in the form of wild game and fish cookbooks. A more immediate way to tap into the expertise of cooks who know their way around a venison roast, a walleye fillet or a duck breast is to visit some credible web sites.

I can recommend a couple. There's themeateater.com/cook, where you'll encounter the likes of Lukas Leaf, a former Twin City chef who introduced patrons to such unconventional fare as elk and wild boar. Other cooks' mouth-watering recipes abound there. Then there is the Modern Carnivore web site, modcarn.com, where you'll find not only straightforward game and fish recipes, but also podcasts on wild game cookery, a multitude of outdoor skills, conservation issues, etc.

If you're old-fashioned like me and are most comfortable with a real ink-on-paper recipe book, the one I'm most comfortable with is long out of print, but readily available in the online second-hand book market. It's Cooking Wild Game, by Zack Hanle. Although it was first published in 1974, a quick Google search shows it to be readily available used, and reasonably priced. I wouldn't part with mine.

There's no time like the present to resolve to honor the game and fish you've harvested in the best way possible: on your menu.

Staples World

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

Fairness: The Staples World tries conscientiously to report fairly and accurately. If you feel we fall short of this objective at any time, please direct your complaint to the manager whose name appears on this page.

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VA announces benefit boost

Veterans Notes
By David Anderson
Wadena County Veterans
Service Officer

Starting Dec. 1 2021, all compensation benefit rates were increased by 5.9 percent, which will be paid Jan. 1, 2022. VA is required by law to match the percentage of cost-of-living adjustments made to Social Security benefits. These adjustments help to make sure that the purchasing power of your benefits keeps up with inflation. If you receive VA compensation benefits, here is your new rates.

Here are the rates for compensation for a single Veterans and for a Married Veteran:

The VA bases your monthly payment amount on your disability rating and details about your Dependent family mem-

bers. Go on to the VA Website at <https://www.va.gov/disability/compensation-rates/veteran-rates/>. All VA Compensation, Pension, Survivors Pension, and Death Indemnity Compensation (DIC) is affected by this increase. All VA Compensation and Pension programs are tax free benefits. VA Compensation is a life time benefit.

Get Help Filing Your Claim

If you have a disability as the result of your military service, you may be entitled to VA disability benefits! The National Association of County Veterans Service Officers (NACVSO) is available to help Veterans and their eligible family members pursue VA benefits through their advocacy programs. County Veterans Service Officers are trained to help you develop your

Here are the rates for compensation for a single Veterans and for a Married Veteran:		
Percent of Compensation Veteran		Veteran + Spouse
10%	\$152.64	
20%	\$301.74	
30%	\$467.39	\$522.39
40%	\$673.28	\$747.28
50%	\$958.44	\$1,050.44
60%	\$1,214.03	\$1,325.03
70%	\$1,529.95	\$1,659.95
80%	\$1,778.43	\$1,926.43
90%	\$1,998.52	\$2,165.52
100%	\$3,332.06	\$3,517.84

claim. They review and apply current law and relevant legislation and gather any evidence necessary. Once you are ready to file a claim, NACVSO is there for you every step of the way!

[Source: Veterans Benefits Newsletter December 2020]

As always please see your

local County Veterans Service Officer if you have any questions. You can contact your local VSO at (218) 631-7617 or by email at david.anderson@co.wadena.mn.us and as always have a great week.

Community members invited to join CLC musical ensembles

Community members are invited to join Central Lakes College's spring semester musical ensembles. The Raider Concert Winds (a concert band) will have its first meeting of 2022 on Tuesday, January 11 at 2 p.m. in the Rehearsal Hall, room E471, Brainerd campus.

The jazz band, Raider Jazz Collective, will meet at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, January 12 in the same room. All are welcome.

For more information, please contact Jonathan Laflamme, Director of Instrument Music at CLC, at jonathan.laflamme@clcmn.edu or 218-855-8215.

Omicron wave hasn't reached us yet

The Omicron wave of COVID-19 has not hit this area yet. For the second week in a row, COVID numbers were down in local communities. While the state is seeing high numbers, this area usually sees the surges a couple of weeks after the metro area.

Statewide numbers by zip code were released Jan. 6, showing Wadena and Long Prairie with 14 new cases and Staples with 12 in a one week period. That is down from numbers in the 70s per week recorded in November for those three communities. Motley had 10 new cases, down from the 32 recorded Dec. 9. Pillager

had five new cases, Vernadale four and Browerville two.

The Minnesota Department of Health has determined that the Omicron variant is becoming the main COVID virus spreading in the state. This variant spreads more rapidly but does not create as many severe cases as previous variants.

According to a press release from Tri-County Health Care in Wadena, the current monoclonal antibody therapy does not work on the Omicron variant. There is a treatment for Omicron, but the supply is limited.

Mark Your Calendar

January 13

TODD WADENA REPUBLICANS MTG Thursday, Jan. 13, 7 p.m., at Thunder Lodge, 22056 US 71, Long Prairie. Republican MN Gubernatorial Candidates available for questions from 5 - 7 p.m. For info: Facebook at Todd County Minnesota Republicans; 401-632-7849.

STAPLES SERENITY AA GROUP MTGS are held at the Staples Assembly of God Church on Tuesday and Thursday evenings beginning at 7 p.m. Masks required. For more info., 320-874-0979.

WADENA WHIRLWAYS SQUARE DANCE GROUP DANCING Thursday, Jan. 13, 7:30 - 10 p.m., Staples Community Center. Vic Diller, caller. For info., 218-296-1642.

January 14

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.

January 17

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

January 19

STAPLES 60+ SENIOR CITIZENS 'PENNY BINGO' PARTY Wednesday, Jan. 19, at noon. If you wish to eat lunch, call 218-894-2556 before noon on Jan. 18 to reserve a meal.

Cardinal Calendar

Staples-Motley School events

January

- **No SCHOOL** Jan. 17, PLC
- **DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS AUCTION** Jan. 17

February

- **SNO DAZE** Feb. 7 - 11

- **MS/HS ORCHESTRA/BAND CONCERT** Feb. 7, 7 p.m.

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

Looking for a gift idea? Consider a Gift Subscription to the Staples World newspaper.

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

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Staples World 12 p.m. Friday
Heartland Market.....4 p.m. Wednesday
218-894-1112 • office@staplesworld.com
Staples World, 224 4th St. NE, Staples, MN 56479



Thank You...
to the area churches, organizations, businesses and individuals who so generously supported the Motley Area Food Shelf in 2021.

Because of your donations we were able to provide more food for the increasing number of those in need. A special thank you to our volunteers who are dedicated in assisting the needs of area families at the food shelf. Your support is greatly appreciated. THANK YOU!

--Sherry Miller Frisk, Director

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Minnesota.....\$46	Online only\$37
Out-of-State.....\$51	Print w/online.....\$65
Foreign.....\$61	Stop at our office, mail us a check, call, or go online to pay by credit card. (PayPal accepts major credit cards)

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~~ JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE ~~

Roy and Kathy Miles'
50th Wedding Anniversary
Saturday, January 15, noon to 3 p.m.
Staples Assembly of God Church,
914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples

Student Achievements

KYLE HUEPENBECKER, Staples, has been awarded a Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship from Bemidji State University for the 2021-2022 school year. Huepenbecker, a senior, is majoring in math education.

CHRIS HART, Motley, has been awarded a Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship from Bemidji State University for the 2021-2022 school year. Hart, a senior, is majoring in math education.

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:

Born to Alyssa and Jacob Pegel of Brainerd, a baby girl, EmberLee Mae weighing eight pounds, three ounces on December 24, 2021.

Born to Amy Moder and William Elyea of Brainerd, a baby boy, Aidan Connor weighing seven pounds, 14 ounces on December 24, 2021.

Born to Kayla Flickinger and Michael Pitt of Pillager, a baby boy, Conner Wayne weighing seven pounds, six ounces on December 24,

Hello World

Born to Kelsey and Justin Carriere of Ottertail, a baby girl, Cora Sue weighing five pounds, 10 ounces on December 24, 2021.

Born to Michelle Martin and Tristan Pierce of Motley, a baby girl, Freya Lea weighing eight pounds, 14 ounces on December 27, 2021.

2022

Born to Meghan and Justin Gangestad of Baxter, a baby girl, Catherine Therese, weighing eight pounds, six ounces on January 3, 2022.

Born to Kristi and Torance Loftis of Brainerd, a baby boy, Evan Ronald, weighing seven pounds, 12 ounces on January 3, 2022.

Born to Emily and Tyler Bekkerus of Baxter, a baby boy, Camden Robert, weighing eight pounds, 13 ounces on January 3, 2022.

Born to Kelly and Frank Perish of Long Prairie, a baby girl, Harper Anne weighing seven pounds on January 4, 2022.

Born to Trista and Mitch Johnson of Browerville, a baby girl, Evelyn Jean weighing six pounds, 11 ounces on January 5, 2022.

Born to Zoe Biggs and Anthony Kierstead of Randall, a baby girl, Sophia Grace weighing six pounds, 12 ounces on January 5, 2022.

Born to Ashley and Alan Schmidt of Staples, a baby boy, Connor Alan weighing eight pounds, eight ounces on January 5, 2022.

Obituaries

Janis Goff

Janis Mary Goff, 87, of Staples, beloved wife, mother and grandmother, passed away on Christmas Day, December 25, 2021, at the Lakewood Care Center, Staples.

A Catholic Funeral Mass will be held Sat., January 22, 2022, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Staples. Visitation will be held at 10 a.m. with Mass at 11:00 a.m. followed by interment at Evergreen Hill Cemetery, Staples.



Janis was born February 16, 1934 to Gilbert and Mabel (Lund) Simon in Gwinner, North Dakota. She graduated from Staples High School where she was a talented member of the school band, choir and National Honor Society. On April 7, 1953, Jan married the love of her life, William "Bill" Goff.

In addition to being a homemaker and raising her four sons, Jan worked at LaBonte Jewelry, Time Jewelry and Brothers III Furniture all in Staples. She was active in her church circle, was a member of the Brainerd VFW Auxiliary and the American Legion. In her spare time, she enjoyed gardening, antiques, garage sales and had a passion for

Minnesota sports. Most of all she loved being with her four boys and her grandchildren.

Jan is survived by her husband, Bill; four sons, Michael (Mary Jo) Goff, Mark (Julie) Goff, Patrick (Beverly) Goff and Daniel (Shirley) Goff; five grandchildren, Tom (Tina) Olson, Jessie (Carissa) Goff, Christopher (Jackie) Goff, Emily (Micah) McGinnity, Ryan (Erika) Goff and Maren (Joel) Martin; seven great-grandchildren, Riley, Austin, Charlotte, Lincoln, Merrick, Lyndie and Emma and one sister, Kathy Stehr.

She is preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Gerald Simon and granddaughter, Tina (Goff) Olson.

w3p A00006B2022JA12

Ann Vorgert

Ann Vorgert, 90, of Staples, passed away January 3, 2022, at her home.

Funeral services were held January 10 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with burial at Evergreen Hill Cemetery in Staples.

Ann was born September 4, 1931, to Michael and Francis Zilka in Little Falls. She married Elmer Vorgert on May 26, 1951. She enjoyed gardening, games with friends and was active in the church.

Ann is survived by four children, Marylin Lucht, David (Faye) Vorgert, Christine Barthel and Vicky (Bob) Scheiber; eight grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren and a large extended family.



She was preceded in death by her husband; parents; and brothers and sisters.

Arrangements were by the Brenny Funeral Chapel - Staples.

w3c A00006B2022JN12

Student Achievements

MINNESOTA STATE COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE has announced its Fall 2021 Academic Honors. Students on the President's List earned a grade point average of 4.0 and students on the Dean's List earned a grade point average of 3.50 - 3.99. In addition, all students were required to complete a minimum of six college-level credits and 75 percent of the courses in which they enrolled for the semester. Local students named include:

- Tori Dailey, Aldrich, Dean's List
- Jill Quick, Pillager, President's List
- Sara Ryappy, Pillager, Dean's List
- Jamie VanVickle, Pillager, President's List
- Braeden Wangsness, Pillager, Dean's List
- Caitlin Becker, Staples, Dean's List
- Rachel Connell, Staples, President's List
- Aleeah Halverson, Staples, Dean's List
- Damon Halverson, Staples, Dean's List
- Ryan Schuette, Staples, President's List



Staples World

DEADLINES
Newspaper deadline for copy
and advertising: 12 noon Fridays

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
Sunlight (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
firstcongo@staples@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 & 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
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
Charles Mallory, Associate 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.....9:00 a.m.
Monday AA meeting.....8:00 p.m.

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

Pillager
First Lutheran Church
Pastor Mathew Sundquist
717 River Street S, Pillager, MN
218-746-3775
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....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
Pastor Wayne Hoffert
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....10:45 a.m./6 p.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
Children's Pastor Kenneth Kjeldgaard
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.

Encountering Difficult Ideas

Zachary Jones, Lead Pastor, Staples Alliance Church

There are many times while studying scripture when we will encounter difficult ideas, or perhaps we are made uncomfortable. Jesus teaches things like loving your enemies, praying for those who oppose you and taking up our crosses and following Him. When we read these things we must avoid checking out and simply saying that these are indeed good things but they are hardly practical and that Jesus is being idealistic. We suppose that He doesn't actually expect us to really do these things.

Sometimes the words of Jesus can be foreign for us as modern readers and thinkers. It can be fairly easy to view Jesus as an ancient philosopher, wise man, or a nearly magical figure. Often we can approach Jesus with a sense that His words are indeed good and the ideals that He is espousing are excellent, but that His teachings are difficult to understand and difficult or impossible to actually live out. We can live with a sort of mental agreement with Jesus and His teachings, but we rarely go from mental approval to genuine heart change and life transformation.

But we must begin today by saying that what Jesus teaches is relevant to everyday living and that what Jesus says is actually vital information for us

not just to compute but to live by. We cannot push Jesus to the side. He is the Son of God. The words of Jesus push us to response and obedience.

When Jesus tells us as His disciples to do something, we must not simply acknowledge it and move on. We must respond by putting Christ's words into action and actually doing what He said is best. Jesus, when He speaks, is seeking to make disciples and apprentices who will obey His words. Christians will only be empowered and strong when they receive the teachings of Jesus and actually seek to live them out. Jesus expected his listeners to obey and put His words into action.

It can be difficult - sometimes we will say that we don't understand how to live out a teaching of Jesus, but that should not cause us to lose heart and give up. When we struggle, that gives us a chance to learn and endeavor to understand and find out how to live out the teaching of Jesus. This is a lifelong devotion. We must be conformed to Jesus and understand that obedience to His teachings is absolutely vital to how we live our lives today. Jesus did not waste His words on fanciful thinking or idealism. His word is for our benefit and sanctification.

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

Mid-Central National Bank

Fully Insured to \$250,000

Staples, MN 218-894-3900

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

Staples True Value

"Just Ask Rental"

Open 7 days a week.

Staples, MN 218-894-3263

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. Please continue to email your Ministerial pastoral message or advertisement to: jwinter@staplesworld.com



Cardinals surge in second half for wins

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team had three straight games where they took off in the second half. Two of those games were in the win column. On Jan. 4, at Long Prairie 77-43 and on Jan. 8, at home against Wadena-Deer Creek a 62-54 win. On Jan. 6, their second half comeback fell short in a loss to Osakis, 66-58.

Against Long Prairie, the Cards took a two point lead into the locker room at half time. Isaiah Schultz scored 11 points in the first half, and exploded along with the rest of the team in the second half, scoring 17. Schultz finished with 28 points, including seven of seven from the free throw line. The Cardinal defense turned it up as well allowing LP-GE only 16 points in the second half.

Against Osakis on Jan. 6, the Cards came out cold in the first half, falling behind by 17. They reversed things in the second half, with two early three pointers by Dakota Hennigar. Schultz took over from there, scoring 19 points in the second half with the Cards outscoring Osakis 35-26 in the half, but still left eight points short at the end.

On Jan. 8, against Wadena-Deer Creek, Hunter Miller went wild with, scoring, rebounding, blocking shots, going to the basket, getting fouled, scoring on fast breaks, making shots both left and right handed. The team needed that, as they didn't hit any three pointers in the first half. Miller continued playing well in the second half and finishing with 22 points. The team was boosted by big three pointers from Chandler Braith, Hennigar and Sivert Klefsaas. Braith and Klefsaas also hit free throws at the end ensuring the win.

Team results
SM 77, LP-GE, 43



At the hoop

Above, Hunter Miller puts up a shot over the Wadena-Deer Creek defenders. Right, Sivert Klefsaas goes strong to the hoop. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Scoring: Isaiah Schultz 28, Sivert Klefsaas 16, Hunter Miller 12, Josh Schimpp 7, Dom Gomez 5, Chandler Braith 4, Drew Berg 3, Dakota Hennigar 2

SM 58, Osakis 66
Scoring: Schultz 21, Miller 15, Hennigar 10, Klefsaas 7, Braith 3, Schimpp 2
SM 62, WDC 54
Scoring: Miller 22, Klefsaas 19, Braith 8, Schultz 7, Hennigar 6



Cardinals fall behind early in two losses

The Staples-Motley girls basketball team lost 65-35, against Pillager on Jan. 6 and lost 67-40, against Wadena-Deer Creek on Jan. 8.

Against Pillager, the Cardinals fell behind 15-0 to open the game, before Addison Lorber hit a three pointer. The team got the score back within ten points in the first half, but never got all the way back.

The Cards have one win on the season. They have shown signs of playing well at times but have can't seem to be consistent for a full game.

Team results
SM 35, Pillager 65
Scoring: Aften Robinson 13, Addison Lorber 10, Lauren Rutten 4, Ashley Robben 4, Alli Olander 2, Briana Bendson 2
SM 40, WDC 67
Scoring: Lorber 12, Robinson 10, Rutten 9, Robben 6, Meghan VanAlst 2, Olander 1



Outside shooters

Above, Allison Knosalla lines up a shot. Left, Addison Lorber launches a three pointer. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Staying aggressive

Luke Bjerga controls the action before recording a pin in the varsity match against Wadena-Deer Creek. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Wrestlers impress in tournament, duals

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Colbe Tappe was the 132 pound champion and six other Cardinals placed in the Gerry Bakke Buffalo Invitational Tournament held Jan. 8. The Cardinals also wrestled well in a home triangular meet held Jan. 4, with a win over Wadena-Deer Creek 65-18 before falling to New York Mills 46-31.

At the Buffalo Invite Tappe was named the Outstanding Wrestler. He won his title with a technical fall, a 5-3 overtime win and a pin in the championship match.

"Colbe leads the way with his work ethic, commitment and effort," said Coach Mark Carlson.

Turner Beachy took third at 113 pounds. He won 11-2, lost in the semifinals, and had two pins, including one in the third place match.

Dalton Wells was third at 138 pounds, scoring two pins and earning a 9-4 win in the third place match.

Blake Neelan had two wins, including a pin, an 8-7 loss, in overtime in the third place match to finish fourth.

Jack Carlson was fourth at 106 pounds, Riley Reese fourth at 120 and Eli Greenwaldt sixth at 106.

"On varsity and junior varsity we had a great showing and it is encouraging to see the growth and development of all our wrestlers at this point of the season," said Carlson. "With that being said, we have many areas of improvement that this tournament helped to demonstrate and that we can learn from. We will get back to work to improve on those areas this week, as we gear up for the second half of the season."

Against New York Mills, the first match of the day was probably the most exciting. At 106 pounds, Eli Greenwaldt fell behind 4-1 in the first period, tied it at four in the second period and scored a last second reversal to win 6-4. That got the team off to a good start, a good start as they built a 31-0 lead, but ran into some tough wrestlers in the upper weights, where they took some losses.



Close to a pin

Dalton Wells looks up at the clock to see how much time he has left to continue working on a pin against New York Mills. Below, Riley Reese rolls his opponent. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Against Wadena-Deer Creek, the Cardinals started out ahead 47-0. They lost three weights to forfeits but didn't lose a single match on the mat. The win was punctuated by Steven Petrich moving up a weight to get a pin at heavyweight.

Team results
Buffalo Gerry Bakke Memorial Invite
Marshall 160.5, New Ulm 152, Medford 139, Buffalo 126.5, New London-Spicer 118.5, Staples Motley 82.5, Centennial 57, Chaska-Chan 56, Delano, 43, Orono 39

Buffalo JV results:
Carson Johnson, first (132), Caden Kramer, second (90), Justin Olson, second (90), Jackson Schouville, second (120), Caden Dobson, second (138), Jacob Becker, second (152), Dustin Converse, third (145), Luke Bjerga, third (160), Adrian Gomez, fourth (170), Dylan Lawrence, fourth (195)

SM 31, New York Mills 46
106, Eli Greenwaldt W 6-4, 113, Turner Beachy W 11-2, 120, Riley Reese W fall, 126, Owen Winter W ff, 132, Colbe Tappe W ff, 138, Dalton Wells W fall, 145, Jason Trantina L fall, 152 ff, 160, Blake Neelan L fall, 170, Luke Bjerga L 12-2, 195 ff, 220 ff, 285 ff

SM 65, WDC Creek 18
106, Greenwaldt W ff, 113, Beachy W fall, 120, Reese W fall, 126, Winter W ff, 132, Tappe W ff, 138, Trantina W ff, 145, Wells W 18-2, 152, Neelan W fall, 160, ff, 170, Bjerga W fall, 182, ff, 195, ff, 220, Dylan Lawrence W ff, 285, Steven Petrich W fall.



Wrestling action

Turner Beachy locks up his opponent before earning a pin. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Todd County Commissioners Minutes

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS November 16, 2021

Call to Order
The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 16th day of November, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Becker. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda
On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the agenda as presented.

Consent Agenda
On motion by Kircher and seconded by Neumann, the following motions and resolutions were introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

To accept the resignation of Lewis Noska, Resource Conservationist-Wetlands, as of December 1, 2021.

To approve Connie Helgeson to fill the open Eligibility Work position, start date to be determined.

To approve Jacob Schwabke to fill the open Social Worker position, start date to be determined.

To approve the hiring of Timothy Ebnet as Resource Conservationist-Ag with a proposed start date of November 22, 2021.

GAMBLING PERMIT – BROWERVILLE SPORTSMAN CLUB
WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for the Browerville Sportsman Club through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a Gambling Permit for the Browerville Sportsman Club to hold a raffle event at the Clarissa Ballroom in Eagle Valley Township at the address 19281 Kotter Road, Clarissa, MN on March 6, 2022.

GAMBLING PERMIT – STAPLES SPORTSMENS CLUB
WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for the Staples Sportsmens Club through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a Gambling Permit for the Staples Sportsmens Club to hold a raffle event at the Clarissa Ballroom in Eagle Valley Township at the address 19281 Kotter Road, Clarissa, MN on March 12, 2022.

Auditor-Treasurer
On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 401584 through 401620 in the amount of \$29,668.79 and (Regular) 55355 through 55402 in the amount of \$107,210.36 for a total of \$136,879.15.

On motion by Neumann

and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 802145 through 802218 and (Regular) 708354 through 708417 for a total amount of \$103,504.93.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 600499 through 600512 and (Regular) 516610 through 516628 for a total amount of \$74,289.28.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

TRANSFER OF FUNDS AND APPROVAL OF ARP/SLFRF EXPENSES THROUGH JULY 31, 2021
WHEREAS, Todd County has received the first tranche of funding via the Federal American Rescue Plan (ARP/SLFRF) Act, and;

WHEREAS, Todd County has used/expensed funds within the allotted timeframe indicated in the federal guidance terms, and;

WHEREAS, Todd County departments incurred qualifying expenses per the attached list via the Federal ARP/SLFRF Act which were not able to expensed directly to Fund 19-ARP/SLFRF and now necessitate realignment to the County Departments that incurred the initial eligible expense.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby approve the attached list of expenses for inclusion as ARP/SLFRF qualifying expenditures and authorize the transfer of funds in the amount of \$59,254.76 from Fund 19-ARP/SLFRF to Fund 01-General Fund \$6,833.67, Fund 21-Public Health \$22,713.15 and Fund 51-Solid Waste \$29,707.94 to realign these eligible ARP-SLFRF expenses to the County Departments.

Public Works
On motion by Kircher and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the attached Dodge of Burnsville Purchase Agreement for a 2022 Dodge Ram 3500 Crew Cab Chassis SRW for \$35,383 (State Bid Price).

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the attached Ziegler Equipment Purchase Agreement for a 2021 CAT 950GC Loader for \$164,700 (State Bid Price).

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

2022 MASTER BRIDGE PRIORITY REPLACEMENT LIST
WHEREAS, Todd County has determined that the attached list of bridge on County State Aid Highways, County Roads, Township Roads, and Municipal Streets are either listed as structurally deficient or are a high priority for removal and replacement within the immediate future, and;

WHEREAS, local roads

play an essential role in the overall state transportation network and local bridges are a critical component of the local road system, and;

WHEREAS, State support for the replacement of bridges continues to be crucial to maintaining the integrity of the local road system and is necessary funding source for the County, Townships, and Municipalities to proceed with replacements of the bridges on the attached list, and;

WHEREAS, Todd County intends to proceed with the replacement of these bridges as soon as either State Transportation Bond Funds or State Townbridge Funds become available.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Todd County commits that it will proceed with the replacement of these listed bridges immediately after being notified of the availability of State Transportation Bond Funds or State Townbridge Funds.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the hiring of Mr. Arlan Bjorstrom to fill the Temporary Emergency Equipment Operator position.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the purchase of a new equipped plow truck per the attached purchase agreements for \$233,054.85.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kircher, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

2026 AREA TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN NOMINATION – CSAH 2 PROJECT
WHEREAS, the Central Minnesota Area Transportation Partnership (ATP) annually solicits projects for State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funding which provides for improvements to the transportation systems, with money requests being project specific, and;

WHEREAS, project nominations must meet eligibility guidelines and qualifying criteria as established by the Central Area Transportation Partnership, and;

WHEREAS, the Todd County Public Works Department recommends that the following project be submitted and nominated for inclusion in the 2026 Area Transportation Improvement Plan, which is a prioritized list of transportation projects that the Central Minnesota Partnership recommends for inclusion in the State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP), County State Aid Highway 2 - from County State Aid Highway 11 to Trunk Highway 28

SP 077-602-01X: Bituminous Mill & Overlay, Aggregate Shouldering and Pipe Maintenance Project, and;

WHEREAS, this project is listed on the Todd County Public Works Department Proposed Five Year Construction Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners does hereby support the recommendation of the Public Works De-

partment for submittal and nomination of the above noted project and requests said project be included in the State Fiscal Year 2026 Area Transportation Improvement Plan.

Planning & Zoning
On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To grant the conditional use permit on parcel 03-0089000 submitted by Alysa Thomson to establish an in home daycare facility in Shoreland Zoning with one condition.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the 2022/2023 Feedlot Program Delegation Agreement and Work Plan as presented.

Health & Human Services
On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Todd County Public Health Advisory policy/job description as reviewed by the committee.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the members serving on the Todd County Public Health Advisory Committee as Rona Bleess, Faith Community Nurse; Kali Pachan, CTCCC; Amber Rasinski, Community Member; Bernice Desotell, Community Member; Courtney Ranow, Todd-Wadena Community Corrections; Dr Alex Harsha, Lakewood Health System; Randi Valencia Community Member/Hispanic Liaison; Tanja Levin, LPGE ISD 2753; Lisa Warner, Centracare Health; Kristy Brownell, Staples-Motley ISD #2170; Barb Becker, County Commissioner-District 1; Randy Neumann, County Commissioner-District 5; Jackie Och, Todd County Health & Human Services Director.

Administration
On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kircher, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

ADOPTION OF COUNTY PERSONNEL ACT
WHEREAS, Todd County has notified the Department of Human Services of its desire to withdraw from the Minnesota Merit System; and

WHEREAS, to receive federal funds for various programs, the Minnesota Department of Human Services and local units of government must have systems of personnel administration that satisfies federal merit system standards; Minnesota Statute 256.012; and

WHEREAS, the County Personnel Act, Minnesota Statute Sections 375.56 through 375.71 satisfies the federal merit system standards; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners will adopt and appoint members to a Personnel Board of Appeals at a later date.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Todd County Board of Commissioners, that the County Personnel Administration System, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 375.56 through 375.71 be established effective

November 16, 2021; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the duties of the Personnel Director, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 375.59, are assigned to the County Coordinator effective November 16, 2021.

Closed Session
Chair Becker closed the session at 9:33 a.m. pursuant to MN Statute §13D.03 to consider strategies for labor negotiations.

Chair Becker reopened the session at 9:46 a.m.

County Auditor-Treasurer's Report
The County Auditor-Treasurer reported that Ag real estate taxes were due yesterday and the office is currently working on ARPA-SLFRF policy procedures.

County Commissioner's Report
Commissioner Neumann announced that the Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner will be held in Osakis at VFW for the community.

County Coordinator's Report
The County Coordinator had nothing to report at this time.

Adjourn
On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the meeting was adjourned for the month of November, 2021.

COMMISSIONER R WARRANTS	
Vendor Name.....	\$ Amount
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES.....	2,364.45
COMPASS MINERALS AMERICA.....	29,651.96
FRIEDRICH'S TIRE & OIL CO.....	5,854.00
GOODIN COMPANY.....	4,975.50
HILLYARD.....	2,052.52
IDEAL CONST.LLC.....	2,255.00
MELROSE ONE STOP.....	3,187.80
MORRIS ELECTRONICS.....	2,954.86
SELLNOW LAW OFF. PA.....	3,060.00
SHI CORP.....	4,721.00
STAPLES WORLD.....	2,485.88
TODD SOIL & WATER CONS DIST.....	36,317.00
WIDSETH SMITH NOLTING INC.....	9,530.97
72 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000.....	27,468.21
Total.....	136,879.15

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS	
Vendor Name.....	\$ Amount
DHS - SWIFT V #10956 - COST EFF HEALTH INS.....	2,739.36
RURAL MN CEP INC.....	16,395.07
TODD COUNTY SHERIFF.....	4,895.47
134 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000.....	54,926.02
Total.....	103,504.93

Vendor Name.....		\$ Amount
#16413.....		\$ 2,507.28
#16713.....		2,146.44
HOLISTIC FAMILY ED. SRVS.....		5,511.22
# 16814.....		2,300.20
LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERV. OF MN - ST PAUL.....		4,298.15
NORTHERN PINES MENTAL HLTH CTR INC.....		2,500.00
#16668.....		4,531.72
PINEHAVEN YOUTH AND FAMILY SRVS INC.....		27,060.92
STEP.....		5,033.72
#16491.....		2,077.60
PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000.....		16,322.03
Total.....		74,289.28

On a motion by Erickson and seconded by Kircher, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held November 16, 2021 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on December 10, 2021.

Witness my hand and seal:

Barbara Becker,
Todd County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

3pnc

Public Notices

REQUEST FOR BID FOR A USED 38,000 LB TRACK TYPE HYDRAULIC EXCAVATOR, CENTRAL LAKES COLLEGE-STAPLES CAMPUS

Central Lakes College is requesting bids for a Used 38,000 LB Track Type Hydraulic Excavator, at the Staples Campus. A copy of the detail specifications may be obtained by contacting John Maleski at Central Lakes College, 1830 Airport Road, Staples, MN 56479, 320-630-3806.

Proposals must be submitted no later than Tuesday, January 25, 2022, 1:00 p.m. CST. All proposals must be sealed and marked "Bid For Excavator".

Submit proposals to: Central Lakes College
Attn: Debbie Sterriker
1830 Airport Road
Staples, MN 56479

The college reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive any information or irregularities in the bidding and to make the award serving the best interest of the college.

Central Lakes College is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer and Educator. These materials are available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities upon request. If you use a TTY, call the Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529 and request to contact Central Lakes College.

3-4pnc

MORAN TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

The February regular monthly meeting for Moran Township has been moved to February 8 instead of February 1, 2022.

NOTICE TO MORAN TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS: Please keep your trash cans in your driveway instead of in the road right-of-way(s) as they are in the way of the snow plows. They cannot see them if they are in the road right-of-way(s).

Diane Mack, Clerk
Moran Township

3pnc

NOTICE MAY TOWNSHIP RE-ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

The May Township re-organizational meeting will be held January 31, 7:00 p.m., May Town Hall.

Regular meeting will be held February 7, 7:00 p.m., May Town Hall.

Bianca Wyffels, Clerk
May Township

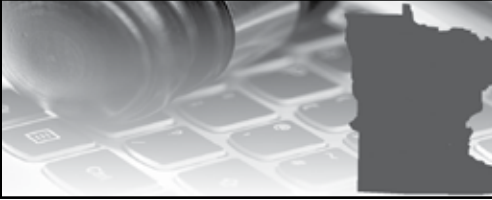
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Community newspaper readers will share papers with at least 2 other people?



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Did you Know ...
The local newspaper is the No. 1 source for community news, beating TV by nearly 5 times and the Internet by 10 times the audience

*Fourth annual NNA nationwide readership study

www.nnaweb.org



NOTICES

101

Card of Thanks

I want to say thank you for all who came to my open house at Mid-Central National Bank Dec. 27. Thank you for the phone calls, emails, text messages and gift cards. My heart is overflowing with warmth and gratitude. What a great community to live in. Thank you again! It was truly my pleasure to serve you!

Mary Kobliska

SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT

205

Help Wanted

TODD COUNTY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Todd County is looking for reliable, service-oriented individuals to serve the citizens of Todd County in a full-time capacity for the following position:

- Resource Conservation - Wetlands Specialist.

To learn more about this

opening and how to apply visit the official Todd County website at <https://www.co.todd.mn.us> or <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/cotoddmn>. Questions can be directed to Todd County Administration 320-732-6155. 3c

NOW HIRING: Multiple positions available. Good pay. Stop in for an application or send resume to Bjerga Feeds, PO Box 286, Motley, MN 56466. 49tfc

208 Storage

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Japke's North 8th Street Mini Storage, 894-1551
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Your major appliance parts source. Parts for all

major brands. One day service, Staples True Value, Staples. 218-894-3263. 26tfc

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Ed Jose

Call 218-371-2151

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501

Miscellaneous JUNK CARS & TRUCKS.
218-639-5509. 2-3c

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.

REAL ESTATE

602

Apartments for Rent

STAPLES: Downtown, 1 - 2 bdrm., recently remodeled, NO pets, non smoking, 218-894-3108. 6tfc

Spacious Apartments

FOR RENT - ALDRICH

1 and 2 bedrooms. COUNTRY LIVING, FISHING ON RIVER, ELECTRIC INCLUDED. Call 218-851-6798

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

Sunny Pines Apts. in Motley

Tenant must be income eligible, 62 years or older, handicapped or disabled. Heat, water, sewer, electric provided.

Call Rosie Talberg, Manager at: 320-468-2303

NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS

Firefighters Wanted
City of Motley
The Motley Fire Department is accepting applications for volunteer firefighters.

Applicants must be a minimum of 18 years of age, have a valid Minnesota driver's license, live within an acceptable response time area and be able to pass a physical examination.

Firefighters receive \$11.00 for each call, meeting, and training attended. Application forms are available at Motley City Hall located at 316 Hwy 10 S., online at www.cityofmotley.com or by calling 218-352-6200. Applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis. EOE

...HELP WANTED...
SouthSide Mini Mart, Convenience Store Cashier
Part-time, must be 18 years or older.

QUALIFICATIONS: The ability to multi-task and work with the general public. Handle cash, credit and checks, making change and counting money back to the customer. Follow the work schedule when posted.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Stocking/cleaning/empty trash on your shift. Resolve customer concerns, involve store owner when appropriate. Shovel snow and salt where needed in the winter months.

Stop in and fill out an application at 219 6th Street, Staples, MN

Place your Classified Ad
for only \$9⁸⁵/wk.
Your ad will appear Wednesday in the

Staples World

and online at www.staplesworld.com

Mailing address for checks:
Staples World
P.O. Box 100
Staples, MN 56479

Payment must accompany the order.
Use form below or click on www.staplesworld.com

Deadline: Friday at Noon

CENTRAL TODD COUNTY *Care Center*
Housekeeping and Laundry
Full-time and part-time openings available in our Environmental Services Department. Applicants must be at least 16 years of age.

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

Contact: Jeff Cebulla at jcebulla@ctcccinc.com or 218-756-3636 ext. 20
May apply in the business office or pick up an application after office hours at the nurses' station.
Central Todd County Care Center is located in Clarissa, MN

Staples World

DEADLINES
Newspaper deadline for copy and advertising: 12 noon Fridays

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Briggs & Stratton, Poulan
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218-894-1080

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Jason R. Sellnow
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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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- Elder Law
- Personal Injury
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FFA students tour colleges/industries

Prior to the 2021 National FFA Convention, students engaged in three college or industry tours. The Staples-Motley FFA Chapter delegation consisted of eight student. Back row, from left: Ben Olander, Colton

Converse, Addison Lorber, Caden Mrazek, Owen Hageman. Front row: Brooke Converse, Allison Olander and Camryn Ferris. (Submitted photo)

FFA continued from page 1a

Olander is national FFA champion in Agricultural Mechanics

media and design. Their high scores in this round of the competition qualified them to participate in the semifinals hosted live at the national convention. Prior to this event, the students also compiled media plans related to innovative agricultural practices, management techniques and marketing tools. Each team then created a 15-minute presentation based on their proposal. Their media plan proposal was the highest-scoring proposal out of the entire event. Their second place national finish is the highest ranking any Staples-Motley FFA CDE team has ever earned.

Additionally, the chapter received its first ever National Proficiency Award Winner. Ben Olander has invested thousands of hours and dollars into his agricultural mechanics Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) program throughout his FFA career. SAE is a form of experiential work-based learning that enables students to gain hands-on experiences to prepare them for their futures, and quality SAE program is one that builds on the experiences gained within the leadership development and classroom instruction components of a student's total agricultural education experience. At the National FFA Convention, Ben Olander learned that all of this hard work paid off as he won the

2021 National Agricultural Mechanics Design and Fabrication Proficiency Award and received a \$1,000 cash prize and medal for doing so. Ben has been interested in the functions of crafting and building structures for as long as he remembers. He began working for a machine shop owned by his grandfather and uncle and learned MIG, TIG and Arc welding, along with learning how to operate the cutting torch and plasma cutter. These tools have helped him create landscape rakes, feed wagons and excavator thumbs.

"I started out completing simple tasks around my uncle's machine shop, changing parts," Olander shared. "He taught me how to weld and fabricate metal. As I learned more, I worked on more complex projects. To be part of those processes and learn for my future farm some day is incredible." Ben is supported by his parents, Denise and Keith Olander.

The chapter was also represented well by two duos of students participating in the National Agriscience Fair: Camryn Ferris and Alli Olander earned 9th place in the Animal Systems, Division 4 competition, while Colton Converse and Caden Mrazek earned 4th place in the Animal Systems, Division 6 competition. This competitive event challenges students to create

questions and find solutions using the scientific method. The students completed an authentic research study, developed a visual aid and communicated findings to a panel of judges.

Lastly, the chapter received a 3-Star National Chapter Award, the highest accomplishment a whole chapter can receive at the national level. The special feature about the National Chapter Award is that it recognizes the entire program, school and community for excellence within leadership development and the FFA. The National Chapter Award is based on demonstrating commitment to each of the three divisions of a chapter's Program of Activities: Growing Leaders, Building Communities and Strengthening Agriculture. The chapter conducted over 25 events during the 2020-2021 school year, engaging hundreds of students and community members in leadership and agricultural literacy opportunities. The chapter ranked 5th in the state at the 2021 Minnesota FFA Convention and then advanced to the national judging process this summer, where the 3-Star Award was conferred. This is the second year in a row that the chapter has received this distinguished honor.

These events are some of many educational activities at the National FFA Conven-



National award winner

Ben Olander received the Staples-Motley FFA Chapter's first-ever national-winning proficiency award in the area of Agricultural Mechanics: Design and Fabrication. (Submitted photo)

tion and Expo in which FFA members practice the lessons learned in agricultural education classes.

For more information about the Staples-Motley FFA Chapter, visit their Facebook page or contact Advisor Joe Ramstad by email at joe.ramstad@isd2170.k12.mn.us or calling him at 218-894-5400.

Lee-Gilligan joins Region Five

Region Five Development Commission (R5DC) welcomed the addition of Brendan Lee-Gilligan as a Minnesota GreenCorps member. His focus will be on energy and environment planning and projects.

Lee-Gilligan is a recent college graduate with a degree in environmental studies. In his senior year, he worked from school remotely due to the pandemic. During this time, he wrote a thesis paper on how the United States could go about protecting honeybees and preventing Colony Collapse Disorder.

The Minnesota GreenCorps program, coordinated by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, aims to preserve and protect Minnesota's environment while training a new generation of environmental professionals. Members serve at their host sites for 11 months, from mid-September through mid-August. Host sites include cities, counties, tribal nations, public schools, universities, watershed districts, and nonprofit organizations.



Brendan Lee-Gilligan

Region Five Development Commission (R5DC) is a regionally focused partner providing community development, economic development and transportation initiatives in central Minnesota.

Minnesota GreenCorps is an AmeriCorps program. Funding is provided through a grant from ServeMinnesota, AmeriCorps, and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Pipeline protests affected Cass County arrest numbers

By Cass County Sheriff Tom Burch
From January newsletter

The calendar year 2021 brought the majority of the Line 3 Replacement construction project to the State of Minnesota and Cass County. The new Line 3 was constructed on approximately a 50-mile new corridor within the central area of the county. Anticipated active criminal opposition to this project was high and the Sheriff's Office was able to quickly respond to a total of 245 incidents project related, eight of which were active civil disobedience where crimes were being committed and safety measures compromised. Working through the coldest February on NOAA record and hottest summer on record, arrests were made, scenes were cleared and properties and roadways were made safe for our communities and citizens and project workers.

In 2021, we answered and processed 20,663 Initial Complainant Reports (ICR), which was an increase of 1,171 incidents over 2020. This may be a reflection of 2021 starting to trend "normally" again. This is our main method to document and monitor activity. There are a variety of calls for service that our dispatch center receives that requires some sort of action, whether it be from a Sheriff's Deputy, Local Police Department, Ambulance or Fire Department. These also include self-initiated responses from officers and reports made to track activity and investigations.

Also trending higher and more normally, our 911 Dispatch Center processed 50,585 911 calls from cellular phones in 2021 and 2,131 calls from hard wired landlines. These numbers do not include calls on our non-emergency lines. Overall, we receive 95% of our 911 calls from cellular phones. On average, Saturday was our busiest day for 911 calls and Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday trended almost flat for our least calls received daily. Our peak calling time was from 2 p.m.-7 p.m., peaking from 6 p.m.-7 p.m. daily. Our least call volume times were from 2 a.m.-6 a.m. daily.

USDA increases funding for school food programs

From USDA

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack announced an adjustment in school meal reimbursements to help schools continue to serve children healthy and nutritious meals. This move will put an estimated \$750 million more into school meal programs across the nation this year, making sure federal reimbursements keep pace with food and operational costs, while ensuring children continue to receive healthy meals at school.

"USDA understands that balancing the pressures of the pandemic with the need

to feed children healthy and nutritious meals continue to be a priority for schools across the country," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "The Biden-Harris Administration is doing everything we can and these higher meal reimbursements will help allow school meal programs to continue meeting their mission of giving children the nourishment they need to grow, learn, and thrive."

School lunch reimbursement rates usually do not increase during the school year. However, this year, due to the pandemic, USDA allowed schools to benefit from the highest rates avail-

able, which are normally reserved for the USDA Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). By law, these summer rates adjust for inflation annually in January.

This adjustment is well-timed to ensure the purchasing power of schools keeps pace with the cost of living. Schools receiving these reimbursement rates can stretch their operating budgets further during these tough times, while giving families fewer meal expenses to worry about each school day.

At the start of the 2021-2022 school year, the SFSP lunch reimbursement rate

for participating schools was already 15 percent higher than the standard reimbursement for a free lunch. Now, because of higher food costs and other circumstances, schools will receive an additional 25 cents per lunch. Taken together, schools are receiving 22 percent more for school lunches than they would under normal conditions.

This action is part of USDA and the Biden-Harris Administration's joint effort to ensure school meal programs are strong and have the assistance they need to navigate current challenges. This year's upward adjustment will add to the range of flexibilities, resources and hands-on support USDA has provided to school meals, which has included:

- Providing \$1 billion for schools to buy food for their meal programs and another \$300 million for states to purchase 100 percent American-grown foods to be distributed to schools;

- Awarding up to \$200 million to states for purchases of domestic local foods for distribution to schools, through the new Local Food for Schools Cooperative Agreement Program;

- Ensuring schools are not penalized if they cannot meet meal standards due to supply chain issues;

- Issuing and extending 14 nationwide waivers that allowed schools to run more flexible meal programs and serve free meals to all students, including relaxing meal pattern requirements, allowing parent/guardian pick-up of meals, and permitting meal service outside of the typically required group settings and meal times;

- Reimbursing local child nutrition program operators for emergency operating costs during the early months of the pandemic due to COVID-19 related restrictions and closures;
- Publishing new educational resources to help schools plan and serve meals, including a new set

centered around the theme of Planning for a Dynamic School Environment, aimed at helping schools leverage current flexibilities;

- Ensuring schools and their partners understand complementary options for feeding children both in and out-of-school, such as the Child and Adult Care Food Program's (CACFP) At-Risk Afterschool Program and "grab 'n' go" meals for children during remote or hybrid learning, student quarantines, and school closures; and

- Providing Pandemic EBT benefits to children attending schools participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) via virtual learning or a hybrid model.

For more information about SFSP, visit: www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/summer-food-service-program
More information on USDA's response to COVID-19 can be found at www.fns.usda.gov/coronavirus

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We Can Help

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