# Weather

This Week's Forecast High Low Cond. Feb. 19 4° -17° Sunny

Feb. 20 15 8 Sunny

Feb. 21 32 17 M. Sunny

Feb. 22 34 14 Sunny

Feb. 23 35 18 M. Sunny

#### Last Year, 2019 High Low Cond.

Showers

Feb. 19 20° 20° Sunny Feb. 20 18 12 Snow Feb. 21 18 6 Sunny Feb. 22 13 0 Cloudy Feb. 23 15 10 Snow Feb. 24 13 8 Sunny Feb. 25 0 -20 M. Sunny

> Average Temp.: H = 28° Low = 3°

Total snow: 53"

Compiled by Dale Hausmann, WCCO's Staples area Weatherwatcher

#### Public Notices Sample ballots:

0,

Obituaries
Frieda Jenkins
Maurice Lenk
Russell Mertens
Harvey Mudgett

Michael Tierney



# RUDY Distribution of the state of the state

#### Fresh off the press

Willow Hines (center) holds the book, "Ruby to the Rescue" that her mother, Jennifer Hines (far right) recently wrote about her daughter's experience with hippotherapy. Also pictured is Willow's older sister Bella. The Hines live in rural Staples. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

## Jennifer Hines' book 'Ruby to the Rescue' inspired by the power of a pony

By Dawn Timbs Staples World reporter

Jennifer Hines of rural Staples had always dreamed of one day writing a book.

An avid reader and faithful blogger, the 42-year-old mother of three wasn't sure how to make that dream a reality.

"I left it to God," she said during a recent interview, adding that she knew she "needed an inspiration."

That inspiration came after she witnessed the power of a simple pony named Ruby, and the benefits her six-year-old daughter Willow received through hippotherapy.

rough hippotherapy. Born with Down syn-

drome, Willow had been in some sort of therapy since she was two weeks old, Hines shared, mentioning physical, occupational and

speech therapies.
By the time she was five,
Willow had become very
frustrated with therapy.
"When you're in therapy
for that long it can start to
get routine or even a little
boring," Hines shared.

It was around that time that Hines met Kelly Peterson during Railroad Days in Staples. Kelly is Ruby's owner and founder of Acorn Hill EAAT, Inc., in

the Leader area.

Kelly explained that she offered therapeutic riding lessons and hippotherapy (treatment with the help of

the horse) to persons with special needs.

After hearing more about it, the Hines decided to give hippotherapy a try. "That was what we needed," Jennifer said, going on to say that after Willow got over her initial fear of the pony, she learned to love Ruby. "It was magical," Jennifer said of watching her daughter ride Ruby.

In the course of a year, Willow's core muscles were strengthened and she gained confidence as well. Jennifer explained how her daughter learned to give the pony simple com-

"When you wanted Ruby

See **BOOK** on page 12a

# Staples to seek sales tax permission

By Mark Anderson Managing Editor

The Staples City Council approved a resolution that will start the process of a possible sales tax in

the city. At the Feb. 11 council meeting, the council approved city officials to request legislative approval to hold a referendum on a local sales tax. City Administrator Jerel Nelsen said the process requires the city to get legislative approval first, then bring the proposal to voters at a general election in November. Since a general election is held once every two years, Nelsen said they will have to do it now or wait for two years.

The proposal also has to specify what the money raised by the sales tax will be used for. Nelsen said they are looking at different uses for the Staples Community Center. Nelsen suggested the tax would be one half percent, so a sale of two dollars would have a one cent tax.

"We are providing service to non-Staples residents, this will give them opportunity to share in the facility," said Nelsen.

**House option**Nelsen told the council

that a house on the city hall block could be up for sale and the owner had asked if the city would like to buy it.

"If ever we were to expand this building, that is the direction we would go," said Nelsen. "If we think in ten years we will expand, we might want to do it, otherwise we should wait," said Nelsen.

He said they won't expand until the current building is paid for, but the library portion may have a need to expand.

#### In other news, the council

• Approved memorandum of understanding with Business Watch International for tracking transactions at pawn shops.

• Approved temporary on-sale liquor license and gambling permit for Sacred Heart Area School on May 2.

• Approved site use agreement with LSS for senior meals at Staples Community Center.

• Approved City Charter Commission volunteers: Doug Case, Roy Miles, Brenda Halvorson and James Hofer.

• Moved time of Tuesday, Feb. 25 meeting to 4 p.m. to prevent conflict with precinct caucuses.

# Todd-Wadena considering new headquarters

By Mark Anderson Managing Editor

After years of planning, the Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative (TWEC) Board of Directors is ready to get started on a potential new headquarters. The new building would be in the same location, along Highway 10 on the east side of Wadena, and would be built in phases to replace the old building.

TWEC Member Service Manager Allison Uselman said the final bids are due March 12.

"Once the bids and final numbers are in, then we will be ready to move at an aggressive pace," said Uselman.

The plans call for the new building to be close to the same square footage as the old building, but will be more efficient and productive for employees, said Uselman. The building also has flooding issues that will be addressed with construction.

"Like any building built in 1949, there has been a lot of wear and tear, things get old," said Uselman. "This building has had a long life, but there are a lot of inefficiencies and square foot-

age that is unproductive."
The TWEC board has

been looking at building options since 2012.

"The board takes this decision seriously and has done a lot of research," said Uselman.

The project will not cost TWEC customers on their electric bill. In Staples, most of the homes north of Warner Road get their electricity from TWEC, as well as many rural homes and businesses in the area.

"Pairing rates is not in

"Raising rates is not in the portfolio," said Uselman. "Cost is always in the forefront."

The new building will provide extra benefits for customers, who will be able to use the new conference room to talk to cooperative employees. There will also be a new display area to promote some of the programs customers can take advantage of, including energy wise programs, load management, or electric vehicle charging.

For the building process, TWEC plans to use as many local contractors as possible.

The board will make a final decision on whether to approve the project after the bids are received March 12. Information about the project can be found at the TWEC web site, toddwadena.coop.

# School district shows first draft of continuous improvement plan

By Mark Anderson Managing Editor

With input from students, staff, and community members, the Staples-Motley School District showed a first draft of their new continuous improvement plan at a school board work session on Feb. 10.

The information was presented by Staples-Motley Teaching and Learning Coordinator Deb Ferdon and Loren Walz, Staples-Motley Communications and Marketing Director.

Superintendent Shane Tappe described the plan as a "working document" that can be changed at any time. "We want it to continue to grow and expand,"

Around 90 people were

asked to give input in several sessions the school held to develop the plan.

Ferdon said the groups looked at past planning work, action plans and at vision and mission statements. They discussed perceptions of the school district, strengths and areas of growth. The groups determined core values and developed priorities for the district, which turned out to be: relationships, integrity, respect, pride, excellence and communication.

They then applied those priorities to four commitments: student experience, climate and culture, value, and operations. Eachof the commitments has bullet points that school staff will use to create actions.

"What is your action to reach those commitments?" asked Ferdon. "This is a thing we can refer to all the time."

The plan also has new

The plan also has new suggestions for the school's mission and vision statements.

The mission statement

The mission statement reads: "Staples-Motley School District supports all learners to grow and rise to new challenges through a culture of pride in academics, arts, athletics and community."

The vision reads: "Staples-Motley School District will lead all students through a successful educational experience."

Board members Brad Anderson and Bryan Win-

See **SCHOOL** on page 12a age that

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# Bryniarski hired as Motley's clerk/treasurer

By Dawn Timbs Staples World reporter

Curt Bryniarski of Browerville has been hired as the City of Motley's new clerk/treasurer. He will begin his duties in early March.

The city council offered the position to Bryniarski at their regular meeting on Feb. 10. He accepted.

Bryniarski was one of six applicants that was interviewed. The interview committee included Mayor Al Yoder, council member Amy Hutchison, Police Chief Jason Borash, Public Works Director Bruce Brotherton; and Matt Pantzke, Randall City Manager.

Hutchison noted that 27 applications had been received for the position. The committee narrowed it down to seven to be interviewed, but one declined. After interviewing the six candidates, Bryniarski was the committee's top choice.

"Curt's education and experience were very

impressive and no doubt he will be a great addition to the City of Motley," Mayor Yoder shared in a later email. "I am excited to welcome him aboard and I look forward to working with him."

A Browerville native. Bryniarski graduated from Browerville High School in 2010. He continued his education at North Dakota State University, where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and Management.

After college, Bryniarski went on to work for Wadena County, first as a staff accountant and then as a deputy auditor/ treasurer. He is currently employed at Todd-Wadena Community Corrections in the accounting department.

Bryniarski shared that he is excited to begin his work with the City of Motley. He's worked in the area of government for over four years and is looking forward to the challenge of working on the city-side of

In a recent phone call,

things, he said.

Bryniarski shared that he is a volunteer firefighter for the Browerville Fire Department. When he's not working, he enjoys hunting, fishing and hanging out with his friends.

In other matters the council:

• APPROVED an ordinance repealing Ordinance 155, entitled, "Adopting the Minnesota State Building Code."

• LEARNED the new squad vehicle arrived recently and is getting all of the equipment installed. Police Chief Borash said it should be in use by Feb. 25.

• APPROVED a motion to purchase a departmentissued cell phone for the Motley Police Department.

• APPROVED a bingo gambling permit request from St. Michael's Catholic Church for April 5.

• APPROVED the 2020 Election Judges: Head election judge, Chris Rosvold; Election judges, Sherry Frisk, Bob Jenkins, Anita Sutton, Judy Thorsett, Karen Pogreba.



#### Welcoming the new city clerk/treasurer

The Motley City Council approved hiring Curt Bryniarski as the new city clerk/treasurer at their regular meeting Feb. 10. Pictured, from left, are council

member Pat O'Regan, Bryniarski, Mayor Al Yoder; and council members Amy Hutchison and Steve Johnson. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

• ACCEPTED financial donations to the city which are designated for the fire

department's truck fund. SET next regular coun-

March 9, 6:30 p.m. • SET city-wide garage

sales for Saturday, May 9. • SET city-wide clean-

cil meeting for Monday, up day for Saturday, May 16, 7:45 - 10:45 a.m.



### Reading stories with mom

Jackie Hanson of Staples reads a story to her children during the annual 'Move, Drop (everything), & Read' event Feb. 4, at the Staples-Motley Early Education Center in Motley. The children, from left, are Everett, three; Grace, five; and Archie, one. Sponsored by Staples-

Motley Early Childhood Family Education, the free event was held in conjunction with 'I Love to Read Month.' As part of the celebration, each child/family received a free book. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



#### Sing-along time with Miss Sharon

'Miss Sharon' Swenson of Staples led children (and adults) in a few interactive songs at the close of the 'Move, Drop (everything) & Read!' event Feb. 4. The event was held at the Staples- and Jessica Dukowitz, Motley. (Staples Motley Early Education Center in Mot- World photo by Dawn Timbs)

ley. Pictured, from left, are Tammi Walz, staff member; Charlee Dukowitz of Motley; Susan Estabrooks-Anderson, Early Learning Services Director; Swenson;





#### The race is on

Left: Three-year-old Brielle Miller of Motley gave it her all on the tricycle during the obstacle race at the recent 'Move, Drop (everything) & Read!' event in Motley. Her four-year-old brother Dawson (partially hidden) followed closely behind her, while their parents, Dan and Farrah Miller, and baby sister Vanna watched the race. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

#### Parachute fun

Above: Susan Estabrooks-Anderson (at back left), Early Learning Services Director, led the parachute activity during the 'Move, Drop (everything), & Read' event Feb. 4, at the Staples-Motley Early Education Center in Motley. Participants pictured, from left, are Dawson Miller, Brielle Miller, Charlee Dukowitz, Jessica Dukowitz, Margaret Dukowitz, Farrah Miller. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



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#### reported a shoplifting theft of numerous items total-

ing \$19.77 by a female subject. The female was seen taking numerous items off of the shelf and then using the restroom for about 35 minutes. After the subject left the store without purchasing anything, a check of the restroom was done and several tags from the items she had previously picked up were located in the trash. The items were assumed to have been placed in a backpack the suspect was wearing. A video of the theft will be

the Motley Police Depart-

ment (MPD) and Morrison

County Sheriff's Office

(MCSO) included the fol-

Dollar General in Motley

Feb. 10 - The manager at

the suspect was at that Feb. 11 - The MPD responded to a report of

downloaded into the case

file. It was unknown who

theft at the Dollar General Store in Motley. After reviewing the surveillance video and speaking with the suspect, the MPD issued a citation to Samantha Decoteau, 32, for theft and trespassed her from the Dollar General Store in Motley.

Law enforcement reports from the Motley area

Feb. 11 - The MPD issued a speeding citation to a juvenile for driving 39 mph in a 30 mph zone. The vehicle had initially been clocked going 46 mph, but slowed down after passing the squad car.

Feb. 6 - 10 - The MPD issued speeding citations to Jane Graupman, 58; and Nathan Winkelman, 63.

Feb.7-The MPD received a call from a Motley resident who reported he'd been scammed out of \$300 by a female he had meet through a dating app. The man said he sent money from the Wal-Mart in Brainerd to a Wal-Mart in Mississippi. The MPD advised the man to stop

sending money because it was indeed a scam.

Feb. 7 - The MPD arrested Duane William Hannahs, 53, at the 900 block of for failure to register as a predatory offender.

Feb. 9 - The MCSO arrested Brittney Marie Nelson on a traffic stop near Hwy 10 and 360th St., Motley. She had a warrant out of Crow Wing County. Nelson was transported to Casey's on Hwy 210 and turned over to the Crow Wing County Sheriff's Office.

Feb. 3 - The MPD was advised by dispatch of a vehicle heading north on Hwy 10 towards Motley at a high rate of speed because the driver was taking someone to the hospital. The MPD observed the vehicle go past him near Morey's Fish Market and began to try and catch up to it. According to the report, the vehicle failed to stop, and the MPD was advised by dispatch that

the driver was talking to them on 911 and stated he wasn't stopping until he got to the hospital.

The MPD followed the vehicle to Lakewood Health System Hospital in Staples and the passenger was taken into the emergency room by staff. The MPD spoke to the driver who stated his mother was having a medical emergency and he wanted to get her to the hospital as quickly as he could. The driver was asked to step out of the vehicle and when he was asked for identification, a pipe fell onto the ground. The driver was detained and the MPD learned it was a marijuana pipe and that there was a small bag of marijuana inside the vehicle, which he took possession of. The MPD allowed the driver to leave and turned the investigation over to Todd County as the incident happened in their county.

#### 0-0 **Looking back**

#### **75 YEARS AGO - 1945**

• Feb. 22, 1945 - Clinton Foster, of Staples, received word Wednesday morning of this week from the war department that his son, Captain Charles C. Foster, who had been held a prisoner of war by the Japanese government since May or June of 1942, had been released since the invasion of the Philippine Islands by the United States armed forces.

• Feb. 22, 1945 - Cecil B. DeMille's production, "King of Kings" a sacred motion picture show of the

#### Compiled by **Dawn Timbs**

story of the persecution of Christ, will be presented at the high school auditorium Monday evening, March 5, under the auspices of the organizations of the Congregational church of

• Feb. 22, 1945 - Heralded as the most important event in 50 years of motion picture history, Darryl F. Zunuck's technicolor production of "Wilson" will be shown at the New Staples Theatre on Tuesday, Feb. 27, with a matinee at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and one show in the evening at 8 o'clock, according to James Randgaard, owner of the theatre.

• Feb. 22, 1945 - In the News of Motley: Major Gen. E. N. Harmon writes as follows in awarding the Silver Star: Sergeant Charles L. Farber, infantry, United States Army, was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action in Ger-

#### 50 YEARS Ago - 1970 • Feb. 19, 1970 - The

Eagle Award, the highest honor to be bestowed upon a Boy Scout, was presented to Charles Page, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Page of this city, last Saturday evening. Charles, a sophomore at Staples high school, has been a member of the Troop No. 61 for the past five years. He has served as scribe of the troop and is presently the troop quartermaster and assistant senior patrol leader.

The coveted award was presented during ceremonies of the annual Boy Scout banquet held in the high school cafeteria, with an estimated 170 scouts, parents and family members in attendance. John Nemanich of Long Prairie, who has been active in the Boy Scout movement for many years and who holds several awards for his work in scouting, made the presentation to young Page. Dr. Raymond O. Garland, local scoutmaster, was also present during the ceremony.

• Feb. 19, 1970 - The second annual Joe Hirschey Memorial Award in the sport of Cross County at Stapes high school was presented last Sunday evening at the Cross County banquet held at the River Inn, Aldrich. The memorial trophy was established by Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Hirschey from contributions received by them following the accidental death of their son, Joe, in 1968. Joe Hirschey was a former Cardinal cross country participant and co-captain and led the Cardinals to district and regional titles.

• Feb. 19, 1970 - Mrs. Don Sanda, 7th District Republican Chairwoman, will be one of five persons selected by the Minnesota Republican Party to speak on an educational television show originating in Minneapolis Feb. 24. Mrs. Sanda, the youngest district chairwoman in the state, was asked to represent the officers of the Republican Party and will speak briefly on her involvement in politics.

#### 25 YEARS Ago - 1995

• Feb. 23, 1995 - The 1995 National Honor Society induction program last week honored these Staples Motley High School students: Kyla Kelly, Becky Hinkle, Jeremy Blessing, Carol Trantina, Kelly Stevens, Michele Heier, Lynn Tollefson, Tiffany Mudek, Mindy Olander, Sarah Auker, Chris Lorentz, Lori Rothstein, Shannon Holmberg, Nathan Foote, Joey Vogel, Richard Reis, Jeremy Daum, Leif Storbakken, Jason Becker, Craig Kaste and Erin Garey.

• Feb. 23, 1995 - The students at Staples Motley High School have had about a month to get used to a new face in the halls and administrative offices. She's Marcia Hetherington, the new assistant principal at the school.

• Feb. 23, 1995 - The Staples Motley girls basketball squad finished with an 8-0 record in the Mid-State Conference and an 18-2 record overall with two victories last weekend.

• Feb. 23, 1995 - The Cardinals boys last Friday sank the Detroit Lakes Lakers 79 - 50 at DL on the way to a 66 - 49 win over Hawley Saturday at Moorhead. The double wins put the Cards at 19-2 for the season, with only a Tuesday, Feb. 28 outing against the Aitkin Gobblers remaining on their regular season record.

• Feb. 23, 1995 - The Staples Motley speech team traveled to Swanville on Saturday, Feb. 18, with 12 participants. Staples Motley ranked first in the small team competition. Individual awards went to Jacki Olson, humor; Scott Smith, creative expression; Chris Schock, humor; Skip Brenny, informative; and Justin Windschitl, infor-

#### 10 YEARS Ago - 2010

• Feb. 25, 2010 - Hairdresser Heather Rollins is credited with helping to save the life of 82-year-old Virginia Goeden of Staples. When Goeden failed to keep her weekly appointment on Friday, Feb. 12, Heather knew that something was wrong. According to the Staples World article, Heather tried calling a couple of times, but when no one answered, she left the Family Hair Care and drove to Virginia's home on the south side of Staples.

No one answered the



#### Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our Feb. 19, 1970 edition. Do you know who this person is and perhaps the context of the photo? Email your answers and where you are from to dtimbs@staplesworld. com by Friday morning, or call 218-894-1112. The answers will be published in next week's paper, as well as a new mystery photo.

door, which was locked, but Heather could hear a radio playing inside. She grew even more concerned, and tracked down the phone number for Tim Goeden, Virginia's son, who was at his home in Baxter. Tim told her where a key was kept to unlock his mother's door, which Heather proceeded to find. Once she got inside, Heather found Virginia on the floor...breathing, but not responsive. She immediately called 911. According to the story, Virginia was first transported to Lakewood Health System Hospital in Staples where she was stabilized, and then transferred to St. Cloud where doctors inserted a temporary pacemaker to stimulate her heart. On Saturday, they took out the temporary and implanted a permanent Medtronic device, the size of a pocket watch, near her breastbone.

• Feb. 25, 2010 - Hunreds of people came to Leader Feb. 20, to show their support for Leader native Rick Hanson, who was recently diagnosed with colon cancer. "It felt like Growler's Days," said Donna Hanson, Rick's wife of 27 years. "There were so many people...it was just amazing." The benefit/ dinner/auction was held at the Bear's Den, owned by Rick's sister Glenda and her husband, Gary Dauer.

## Caucuses Feb. 25, primary vote March 3

Minnesota citizens can get involved in local and national politics, at the Feb. 25 precinct caucuses and the March 3 presidential primary.

This is the first year for a presidential primary in Minnesota. In the past. a poll was taken at each caucus meeting to determine each party's presidential preference. The new primary requires voters to request either a Republican ballot or Democratic-Farmer-Labor ballot at the polling station.

#### Caucus

On Tuesday, Feb. 25, the Republican Party and Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party will have caucuses at 7 p.m., where attendees can discuss issues to add to the party platform, discuss candidates, and nominate delegates to the state convention

For Staples residents, the DFL caucus will be at Staples City Hall and the Republican caucus will be at Staples-Motley High School media center.

#### **Presidential primary**

On Tuesday, March 3, the presidential primary will take place in Minnesota. Staples city residents can vote at the Staples Community Center, while other districts will have their own polling locations.

Like a general election, registered voters can simply show up to vote. If a person is not registered, they can register at the polling station with a valid driver's license or proof of residency, such as a utility bill with name and address.

This ballot will only include presidential candidates. The regular primary election will be August 11, with state and local candidates on the ballot.

#### Find your polling place

For both the caucus and presidential primary, Minnesota residents can be directed to the correct place by the Secretary of State web site, sos.state. mn.us. Click on the caucus or primary tab and links to the location finder will be on each page.

# **Region Five** announces new

Region Five Develop-

The Commission thanked the following individuals for their service to the R5DC board: Board Chair - Barb Becker, Wadena County Commissioner; Secretary - Matthew Erickson, Camp Ripley: Sheldon Monson. Wadena County Commissioner; Murlyn Kreklau, Wadena County Town

# board members

ment Commission has new board members, Andrea Haverinen, Region 5 School Board Representative and Katie Baier, Emerging

tors include: Chair - Alex Weego, Todd County Municipalities; Vice Chair - John Benson, Cass County Town Boards; Secretary - Julie Polak, Todd County Town Boards; Treasurer - Greg Blaine, Morrison County Commissioner: Directors - David A. Anderson, Wadena County Municipalities; Erich Heppner, Higher Education/ CLC; Rosemary Franzen, Crow Wing County Com-

missioner.

# Executive Director

Current R5DC Direc-

and efficiencies in ways that improve our rural quality of life." The work of the Commission is guided by a governing commission that

consists of 24 members representing a cross-section of constituents from around the five-county region. For a full listing of Commission representatives visit www.regionfive.

Cheryal Lee Hills shared,

'We are fortunate to work

for elected officials and

leaders of public interest

groups who continually

seek regional cooperation





**HEARING AIDS** ntional hearing aids are not helpfu to all hearing-impaired patients. Bone anchored hearing aids are an alternative to conventional hearing aids. Bone-anchored aids use a transmitter surgically embedded into the skull behind the ear to send ribrations through bone conduction directly to the inner ear, bypassing the externa auditory canal and middle ear completely These systems are usually recommende for patients who have hearing loss in one ear while retaining normal hearing in the outer or middle ear malformations. People who have chronic ear infections may also find traditional hearing aids uncomfortable or even painful, and that bone-anchored hearing aids are the right alternative fo

Do not confuse bone-anchored hearing systems with cochlear implants. While the are also a type of surgically implanted device for hearing loss, they are used for different nearing problems. If you're considering one-anchored device, your audiologist may let you try out traditional bone conduction hearing aids that don't require an implan or any surgery. Or, they may help you try out simulation devices. Helping you achieve our optimum hearing potential is our only ess at 17474 State Hwy 371, Brainer Call us at 1-800-458-0895 to arrange a free hearing test. PREFERRED HEARING provides this information as a publi service. If we become aware of any unusual condition during a hearing consultation that varrants additional professional attention we can provide an expert referral.

P.S Implanting a bone-anchored hearing aid is an outpatient surgical procedure that usually requires three to four weeks of healing before the exterior device can be



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#### **Mystery solved**

Last week's mystery photo, published in the Feb. 12, 1970 edition of the Staples World, featured 'Valentine girl' Diane LeVasseur, a senior at Staples High School and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ken LeVasseur. According to the archive article, Diane joins the World's campaign to "Think Spring!" with her heart wand, hoping to influence the powers that be to cooperate in an early termination of winter's

MaryAnn Riewer, Monica Johnson and Judy Wolak, all from Staples; Kris Huebsch from Ottertail; and Jan Greenwaldt Jares from Aldrich correctly identified LeVasseur. Jares noted that she and LeVasseur both graduated from SHS in 1970. Thanks for participating in our Mystery Photo.



#### **Special Olympics donation**

The Staples Host Lions Club recently donated \$500 to the Special Olympics. Above: Gavin Christensen, Ken Christensen and Mike Gold, Lion president. (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)

#### **CTC Board of Directors Openings**

Consolidated Telephone Company (CTC) is accepting applications from members that are interested in joining the CTC Board of Directors. Two positions are open at this time:

- Director District 2 Freedhem, Nokay Lake, Sullivan
- Director At Large which consists of all CTC Districts.

Interested individuals must meet the following qualifications:

- Be a member in good standing and subscribe to CTC telephone service at the member's primary residence.
- Reside within District 2 (for the District 2 position) or any of CTC's Districts (for the Director At Large position).
- Have the skills, interest, and time to devote to overseeing CTC business.
- Attend monthly meetings (12 annually), plus other industry assemblies and training.

Members of the CTC Board of Directors are responsible for representing the Cooperative membership and for developing strategies, policies, and objectives for the Cooperative.

Those interested in becoming a candidate for either open position should contact our office at 218-454-1206 for an application.

Applications must be received by February 28, 2020.



# **Opinion**

# mining permit

Paul Gazelka issued the following statement regarding the announcement that the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources will appeal a recent Court of Appeals decision regarding the PolyMet mine project.

"This appeal by Governor Walz and the DNR further emphasizes the bipartisan effort to move the PolyMet project in northern Minnesota that already meets

or exceeds all state and federal standards, go forward," Gazelka said. "The recent Court of Appeals decision has the potential to add surprisingly more regulatory precedent to an overly permitted industry. I expect the Supreme Court will rule quickly on the faulty rationale of the lower court ruling so that this safe, job-creating project, can finally begin.

## Primary privacy is needed

By Jim Smoger Wheaton Gazette

The Minnesota Legislature convened recently. We hope one of the first items they pass is a proposal by Secretary of State Steve Simon to assure voter privacy in the wake of the upcoming Presidential Pri-

To participate, voters must choose between a Democratic and Republican ballot. Who people vote for will be secret. However, under current law, all four major political parties: Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party (DFL), Republican Party of Minnesota, Grassroots-Legalize Cannabis Party and Legal Marijuana Now Party, will get a record of which ballot individuals select. Right now, there are no restrictions for how parties can use this data.

Simon proposes to do the following, according to a recent announcement.

• Restrict sharing of party preference data only to a national party representative and only for the purpose of verifying participation in the Presidential Nomination Primary.

 Classify party preference as private data, which carries specific requirements for those receiving the information, and consequences for disseminating information to the public or other third party.

Create an opt-out mechanism, whereby voters can be excluded from the list in the same fashion they can opt out of the public information list.

The political parties might not like these restrictions but the proposal is reasonable and will restore public confidence in the process.

We don't know why legislators decided to structure the primary like they did. It was different when the parties themselves were operating the primaries or preference polls, but this is being paid for by taxpayers and should be operated just like any other election.

Without this party preference information, the national parties say they will not recognize Minnesota's primary results as binding.

If that's the case, then

let's make sure that information is as restricted as

Voters will learn in the coming days whether Pete Buttigieg's campaign for President has the staying power for him to head into the Super Tuesday primaries as the top contender for the Democratic nomination.

But we want to take issue with one point the other Democratic candidates have made about Buttigieg's qualifications to be President.

They claim he isn't ready to be President because of his limited experience being the mayor of a "small town." In this case, serving two terms leading the City of South Bend, Ind.

South Bend is not a small town. It has a little over 100,000 people. This makes it comparable in Minnesota to Duluth, Rochester or the St. Cloud metropolitan area.

The one thing we like about a mayor's experience is that they have to be accountable to citizens. They hear about potholes or have to face citizens when there are issues with fire fighting or policing. They also have to balance budgets each year without the luxury of raising the debt ceiling and printing more money to get by.

The other factor is mayors, even in truly small towns, understand the consequences of the federal government adding programs, and just as important, not adding needed programs. They meet the homeless of their communities while traveling to work, or have to ask a city council for money to demolish blighted housing.

We think Buttigieg's experience compares favorably to the four years Barack Obama spent as a State Senate and his four years as a U.S. Senator (two of which he spent running for president). There are recent Republican candidates who have brought less to the table.

We're not endorsing Buttigieg. However, other Democratic candidates shouldn't diminish his experience in a "small

Staples

Established in 1890. USPS 518-760

Published Wednesdays by RMM Publications

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# Gazelka: time for Seize opportunity to invest in Greater Minnesota

From the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities

With the state sitting on a \$1.3 billion budget surplus and a AAA bond rating, Greater Minnesota city leaders are urging lawmakers to return to St. Paul with a renewed focus on investing in infrastructure across the state.

"As any mayor in Greater Minnesota can tell you, our communities have a lot of infrastructure needs,' said Greg Zylka, mayor of Little Falls and vice president of the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities (CGMC), during a pre-legislative session conference call with statewide media recently. "The Legislature and Governor should take advantage of the state's strong financial footing and work together to make key investments in our communities.

**CGMC** Executive Director Bradley Peterson noted that most lawmakers appear interested in passing a sizable capital investment bill this year. However, he has some concerns that other divisive, partisan topics like marijuana legalization and voter ID requirements will outshine "breadand-butter" issues cities face such as aging water treatment facilities, deteriorating roads and a lack of child care options.

"At the end of the day, Greater Minnesota will judge our legislators not by what they talked about, but what they actually passed and funded," Peterson said.

#### **Bonding bill top priority**

In the months leading up to the legislative session, which began Feb. 11, Greater Minnesota city officials have been vocal about the need for a large bonding bill (also known as the "capital investment bill") of at least \$1.5 billion. With \$5.3 billion in requests, including \$1.3 billion from local governments alone it's clear infrastructure needs throughout the state are significant.

"From our perspective, the cornerstone of any bonding bill needs to be at least \$200 million in funding for water infrastructure grant and loan programs," Zylka said, noting that more than 300 cities currently have projects in the works to upgrade their wastewater or drinking water facili-

"I know from first-hand experience that water infrastructure projects are extremely important, but they're

also extremely expensive," he added. 'We need the state to be a strong partner in helping cities pay for these multi-million dollar upgrades.

In addition to water facilities, the CGMC is also urging the Legislature to put substantial funding in the bonding bill for other top rural priorities including local roads and bridges, child care facilities, housing and economic development programs such as the Greater Minnesota Business Development Public Infrastructure Grant Program which provides grants to help cities pay for public infrastructure needed for job and business growth.

"Passing a bonding bill will require bipartisan cooperation," Zylka said. 'Governor Walz set a good benchmark with his \$2 billion bonding proposal. Now we need the Legislature to follow suit."

Foley, a city of approximately 2,700 residents located about 20 minutes outside of St. Cloud, is among the hundreds of cities in Greater Minnesota that need to upgrade their wastewater or drinking water systems. On the call with the media, Foley City Administrator Sarah Brunn shared details about her city's project.

Brunn said Foley is out of capacity in its existing wastewater treatment ponds and a moratorium is currently in place for sewer extensions. After weighing the city's choices and considering current and future water quality standards, city leaders have decided that the best option for the long-term viability of the city is to connect to the St. Cloud wastewater system, a project estimated to cost upwards of \$22 million.

"This is a massive cost for our city," Brunn said. "If we don't receive funding through the state, our sewer rates will increase by 300 percent. An increase of this size will cripple our residential and business community."

She noted that this project is especially important because Foley is home to a wet industry, PouchTec Industries, which employs 200 people and wants to add more jobs, but the city's current wastewater system is unable to handle its needs. Moreover, nearly all construction on new housing has been put on hold until the sewer capacity issue is resolved.

"We have no choice but to upgrade our system, so this funding is absolutely critical," Brunn added. "Folev and other cities who are in a similar

position can't wait, we need a bonding bill to pass this year."

#### Child care shortage stifles growth

The CGMC is also continuing its push to alleviate the child care shortage in Greater Minnesota, where there is currently a need for 40,000 more spots. The CGMC has partnered with the Minnesota Initiative Foundations (MIFs) to pursue several options aimed at addressing two main goals: stabilizing the child care industry by providing support services for providers and expanding access by creating new child care businesses.

The child care shortage has significant economic impacts not only for families who can't find care for their children, but also for the communities they live in and the local economies that affect that region,' said Don Hickman, vice president of community and workforce development at the Initiative Foundation in Little Falls.

"We've hit the point in Greater Minnesota where child care is one of the top factors, if not the top factor for whether a family decides to move to or stay in one of our communities,' he added.

In 2019, the state invested \$1.5 million in the MIFs' child care initiatives and Department of Employment and Economic Development child care grants, more than 70 percent of which went to Greater Minnesota. This money has been utilized in a variety of ways including business planning and financing for child care providers, workforce development to attract and retain providers, challenge grants to the private sector to create economic stability in the child care field and capital grants to help centers or home-based providers improve their facilities.

This year, the CGMC is urging the Legislature to increase its investment in both programs. It's also seeking \$20 million in bonding for a new grant program aimed at constructing additional child care facilities in Greater Minnesota.

The child care shortage has reached a crisis level in Greater Minnesota," Hickman said. "We hope to work closely with the Legislature to pursue several different options to begin to reduce that 40,000-slot short-

# Zip code effect: neighborhood determines life span

By Jessica Owens-Young, PhD, Assistant Professor in the Dept. of Health Studies at American University

Newly released data on life expectancy across the U.S. shows that where we live matters for how long we live.

A person in the U.S. can expect to live an average of 78.8 years, according to the most recent numbers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

However, life expectancy varies widely across geography. A child born in Mississippi today could expect to never reach his or her 75th birthday. But a child born in California. Hawaii, or New York could expect to live into his or her early 80's.

At the neighborhood level, these differences are sometimes even more dras-

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Website: \$37 per year

to out of state.

tic, appearing even when communities are only a few miles apart. In Washington, D.C., for example, people living in the Barry Farms neighborhood face a life expectancy of 63.2 years. Yet, less than 10 miles away, a baby born in Friendship Heights and Friendship Village can expect to live 96.1 years, according to CDC data.

Just 10 miles represents a life expectancy difference of almost 33 years, a generation lost due to premature deaths Overall any two census tracts in the U.S. can differ in expected life expectancy by 41.2 years, a staggering range. These missing lives have important social and economic costs, for families, communities and workplaces.

The opioid epidemic and increases in suicide rates are partially responsible for premature deaths and a decline in life expectancy, especially among workingclass, middle-age whites. But these causes fail to explain long-standing differences in life expectancy across place, race and

Neighborhoods with large black populations tend to have lower life expectancies than communities that are majority white, Hispanic or Asian. Such racial differences reflect the places in which different races live, not the individual characteristics of people themselves. Research shows that black communities are less likely to have access to resources that promote health, like grocery stores with fresh foods, places to exercise and quality health care facilities. This is true even in middle class neighborhoods.

These communities also have fewer opportunities for economic prosperity, with higher unemployment rates and fewer opportunities to work and quality education, all of which shape health outcomes across a lifespan.

How well a place is doing economically affects how long people who live there can expect to live. Places that are economically distressed, for example, tend to have the lowest life expectancies. As new research from the Census Bureau and researchers at Harvard and Brown universities shows, children from places that are economically disadvantaged tend to have worse outcomes as adults.

People who earn less also tend to die sooner. One

study from Raj Chetty, a leading researcher on economic opportunity and health, and colleagues suggests that lower incomes are associated with shorter lifespans in the U.S. Income is not distributed evenly across the country. Uneven income patterns may reflect unequal public investments in social programs that help people earn more, like education.

Place, race and class shape how well, and how long, people live. But state and local governments could play a role in increasing life expectancies. Research shows that where local government spending is higher, life expectancies increase among those with lower incomes.

From my perspective of a public health researcher. investments that could improve health behaviors such as building grocery stores, increasing exercise opportunities and discouraging smoking could also increase life expectancy. Policies that promote economic prosperity and address the impacts of racial segregation such as investments in quality education, safe and affordable housing and improved public transportation could also help.

Life expectancy is not the only or the best way to measure health and wellbeing in the U.S. But it's a good way to measure the country's progress toward good health for all populations, regardless of where they live.

This article is republished from The Conversation.

#### Office located at 224 4th Street NE Periodicals postage paid at Staples, Minnesota 56479. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100 Telephone: (218) 894-1112 - Fax: (218) 894-3570 Toll Free: 1-888-894-1112 www.staplesworld.com - E Mail: info@staplesworld.com

Official Newspaper for: City of Staples Staples-Motley School District,

Freshwater Education District and Todd County.

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available basis. The editor reserves the right to reject letters. The deadline is 12 noon, Friday. Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily represent the views of this newspaper.

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Local: (Todd. Wadena, Morrison, Cass Counties) \$41 per year

There is a \$5 charge for address change from local

Foreign: \$61 per year Student Rate: (Sept. through Apr./in-state) \$31

Minnesota: \$46 per year - Out of State: \$51 per year

.RMM Publications LLC

Rick Gail, Mike Kremer, Mark Anderson

. Mark Anderson editor@staplesworld.com

. Janice Winter jwinter@staplesworld.com

Kathy Odden kodden@staplesworld.com

.Dawn Timbs dtimbs@staplesworld.com

.. editor@staplesworld.com

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HEWSPAPER

Quote of the week

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." Eleanor Roosevelt

# **Cardinal Calendar**

Staples-Motley School events

#### February

- OPS (Dollars For Scholars) Kickoff Night for Seniors Feb. 19
- MS STUDENT OF THE MONTH Feb. 20, Centennial Auditorium, 8 a.m.
- DISTRICT SPELLING BEE Feb. 20, 1 p.m., Centennial Audi-
  - $^{\rm o}$  Her Voice Her Song Concert Feb.~22,~7~p.m.
  - ${f \circ}$  National FFA Week  $Feb.\ 22$  29
  - ORCHESTRA CONCERT Feb. 24, 7 p.m
- <sup>o</sup> Sub-Section Instrumental Large Group Contest Feb. 26, at SM

#### March

- $^{ullet}$  SMHS Blood Drive March 3, noon 6 p.m., Main Gym
- Polar Plunge March 6
- MS Dance March 6, 3:30 6 p.m.
- MS Play Matinee March 12
- MS Play Public Performance March 13, 7 p.m.
- MS Play Public Performance March 14, 2 p.m. • FFA CHAPTER BANQUET March 15
- HS CHOIR CONCERT March 16, 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.

#### **Crow Wing River Basin** Forage Council's Winter Workshop Feb. 20

Crow Wing River Basin Forage Council, an SFA Networking Group, is exploring marketing options for cattle at its annual Winter Workshop from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20 at Central Lakes College in Staples.

The workshop will also have a presentation on farm transitions, a direct marketing panel and a three-part marketing session with experts on branding grass-fed beef, aggregating and auctions.

Curt Porter is the speaker for the opening session, "Farm Transitions." Porter works with farm families to help them insure that there is a smooth transition of the farm within the family.

Morning panelists include: Walker Kahrer, "Branded Grass-fed Beef"; Bobbie Hendrix, "Working with a livestock aggregator"; and Mitch Barthel, Perham Stockyard, "How to maximize your relationship with the livestock

Afternoon panelists include: Jerry Januschka, organic producer in Little Falls; Duwayne Ditterich, feedlot finished beef, on-farm store and restaurant sales, Vergas; and Dayle Reinke, grass-finished beef marketed from the farm, sold online, from Wadena.

Tim Petry from North Dakota State University will be the closing speaker on "Marketing Trends."

Registration will be available at the door. The fee includes lunch and refreshments. For more information, call Kent Solberg at 844-922-5572, Ext. 701; or Chuck Horsager at 218-639-4225.

#### Programs/ activities at **Staples Public Library**

#### Spring into storytime!

Stories and activities for preschool to grade two on Saturday, March 14, 10 - 10:30 a.m. Registration required. Sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library. Second Wednesday of each month.

#### Create a handstamped cuff bracelet

Activity for adults and teens led by Jen Anfinson. Thursday, March 19, 6 - 7:30 p.m. Learn two jewelry techniques - jewelry stamping and metal bending; and create a hand-stamped cuff bracelet. Class limited to 20. A Legacy event.

#### **Agate man**

Are you fascinated with agates? Do you enjoy collecting them? Don't miss Agate Man, Lyndon Johnson on Saturday, March 21, 10 - 11 a.m. He will share his expertise about agates and how to find them. Lyndon will have examples of agates, fossils, artifacts and

minerals he has found. For all ages. A Legacy event.

#### **Book club for adults**

If you enjoy reading and discussing books, then this is the group for you. A fun opportunity for you to learn interesting facts about the authors and share your opinions. Contact the library for the monthly book selection and to sign up. Book Club meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Thursday, March. 26, 6 - 7 p.m. For teens and adults.

#### **Tech time**

Trouble understanding your laptop, iPad, Kindle or other electronic device? Would you like to download books from the library website or use ebooks but aren't sure how to? Tech help will be available the first Wednesday of each month from 10 a.m. - noon. Registration required. For teens or adults. Wednesday, March 4.

### A Choral Festival for Young Women Her Woice Her Song Saturday, Feb. 22 Staples-Motley High School Doors open 6:30 p.m. Concert 7:00 p.m. Tickets: \$10 Single or \$25 Family Available from: Chorus members; Markus Hair Design, Motley; Nelson Insurance Agency and Staples World, Staples and at the door. Sponsored by Staples Area Women's Chorus Featuring the Festivals Guest Director, Dr. Erynn Millard Guest Clinician Dr. Holly Janz

# Staples Area Women's Chorus hosts 2020 'Her Voice, Her Song'

#### Event to be held at Centennial Auditorium

The Staples Area Women's Chorus (SAWC) will be hosting the 2020 Choral Festival for Women, 'Her Voice, Her Song' on Saturday, Feb. 22, in Staples. A concert for the public will be held at 7 p.m., at Centennial Auditorium. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Several area choirs have been invited to join the SAWC's annual event and to date, over 400 voices have registered to be a part

Dr. Erynn Millard will be the festival's guest director. She is the Director of Choral Activities at Minnesota State University Moorhead. Lyric mezzo-soprano Dr. Holly Janz, Professor of Voice and Diction at Con-



#### Guest director

Dr. Erynn Millard is the guest director for the 2020 Choral Festival for Women.



#### Guest clinician

Dr. Holly Janz is the guest clinician for the 2020 Choral Festival for Women.

cordia College in Moorhead, will be the event's guest clinician.

Tickets for the evening concert are available for purchase at the Staples World and Nelson's Insurance Agency in Staples; Markus Hair Design in Motley; from the SAWC members; and at the door.

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

For more information, call Barba Best at 218-232-1101 or Joyce Anderson at 218-894-1574.



#### SM Speech team places first at Brainerd tournament

The Staples-Motley Cardinal Speech Team took home the first place trophy at the Brainerd Open speech tournament held Feb. 15. Fifteen teams competed, with Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton, taking second and Underwood, took third place.

Earning awards and recognition at the tournament were; Micah Larson; 2nd, Creative Expression; Jack Tyrell; 3rd, Discussion; Brooke Ferdon; 5th, Discussion; Ari Brings; 3rd, Drama; Cy Johnson; 5th, Drama; Ethan Gilbertson and Jonah Johnson; 1st, Duo; lain Sams and Cy Johnson; 3rd, Duo; Keegan Bestland and Keegan Harvey; 10th, Duo; Samantha Mrazek; 3rd, Ex. Read-

ing; Alex Brings; 2nd, Great Speeches; Ari Brings; 3rd Great Speeches; Caden Mrazek; 2nd, Humor; Luke Bates; 7th, Humor; AJ Nienow; 9th, Humor; Mason Birkholtz; 12th, Humor; Lilly Niemi; 1st, Informative; Torii Nienow; 3rd, Informative; Alex Brings; 3rd, Original Oratory; Ari Brings; 8th, Original Oratory; Samantha Mrazek; 2nd, Prose; Caden Mrazek; 7th, Storytelling; Laken Hines; 8th, Storytelling and Keegan Bestland; 11th, Storytelling.

The team will compete Feb. 22, at the Bemidji Tournament. (Submitted photo)

#### 9 Library **Hours**

The Staples Public Library is located at 122 6th St. NE, Staples. Hours: Mon. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Tue. 2-8 p.m., Weds. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Thurs. 2-8 p.m., Fri. 1-5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. For more information contact the library at 218-894-





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(Sept.-April) On-Line: \$37

**Print with** on-line: \$65

P.O. Box 100 224 4th St. NE Staples, MN 56479 218-894-1112 www.staplesworld.com



## **Central Lakes College** announces Fall Honors List

Central Lakes College, Brainerd and Staples, has announced its 2019 Fall Semester Honors List. The President's List includes students who earned a grade point average of 3.75 or higher while enrolled in at least 12 credits. The Dean's List includes students who earned a grade point average of 3.25 - 3.74.

The released honors list does not include students who have requested no release of information. Local students named includes:

#### **Motley**

Staples

**Staples Alliance** 

**Assembly of God** 

914 3rd Ave. NE. Staples.

Discipleship Classes.

Wednesday times are for Sept. - May Sonlight (Kids Program)....4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Website: www.stapleschurchofchrist.org

Bible School (youth and adult).....9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship......10:30 a.m.

Teen Youth/Adults Bible Study ..... 6:30 p.m.

First Congregational Church,

204 5th St. NE, Staples ...... 218-894-2571

Fellowship, refreshments following service

Faith Lutheran 430 12th Street. NE., Staples.....218-894-1546

Monica J. Simmons..... 218-414-0081 cell/text

firstcongouccstaples@gmail.com

Sunday Worship.

Evening Prayer

WEDNESĎAY

Youth Group

Pastor Barry Klein

Worship.

Pastor: Carl Larson

Sunday Worship Service.. Sunday School and

Sacred Heart Church

Youth and Young Adult Ministry

Seventh Day Adventist

Thomastown Covenant

15940 251st Ave., Staples......218-894-3923

Sunday School & Bible Class...... 10:30 a.m.

Coffee Fellowship...

310 4th St. NE, Staples

Pastor Fr. Gabriel Walz

Thursday and Friday..

421 Dakota Ave. SE, Staples

Saturday Worship Sabbath School ....

Sunday School .... Sunday Worship..

Rev. Robin Collins

Coordinator

Saturday

218-894-0033

**Church of Christ** 

27343 490th St., Staples.

Sunday Worship

Sunday School

WEDNESDAY

AWANA

1512 8th St. NE, Staples ...

Associate Pastor Zach Jones

President's List: Abbigail DiGiovanni, Kari Erickson, Thomas Kossan,

Samantha Mrazek, Torii Nienow. Dean's List: Tiffany Achermann, Joshua Carlson, Gage Neelan, Lilly Niemi, Hailey Owen, James Vold.

#### **Pillager**

President's List: Brady Bordwell, Lauren Hughes, Noah Jacobson, Elise Jensen, Emily Johnson, Benjamin Krall, Bo Kruchten, Grace Nagel, Logan Stearns, Ty Swenson. Dean's List: Jared Eng, Lillian Masurka, Rebecca Masurka, Lexus Ruggles, Hannah Ruhl.

#### **Staples**

President's List: Izabella Edin, John Lund,

Thank you... for reading the Staples World

United Methodist

**Balsamlund Lutheran** 

19550 490th Street, Aldrich

**Bethany Lutheran** 25430 Bison Rd.Cushing, MN

www.bethanylutherancushing.org

Sunday Worship.

Sunday School

Cushing

320-749-2140

Pastor Carl Larson

Sunday Worship...

Sunday School and

Coffee Fellowship..

Pancake Breakfast

Pastor: Jim Brown

Worship Gathering

Praise & Prayer

Kids' Club.

SUNDAY

2nd Sunday, each month

**Lincoln Evangelical Free** 

Youth Coordinator: Joe Reigstad

Sunday School for all ages ...

Jr./Sr. Forge Youth Group

**Swan Valley Lutheran** 

of Word and Sacrament

**Maple Hill Lutheran** 

Worship and Sunday School..

Leaf River Township

Sunday Worship.

Leader ......218-397-2470 Sandy Knight, Synodically Authorized Minister

Sandy Knight, Synodically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament

......218-397-2470 (Rural Pine River)

**Cushing Baptist** 

Pastor Dan Holmes..

Sunday School .

Worship WEDNESDAY

Leader

1354 320th St., Cushing.........218-575-2449 www.lincolnefree.org Facebook Lincoln E Free Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Senior Pastor: Donald Reigstad

(Nursery Available for Sunday Worship)

Sunday School (for grades K-12 and adults)

310 5th St. NE, Staples .....

Pastor Greg Leslie

Aldrich

Sunday Worship.

...218-894-2891

.9:30 a.m.

..6:00 p.m.

9:30 a.m.

. 10:30 a.m.

...6:00 p.m.

. 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

..218-894-2609

...9:30 a.m.

9:00 a m

... 10:05 a.m.

.8:30 a.m..

..5:00 p.m.

8:30 a.m.

.. 10:45 am.

..9:30 a.m.

9·15 a.m.

.9:00 a.m.

.... 10:30 a.m.

218-894-1081

Nancy O'Rourke, Riley Peterson, Hope Ratajczak, Rylie Rau. Dean's List: James Barrett, Brittany Dahlvang, Dale Davis, Dylan Dempsey, Jacob O'Rourke, Kyle Serich, Braden Tyrrell.

#### 9 **Student Achievements**

AYLIN ORNELAS, Motley, recently graduated from North Dakota State University in Fargo with a Bachelor of Science degree in Apparel, Retail Merchandising and Design.

SIMON UNGER, Pillager, recently graduated from North Dakota State University in Fargo with a Bachelor of Science degree in

Staples Area Church Directory

..218-894-2248

...9:15-10:15 a.m

......701-261-2394 (cell)

..10:30 a.m.

..8:15`a.m.

..8:30 a.m.

.10:45 a.m.

.9:30 a.m.

.9:00 a.m.

.10:00 a.m.

.4:30 p.m.

..320-749-2583

..9:30 a.m.

.10:30 a.m.

.7:30 p.m.

.11:00 a.m

....9:00 a.m

Motley

Motley 56466.....

Pastor Jim Johnson

Sunday Worship.

Sunday School .

WEDNESDAY

Kids Club.

Youth Group

St. John's Lutheran

Sunday School and Bible Class ..... 8:30 a.m.

847 3rd Ave. S. Lane, Motley.....218-352-6466

497 3rd Ave. S, Motley..... Pastor Vicar Paul Koehler

Sunday Worship.

1st St. and Birch, Motley

Pastor Fr. Gabriel Walz

**United Methodist** 

Sunday Worship Service.

Cty. Rds, 7 and 9, Oylen 218-472-3440 or 218-472-3316

**First Lutheran Church** 

717 River Street S, Pillager, MN

**Casino Assembly of God** 

N. of Motley, Hwy. 64, E. on Cty 34 to Cty. 104.

Pastor Mathew Sundauist

Sunday Worship Sunday School ..

Sunday School

Sunday Worship

**First Baptist** 

218-746-3768

903 River Street South, Pillager Pastor Jake Anderson

(serving coffee and donuts)

Worship....

WEDNESDAY ...

St. Michael

MASS:

Tuesday

Wednesday....

www.motlevumc.net

**Oylen Alliance** 

Pastor Neal Malcore

Sunday School.

Sunday Worship

Pillager

218-746-3775

Phone .

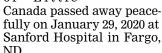
**Oylen** 

**Motley Free Methodist** 

## **Obituaries**

### **Michael** Tierney

Michael H. Tierney, 78, of Staples, formerly of Little



A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

He was born May 22, 1941 in St. Paul. Mike was a proud Irishman and U.S. Marine.

He is survived by his wife, Gina (nee Gloria Brandt): four children. Tracy, Mike, Kerry and Sean; six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. w8p A00006B2020FB19

Hewitt

Pastor Wayne Hoffert

Sunday School.

Sunday Worship.

WEDNESDAY

Prayer..

(LCMS)

Pastor Robin Fish

Sunday Worship

Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN

Pastor Kenneth Uhren

Sunday Services

Sunday School

Verndale

Verndale Alliance

Senior Pastor Tony Stanley

**Family Life Church** 

VerndaleFLC@gmail.com Pastor Amos Self .....

Discipleship Classes...

Coffee / Fellowship ....

Celebrate Recovery ..

Hope Chapel Alliance

18126 County Road 7, Verndale

218-445-5643 or 218-472-3316

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Bartlett Township (LCMS)

**Verndale United Methodist** 

5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar) Pastor Chuck Horsager, 218-639-4225

17097 460th St. PO Box 37, Verndale

Worship Service.

WEDNESDAY

6:00 p.m....Meal ...

Pastor Neal Malcore

Sunday Worship.

Sunday School

Family Night

Pastor Robin Fish

Sunday Worship

10 3rd Ave. SW, Verndale

WEDNÉSDAY

218-445-5108

WEDNESDAY

SUNDAY

Sunday Worship....

..218-352-6888

..10:30 a.m.

..4:00-5:30 p.m. ..5:30-7:30 p.m.

..218-352-6399

..218-894-2296

..6:30 p.m,

.10:30 a.m.

.9:00 a.m.

.10:00 a.m.

.9:30 a.m.

.8:30 a.m.

...218-746-3839

10:30 a.m.

....7:00 p.m.

..7:00 p.m.

.9:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Church of the Nazarene

**Trinity Lutheran Church** 

524 Front Street, PO Box 116, Hewitt, MN

**United Methodist Church** 

109 NW Brown Street, Verndale, MN 56481

Heath Belknap, Pastor of Student Ministries

402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale 218-445-5568

Childrens' Pastor Kenneth Kjeldergaard

Sunday Bible Fellowship Classses

114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146 Hewitt, MN 218-924-2028

..9:30 a.m

.10·30 a.m

... 10:30 a.m.

....9:30 a.m.

...11-11:45 a.m.

218-371-7189

.9:00 a.m.

.9:30 a.m.

.. 10:00 a.m.

....6-8 p.m.

.9:00 a.m.

.5:30 p.m.

.9:00 a.m

.6:30 p.m.

9:00 a.m

10:30 a.m.

.10:30 a.m.

. 6:30 p.m ...Groups

...... 10:45 a.m./6 p.m.

### Frieda **Jenkins**

Frieda Emma Jenkins. 93, of Peoria, AZ passed away peacefully February 8. 2020 at Hospice of the Valley, Gendale, AZ.

Services were held Feb. 14 at St. Thomas More Catholic Church, Glendale.

Interment will be at Evergreen Hill Cemetery, Staples at a later date. Frieda



was born to John and Katherine (Beck) Ehil on Dec. 23, 1926 in Golden Valley, ND. She married Gilbert E. Jenkins in Grand Forks, ND and they were married for 28 years. Frieda was a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in East Grand Forks for many years before moving to the Phoenix area. She was a member of St. Helen and St. Elizabeth Catholic churches before joining the Parish of St. Thomas More five years ago.

She loved music and as a young girl played the organ in her church, was self taught to play the guitar, piano and accordion. She loved baseball and was a fan of the Arizona Diamond Backs, Most of all she enjoyed spending time with her children, grandchildren and greatgrandchildren and hearing them sing and play for her.

She is survived by eight children: Donna Crawford of Peoria, Wayne Jenkins of Minneapolis, Lyle Jenkins of Rice, Connie Bergendahl of Peoria, Paul Jenkins of Brainerd, Gale Beauchamp of Scottsdale, AZ, Lynn Hassell of Hamilton, Bermuda and Dean Jenkins of Fargo, ND; 17 grandchildren, eight greatgrandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband and eight siblings.

Arrangements were by Heritage Funeral Chapel,

w8p A00006B2020FB19

# Mudgett

Harvey "Harv" Mudgett, 77, passed away peacefully in his sleep February 12, 2020 at Lakewood Health System Care Center, Sta-

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Feb. 19 at First Baptist Church in Baxter. Visitation will be two hours prior to the services at the church.

Interment will be held at Wildwood Cemetery in Pillager.

Harv was born to Harvey and Edythe Mudgett on September 2, 1942. He graduated from Pillager High School before being drafted into the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. Harv married Lee Olson November 21, 1970. He ran his company with their sons, Mudgett & Sons Masonry. Harv truly enjoyed visits from his dear family and friends.

Harv will be sadly missed by his children, one daughter, Lori (Joe) Robben of Staples; two sons, Robert (Connie) Mudgett of Pillager and Boyd Mudgett of Pillager; seven grandchildren, Josh, Sam, Amber, Kaylee, Gracie, Danielle, Clara; two sisters, Helen Smith, Beverly Mudgett; three brothers, Frank (Sherry) Mudgett, Stanley (Mary) Mudgett, Raymond (Debbie) Mudgett: sister-in -law Linda Mudgett; brother-in-law Bud Husman.

Harv is preceded in death by his wife, Lee; parents; several siblings and friends.

Arrangements are by Brenny Family Funeral Chapel. w8c A00006B2020FB19

#### Pastor Jill Pawlowski curious@fbcpillager.com Worship Gathering ...... The Old Country Church Leaf River Twp., Wadena County Rd. 6 Info. 218-837-5690 .. Open by arrangement Sunday Worship. **Trinity Lutheran** 10:00 a.m. ..218-894-2372 1000 4th St., NE, Staples Russell earned an Connection Point... ..9:30 a.m. **Central United Methodist**

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

"Have You Given Any Thought to the Place of Candles in Our Lives?"

Would you take some time to reflect to think about the place of candles and oil lamps in your

Whether we really like candles or just have a glancing interest in them, I am guessing that at some time, there is a story in your life with candles as I have two going now while writing this devotion.

It is significant that the place of candles (or other non-electric auxiliary lighting) had more of an essential place in the past in contrast to just enhancing the ambience of the room. We still have some of you that can wind the clock backwards to the days before electricity when oil lamps where THE source of night time light within the room. For the rest of us, we quickly reach for a candle, oil lamp or flashlight when the power goes out at night.

But, when times are more calm and the electricity is working just fine, we find occasion and reason to light a candle... maybe even one that gives the extra experience of a room-filing aroma, be it pine, cinnamon or a berry fragrance to it. It is almost always calming. Often, there are stories connected to the source of light. Many ties, the connection is with a meaningful person in your life.

In all of the appreciation for non-electric and electric sources of light in the physical world (as yet another in the millions of gifts from God), we are then ready to hear Jesus' spiritual application to light when He says in John 8:12 (TNIV), "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Please take time to reread that divine observation of Jesus several times. Without Jesus' illuminating the path of our life, we walk without direction. Why? Jesus is the Second Person of the Triune God. He leads us in life-truth.

#### 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

#### **Central Building** Supply 10 West, Staples, MN 218-894-3794

**Ernie's Food Market** Groceries - Gas - Convenience - more Staples. MN 218-894-1072

**Staples World** 

our community newspaper since 1890

224 4th St. NE, Staples, MN

218-894-1112

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

**Tower Pizza** 

Pizza, Pasta, Salads, Sandwiches

Staples, MN 218-894-3299

Staples Veterinary

**Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank** Fully Insured to \$250,000 Staples, MN 218-894-3900

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

#### **Russell Mertens**

Russell Alan Mertens, 67, of Troy, OH, passed away February 11, 2020 at Hospice of Miami County Inpatient Unit in Troy.

A Celebration of Russell's life will be held at a later date

Russell was born July 24, 1952 to Lois Jean (Hall) Mertens and the late Roy Leo Mertens in Staples.

Associates Degree in Web Development. He worked as a pipe fuser in Michels, MN for 12 years and more recently at Speedway in Troy. Russell proudly served his country as a member of the U.S. Army. He was stationed in Germany during the Vietnam War. Russell loved playing

He is survived by his wife of 30 years, Ann (Kresse) Hall; two daughters: Jennifer Nicole (Michael) Ames of Jacksonville, FL and Megan Christine Mertens of Troy; three brothers, Bradley,



Creig and Arnold Mertens and one sister, Darla Hoem-

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, Southwestern Regional Office, 2808 Reading Road, Cincinnati, OH 45206. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.bairdfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements are being handled by Baird Funeral Home in Troy.

w8c A00006B2020FB19

#### **Maurice Lenk**

Maurice "Maury" Lenk, 84, passed away February 16, 2020 at Lakewood Care Center in Staples.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 20 at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Motley. Visitation will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Weds., Feb. 19 at Brenny Family Funeral Chapel in Staples and one hour prior to services at the church Feb. 20.

See full obit in next week's Staples World.

w8x A00006B2020FB19





our area! Rep. for Fergus Falls Monument Co. Call 218-445-5685

or 218-640-2341



# **Todd County approves** expo building for fairgrounds

by Karin L. Nauber karin@inhnews.com

A presentation by Dustin Thompson of Ringdahl Architects was followed by an approval from the Todd County Board of Commissioners to accept the construction plans, specifications and to move forward with the public bid phase for the Todd County Expo Building located at the fairgrounds.

The facilities committee has met with Ringdahl Architects multiple times in the development of construction plans and specifications for the proposed renovation of the building. The project scope, construction plans, specifications and timelines were presented to the board for review and discussion.

If all goes well, the project is anticipated to begin in April, be completed before the Todd County Fair August 13-16 this year.

According to Thompson, the estimated cost of the

work will be \$825,000. The only noticeable change from the outside will be the addition of three dormers one of which will allow for safer movement

of the Zamboni machine. Commissioner Randy Neumann said that he wanted to let his constituents know that he was aware of the other building projects coming up and that he was looking out for the taxpayers.

In other business:

• Approved the list of hires and terminations from the sheriff's department for 2019.

• Approved a Seasonal On Sale, Off Sale and Sunday Liquor License for DT Lisson Inc. doing business as Double Eagle Golf & Grille effective April 1 through November 30.

 Approved a one year Off Sale, On Sale and Sunday Liquor License for Shady's Golden Eagle effective April 1 through March 31, 2021.

• In order to remain in compliance with state auditing standards and statutes, the board approved the change and petty cash funds across all county departments. The resolution reaffirmed the petty cash and change funds, with no modifications since the previous adoption in 2019.

The Todd County Money scams in Staples

On Feb. 4, Staples Police

received a report of a possi-

ble scam. Police found that

a scammer had called the

complainant and said that

his social security number

had been stolen, along with

his identity. The scammer

then told the complainant

to buy a gift card with the

money that was left in his

bank account so it would

be protected. The scam-

mer then asked for the pin

number from the card and

the card was emptied by

remind everyone that no

legitimate business, or gov-

ernment agency will ever

ask you to buy a gift card.

Police would like to

the scammer.

Board of Commissioners established a building and grounds improvement fund with the objective that the funds would be utilized for current and future expenses. The funds are kept in 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, 2019 was \$751,915.60.

The board approved a resolution to commit this fund balance on an annual basis for transparent financial reporting.

• The 2020 budget for the support of the Todd County Development Corporation (TCDC) has been approved at \$67,000 and approved and transfered.

• Heard the 2019 annual report for the Todd County **Development Corporation** from Director Rick Utech. Watch for a separate story.

 Approved a resolution calling for a public hearing on the proposed abatement of property taxes imposed by the county with respect to the project known as the Second Avenue Apartments to be held on March 17, at 9:15 a.m. at the commissioner's board room.

 Granted a property tax abatement for parcel 10-0024000, owned by Karla Edenloff for the 2019 property tax, in the amount of

The home on this parcel was destroyed by fire on March 11, 2019. The abatement is only for the months after the fire occurred.

 The board scheduled the 2020 Todd County Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting for June 15, 2020 starting at 6 p.m. and not to end before 7 p.m.

• The board approved a subdivision request for the final plat named Erickson Subdivision as submitted as presented with Commissioner Rod Erickson abstaining.

The two conditions: 1) No excavation, filling, drainage, or grading within the most northern 300 feet of Lot 1, was noted as ongoing, and 2) complete abandonment of the existing open well on Lot 1 has been completed.

 Approved budget request forms for specific carry forward funds related to Planning and Zoning (P&Z), the Aquatic

and someone tells you to

buy a gift card, it is a scam.

Also please never give out

bank account information,

credit card information,

or social security number

unless you are positive it is

person on the phone says

they are with a certain

bank or credit institution

and they ask for any per-

sonal information is to

advise them you are not

comfortable giving this

information out because

they called you, and advise

them you will look up the

phone number for the busi-

Always look up the

ness and call them back.

One tip to use is if the

safe to do so.

Invasive Species (AIS) Program and for the division's equipment fund. A total of \$160,928.88 from riparian prevention funds, shoreland, septic and low income cost share funds will be carried forward into the 2020 budget.

· At the January 21 work session, an introduction to the Clean Water Partnership Loan Program was given.

It was approved for P&Z to start the process of applying for funds. The resolution gives authority to P&Z Director Adam Ossefoort to submit the application and make any decision related to the loan program that doesn't require board approval.

Ossefoort will be referred to as the "Project

P&Z has worked with the auditor/treasurer's office and will be applying for \$450,000 for a septic replacement loan program.

This money can be used countywide. It is anticipated that about 53 systems can be done with this money. The loans will be for 10 years at 1.5 percent (%) interest.

· Held a public comment session regarding the Todd County Sheriff's Office purchase of body cameras to be worn by the deputies while performaning their duties.

By Minnesota state law, the sheriff's office must provide an opportunity for public comment prior to the implementation of the wearing of the body cam-

There were no comments.

• Employee #874 has been off from work for medical reasons since November, 2019. The employee ran out of paid time on November 21, 2019 and ran out of Family and Medical Leave Act protected leave on January 27, 2020. The union contract states that with board approval the leave of absence period shall not exceed one year.

After the second call for a second to the motion and nearly a call for a failed motion by Chairman David Kircher, Commissioner Barb Becker made the second and the board approved an unpaid medical leave of absence for this employee.

use one that they provide

you, as you can not verify

its authenticity. If you ever

have any questions about a

possible scam, please call

your local law enforcement

prior to giving out any

information, or sending

Fake check

Police received a report of

someone who is produc-

ing fictitious checks and

taking money from a bank

account in Staples. The

bank is investigating the

matter and determined

that it was occurring inter-

nationally. The bank stated

they were reimbursing the

On Jan. 24, Staples

money.

customer.

## **Public Notices**

NOTICE **ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS PROJECT: TODD COUNTY EXPO BUILDING** 2ND AVENUE NE and 9TH STREET NE, LONG PRAIRIE, MN 56347

<u>Mandatory</u> **Pre-Bid Meeting: February 18, 2020** 2:00 p.m. local time at the project site

Bids Close: March 10, 2020, 1:00 p.m. local time

**Bid Location: Todd County** 215 1st Avenue South Suite 300 Long Prairie, MN 56347 Phone: 320-732-6447

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS - Contractor's sealed proposals for furnishing work and materials for the remodeling of the Todd County Expo Building Long Prairie, Minnesota, a project including General, Mechanical and Electrical Construction will be received by the Architect, at the above-mentioned time and place in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by Ringdahl Architects, Inc.

Prime Bidders

Bids will be received as follows: Combined bid including general, mechanical and electrical work.

Bids received after deadline will be returned unopened.

Bids will be opened publicly immediately after time of receiving bids.

Envelopes containing bids must be sealed, marked in the lower lefthand corner "Todd County Expo Building" and with the name and address of the bidder and the date and hour of the opening and <u>addressed to</u>:

**Todd County** 215 1st Avenue South Suite 300 Long Prairie, MN 56347

Faxed bids are not acceptable. Each bidder must accompany his proposal with a cash deposit, bid bond or certified check (on a responsible bank in the State of Minnesota) equal to five percent (5%) of the amount of the proposal payable without conditions to the owner as guarantee of prompt execution of the contract in accordance with the proposal and contract documents, and that he will furnish bond acceptable to the owner covering performance of the contract.

Copies of the plans, specifications and other contract documents are on file in the following offices and are available for public inspection: Ringdahl Architects, Inc.; the Builders Exchanges of Alexandria, Minneapolis, St. Paul, St. Cloud, Willmar and Fargo-Moorhead.

Project documents will be available at <a href="http://">http://</a> www.questcdn.com. You may download the complete set of digital bidding documents, for \$25 by entering eBidDoc TM #6695781 on the "Search Projects" page. Please contact QuestCDN. com at 952-233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in downloading and working with this digital project information. Bids may not be withdrawn for thirty (30) days after the scheduled closing time for receiving bids. The owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any irregularities in bids without explanation.

**Todd County** Chris Pelzer, **County Coordinator** Long Prairie, Minnesota

#### **NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE**

THE RIGHT TO VERI-FICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE **ORIGINAL CREDITOR** WITHIN THE TIME PRO-**VIDED BY LAW IS NOT** AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

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

DATE OF MORTGAGE: April 12, 2017

ORIGINAL PRINCI-PAL AMOUNT OF MORT-GAGE: \$122,550.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Jacob Meyer, a single man MORTGAGEE: Mort-

gage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for United Wholesale Mortgage

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on April 13, 2017 as Document Number 503546 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota. ASSIGNMENTS OF

MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper by assignment recorded on December 17, 2019 as Document Number A517474 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota. LEGAL DESCRIPTION

OF PROPERTY: The North Half of the South Half of the Northwest Quarter (N1/2 S1/2 NW1/4) of Section Twenty-three (23), Township One Hundred Thirty-one (131) North, Range Thirty-four (34) West of the Fifth P.M., according to the United States Government Survey thereof, Todd County, Minnesota. STREET ADDRESS OF

PROPERTY: 35614 205TH AVE, CLARISSA, MN 56440 COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Todd County, Minnesota.

THEAMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$121,307.23

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: United Wholesale Mortgage

RESIDENTIAL SER-VICER: Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper

TAX PARCEL IDEN-TIFICATION NUMBER: 07-0027201

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORT-GAGE IDENTIFI-CATION NUMBER: 100032412170200270THAT no action or pro-

ceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.

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

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: March 26, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

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

secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is twelve (12) months from the date of

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on March 26, 2021. THE TIME ALLOWED

BY LAW FOR REDEMP-TION B YТНЕ MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PER-SONAL REPRESENTA-TIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORT-GAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESI-DENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED. MORTGAGOR(S)

RELEASED FROM FINAN-CIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: January 23, 2020

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC D/B/A MR. COOPER Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C. \*N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.\* Samuel R. Coleman, Esq. Michael Van Muelken, Esq. Attorneys for Mortgagee 25 Dale Street North St. Paul, MN 55102 (651) 209-9760 (19-1521-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNI-**CATION FROM A DEBT** COLLECTOR.

7-12pnc

Public notices are a community's window into the government. You look for those notices in your newspaper. From zoning regulations to local budgets, governments have used local newspapers to inform citizens of its actions as an essential part of your right to know. Keep public notices in newspapers!

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Steve Fields

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## **WE'RE HIRING!**

Citizens Alliance Bank is seeking applicants for the following positions:

•Loan Officer - Lake Lillian

•Operations Lead II - Howard Lake

•Teller I - Howard Lake •Loan Admin Clerk I - Granite Falls

•Teller/Personal Banker I - Clara City To view our job posting or **Apply Online** please visit:





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**Freshwater Education District** 

**MINUTES ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL & REGULAR BOARD MEETING** FRESHWATER ED **DIST.** # 6004 1/22/20 Wadena, MN

**CALLED TO ORDER** by the 2019 Chair S. Veronen at 4:59 p.m.

Board Present: J. Hillmer - Browerville, R. VanDenheuvel - BH, R. Thalmann - Henning, K. Howard - Menahga, B. Lund - SM, C. Funk -Sebeka, C. Wolf - LPGE. S. Veronen - Verndale. Supts.: D. Fjeldheim - Sebeka. FED Staff: J. Nesland, L. Murdock, E. Weber, J. Anderson, S. Thiel; Guests: T. Bruggeman.

ROTATION OF OFFI-**CERS-** MOTION BY Funk and 2ND BY Wolf to appoint the following officers per the current Bylaws; Chair: J. Hillmer, Vice-Chair R. VanDenheuvel, Clerk: R. Thalmann, Treasurer: K. Howard. VOTE- U/C

APPROVING THE ORGANIZATIONAL AND REGULAR MEET-ING AGENDA: 5:01 p.m.

McKinley

Pike Bay

Ponto Lake

- MOTION BY VanDenheuvel and 2ND BY Veronen to approve the agenda as presented/modified. VOTE-U/C

VISITOR COM-MENTS- FY-19 Audit Report by T. Bruggeman

APPROVAL OF PAST BOARD MINUTES-MOTION BY Lund and 2ND BY Howard to approve the 10/23/19 minutes as presented. VOTE- U/C

#### 2020 ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD-

SIGNATURES: MOTION BY VanDenheuvel and 2ND BY Funk to authorize the use of a signature plate to sign documents. VOTE-U/C

OFFICIAL DEPOSITO-

RIES: MOTION BY Thalmann and 2ND BY Wolf to name the following as official depositories: 1st International Bank of Staples, MN, Wadena State Bank of Wadena, MN and MN School District Liquid Asset Fund, plus any other MN FDIC financial institution, and to authorizing J. Nesland, J. Anderson, J. Ashbaugh and S. DeMars to invest funds in these institutions with evidence of sufficient collateral.

VOTE- U/C

ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFERS: MOTION BY Howard and 2ND BY Veronen to authorize staff to make electronic fund transfers as outlined by State Statutes. VOTE- U/C

BOARD PER DIEM RATE: MOTION BY Funk and 2ND BY Wolf to approve the amounts the same as the previous year. VOTE- U/C

MEETING DATE/ TIME/LOCATION: MOTION BY VanDenheuvel and 2ND BY Lund to set the Regular Board meeting dates as follows: 4/22/20, 7/22/20, 9/23/20 and 11/18/20 to be held in Wadena with starting time of 5 p.m. VOTE- U/C

OFFICIAL NEWSPA-PER: MOTION BY Thalmann and 2ND BY Howard to name the Staples World as the 2020 official newspaper. VOTE- U/C

APPOINTMENT BY THE CHAIR: The Chair announced appointments to the 2020 Personnel Committee: S. Veronen, C. Funk and R. Thalmann; the OTC Collaborative: R. Thalmann: TCC: R. VanDenheuvel; the Supv. Supts.: D. Fjeldheim/L. Westrum.

ANNUAL REVIEW OF

City Hall

City Hall

Hackensack Community Ctr

POLICIES:

MOTION BY VanDenheuvel and 2ND BY Thalmann to acknowledge the annual review of the identified Policies and action to direct the Supt. to maintain the district Policy Manual in accordance with any MSBA recommended legal revisions and/or legislative mandatory revisions. VOTE- U/C

NAMING THE 2020 DESIGNATED SCHOOL LAW FIRMS: MOTION BY Funk and 2ND BY VanDenheuvel to name Hitesman & Associates, P.A., Maple Grove; Pederson & Pederson P.A., Wadena, as well as Pemberton Law, Fergus Falls as the 2020 Consulting Law Firms. VOTE-U/C

AUTHORIZE E-SER-VICES ROLES: MOTION BY Veronen and 2ND BY Thalmann to name the designated staff as FED E-Service contacts. VOTE-U/C

DESIGNATION OF IDENTIFIED OFFICIAL WITH AUTHORITY FOR **EDUCATION IDENTITY** ACCESS MANAGEMENT: MOTION BY Lund and 2ND BY Funk to Authorize

7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

See FRESHWATER on page 9a

#### **TODD-WADENA ELECTRIC CO-OP SECTION 00 10 00 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**

PROJECT IDENTIFI-**CATION:** Sealed bid proposals will be received in accordance with the construction contract documents, as prepared by BHH Partners for:

Name of Project: **Todd-Wadena Electric** Co-op

Address of Project: 550 Ash Avenue, Wadena, MN 56482

The work will be accomplished through multiple contracts with Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative, with Contegrity Group Inc. acting as the Construction Manager. The following categories of work will be bid (subject to change): Earthwork/ Demolition/Exterior Improvements/Utilities, Concrete, Masonry, General Construction, Casework, Sectional Doors, Aluminum Entrance & Glazing, Acoustical Treatments Gypsum Board, Tile, Flooring, Painting, Mechanical/ Plumbing, HVAC/Controls, Testing/Adjusting & Balancing, Electrical/ Communications.

**BID TIME:** Bids will be received at the office of Dan Carlisle, Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative President/CEO, 550 Ash Avenue, Wadena, MN 56482 until 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 12, 2020 and will be opened privately. All late bids received will be returned unopened to the submitter. No faxed or electronic bids will be accepted. Sealed bid envelopes shall be marked with the Bidder's Name and Category of Work being bid.

BID LOCATION: Sealed Bid Proposals for the Todd-Wadena Electric Co-op construction work to be provided in accordance with the construction contract documents, as prepared by BHH Partners, will be received at the office of Dan Carlisle, Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative President/CEO, 550 Ash Avenue, Wadena, MN 56482 until the date and time as stated above. No faxed or electronic bids will be accepted. Sealed bid envelopes shall be marked with the Bidder's Name and Category of Work being bid.

**EXAMINATION OF DOCUMENTS:** Contract Documents for this construction work may be examined at BHH Partners, 650 3rd Ave. SE, STE. 10, Perham, MN 56573; and Contegrity Group, Inc., 101 1st St SE, Little Falls, MN 56345

**BID DOCUMENTS:** Bid documents will be available to contractors on or about February 17, 2020. Bid documents can be obtained online through Contegrity Group's plan room at <u>www.</u> cgiplanroom.com where electronic download of these documents is free. If ordering printed bid documents, a plan deposit check in the amount of \$75.00 per set, made payable to Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative and a separate non-refundable check in the amount of \$35.00 per set made payable to Contegrity Group, Inc. for mailing fees will be required. No partial sets of bidding documents will be issued. Plan deposit will be returned upon receipt of all bidding documents returned in useable condition within (20) days after the date bids have been received. Plan documents are to be returned to Contegrity Group, Inc., 101 1st Street SE, Little Falls, MN

PRE-BID CONFER-ENCE: A pre-bid conference for all interested contractors will be held on Thursday, February 27, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. in the Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative Office Conference Room (project site), 550 Ash Avenue, Wadena, MN 56482.

Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative reserves the right to reject any or all bids received or parts thereof to waive any informalities in bidding, and to award the contract to other

than the lowest bidder if, in the discretion of the Owner, the interests of the Owner will be best served thereby, to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding.

Bids may not be withdrawn within thirty (30) days after the closing time

and date.

8-10pnc

#### **TODD COUNTY** NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TESTING

The public is welcome to observe the Public Accuracy Testing of Election Machines for the upcoming Presidential Nomination Primary Election.

Testing will be held on Tuesday, February 25, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. in the Election Room located in the Main Street Government Center at 347 Central Ave., Long Prairie,

Please contact 320-732-4414 with any questions.

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

8pnc

#### **CITY OF STAPLES NOTICE OF SECOND AND FINAL READING** OF ORDINANCE

NOTICE is hereby given that the Staples City Council gave Ordinance 525 its first reading. The ordinance removes the reference to "APS" in City Code Section 16-161 (b) relating to pawn shops.

The second and final reading will be considered at the February 25, 2020 Staples City Council meeting at 4 p.m. Contact the City offices at 218-894-2550 for a copy of the proposed ordinance.

Dated: February 19, 2020

Diane Archer, City Clerk

8pnc

**TODD COUNTY PLANNING** COMMISSION 215 1st Ave. South, Suite 103 Long Prairie, MN 56347 Phone 320-732-4420 Fax 320-732-4803 Email toddplan.zone@ co.todd.mn.us

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that the Todd County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 6:00 **p.m.** in the commissioners meeting room, Historic Courthouse, 215 1st Ave. South, Long Prairie, MN

<u>Agenda</u>

•Call to Order. ·Introduction of Planning Commission Mem-

·Approval of the February 2020 Planning Commission meeting minutes.

1. Maria de los Angeles Rodriguez and Carlos Ledesma - Rodriguez **Fashion:** Lot 2 of Block 1 of Ager Addition (Section 29 of Township 129 Range 33) in Long Prairie Town-

Site Address: 22365 US

ship.

1) Conditional Use Permit request for a retail sales store.

2. Jeremiah Korfe and **Kalie Wright:** Section 8 Township 131 Range 34 SW4 SW4 in Eagle Valley

Site Address: 17608

1) Conditional Use Permit request to host wedding events with short-

10 Township 127 Range 34 of Kandota Township.

14-0009900

Permit request for a feedlot of 999 animal units of cattle.

are invited to attend said hearing and be heard on these matters. If unable to attend, all correspondence must include name, mailing address and be received 48 hours before the date

and time of the hearing. **Todd County Planning** Commission

Michael Wiener, Chairperson

71. PID: 18-0050700

Township

County 78. PID: 07-0007000

duration camping. 3. Bill Zehrer: Section

Site Address: N/A. PID:

1. Conditional Use

All persons interested

8pnc

## The major political party ballot selected by a nomination primary voter is private data, except that it will be shared with the chairs of the major political parties in the State of Minnesota

Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 207A.11, a Presidential Nomination Primary will be held on March 3, 2020, in the State of Minnesota, the County of Cass,

7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

7 a.m. – 8 p.m

Nomination primary voters must request the ballot of the major political party for whose candidate the individual wishes to vote. Polling place election judges must record in the polling place roster the name of the major political party whose ballot the voter requested. The county auditor must include the name of the major political party whose ballot the voter requested with the voting history of the nomination primary election.

CASS COUNTY

NOTICE OF PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION PRIMARY

Polling place locations and hours of voting are as follows:						
	PRECINCT	POLLING PLACE	HOURS	PRECINCT	POLLING PLACE	HOURS
	Townships			Shingobee Precinct 2	Turtle Lake Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.
	Bungo	Town Hall	10 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Sylvan	Sylvan Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.
	Crooked Lake	Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Trelipe	Town Hall	10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
	Fairview	Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Turtle Lake	Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.
	Hiram	Hackensack Community Ctr	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Wabedo	Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.
	Kego	Longville Fire Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Wilkinson	Town Hall	10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
	Leech Lake	Town Hall	10 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Woodrow	Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.
	Maple	Town Hall	8 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Cities		
	May	Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Cass Lake	City Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

		Town Hall		7 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Pine River		City Hall		7 a.m. – 8 p.m.	
1		Town Hall		7 a.m 8 p.m.	Walker		Walker Fire	e Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.	
	MAIL			BALLOT PRECI	NCTS					
	Ansel Township Backus		Bull Moose Town	ull Moose Township Loon Lake Township			Salem Township			
			Byron Township	Byron Township Mea		Meadow Brook Township		Slater Township	hip	
	Barclay Township Chickamaw Beach		:h	Moose Lake Township			Smoky Hollow Township			
	Becker Township Deerfield Township Bena Federal Dam		nip	Motley-part in Cass County only Ottertail Peninsula Township		Sucker Lakes Unorg.		1		
						Torrey Township				
	Beulah Township Gould Township		Pine Lake Township		Thunder Lake Township					
	Birch Lak	Birch Lake Township Hardwood South Unorg.		Poplar Township		Wahnena Unorg.				
	Blind Lak	ind Lake Township Homebrook Township		Remer		Walden Township				
	Boy Lake Township Inguadona Township		Remer Township		Willow River Unorg.					
	Boy River Lima Township			Rogers Point U	Inorg.		Wilson Township			
			1 20.		D			145 1 8 1 11		

East Gull Lake

Hackensack

Pillager

At which places all qualified electors residing in their respective townships or cities may cast their ballots. All pre-registered voters in mail ballot precincts will receive ballots by mail. The polling place on election day for mail ballot precincts for voters not pre-registered is the office of the Cass County Auditor-Treasurer, Courthouse, Walker, Minnesota, and other designated locations from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Non-registered voters in mail ballot precincts may register and apply for an absentee ballot in advance. Sample ballots are available online at <a href="mailto:mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us">mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us</a>, and are posted at each poll on election day. For more information, visit <a href="www.co.cass.mn.us">www.co.cass.mn.us</a>, or call 218-547-7295.

#### To the voters of Todd County, in the State of Minnesota:

Notice is hereby given that a Presidential Nomination Primary election will be held in all the Election Precincts of Todd County on Tuesday the (3rd) Third day of March 2020 at which the polls will be open from the hours of Seven (7) o'clock AM (unless your municipality has published notice stating otherwise) to the hour of Eight (8) o'clock PM for the purpose of nominating candidates for the following offices to wit:

**FEDERAL OFFICES** United States President (4 year term)

Official Ballot

M.S. 207A.12 (b) An individual seeking to vote at the presidential nomination primary must be registered to vote pursuant to section 201.054, subdivision 1. The voter must request the ballot of the party for whose candidate the individual wishes to vote. Notwithstanding section 204C.18, subdivision 1, the election judge must record in the polling place roster the name of the political party whose ballot the voter requested. When posting voter history pursuant to section 201.071, the county auditor must include the name of the political party whose ballot the voter requested. The political party ballot selected by a voter is private data on individuals as defined under section 13.02, sub-

Official Ballot

division 12, except as provided in section 201.091, subdivision 4a. Please contact your Municipal Clerk or the County Auditor's office for specific polling place, time and location information.

Witness my hand and seal this 14th day of February 2020.

Town Hall

Town Hall

Town Hall

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer - 320-732-4414

**Presidential Nomination Primary Ballot** 

Republican Party

Omoiai Bailot	Todd County, Minnesota March 3, 2020	Judge
To vote, con	Instructions to Voters: npletely fill in the oval next to your choice like	this: •
Minnesota Election Law	permits you to vote for a candidate of only or Presidential Nomination Primary election.	ne political party in a
Republican Party		
Federal Offices		
President Vote for One		
O Donald J. Trump		
0		
write-in, if any		
	110.	
_		

March 3, 2020 Judge Instructions to Voters:

To vote, completely fill in the oval next to your choice like this: Minnesota Election Law permits you to vote for a candidate of only one political party in a Presidential Nomination Primary election. Federal Offices President Vote for One Deval Patrick O Tom Steyer Pete Buttigieg Amy Klobucha Julián Castro O John K. Delaney Marianne Williamso Bernie Sanders O Andrew Yang SAMPLE Tulsi Gabbard Michael R. Blooml Joseph Biden Uncommitted Cory Booker

Presidential Nomination Primary Ballot Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party

**Todd County. Minnesota** 

Judge

# (Lassifieds

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and online at www.staplesworld.com









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Good Things

Lawn/Garden

to Eat

#### NOTICES **Announcements** Card of Thanks 102 In Memory 103 Lost & Found Give Away Personals 107 Notices **SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT** Business Opportunities 202 Childcare **Providers** Childcare Wanted Help Wanted 205 Positions Wanted 207 Equipment for Rent 208 Storage Business

Name

Classification #

0R

mum.

Hay/Straw/ Feed/Seed Livestock 305 Pets Sporting Goods 307 Household 308 Musical Miscellaneous 310 Health/Beauty Firewood **Christmas Trees** Computers/ Office Equip. Farm Services Camper Trailer VEHICLES

Automobiles Trucks/Vans Recreational Services 404 Farm Animal Care/ Supplies Heavy Work Wanted Equipment 406 Parts/Repair

Classified Ad Order Form

Cost of Ad

Add \$5 for bold type and/or CAPITALIZED indicate which word(s) is/are to be bold or capitalized

"Card of Thanks" and "In Memoriam" are 20¢ per word with no mini-

Please check your ad the first day.

Refunds or credit will not be given for errors brought

to our attention after the second publication.

We are not responsible for errors due to

illegible copy or missing punctuation.

Your ad will be printed as you write it.

Please print clearly, one word per space.

Please mail completed form and check payment to:

Staples World, Box 100, Staples, MN 56479

<u>The Fine Print</u>

publish the ad shall be limited to publishing the ad in a subsequent issue

or for the refund of any monies paid for an ad not run (and out of date for

subsequent issues) providing the advertiser reports the error or omission

We will not accept ads from anyone with a past due account.

All advertising copy is subject to the approval of the general manager.

Regarding sex or age preference in help wanted advertising in accor-

dance with the rules adopted by the Civil Rights Commission, the Staples

World, Sunday Square Shooter and Heartland Market cannot accept help

wanted advertising copy which in any way expresses a sex or age prefer

ence on the basis of a bonafide occupational requirement unless the

advertiser files an affidavit with the newspaper justifying the sex or age

to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which made it illegal to advertise

any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion,

sex or national origin or any intention to make any such preference limi-

tation or discrimination." These publications will not knowingly accept

any advertising for real estate or rental which is in violation of the law.

Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this

All real estate and rental advertising in these publications is subject

preference on the basis of a bonafide occupational requirement.

immediately after it occurs.

The publishers liability for errors in an advertisement or for failure to

Number of words \_\_\_\_ x 20¢ =

Add for number of words over 15

Add for number of words over 15

First 15 words for one week

First 15 words for three weeks

Add \$10 for Blind Box TOTAL enclosed

TOTAL enclosed

Use additional paper

if necessary

Thank you for your order!

#### FOR SALE WANTED TO BUY 300 Antiques/ Collectibles

502	Livestock
REA	AL ESTATE
601	Wanted to Rent
602	Apartments
	for Rent
603	Houses
	for Rent
604	Commercial
	for Rent
605	Mobile Homes

606 Land for Rent 607 Houses for Sale 608 Farms for Sale Mobile Homes for Sale Land for Sale

Business **Property** for Sale 612 Real Estate Wanted

**GARAGE SALES** 701 Garage Sales 702 Flea Market/

\$9.85

\$25.00

#### Services & Employment

205 **Help Wanted** 

INSTRUMENTALIST NEEDED: St. Frederick's Church, Verndale, for the Saturday, 4:30 p.m. Mass. Stipend is \$75 plus mileage. If interested, contact the parish office: 218-445-5204 or vbmcatholic@wcta.net.

FT EXPERIENCED PROGRAMMER/CNC MACHINIST: EXCEL-LENT WORKING CONDI-TIONS WITH MEDICAL, IRA AND PAID TIME OFF. JDM MACHINING, INC. 11566 CO. RD. 30, STAPLES. 218-894-4638.

#### 208 **Storage**

### **FOR RENT**

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

#### 209 **Business Services**

#### **PERMIT** TO CARRY CLASS

New: \$75 Renewal \$55 Ed Jose Call 218-371-2151

**SNOW REMOVAL** from roofs. Paul Drake Tree Service, Staples. 218-639-9528.

RICHS PAINTING LLC: Interior, Exterior, Decks. Wood work, power washer. 218-414-0396. Free estimates. Lic #IR748424.

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



#### FOR SALE 309

**Miscellaneous** PLAT BOOKS AVAIL-

ABLE IN COLOR: Todd, Morrison, Crow Wing and Wadena counties, \$40 plus \$2.95 tax. Staples World Of-

#### WANTED TO Buy

**Miscellaneous** 

FREE DROP OFF: Microwaves, Air Conditioners, Water Heaters, Gas Grills, Propane Tanks, Furnaces, Lawn Mowers, Refrigerators, Freezers, Washers, Dryers, Misc. Iron and Scrap. Christmas Tree Lights. WE BUY CANS AND BATTERIES. NO: TV's, Electronics, Mattresses, Tires, Household trash. Call for information: 218-639-0150. Card Auto, 27593 Todd Line Rd, Sta-

#### REAL ESTATE 602

**Apartments** for Rent STAPLES: Downtown,

1 - 2 bdrm., recently remod-

eled, NO pets, non smok-

ing, 218-894-3108. FREE HEAT: Cozy, 2 bdrm, quiet building, great location, welcome: 218-296-

# FRONTIER

FOR RENTAL INFO CALL 218-296-5031 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





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Commercial applicator training provided.

Traveling position. Competitive wage and

benefits, meal allowance, paid lodging. 60-

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888/700-0292 www.rawapplicators.com

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### Pullman Townhomes

3 bedroom \$1,100 per month 2 bedroom \$950 per month Rent includes: Double attached garage, heat, water, sewer and trash <u> 218-296-1247</u>

#### **GARAGE** SALES 701

Annual Spring Rummage Sale: Pillager Community Center. If interested in reserving space call Lisa, 262-949-9861. Sale held in

## **Freshwater Education District**

CLASSIFIEDS

continued from page 8a

J. Nesland to act as the Identified Official with Authority (IOwA) and to authorize S. Thiel for the FED No. 6004-61. VOTE-

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

SUPERINTENDENT MEETING MINUTES: MOTION BY Howard and 2ND BY Wolf to accept the 11/11/19 Supt. Advisory Council Minutes as presented. VOTE-U/C

REVIEW of 12/11/19 FED Legislative Day Activity and 2020 FED Supt. Mtg

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

MOTION BY Van-Denheuvel and 2ND BY Veronen to approve the 10/19/19 - 1/19/20 payments of checks numbered 122541 - 122819, VOTE-U/C

The Following Resolution is hereby MOVED BY Funk and 2ND BY Lund: To recognize

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of FED, NO. 6004, gratefully accepts the following donations as identified: America Legion Post #12, Long Prairie, MN, \$150; VFW Post #8391, Browerville, \$100; Kris Lemm, Browerville, MN, \$100; Mayer, Porter & Nelson, LTD, Staples, MN, \$25; Lakewood Health System, Staples, MN, \$500; Trident Seafoods, Motley, MN, \$200; American Legion Post #124, Motley, MN, \$200; Long Prairie Packing Co, Long Prairie, MN, \$150; Star Bank. Bertha, MN, \$100; Nelson Insurance Agency, Inc., Staples, MN, \$40; Spandl Wood Products, Browerville, MN, \$200; Faith Lutheran Church Men, Staples, MN, \$25, Eagle Bend Lions Gambling, Eagle Bend, MN, \$200; Catholic Women of St. Mary's, Long Prairie, MN, \$50; Browerville Lions Gaming, Browerville, MN, \$250; Mid-MN Federal Credit Union, Baxter, MN, \$250; Staples

Eye Clinic, Staples, MN,

\$50; Lions Club of Motley,

Motley, MN, \$1,000; LPQD, Long Prairie, MN, \$25; Pillager Area Fireman's Dept & Relief Assoc., Pillager, MN, \$50 for the Reading for the Future Program. VOTE on adoptions of this Resolution was as follows: ABSTENTIONS: None AYE: Veronen, Wolf, Funk, Lund, Howard, Thalmann, VanDenheuvel. NAY: ABSENT: Hinojos.

WHEREUPON, said Resolutions was declared duly Adopted.

MOTION BY Lund and Thalmann and 2ND BY Thalmann to approve Revision II modification of the current FY-20 financial budget as presented. VOTE-U/C

MOTION BY Van-Denheuvel and 2ND BY Veronen to approve amendment to the Medical Benefit Plan, sponsored by SourceWell Service Cooperative and administered by Health Partners, as presented. VOTE-U/C

Update was given on FED Group Insurance 'Open Enrollment" windows, which included Voluntary Dental & Vision; Summary of Board "Committed Reserves" in the General Fund & Other Finance Items of Interest.

#### **NEW BUSINESS** MOTION BY Thal-

mann and 2ND BY Funk to acknowledge receipt and review of the 2019 financial audit and direct the auditing firm. VOTE-U/C

MOTION BY Veronen and 2ND BY Wolf to cancel and not renew the PT 16-month vendor contract with the LCSC, effective 6/30/20. Also, direct administration to complete necessary employee designation requirements for the current business manager, Jordan Anderson, effective 7/1/2020, with the understanding that the administration will seek to enter into an agreement to sell up to 1.5 days a week, of business manager services, to a neighboring

school district. VOTE-U/C

MOTION BY VanDenheuvel and 2ND BY Thalmann to name the firm of Cariveau Workforce Services to conduct a third narty review of all current FED employee job descriptions and assign comparable job grade point comparable worth statutory requirement. VOTE-

MOTION BY Veronen and 2ND BY Lund to Commit \$50,000 to the OPEB reserve account for future OPEB obligations. VOTE-U/C

MOTION BY Thalmann and 2ND BY Veronen to name the Delta Dental as the FED authorized voluntary group effective 1/1/20. VOTE- U/C

MOTION BY Funk 2ND BY Howard to name Ameritas as the FED authorized voluntary group effective 1/1/20. VOTE- U/C

MOTION BY Lund and 2ND BY Thalmann to approve and post the FY-20 FED Teacher- Itinerant Seniority list as presented-VOTE- U/C

MOTION BY Funk 2ND BY Wolf to approve and post the FY-20 SpEd Para seniority list as presented. VOTE- U/C

MOTION BY Wolf and 2ND BY VanDenheuvel to approve and post the FY20 SpEd Regular Van Route Drivers seniority list as presented. VOTE- U/C

Reviewed the annual Admin. Memo regarding Probationary and Term Employees and Classified Employee first Date of Employment.

MOTION BY Thalmann and 2ND BY Howard to accept the FED HRA Plan Document modifications, as presented effective 7/1/2019. VOTE-U/C

MOTION BY Van-Denheuvel and 2ND BY Veronen to commit \$50,000 to the Facilities Reserve Account for future facility construction or maintenance obligations. VOTE-U/C MOTION BY Funk and 2ND BY Veronen to

offer a 3-year Executive Director, effective 7/1/2020, to E. Weber. VOTE-U/C

MOTION BY Thalmann and 2ND BY Wolf to approve to sell Tech Support of 4 hrs./week to WDC #2155, effective 1/1/2020-6/30, 2020. VOTE-U/C

MOTION BY Van-Denheuvel and 2ND BY Howard to authorize the advertisement of an RFP for Mental Health Services for the Level 4 Program. VOTE-U/C

MOTION BY Lund and 2ND BY Wolf to approve the payment of \$128,880 to FCC/USAC invoice regarding three 2005-member e-rate funding denials. VOTE-U/C

MOTION BY VanDenheuvel and 2ND BY Funk to adopt the 20/21 Level IV SY Calendar as presented. VOTE-U/C

MOTION BY Wolf and 2ND BY Howard to adopt the 20/21 ALC SY Calendar presented. VOTE-U/C

MOTION BY Van-Denheuvel and 2ND BY Howard to approve of B-2 Home-visiting EQIP Grant Application. VOTE-U/C

PERSONNEL CON-SENT AGENDA ITEMS-MOTION BY Veronen and 2ND BY VanDenheuvel to approve the items as follows: Permission to Advertise and hire for a .5 FTE ECSE Teacher; Increase in Hrs for K. Kneisel, G. Weber; Resignation of B. Williams, E. Clark; Hiring of T. Fraki, S. Riewer, M. Schmidt; Lane Change Request of S. McAllister; Reassignment of T. Gould; FMLA Request of J. Skoien; Decrease in Hrs for D. Kreemer.

ADJOURNMENT-MOTION BY Wolf and 2ND BY Funk to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m. VOTE-

**Preapproved Publication Summary** Respectfully submitted: Rod Thalmann, Clerk

8pnc

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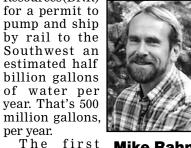


# No thanks, we'll keep our water

A news story airing recently on a Twin City TV station told of a plan to sell Minnesota ground water to government agencies in the parched Southwestern U.S. Sell it to states like Arizona and Utah, which are less well supplied with water by Nature, and experiencing shortages as communities there expand and water demands grow.

For the second time in three months, a railroad company with property in Lakeville—in Dakota County, just south of the Twin Cities—has

asked the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources(DNR) for a permit to pump and ship by rail to the Southwest an estimated half billion gallons of water per year. That's 500



-0-

Inside the

**Outdoors** 

per year. The first permit request - 0 -

was denied by the DNR in November of 2019, but a second request has now been made. An odds-maker might wager that this permit will be denied, too. The DNR's denial of the first was reportedly accompanied by an agency statement that it would be all but impossible to receive an approval for such a request under Minnesota law.

That sounds fairly airtight. But you never know when political pressure will be applied in just the right places, like former Governor Mark Dayton's promise to deliver a quota of timber from state lands for sale to loggers, which has resulted in a DNR "headquarters" plan to sell timber on state Wildlife Management Areas, over the objections of quite a few DNR Section of Wildlife professionals. Decisions are sometimes taken out of the hands of the right decision makers.

Throughout Minnesota's history, water supply has been something we have had little reason to worry about. Our license plates don't bear the legend "Land of 10,000 Lakes" for no reason, a boast that actually under-states the true number. That is surface water. But the water that lies far, far, underground in deep aquifers—the water we pump from wells—required thousands of years to get down there. There may be a lot of it there, but the supply is not inexhaustible. It is not something that can be easily restored, not in many lifetimes, at least.

This is not the first time that a company has proposed the sale and removal of water from our region on a grand scale. Way back in the mid-1980's a coal mining company proposed building a pipeline and shipping Great Lakes water to Montana to be used in its coal mining processes. In 1998 a Canadian business consultant proposed shipping Great Lakes water in ocean-going tankers to China. After all, he said, the Great Lakes held a vast amount of water compared to what he proposed selling; the proposed sale amounted to the proverbial drop-in-the-bucket.

Though water rights conflicts

have been the exception rather than the rule in Minnesota, they have been a part of the country's history ever since European settlers pushed west of the Mississippi and began trying to make a living through ranching and farming operations on the Great Plains. Streams and rivers that coursed through the properties of several landowners were common battlegrounds over how much of the flow could be diverted by any one landowner. People died in water wars from time to time.

Even today there are conflicts over water use, and especially in the West. It's typically between agriculture and recreational interests, including anglers who fish the region's rivers and streams. A common question is how much of the often-limited flows should be allocated to agriculture? How much should be devoted to keeping fish alive, and fishing viable? One is a business that feeds us, the other is a tourism business; both make a contribution to local economies. For the record, history has tended to favor agriculture.

I clearly felt indignant, even militant, at the idea of "Minnesota water" being sold to Arizona or Utah, especially by a private party who would profit from it. But questions of water rights are sometimes not so black-andwhite. Years ago a conservation group to which I belong, Trout Unlimited, filed a lawsuit in hopes of putting a "hold" or moratorium on new irrigation well permits in the watershed of the Straight River, near Park Rapids,

The point of the lawsuit was concern over a rapid increase in irrigated potato farming in the river's watershed, driven by a new potato processing plant nearby. The concern was that the water pumped from underground aquifers for more irrigation would affect the water level—and thus the temperature—of that stream, and make it uninhabitable for trout. The idea was to freeze new irrigation until it could be determined—if it could be determined—that more irrigation would not be harmful.

I was rooting for protecting the trout, but can understand why farmers would have been rooting for more irrigation to grow more potatoes. Growing things is what they do. There was no moratorium placed on drilling new wells. The Straight River is still producing trout, though perhaps not as abundantly as it could. And no decision was made to research just what the tipping point might be.

White Bear Lake is both a Twin City suburb and a lake that share the same name. The lake became famous, or infamous, for having a water level that over a period of years dropped six feet, and in 2013 reached its lowest level ever recorded. Property owners on the lake had to extend their docks to try to reach water deep enough to float their boats, some without success. Real estate that would normally have been in demand could not attract buvers.

Municipal and residential water use—for everything from drinking, to laundry, to plumbing, to watering lawns—together were considered likely contributors to the lake's decline. A lawsuit begun in 2012 accused the DNR of allowing the use of too much ground water, contributing to the lake's depleted water level. A 2014 court settlement prescribed that DNR pursue water conservation and efficiency strategies with the area's largest water users, and explore having six nearby communities shift from use of groundwater to above-ground sources. The case has gone back and forth in decisions by different court levels, until finally in July of last year the Minnesota Supreme Court agreed to review the case.

Meanwhile, use of groundwater in the area has declined measurably, perhaps because of DNR education efforts, and greater awareness of its effects on White Bear Lake. There have also been multiple years of above-average rainfall. In those years there have been multiple rain events of one inch or more. Heavy rainfalls run off rather than soak into the ground, and can raise water levels—including bodies of water like White Bear Lake. It has risen to the point that water is now moving through an outlet leaving the lake, for the first time in 16 years. Boats are floating again. Things appear just about back to normal. Or will that only be until the pendulum of rainfall abundance swings the other way?

For me, the question of whether to ship Minnesota water to other states or nations can be answered with an easy "no." When it comes to who uses, and how we use, our waters here within the state's borders, the answers are not so clear.

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Shout like you mean it! Cardinal fans support their team. (Photo by Jody Hagenson)

Staples-Motley fans cheer as the boys basketball team takes the lead against Crosby-Ironton.

# Shooter Schultz, clutch Klefsaas and overperforming Olander shine in three games

Managing Editor

Three Staples-Motley boys basketball players helped the team break out of an eight week losing streak with two wins and a close loss against one of the area's top teams.

At Swanville on Feb. 10, Isaiah Schultz made eight of ten three pointers, lead-

ing the team to a 75-62 win. 'That may have been the third best shooting perfor- Glyndon-Felton 73-62, a mance in school history from beyond the arc," said Coach Nick Doll.

The next night, Sivert Klefsaas made a three point shot with six seconds left in the game to lift the Cardinals over Crosby-Ironton, 45-44.

"This was our best game of the last two years," said

On Feb. 13, Staples-Motley fell to Dilworthteam with just five losses on the season. Ben Olander scored a career high 21 points to lead the team.

We played with confidence and aggression the whole game," said Doll. 'We were fearless and we showed that we are capable of playing with the best in our section."

Against Swanville, the Cards jumped off to a 41-28 halftime lead, thanks to the hot shooting of Schultz, who finished with 27 points.

As one of the top shooting nights in the school's history, Doll said "We know Erik Kelly has our school record with 10 out of 11 in a game. This is also a state record that still stands for consecutive three point field goals made as he made 10 in a row, missing his final attempt. We also know the second best shooting performance was by Jordan Riewer when he had nine for 11 in a game. With Isaiah going eight for 10, I think it's safe to say this is the third best three point performance in knows better I'm happy to correct the record. Pretty impressive for a freshman either way."

Against C-I, Staples-Motley fell behind by five at halftime and came back in the second half.

We hung around, and it looked like fate was not on our side when C-I banked in a long three in the last minute of the game to give them the lead," said Doll.

The Cards were forced to foul and got the rebound after a missed shot.

"Max Strickland did a great job of pushing the ball up the floor and finding Sivert, who knocked down a huge three with 6.9 seconds left giving us the one point lead," said Doll.

After a timeout, C-I

went the length of the floor and missed a shot as time

expired and Staples-Motley celebrated their second conference win of the season.

defended, rebounded, limited turnovers and had a higher standard for our possessions the entire game,' said Doll. "If we do these things, we're capable of competing with some good teams."

That theory was put to the test against D-G-F. The Cards gave up the first seven points of the game but Olander hit a short jump shot and then stepped outside for a three pointer to start a comeback. They fought back to come within two in the first half, but 7-0 run by D-G-F found the Cards down by ten at half-

In the second half, the Cardinals again made runs, but were matched every time they got close.

'We continued to play at a higher level against one of the best teams in the section," said Doll. "I'm very proud of our effort mentally and physically in this

"We could've gotten blown out, and everyone would have understood, but we showed that we are ready to raise the bar. We need to remember the things that have enabled us to be competitive, and keep doing the little things. I'm very interested to see how we finish this season," said

#### **Team results**

SM 75, Swanville 62 Scoring: Isaiah Schultz 27, Izaiah DeMars 15, Sivert Klefsaas 14, Max Strickland 10, Issac Kronenberg 6, Ben Olander 2, Adam Oberlander 1

SM 45, C-I 44 Scoring: Klefsaas 18, Strickland 10, Oberlander 8, Schultz Kronenberg 2

SM 62, D-G-F 73 Scoring: Olander 21, Klefsaas 17, Schultz 7, Kronenberg 7 Strickland 6, Oberlander 3

# Wrestling team falls in section

By Mark Anderson Managing Editor

The Staples-Motley wrestling team lost 66-11 in the first round of the Section 6A tournament held Feb 11, at Ottertail Central.

Owen Bjerga won with a tech fall and Alex Giza earned a pin in his match, but the Cards forfeited three weights and lost a couple of close matches.

'We lost to the better, more experienced team in OTC, who has eight seniors in their lineup," said Coach Mark Carlson.

We as a team we're improving and will utilize this loss and lessons from this season to continue to build the character of our kids along with improving our wrestling program in the short and long term,' said Carlson.

The Section 6A individual tournament will be held Saturday, January 22, at 10 a.m at the WadenaDeer Creek High school in Wadena.

"We're looking forward to a successful individual section tournament for all of our wrestlers. The goal will be to wrestle above our individual seeds," said Carlson.

Bjerga will be the top seed in his weight bracket and a couple other wrestlers will also have an opportunity to advance to the state tournament if they wrestle well.

#### Section 6A wrestling team results

Staples-Motley 11, Ottertail Central 66

106 Aidan Winter L fall 113 Jason Trantina L fall 120 Rafael Caudillo L fall

138 Will Danilyuk L 9-4 145 Conner Dobson L fall 152 Sam Jennissen L fall 160 Logen Weite L 1-0 170 Owen Bjerga W tf 19-4 182 Alex Giza W fall

220 Emmitt Winkels L fall 285 Cole Winkels L fall



#### Pick and roll

Isaiah Schultz dribbles to the basket against Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton, with a screen from Issac Kronenberg. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

#### Game winner in the air

The Cardinal bench watches as Sivert Klefsaas puts up his game winning three pointer. (Photo by Jody Hagenson)

#### Sealing the win

Ben Olander pulls down the rebound after C-I missed their final shot with Isaiah Schultz and Issac Kronenberg (44) defending. (Photo by Jody Hagenson)

# season, playoffs this week

By Mark Anderson Managing Editor

The Staples-Motley girls basketball team ended their regular season Feb. 17, at Sauk Rapids-Rice. Results were unavailable at press time. Last week, the Cards registered two losses as the team was down players due to injuries. They lost 88-64 to Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton on Feb. 10 and 68-54 against Crosby-Ironton on Feb. 14.

Against D-G-F, the Cards had two players out and had a third player limited by injury. "But we had a few players really step up and have big games for us,' said Coach Brian Smith.

Haley Cichos scored 23 points, hitting four, three pointers and went seven of nine from the free throw

Kaila Erbe also came through with 11 points and five rebounds, and was five of six from the line.

SM girls end basketball

Eighth grader Lauren Rutten "perhaps had her best varsity game yet,' said Smith, with 10 points, five rebounds, four assists and was six for six from the line.

'Offensively we played pretty well, we moved the ball well and got really good open looks when we were patient," said Smith. "Where we really struggled was rebounding, D-G-F outrebounded us 43-24; 28-12 on the offensive glass.'

DGF's top scorer ended with 31 points.

Against C-I, Staples-Motley started slow, fell behind 19-2, but came back and made it a close game at the end.

"In the second half we were much more aggressive offensively," said Smith. "We weren't just settling for jumpers, we were attacking the basket resulting in 15 of our 17

free throws in the second half. On the defensive side we changed things up a little, playing more person to person defense which seemed to help us."

Section 8AA seeding takes place Wednesday, Feb. 19. Smith said the Cardinals will likely have their first game Friday, Feb. 21, at either Wadena-Deer Creek or Frazee.

If they win their first game, they will likely play at top ranked Fergus Falls, or undefeated Pelican Rapids in the second round. Other section favorites are Hawley and Crookston.

#### **Team results** SM 64, D-G-Fn 88

Scoring: Haley Cichos 23, Kaila Erbe 11, Lauren Rutten 10, Tabetha Allen 7, Elizabeth Danilyuk 6, Kaitlyn Smith 5,

#### Aleeah Halverson 2 SM 54, C-I 68

Scoring: Cichos 18, Smith 10, Alix Peterson 9, Erbe 6, Danilyuk 5, Rutten 4, Allen 2

# News

# Rose Han encouraging others to give blood Feb. 19, at CLC

# Staples campus dedicating their blood drive to the late Don Edwards

For Rose Han, a Central Lakes College PSEO (Post Secondary Enrollment Options) student from Staples-Motley High School, donating blood is close to her heart. Blood donations are what gave her an extra couple of years to spend with her grandfather, Don Edwards.

Don was a fixture at the CLC Staples campus (then the Staples Area Vocational Technical School), where he taught math from 1968 until his retirement in 1995.

In 2016, Don was diagnosed with Pancytopenia, a condition that occurs when a person has low counts of each type of blood cells. Because of his condition, Don received blood transfusions every couple of months for the next two and a half years until his passing in 2019 at the age of 86.

Rose and her mother Kathryn Edwards (Don's daughter) were looking for ways to give back and encourage others to donate blood. That's why they're asking folks to give blood at the upcoming drive at Central Lakes College in Staples on Wednesday, Feb. 19, from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. The college is dedicating the drive to Don.

"I really want to do something for my grandpa," Rose said. "I know receiving blood helped him have a couple extra years of his life. It's important for



#### In the rose garden

Don Edwards and Rose Han, center, are pictured in the rose garden in St. Cloud with Rose's sister, Megan Han, left, and Don's sister, Rose Grossman. This trip is one of the many memories the family has with Don because he was able to get blood transfusions. (Submitted photo)

people to know that giving blood helps real people."

Rose plans to donate for her first time as well at the CLC blood drive.

Kathryn hopes Rose's involvement in the CLC blood drive will help the grieving process for her daughter.

"Rose helped me go check on him, make sure he was feeling okay," she said, adding that Rose would visit with her grandpa during his transfusions.

Don was equally involved in Rose's life, attending her school and extracurricular activities. Family was important to

him. The blood donations meant more time with his family. More grandkids to welcome into the world. More school activities to cheer them on at.

With this blood drive, Rose and Kathryn hope the donations will give other people more time with their loved ones.

The Red Cross Blood Drive will be held Wednesday, Feb. 19, from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the Assembly Room at CLC, Staples campus. For more information and to reserve your spot, email Erich.Heppner@clcmn.edu or call 218-855-8260. **BOOK** continued from page 1a to stop, what did you say

to her?" Jennifer asked

Willow.
"Whoa," Willow answered with a big smile.

Ruby was Willow's motivator, Jennifer said, going on to say how much her little girl looked forward to her sessions at Acorn Hill and how hard she worked once she got there.

It was Kelly who first approached Jennifer with the idea of writing a book about Willow's experiences with Ruby as a fundraiser for Acorn Hill EAAT, Inc.

As she thought about the renewed spark she had witnessed in her daughter's life through hippotherapy, it was a project Jennifer said she was excited to take on.

"I went home and wrote it in a few hours," Jennifer said of the book, which she entitled, "Ruby to the Rescue."

Shortly after, Kelly contacted David Garner, an award-winning designer and illustrator, to see if he would be willing to donate his talents toward the project. Garner, who lives in New York City, specializes in design work for nonprofit organizations. He agreed, and after reading Jennifer's book, provided beautiful illustrations to help bring her touching story to life.

Willow was very excited when the book, published through Amazon, arrived. Jennifer shared how she read it aloud to her daughter's kindergarten class at Staples-Motley Elementary School. Not only were her classmates excited to hear a story about someone they knew, but Willow "felt very special" when she heard her name read aloud.

One of the pages in the book reads, "Using super pony powers, Ruby helps

#### With the real Ruby

Willow Hines is pictured with Kelly Peterson, owner of Acorn Hill Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies (EAAT) in Leader, along with therapy-pony Ruby. Willow gained muscle strength and confidence through hippotherapy sessions at Acorn Hill. For more information, visit www.acornhilleaat.org. (Submitted photo)

kids with disabilities do amazing things. Kids like Willow."

It's been an exciting process, Jennifer said of writing a children's book. She hopes to write another one at some point, but in the meantime continues to post writings to her blog, www.themightywillow.wordpress.com.

Books and reading are an important part of their family, Jennifer shared. In addition to Willow, she and her husband, Kip Hines, are parents to son Laken, 12; and Bella, 11. They moved to Staples from Moorhead in 2016, when Kip was offered a job at Sourcewell

"We absolutely love it here," Jennifer said of the Staples area, going on to mention all that's available, including great schools, health care facilities, their church and a host of other amenities you probably won't find in a larger city.

Like Ruby the super pony, for starters.

"Ruby to the Rescue is available at www.amazon. com. All of the profits raised by the book will go directly to Acorn Hill EAAT, Inc. and will be used to help with day-to-day operational costs and finishing an outdoor arena. For more information, call Jennifer Hines at 218-329-4086 or Kelly Peterson at 540-454-1711.

# **Staples Police report**

On Jan. 29, Staples Police assisted the Staples Motley School with students that were threatening and being disrespectful.

On Jan. 29, Staples Police cited Damion Crosno, 18, for shoplifting at Ernie's liquor store.

On Jan. 30, Staples Police received a report of young students that missed the bus and now were unable to get back in their house. Police arrived on scene and attempted contact with a parent but were unable to get ahold of them. Police transported the three juveniles to school.

On Feb. 2, at 12:49 a.m., Staples Police and Staples Fire Department responded to a house fire

on the 200 block of 6th Street NE. Police assisted the owner with a ride to a friend's house while the fire department worked on locating and putting out the fire. Police were assisted by the Todd County Sheriff's Office.

On Feb. 2, Staples received a report of a dog bite at 6th Street NE.

On Feb. 5, Staples Police responded to Staples Motley High School for a juvenile student that had suicidal thoughts. Police assisted the parent with getting the student out to the Lakewood emergency room.

On Feb. 5, Staples Police were called to an out of control juvenile at a home in Staples. Police arrived and the juvenile calmed down.

On Feb. 5, Staples Police were dispatched to a report of a suspect in possession of a handgun, who was not allowed to legally possess the handgun, on the 200 block of Wisconsin Ave. SE. Upon investigation, police attempted to make contact with the suspect, Damian Crosno, 18, who then ran inside of a residence after being told to stop by the police. Crosno later exited the residence and was taken into custody for an active arrest warrant and for fleeing on foot from the police. Crosno was transported to the Todd County Detention Center. Also responding to assist was the Todd County Sheriff's Department, Wadena County Sheriff's Department, Minnesota State Patrol, and the Verndale Police Department.

# Swim team options could include co-op

By Mark Anderson Managing Editor

The Staples-Motley School District is looking at the state of the school's girls swim team, which had fewer participants this fall than in past years. The school does not have a boys swim team.

At the Feb. 10 school board work session, Activities Director Blake Boran said there were 15 swim team participants this year, compared to 29 the previous year and 26 the year before that. He said the team had fewer meets and used some events a junior varsity and junior high meets.

He said next year's numbers are hard to predict since there is no youth program to gauge interest. The class with the most

swimmers was sixth grade. Boran said it might be in the school's best interest to look for a cooperative pairing and he has been in contact with Little Falls and Perham as possibilities.

Another option could be a satellite program where the swimmers don't practice together but come together as a team for meets. Boran said Minnesaska-Morris does that, but he thought the team would be better off with a traditional co-op.

Boran said the cost of the sport was about \$1,000 per participant, but that does not include the lease with the Staples Community Center for practices and meets. The community center is charging around \$120 per hour for rental, which would put last year's cost around \$30,000.

For the past few years, Verndale students have been part of the Staples-Motley team. Boran said "if they had a third of this

cost, I'm not so sure they would have an interest in being a co-op at that point.

Boran said he plans to put out a student interest survey to see what students have an interest in.

"We're not making any rushed decisions," said Boran, "Some girls have said they will be interested in a co-op."

#### Golf co-op

Also at the Feb. 10 board meeting, the board approved a golf co-op between Staples-Motley and Verndale. Boran said a couple of students from Verndale asked to join the team.

Board member Brad Anderson is one of the assistant golf coaches and said "The more kids we can get, the better the program."

Boran said the school has a deal with the Vintage Golf Course for golf and cross country.

**SCHOOL** continued from page 1a

#### School board has critiques of continuous improvement plan

kels both said they like the mission statement but had questions about the vision.

"A vision is typically time bound and aspirational," said Anderson, "I don't know if it meets that."

Winkels said "When I think vision, I think bigger picture."

Winkels said he liked the priorities and com-

mitments, which have a lot of the concepts that he has been reading about from educational studies.

Board member Greg Frisk called the plan "touchy-feely B.S."

"People who see this have no idea what we do or who we are. Actions speak louder than words, I would rather focus on things we do with our kids," said

Tappe said "I agree actions speak louder than words, but we need a framework. If we're not holding true to this, I will have a conversation" with whoever may not be following the framework.

Walz said it will help administration explain what they do. "If a parent calls in upset, or don't understand what programs are going on, this is something we can show them. All the principals subscribe to this."

Tappe said he will ask the board for any more input and to finalize the document thier board meeting on Tuesday, Feb.

"This was all done inhouse within the district," said Tappe. "It is genuine, true leadership in my eyes."





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