



Staples World

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

Staples, Minnesota \$1

Sno Daze Royalty

Staples-Motley High School Sno Daze royalty were announced Feb. 19, with three of the candidates not in school for various reasons. Photos of Adam Oberlander and Beck Erholtz were held up, and Alex MacIlravy attended by cell phone. Candidates in attendance were, from left, Haley Cichos, Hannah DeWald, Alex Giza (back), Brooke Ferdon and Jady Kincaid. Activities for Sno Daze are modified because of COVID-19 restrictions, but each day will have a dress-up theme and students will be able to let off steam playing volleyball. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Pipeline arrests in Wadena County

On Feb. 16, at approximately 11:01 a.m., the Wadena County Sheriff's Office received a report of demonstrators on the pipeline right-of-way in section 4 of Huntersville Township, northeast of Huntersville. The reporting party stated there were approximately 30 individuals demonstrating and some of them were climbing on equipment and pipes located at the work site.

Law enforcement arrived on scene and the demonstrators got off the equipment. Construction workers on scene told law enforcement that four individuals from the group of demonstrators climbed into the pipe with cold weather gear and sleeping bags.

Dispersal orders were given to the group of demonstrators that were trespassing. See **PIPELINE** on page 3a



Coalition volunteers at work

Members of the Staples-Motley Early Childhood Coalition and other volunteers are pictured organizing and packing children's books for the Books in the Park program, one of the many projects this organization was a part of over the years.

From left: Mary Theurer, Beth Fabiar Sharon Swenson, Tyler Gosh, Susan Estabrooks-Anderson, Mary Noska, Annette Good, Rylie Rau and Morgan Swecke (Submitted photo)

Weather

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Feb. 24	31°	18°	P. Cloudy
Feb. 25	33	25	M. Sunny
Feb. 26	38	16	Cloudy
Feb. 27	21	4	P. Cloudy
Feb. 28	22	2	M. Cloudy
Mar. 1	23	13	Sunny
Mar. 2	30	20	Sunny

Last Year, 2020

	High	Low	Cond.
Feb. 24	38°	11°	Sunny
Feb. 25	35	16	M. Sunny
Feb. 26	24	3	P. Sunny
Feb. 27	27	4	Sunny
Feb. 28	21	-1	Sunny
Mar. 1	36	20	M. Cloudy
Mar. 2	29	21	Cloudy

Average Temps:
H = 30° Low = 11°
Total Snow:
For week: 2.25"
For year: 34.5"
Have a great and safe week

Compiled by Dale Hausmann, WCCO's Staples area Weatherwatcher



Knowledge Bowl earns first

The Staples-Motley High School Knowledge Bowl team took first place at their second Knowledge Bowl meet held Feb. 18. The team placed first over Pequot Lakes by one point. Above, left to right: Sabina Moe, Keegan Harvey, Torii Nienow and Caden Mrazek. Not pictured: Grace Allen and Starr Hofstedt. (Submitted photo)

'For the Good of the Children' carries on

"For the Good of the Children" was the phrase that often appeared on the meeting agenda of the Staples Motley Early Childhood Coalition. It spoke to the reason we were formed.

The Staples-Motley School District was selected to participate in the Minnesota Early Childhood Coalition process in 2008, through the Central Minnesota Initiative Foundation. The newly formed Staples-Motley Early Childhood Coalition received leadership training, staff assistance and a grant. The locally formed coalition has since worked to identify projects which would make a positive impact on our

area preschoolers and their parents and to fulfill their Mission Statement which was to "Ensure that all children have a healthy start and are well-prepared to start their school journey."

The coalition membership has been fluid and diverse throughout the years. In March of 2020 after surveying their membership, the coalition (most currently: Lisa Wick, Beth Fabian, Kelsi Schallow, Susan Estabrooks-Anderson, Nicky Anderson, Sharon Swenson and Lisa Kajer) concluded that it was time to dissolve based on lack of availability of volunteers, which included area Early Childhood pro-

fessionals/caregivers/educators who had indicated that they were not able to continue their work with the coalition due to their busy schedules/commitments.

Your family may have participated and/or benefited from one of their many projects such as Move, Drop Everything and Read!, The Big Equipment Show, Books in the Park, 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten, and funding contribution to the Staples Motley School Readiness Program to name a few.

Although its members

See **COALITION** on page 11a

Public Notices

Township elections: **9A**

Obituary

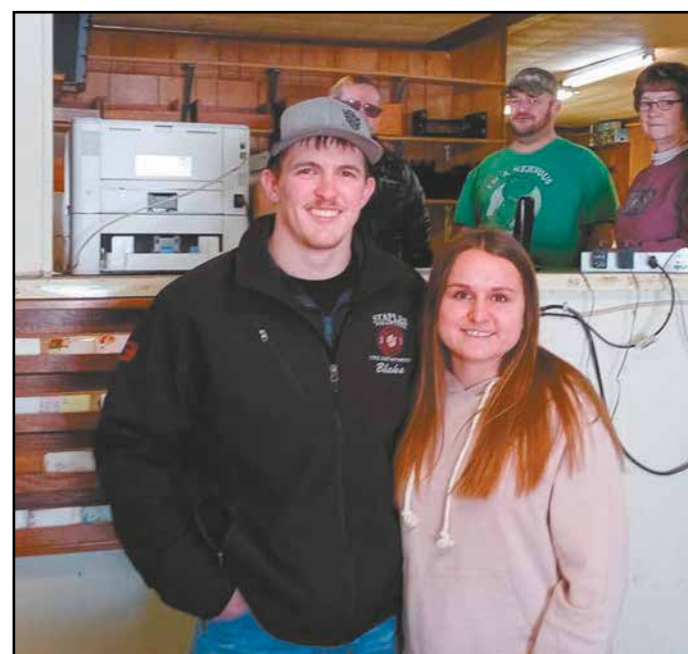
Larry Hansen
 Walter Hed



Thank you for subscribing!

Williams Floral now in its fifth generation

Blake Gerard and Lynnette Kern new owners



New owners

Blake Gerard and Lynnette Kern are the new owners of Williams Floral & Nursery in Staples. Gerard is the grandson of longtime owner Frank Williams; and the great-great-grandson of the first owner, Louis Williams. Gerard and Kern are engaged to be married and are both excited for this new business venture. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

By Dawn Timbs
 Staples World reporter

Williams Floral in Staples, a tradition since 1927, has recently been sold to the original owner's great-great-grandson, Blake Gerard and his fiancée Lynnette Kern, both of Staples.

The young couple is very excited for this business opportunity and Blake is happy to be following in the footsteps of four generations of relatives. They purchased the business from Blake's grandpa, Frank Williams, who's been a fixture at the flower shop/nursery for over 50 years.

"Absolutely," the name will remain 'Williams,' both Blake and Lynnette say. It's been a part of the community for nearly 100 years... they can't imagine changing it now.

They plan to do a face-lift at some point down the road and perhaps modernize a few things, Blake said, but for starters they want to be able to offer the same goods and services that Williams

customers have come to expect over the years.

The store, which has been closed for a few months, is tentatively scheduled to reopen March 1.

He's a little nervous, but excited to be passing over the reins to this younger generation, Frank said. "I'm very glad it's stayed in the family."

Although not formally trained in horticulture, both Blake and Lynnette have a love of flowers and gardening; and Blake has been around the family business since he was a young boy.

"I used to get dropped off by the school bus here," Blake shared, recalling his great-grandma Kathleen Williams (an Irish immigrant) would blow up balloons for him and his cousin, Alex to play with.

He also received on-the-job training along the way. Blake shared that he would help plant shrubs and trees each year under the watchful eye of Grandpa Frank. He also stocked shelves and

learned all about flower arranging and deliveries. Other mentors included his late-grandma Karen Williams, his great-aunt Kathryn Mary (Williams) Erickson; and his uncle Pat Williams, who taught him about landscaping.

They'll still be around during the transition Frank said, mentioning that he and his sister Kathryn Mary (a long-time employee at Williams), are happy to offer guidance. They're coming up on a busy season and he imagines Blake and Lynnette might have a few questions along the way. "We always start planting around the first of March," Frank notes, adding how much he's always enjoyed watching the nursery plants grow. "Every day they get a little bigger."

Little did they know when they met as teenagers that one day they'd be getting married and going into business together.

Both Blake and Lyn

See **FLORAL** on page 11a



Peace Poster Contest winner

Aliza Qureshi, an eighth grader at Staples-Motley Middle School, holds up her winning artwork in this year's Peace Poster Contest, co-sponsored by the Staples '93 Lions and the Motley Lions. Pictured above, from left, are Fariha and Farhan Qureshi, Aliza's mother and father; Aliza Qureshi; and Staples '93 Lion Beth Gedde.

Aliza won the local competition this past November, at which time she received a check from the local Lions groups. Her poster then advanced to the District 5M8 contest, at which she took first place, winning \$200.

Below, Aliza holds up her certificate and accepts a \$200 check from Staples '93 Lion Gedde, on behalf of District 5M8. Lion Gedde noted that District 5M8 has 84 clubs and approximately 2,372 members from Todd, Morrison, Mille Lacs, Kanabec, Pine, Benton and Stearns counties. As all Lions clubs, their motto is, "We serve." The Peace Poster Contest is one of several projects the Lions support and promote. "We are very proud of Aliza Qureshi, who designed and drew the winning poster..." Lion Gedde said. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



CTC to provide Motley's IT support services

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

The City of Motley will now be contracting with CTC for their IT support services. This was a decision made by the Motley City Council at their regular meeting Feb. 8.

During the meeting, City Clerk/Treasurer Curt Bryniarski informed the council that Sourcewell (the company Motley has previously contracted with) has discontinued its IT services. He proceeded to provide the council with service proposals from three different companies he'd reached out to: CTC, Marco, and Deerwood Technologies.

If money were not an option, Bryniarski said he would prefer to contract with Deerwood Technologies because of their proactive approach. He mentioned that this company would provide off-site data backup services for them, which Bryniarski said would be very helpful. In addition, they also offer 24/7 remote monitoring.

However, Deerwood's monthly fee is \$685, as compared to CTC's monthly rate of \$350. This translates to \$8,220 a year for Deerwood, Bryniarski noted, and \$4,200 a year for CTC. Previously, the city was paying \$240 a month for Sourcewell's IT services.

Council member Pat O'Regan asked Bryniarski if he felt CTC would be adequate.

On the plus side, Bryniarski noted that the city already has a positive working relationship with CTC, in that they have their phones and email services through them. He also said that they would provide support similar to what the city has had through Sourcewell.

Bryniarski went on to note that currently, Sourcewell backs up the city's computers off-site, but he hangs on to the backups. He said that CTC would provide more monitoring than they've had in the past through Sourcewell.

Council member Amy Hutchison mentioned that she has dealt with CTC at her job and feels they do a great job with computers. She also felt that if the support the city's had through Sourcewell has worked, perhaps it would be wise to stick with a similar company.

Marco, which charges \$150 - \$200 an hr., had been ruled out early in their discussion, with Bryniarski noting they are a big company that does not have an affordable option for proactive IT support services for a small client such as the city.

In the end, the council voted unanimously to contract with CTC for their IT support services.

In other matters the council:

- HEARD the monthly report from Fire Chief Brad Olson. The MFD received seven calls during January.

- LEARNED that the Motley Fire Chiefs would like to attend some meetings of townships that have fire contracts with Motley. Chief Olson said he felt it was important to introduce themselves to the townships, since they pay for their services. Mayor Al Yoder said he felt this would be a good idea.

- LEARNED from Chief Olson that during a maintenance check-up on Tanker 2, the brakes went out on the truck. He said he believed it would be a hefty bill.

- HEARD the monthly report from Police Chief

Jason Borash which included a total of 106 calls during the month of January.

- LEARNED from Chief Borash that Motley resident Robert Follis, whose property had been abated in October of 2020, failed to pay fees in order to gain possession of his property. After some discussion, the council approved a motion to vacate anything of value from the Follis abatement and make it available to the public to bid on.

- APPROVED minor changes made to the city's Personnel Manual.

- APPROVED a resolution to increase night shift differential pay from \$0.25 per hour for each hour worked to one dollar (\$1.00) per hour for each hour worked between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m.

- APPROVED a sponsorship agreement between Morrison County and the City of Motley for Cemetery Road and Morrison Street Project grant applications.

- APPROVED a resolution accepting donations to the city. These donations were designated for the fire department's truck fund.

- APPROVED a resolution supporting grant applications to Sourcewell and USDA for Energy & Environment planning and implementation.

- SET city wide garage sales for Saturday, May 1 and Sunday, May 2.

- SET city clean up day for Saturday, May 15.

- LEARNED that the Motley Free Methodist Church has offered to purchase six picnic tables for Ernie Converse Park.

- SET next regular meeting for Monday, March 8, at 6:30 p.m.

Law enforcement reports, Motley area

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

(MCSO) included the following:

Feb. 11 - 17

Feb. 17 - The MPD issued a hands-free violation citation to Angelica Adams, 34.

Feb. 17 - The MPD issued a citation to Jacob Peterson, 20, for his vehicle having tires beyond fenders and window tint.

Feb. 12 - 17 - The MPD issued speeding citations

to Steven Christianson, 72; Eric Borders, 38; Rae Hoesing, 44; Richard Rothe, 27; Bradley McKenzie, 24.

Feb. 17 - The MCSO reported suspicious activity at Hwy 10 and 330th St. in Motley.

Feb. 12 - The MCSO issued a citation to Danielle Johnson, 36, for driving with a revoked license.



Home uninhabitable due to fire

A fire at the Kevin and Jennie Dezell home Feb. 18 deemed the home unlivable due to heavy smoke damage. The Staples Fire Department received the call around 1:30 p.m. to the home located on 490th St. "I think we were there in about 2-1/2 minutes," said Staples Fire Chief Cole Yungbauer. The fire had spread from the basement to the inside garage wall, then up into the insulation creating heavy smoke and soot. It is believed the fire was electrical in nature. The Staples Fire Department remained on scene for three hours. The Dezells are currently staying with family members.

Mutual aid was provided by the Motley Fire Department. Also on scene were the Staples Police Department and Todd County Sheriff's Office. (Staples World photos by Janice Winter)



Pain clinic at Lakewood Health System

Lakewood Health System now offers a pain clinic for the treatment of chronic pain in patients of all ages. Areas treated for pain include mid and lower back, neck, shoulder, knee, hip, head and muscle.

A team approach is utilized for a full, comprehensive evaluation, along with education and treatment options. Patients are seen by a certified nurse practitioner who has been specially trained in chronic pain management. If a procedure is recommended, patients are seen by an interventionalist who performs the procedure at Lakewood.

The pain clinic offers personalized treatment plans, coordinated care within an individualized care team, diagnostic options, proven treatments, follow-up care, educa-

tion and access to a nurse hotline. Pain management procedures include but are not limited to image-guided spinal and joint injections, trigger point injections and radiofrequency ablations.

"We're excited to be able to offer these pain treatment services at Lakewood," said Surgery Director, Stacey Sauve. "They will give our patients more options for the relief of pain associated with so many things, such as cancer, injury, or just wear and tear. No one wants to live with pain, so we wanted to provide treatments to help with that."

Pain services are available at Lakewood's Main Campus in Staples. If you are interested in finding out more about how these services could help you, talk with your provider or call 218-894-1515.

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CITY PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. SEEKING FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE

The City of Kerkhoven, Public Works Department, seeks FT maintenance worker immediately. Complete job description is available upon request.

Minimum requirements: Possess or obtain a MN Class D Water Operator's and Class C Sewer Operator's License within 2 years of employment; Valid MN Class D Driver's License and a satisfactory driving record. All applicants will be required to have a physical and are subject to a drug test. Starting wage: \$17.27-\$20.00 per hour, plus excellent benefits. This is a non-union position.

TO APPLY: Complete and submit an application packet by 12:00 (noon) p.m. on Friday, February 26, 2021. Application forms can be obtained at City Hall Monday-Thursday from 8am-5pm and Fridays 8am-noon, or by calling 320-264-2581. Submit completed applications in drop box or by mail to: City of Kerkhoven, PO Box 116, Kerkhoven, MN 56252. The City of Kerkhoven is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CITY OF KERKHOVEN
208 10th Street North • Box 116, Kerkhoven, Minnesota 56252

Looking back

75 YEARS Ago - 1946

• Feb. 21, 1946 - Evangelist Joy Cummings of Annandale will appear nightly at the Gospel Tabernacle in Motley starting Tuesday evening, Feb. 26, and continuing through Sunday evening, March 3.

Sound pictures will all be shown during the evenings on various Bible subjects.

• Feb. 21, 1946 - Two thousand five hundred people of Staples and this community visited the new Red Owl store in Staples on its opening day Thursday, Feb. 15, according to a tabulation released the first of this

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Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
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week by Manager Willis Fuder of the store.

The store was visited by over 1,300 people on Friday, and went to 1,700 on Saturday, according to the cash register receipts from the store.

Thursday evening after the opening day, employees of the store were guests at a banquet at the St. Charles hotel, at which Harry Haney, district manager, of Detroit Lakes, was the toastmaster.

A complete line of all staple and fancy groceries is carried, and many of the food stuffs which have been hard to get have been on the shelves since the opening day.

• Feb. 21, 1946 - William Jensen, Donald Eddy and Emory DuPre, members of the Staples high school hockey team, were in attendance at the state tournament held in St. Paul last week-end. They went Thursday evening and returned Sunday.

The Staples team was eliminated from a possible entry into the state event by St. Cloud by a score of 3 to 1. Rosseau won the state championship by complete swamping a Rochester sextet by a 6-0 score in the final game.

• Feb. 21, 1946 - Ernie's Food Market in Staples advertises 2 lbs. apples, 29 cents; 2 large heads lettuce, 19 cents; coffee, N.J.C. or Hill's, 31 cents/lb.; 2 lb. jar of peanut butter, 59 cents; 1 lb. jar of 3-B's Pure honey, 29 cents; fresh ground pork sausage, 30 cents/lb.

50 YEARS Ago - 1971

• Feb. 25, 1971 - A Staples couple received injuries as a result of a snowmobile accident Monday evening. Injured were Mr. and Mrs.



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our Feb. 25, 1971 edition. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photos? 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.

Roger Bienusa.

The accident apparently happened south of Staples while the Bienusas were snowmobiling with others and they apparently went over an embankment. Mr. Bienusa received a cut over the eye and was treated at the Staples hospital and released. Mrs. Bienusa suffered a fractured arm and after treatment at the Staples hospital, was transferred to St. John's hospital in St. Paul.

• Feb. 25, 1971 - Becky Finn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Finn, Staples, was in St. Paul last week-end to participate in the All-State Choir. Miss Finn was chosen for the honor of being a member of the choir last spring and attended a summer camp at Bemidji State College in 1970. She is a senior at Staples high school and plans to major in voice at a college of her choice following her graduation in May.

• Feb. 25, 1971 - Coach Tom Wolhowe's Cardinal basketball team had to battle the Wadena Indians to the final minute of play last Friday evening on the Wadena court before claiming a 68 to 64 Mid-State and District 24 victory.

• Feb. 25, 1971 - The power of the Staples Wrestling team was again displayed last weekend as the men of Coach Don Dravis picked off the District 24 Championship and will send four titlists and four runner-ups into Region Six competition this week. These include Loren Bendson, Gordy Thompson, Mike Roberts, Mark Bendson, Jim Nichols, Wayne Shequen, Herb Greenwood and Dave Fuller.

25 YEARS Ago - 1996

• Feb. 22, 1996 - An attorney from Wadena has been named to the district court judicial position for Todd County.

Sally Ireland Robertson, an attorney with Kennedy & Nervig law firm of Wadena, was named to the bench by Gov. Arne Carlson this past Friday during a meeting of chief justices of state's judicial districts.

Robertson, 47, said Monday that she was honored by the selection. "I feel honored in that I was selected from a field of good candidates," she said.

• Feb. 22, 1996 - Ellen Batcher provided some glimpses of the past as she guided a Valentine Day tour of the Batcher Opera Hall for a group that included members of the newly formed Batcher Opera House advisory board.

• Feb. 22, 1996 - Residents at the Staples Hi-Rise selected a new Valentine's king and queen to represent their facility last week. Melvin Schafer and Ruth Blanchard were picked and honored Wednesday afternoon at a residents party.

• Feb. 22, 1996 - Marvin Shequen and Agnes Lewis were named Valentine king and queen at the Greater Staples Care Center this week. The two, chosen by residents and staff, will represent the care center in parades and other functions during the year.

• Feb. 22, 1996 - On Feb. 17, members of the Staples Motley High School speech team competed with speakers from other schools in the Sebeka-Menahga Lions Club Invitational Speech Contest. Winners included

Bobbi Dolezal and Heidi Swenson, second in dramatic duo; Jill Mertens, third in storytelling; Brandi Hoppenrath, second in humor; Scott Smith, third in drama; Monica Weber, third in original oratory; and Justin Windschitl, first in the informative category; Maria Brenny, champion-ship in drama; Lisa Anderson, second in drama.

• Feb. 22, 1996 - Cardinal gymnast Heidi Fleck captured first place in two events, second in another and took the all round honors in her first Section A gymnastics meet last Friday at Pelican Rapids.

10 YEARS Ago - 2011

• Feb. 24, 2011 - Staples Motley High School seniors Alex Busker and Robb Odden were crowned Queen and King at the Sno-Daze coronation Feb. 18. Queen candidates included: Emma Koskiniemi, Andrea Koskiniemi, Hallie Olsen, Kierstin Smith and Taylor Tomann. King candidates included: Cody Hanson, Chandler Trout, Ryan Bart, Logan Swensrud and Skyler Svendsen. Whittney Risser, a runner-up, stood in for Tomann, who was out of town that day.

• Feb. 24, 2011 - John Peterson, Past Grand Master of Minnesota Masons and a member of the Staples Masonic Lodge received his 50 year membership certificate and pin. The presentation was made to John, along with his wife, LaDonna, at the annual Minnesota-Arizona Masonic reunion held Feb. 7, in Phoenix, Ariz.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo, published in the March 16, 1978 edition of the Staples World, featured four Staples High School students who were recognized as outstanding speakers at the Walker Jaycee Invitational Speech Tournament on March 11 of that year. Receiving recognition for SHS were Scott Grossman (seated) for his prose reading, "The Scarlet Ibis;" Kathy Edin (standing left) who competed in the extemporaneous speaking category; John Uhrich (center, standing) for his humorous reading entitled, "The Last of the Dragons;" and Stephanie Heeny (standing, right) for her analysis of John Case's speech, "For Whom the Bell Tolls," in the significant speech event. Speech coach Tom Girtz said that more than 25 schools entered over 500 students in this contest, which makes the Walker Invitational one of the toughest events of the year on the high school speech calendar.

Sue (Johnson) Griffith of Staples correctly identified all, noting that she graduated with Edin, Uhrich and Heeny, all sophomores at the time. Grossman was a senior. Kay (Mennis) Mueller of Staples, 1980 graduate of SHS, correctly identified her classmates, Edin and Uhrich; and Kay's husband Bob Mueller, 1978 graduate of SHS correctly identified his classmate, Grossman. Bob incorrectly identified Heeny as Pam Mergens. Frank Odell of Staples, who was a speech coach at SHS during that time, correctly identified Grossman and Uhrich; and initially identified Edin as Dawn Schimpp and Heeny as Tammy Evans. "You stumped the speech coach," Odell said, after being informed of the correct names. Odell went on to note that both Grossman and Uhrich were state speech champs and remembered the names of their speeches. "Brings back great memories," he said of the photo. Judy Wolak of Staples correctly identified Grossman and Heeny. She thought Edin was Nancy Sadusky and John Uhrich was his brother, Jim. Thanks for participating in our Mystery Photo.

City of Staples corrects billing overcharges

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

At the Feb. 9 Staples City Council meeting, Public Works Director Scott Grabe said after a review of electric billing, it was found that some of the large commercial customers had been overcharged because an old formula was being applied to the businesses. Grabe said they have corrected the issue and will refund the customers on their next bill. He said most refunds will be used up in one billing cycle, since the refund is not larger than the monthly bill.

COVID-19 update

PIPELINE continued from page 1a

Protesters stay in pipe for six hours

ing on pipeline property.

Most left the area but three remained inside the pipe. The section of pipe was approximately 2,250 feet long and the three individuals were approximately 70 feet inside the east end of the pipe. Additional dispersal orders were given to the individuals inside the pipe. These three individuals refused to comply with the order to remove themselves from the pipe, and stayed in the pipe for approximately six hours.

At approximately 5:30 p.m., the three individuals exited the pipe without incident. They were taken into custody by law enforce-

ment, cleared by medical personnel on scene and transported to the Wadena County Jail. The three individuals were held in custody on probable cause for gross misdemeanor trespassing. They were identified as Trinity Shaw-Stewart, age 20, of Medford, OR, Bonnie Hoekstra, age 22, of St. Paul, MN and Jack Keenan, age 26, of Stevens Point, WI.

The Wadena County Sheriff's Office was assisted on scene by the Menahga Police Department, Hubbard County Sheriff's Office and Tri-County Ambulance. The Wadena County Attorney's Office is reviewing the case for formal charges.

Coming to a lake near you: panfish limits

If there is a category of fish that a Minnesota angler is most likely to catch, keep, and cook up in an old cast iron frying pan, it would be panfish. Meaning, of course, bluegills—interchangeably called sunfish—and crappies. At the risk of over-generalizing, the strictest ethic of catch-and-release runs deepest for species other than panfish; species like trout, bass, or muskies, for instance.

As a youngster, I would sometimes be invited to join my neighborhood friend and his grandfa-



Mike Rahn

ther when they set out on a mission to catch "a mess of eatin' sunnies." Grandpa's phrasing may have been unsophisticated, but to me it still conjures up sensations of sizzle, aroma, and a taste that is hard for any other fish to beat; enough to make you forget a panfish's lower status in the sport fishing hierarchy.

But just because panfish don't have much glamor, are seldom featured on outdoor magazine covers, and are almost never the target species in big-time fishing tournaments, that doesn't mean they're ignored by those who manage our fisheries. In

fact, we are just days away from the start of a fisheries management endeavor that is intended to increase the average size of panfish on many Minnesota waters.

March 1st is slated as the effective date for new reduced daily panfish limits on 94 bodies of water across the state. Most are lakes, though a stretch of the Mississippi River, and the Sauk River chain of river-connected lakes, are also included.

The reduced limits are part of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources' Quality Bluegill Initiative. The objective is to increase the average size of panfish that anglers catch. The reduced harvest limits could accomplish this by not only keeping more large males in a lake's population, but stimulating smaller fish to grow larger.

The DNR puts it this way: "Large males create an incentive for other males to grow equally large and compete for good spawning sites. When too many large males are harvested, other males have no reason to keep growing, and tend to stay smaller. Because anglers usually keep the largest sunfish, reducing overall harvest can have noticeable benefits," says the message at the DNR's web site. In other words, if we can only keep five—instead of 20—then the net effect should be more large fish in the population. That is the objective, anyway.

While the emphasis in this endeavor is mostly on

sunfish—including the commonly caught bluegills and pumpkinseeds, and the smaller green, and orange-spotted, sunfish—crappies are not left out entirely. Seventeen of these 94 waters will have limits of five sunfish and five crappies, reduced from the statewide norms of 20 sunfish and 10 crappies. Two will have limits of 10 sunfish and five crappies. Thirty-one will have daily limits of 10 sunfish and no reduction in the crappie limit. Forty-four will have daily limits of five sunfish and no reduction in the crappie limit.

It may be a disservice to call this DNR initiative an experiment, because reduced harvest limits for panfish have been tried elsewhere. For example, a modest-sized lake southeast of Grand Rapids in Itasca County—1,300-acre Split Hand Lake—has had special panfish regulations since 2012.

Split Hand has been characterized as having a reputation as an up-and-down lake in terms of quality panfish. But since daily limits on bluegills and crappies were dramatically reduced to five of each kind almost a decade ago, the lake's numbers of quality panfish reportedly are now up, and are being maintained. Whether the same positive outcomes will be seen on the newly designated 94 lakes and river systems elsewhere in the state, only time will tell.

Other, more radical, suggestions have been offered



Building project will bring needed improvements

By Shane Tappe
Staples-Motley Schools
Superintendent

The past year has been the most difficult of all my years in education, but the students, staff and families of Staples-Motley Schools have done a fantastic job of handling every challenge thrown their way.

Since the start of the new year, we have been energized by our middle and high school students' return to the classroom. While the situation is ever-changing, we're working hard to provide students with as "normal" of a learning experience as we can. As we head towards the spring, we will continue to follow all state health guidelines to keep our students and staff safe.

The pandemic has been a stark reminder of the value of in-person learning for our students. In that spirit, we must make sure our students have a quality and healthy learning environment that will help them reach their potential. Unfortunately, the condition of our school buildings poses a significant challenge as we look beyond the pandemic.

The average age of our buildings is 50 years, with the oldest portions of the middle/high school predating WWII. Education was much different then than it is today. Many of our facilities no longer meet many state health, safety and space standards for learning. Our maintenance teams have done a great job of making sure we get the most out of our buildings, but their decline has reached a point where infrastructure repairs cannot be

addressed with our current maintenance budget.

To make sure our school buildings can serve students today and in the years ahead, the Staples-Motley School Board has put forward a bond referendum seeking \$64.38 million to reinvest in our school buildings. If residents approve the plan when they vote on April 13, both the existing elementary school and middle/high school would be renovated and expanded, and the early education center would be sold. The elementary school would be expanded to accommodate grades pre K-6, while the middle/high school would transition to serve grades 7-12.

The elementary school would see a new grade configuration that is developmentally appropriate, based on the feedback from our stakeholders. As part of this realignment, it would see some expansions in order to bring our early education, fifth and sixth grade students into the facility. The additions would feature new classrooms and collaborative learning spaces, as well as a music room and new gymnasium. Further, an updated kitchen and cafeteria space would be included in the renovations, putting an end to the inefficient practice of preparing meals at the middle/high school and having them delivered to elementary students.

At the middle/high school, the building would be expanded to create adequate learning space to support career and technical education, high school athletics and fine arts. A new shop space and an outdoor

build yard would provide resources for technical education, and new practice rooms for band and choir would be added adjacent to the existing auditorium. New and renovated athletic spaces would be grouped together for efficiency and security.

At both locations, infrastructure improvements would focus on improving the health, safety and efficiency of the buildings. All spaces would see renovations and be updated to meet accessibility requirements for those with disabilities. Entrances would be updated to make our buildings more secure. Outdated heating, ventilation and air-conditioning (HVAC) systems, roofing and windows would be replaced to improve indoor air quality and energy efficiency. These improvements would save the district an estimated \$324,000 a year in operating costs.

Regarding taxpayer impact, a residential home with a median value of \$125,000 would see a property tax increase of approximately \$23.50 per month beginning in 2022. Residents can calculate the estimated effects on their property by using the tax calculator that we've included on the referendum website, SMTIMEtoRise.com.

Our schools are an important part of our local communities, so we want to do everything we can to help residents make an informed vote. If you have any questions or ideas, I hope you will reach out to me at shane.tappe@isd2170.k12.mn.us or 218-894-5400.

Thank you for your support.

Letters to the Editor

School board trying to suppress vote

The Staples-Motley School Board is doing its best to suppress voter turnout in the upcoming referendum vote. They voted to approve the referendum at the end of January leaving only 78 days before the vote on April 13. I asked why April was chosen and they told me the last vote was in May and they lost. Choosing to do all of this in the winter when many people are out of the area was a

very conscious choice.

The school board election last November garnered over 12,000 votes. The previous referendum vote was only 3,200. So surprising that the referendum wasn't able to be scheduled during a major election. The board is hoping that a tiny minority of voters will saddle the district with paying back \$90 million (total of payments with interest) over the next 25 years.

In order to increase the vote I am asking anyone with friends or relatives down south or otherwise unable to vote in person on April 13, to call them

immediately. Tell them to request an absentee ballot by calling Bonnie Madson at 218-894-5400 option #9. Or you can find an application online at <https://www.smtimetorise.com/resources>, select "Early voting application". Follow the directions and send in the application right away.

Mail can be slow so this has to be done quickly so you can receive the actual ballot which then has to be returned and received by election day, April 13.

Ronald Nypan
Cushing, Minn

Abortion numbers

President Biden brags about being Catholic, but still he and the vice president support abortions, even late-term abortions, while at the same time complaining about how many people died of coronavirus.

I know coronavirus is serious, but how many hundreds of thousands have died from abortions?

Greg Wegscheid
Staples, Minn

School building meetings

The Staples-Motley School District has set four community meetings for the public to review the proposed school building referendum. These meetings will be held "open-house social" style, where community members can come at any time during the meeting.

Meetings will be:

Tues. Feb. 23
Scandia Valley Town-
ship Hall - noon-1:30pm
Early Education Center
(Motley) - 6-7:30pm
Weds. Feb. 24
Leader Community Hall -
noon-1:30pm
Middle/High School (Sta-
ples) - 6-7:30pm

Lakewood Health System pledges commitment for healthier communities

Lakewood Health System announces a formal commitment to support the Staples-Motley Independent School District and its efforts to develop long-range facility plans. Lakewood strongly believes the plan being proposed for the April 2021 referendum will contribute to a healthier community for school-aged children and for everyone.

Lakewood's mission is to provide quality, personalized healthcare for a lifetime. This dedication goes far beyond hospital and clinic walls - it reaches the communities it serves. And the commitment from healthcare to improve the health and well-being of communities is stronger than ever.

"We know health impacts everyone, not just for the patients and residents who

come to Lakewood for care. The conditions where we live, learn, work and play can have a profound effect on our health, and through the endorsement of projects and programs, we know we can help create vibrant communities in our region," said Lisa Bjerga, Lakewood's Chief Financial Officer.

Local school districts play a critical role in providing healthy and safe places for students to learn. Through strong partnerships, the collective work of local school districts alongside the support from local cities, county and township leaders is essential to shape the health and well-being of students and communities in the region. These contributions and dedicated investments will ensure the 1,000 students enrolled at

Staples-Motley Independent School District can thrive in the classroom and in life.

Lakewood is excited to pledge its ongoing commitment with the Staples-Motley Independent School District - and with many local city, county and township leaders - to make investments and create healthier communities.

"Education and good health over a lifetime are closely linked," says Bjerga. "We look forward to working with the Staples-Motley Independent School District during its design phase to ensure community health is an important outcome of the plan. Investments that improve educational outcomes, health and overall wellbeing are a win-win-win for us all."

Quote of the week

"The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new." — Socrates

Gazelka supports senate bill to keep schools open

From the office of Senator
Paul Gazelka

The Minnesota Senate passed legislation that will protect students' right to an excellent education at all times. The bill, Senate File 2, removes any governor's authority to close schools or alter school schedules via executive order. Decisions about opening and closing will be left in the hands of individual school districts moving forward, where local officials have firsthand knowledge of their students' needs.

"Senate Republicans are putting the decision-making authority back where it needs to be - exclusively in the hands of local school leaders." Majority Leader Paul Gazelka (R- Nisswa)

said. "All the science says we can and should open schools for the academic and emotional health of our children. Unfortunately, far too many kids are still receiving most of their instruction by distance learning, which is unacceptable. It's become obvious the main thing standing in the way from a full reopening of schools are the teacher's unions. Their demands to delay in-person instruction is failing kids, parents, and our future."

The bill says the governor may not use executive order authority to issue any order or to authorize the commissioner of education to alter school schedules, curtail school activities, or order schools closed.

Gov. Walz's executive or-

ders closing schools have been among his most questioned and controversial orders of the outbreak.

There is mounting evidence, including research from the CDC, that schools pose a minimal risk of spreading the coronavirus. A fall Reuters report that studied 191 countries also found no clear link between school reopenings and coronavirus surges. In addition, Axios looked at several studies and found schools are not Covid hotspots, and the Atlantic Magazine wrote that kids are not superspreaders and that it's time to reopen schools. The New York Times reported on evidence that schools, especially elementary schools, are not "stoking community transmission."

Smith speaks up for rural health care

From the office of Senator
Tina Smith

U.S. Senator Tina Smith, a member of the Senate Health Committee, told rural health leaders from across the country that the COVID-19 pandemic has created a devastating crisis in rural health care delivery, and has exacerbated the already-steep challenges that have plagued rural providers in Minnesota and across

the country for years.

Sen. Smith, in her virtual remarks to the Rural Health Policy Institute on Wednesday, said the pandemic has increased costs and decreased revenues for rural health providers, who also have struggled to get the ventilators and protective equipment needed to treat an influx of COVID-19 patients and protect frontline workers. The lack of broadband internet services across wide swaths of rural America has also hampered efforts to expand telehealth services to treat a growing number of mental health patients during the pandemic, she said.

"Rural health providers, who already face deep challenges in delivering quality health care to patients, have been hit especially hard by the pandemic," Sen. Smith said. "It's clear that we will have to redouble our efforts to ensure that the people who live in our small towns and rural communities have access to the affordable care they need. That means expanding rural broadband, increasing the use of telehealth, and addressing the growing need for mental health services across rural America."

Sen. Smith said that in the past decade many rural health facilities have been forced to close and the hospitals and clinics that remain open face a shortage of health care workers who can provide needed services. Since 2010, 135 rural hospitals have closed - in-

cluding 19 closures in 2020 alone - causing communities across rural America to lose access to specialists and mental health providers.

Sen. Smith said Congress has taken bipartisan action to provide relief to people living in rural areas during this pandemic, including by:

Providing flexibility and higher reimbursement for rural providers who provide telehealth services.

Expanding funding for broadband services in rural areas.

Increasing federal funding through the Provider Relief Fund, the Medicare Accelerated Payments Program, and the Paycheck Protection Program.

She said in the coming weeks she'll push for more funding for rural clinics, and work to ensure more of the Provider Relief Fund reaches rural areas in the COVID-19 relief package currently moving in Congress. She'll also press to ensure non-profit critical access hospitals that are affiliated with a larger health system are eligible for pandemic relief.

Beyond her work on COVID-19 relief, Sen. Smith said she'll push to pass her bipartisan bill with Republican Senator Murkowski - the Rural MOMS Act - which would help rural health systems meet the needs of expecting families and address the high rate of maternal mortality in rural areas.

Staples World

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Letters: Readers are encouraged to express their views by writing letters to the editor. Letters are verified for authenticity, so please include a name, address and phone number. Only the author's name and city will be published. Letters may be edited for spelling and grammar errors, libel, length and other factors. Private thanks, solicitations and libelous letters will not be published. Letters are printed on a space 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.

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

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COVID-19 increases in Todd County, deaths increase in Wadena County

Todd County saw an increase in COVID-19 cases over the past week, with 43 new cases detected in the county. Todd County had recorded 20 and 14 cases the previous two weeks. Cass and Morrison County also saw a rise in the weekly numbers, while Wadena County went down to 16 new cases, after seeing 29 the previous week.

Minnesota cases by zip code were released Feb. 18, showing Staples with 10 new cases, Long Prairie with 11 and Verndale with 11. For the previous three weeks, Verndale had reported zero cases. Motley showed zero new cases for the first time since zip code numbers were released in October. Other area communities had five or fewer new cases.

While the virus is still spreading, the number of deaths has gone down in all area counties except Wadena. In the past five weeks, Wadena County has recorded six deaths from COVID-19, while Todd County saw one, Morrison three and Cass two in that same period. Wadena County now has 19 total deaths associated with COVID-19, Morrison has 46, Todd has 30 and Cass 24.

State-wide, hospitalizations for COVID-19 have declined each week since peaking in November. Weekly deaths have also declined in Minnesota since peaking in December. The state is averaging eight deaths per day over the past week.



SHAS students earn lunch and rides for Workathon efforts

Sacred Heart Area School students recently enjoyed lunch and rides with area sheriffs and police officers for raising the most funds per class during the school's Workathon held in October, 2020. Lunch was at Beck's Burger Co., Staples with the sheriff and police officers and which included "ride alongs" in law enforcement vehicles.

SHAS students, front row, left to right: Alexis Olander,

Aundrea Olander, Ben Stevens, Grace Fink, Madison Perius, Kaylee Perius, Stella Daniels, Reed Leach, Zane Leach and Isaiah Detloff. Back row: Todd County Sheriff Deputy Bryan Savaloja, Todd County Sheriff Steve Och, Wadena County Sheriff Mike Carr, Todd County Deputy Lonnie Marcyes, Staples Police Chief Melissa Birkholtz, Staples Police Officer Jamie Pearson and Todd County Deputy Dave Laven. (Submitted photo)

March Food Share campaign

Motley Area Food Shelf seeks donations

Minnesota Food Share month, which takes place in March, is now in its 40th year. Started in 1982 by faith-based congregations in order to restock food shelves in the seven-county Twin Cities area, MN FoodShare envisioned a Minnesota where all residents would have access to healthy food and no one would struggle with food insecurity.

The effort was so successful and the need so evident, the March Campaign became a statewide program just one year later. Now the largest grassroots food and fund drive in the state, it brings together various community organizations, businesses and faith communities to help stock over 300 food shelves state-wide, raising over \$8 million and receiving 4.7 millions pounds of food annually.

Food Share Month is a unique opportunity to increase the value of the donations that are given in support of area food shelves. The Minneapolis Council of Churches gives to food shelves from an allocation fund according to the amount of dollars and of pounds of food raised during the month of March.

The Motley Area Food Shelf (MAFS) first began serving its patrons' needs in the 1980s. At that time, the food shelf was able to provide food for two - three days to each family that came to them. In a recent letter, the MAFS Board shared that, "Because of the support we now received through volunteer hours, food donations and financial gifts from you and your neighbors in the Motley area, we are able to provide an adequate amount of food and basic personal care items to every individual or family that comes to us, for a longer period of time."

The board went on to note that the struggle for families to have enough food, including high quality food such as fruits,

vegetables and meats, is very close to home. Their goal is to provide quality food to all who have the need for it. "The Motley Area Food Shelf knows that healthy people and healthy families make for a healthy and thriving community."

Below are hunger facts pertaining to Minnesota:

- After years of steadily declining food insecurity rates, it was projected that food insecurity in Minnesota, impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, could rise to 13 percent.
- Nine percent of Minnesotans had incomes below the poverty line (\$25,926 for a family of four) in 2020. This included 11 percent of Minnesota's children.
- A record over 3.8 million visits were made to food shelves during 2020.
- More than 400,000 Minnesotans receive nutrition benefits via SNAP each month; and 71 percent of those served by SNAP are children, seniors and people with disabilities.
- Minnesota's charitable food system (food shelves and food banks, meal programs, etc.) continues to run at capacity. The Covid-19 pandemic has exacerbated this, making it critical to focus on creating a more just and equitable food system that meets the needs of all Minnesotans.

Minnesota FoodShare envisions a Minnesota where all residents have access to healthy food and no one struggles with food insecurity. The March Campaign addresses these issues directly and we invite you to join our efforts and advocated for long-term solutions to food insecurity and poverty in our communities.

The Motley Area Food Shelf is located at 697 3rd Ave. So., in Motley. It is open each Thursday from 9 a.m. - noon; and the last Thursday of every month from 6 - 8 p.m. For more information, call 218-352-6344.

COVID-19 vaccine availability in Todd County

Todd County Health & Human Services is currently scheduling Todd County residents aged 65 and over for COVID-19 vaccine appointments. Residents who would like to schedule an appointment should call 320-732-4500, and press option 1, on Fridays between the hours of 12 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

There is limited vaccine available each week and not everyone who calls will be

able to be scheduled for the following week. Todd County Health and Human Services encourages residents who are unable to get an appointment to call back each Friday to get scheduled for future vaccination clinics.

Todd County HHS will be communicating information on vaccine availability using the radio (KEYL/KSKK), local newspapers, and the Todd County COVID-19 vaccine web-

site: <https://www.co.todd.mn.us/vaxinfo/>.

For more information on COVID-19 vaccine safety, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety.html>.

Cardinal Calendar SM school events

- February**
- SNO DAZE WEEK Feb. 19 - 26
- March**
- BAND AND ORCHESTRA CONCERT HS/MS March 4, 7 p.m.
 - POPS CONCERT HS - March 29, 7 p.m.
- April**
- HIGH SCHOOL PLAY April 6, 7 p.m.

Garden plots available in Motley

The Motley Area Food Shelf (MAFS) has 14 garden plots available for anyone in the community.

The garden plots are located adjacent to the food shelf at 697 3rd Ave. S, in Motley.

Mark Your Calendar

February 25
STAPLES SERENITY AA GROUP
 Mtgs are held at the Staples Assembly of God Church on Tuesday and Thursday evenings beginning at 7 p.m. Masks required. For more info., 320-874-0979.

"It is at no cost to you," said Sherry Miller Frisk, MAFS Director. "All we ask is if you have extra produce that you share with the food shelf."
 If interested, contact Frisk at 218-352-6137.

THANK YOU

for making a difference!

Congratulations to these 5-Star employees

Front, left to right: Jolene Hinkle, Wanda Bissonette
 Back: Melanie Bestland, Ryan Markham, Karen Johnson

Melanie Bestland, Materials Management Manager
Wanda Bissonette, Purchasing Agent
Jolene Hinkle, Asset Equipment Coordinator
Karen Johnson, Purchasing Agent
Nominated Anonymously

"We would like to recognize the materials management department for the outstanding work they have done and continue to do for all of us at LHS with ordering supplies, especially when COVID-19 first hit us. This team jumped right in working with all of the managers to ensure that we had enough supplies in reserve. They helped assist with finding places for storage, they continue to check with managers on a weekly basis on inventory and they go above and beyond to look for the best pricing to help save on our budgets. The best part is, they come to work every day with a smile. Without their knowledge and ability to work as efficiently as they do, our jobs would be much harder to do on a daily basis. They have demonstrated true TEAM work in their department. For this we are very grateful. Thank you materials management department."

Ryan Markham, RN, Diabetes Educator
Nominated by Jessica Holmberg

"I met with Ryan when diagnosed with type 2 diabetes. Not only was he extremely knowledgeable, he was kind and compassionate as it was a scary time. I left my appointment at ease with my diagnosis, knowing it was more than manageable as long as I was willing to do what I needed to do. He is great at his job and deserves to be recognized for all that he does for his patients, not only that, but also as a co-worker. Today it was snowing out, as I was getting out of my car I heard Ryan ask me if I would like a hand getting in the building as I walk with a cane. He could have walked right by, but he stopped and offered his assistance even though he already had his hands full. Ryan is very compassionate to patients as well as co-workers. He is willing to go above and beyond for anyone without hesitation."

Lakewood HEALTH SYSTEM
 218-894-1515 lakewoodhealthsystem.com

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

DEADLINES:
Staples World 12 p.m. Friday
Heartland Market.....5 p.m. Wednesday
 218-894-1112 • office@staplesworld.com
 Staples World, 224 4th St. NE, Staples, MN 56479



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Hello World

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:

Born to Alexis Copa and Matt Clews of Bemidji, a baby boy, Jasper Jordan-Thomas weighing nine pounds, four ounces on February 15, 2021.

Born to Molly Preiner and Ryan Seegers of Park Rapids, a baby boy, Ace Matthew weighing eight pounds, one ounce on February 17, 2021.

Born to Deanna Barhorst and Jerry Wilber of Foreston, a baby girl, Charlee Marie weighing six pounds, nine ounces on February 18, 2021.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA-CROOKSTON has announced its 2020 Fall Semester Dean's List. To qualify, students must complete 12 or more letter-graded credits while attaining a 3.66 grade point average. Local students named include:

- Melissa Hammer, Aldrich
- Levi Nagel, Pillager

BEN OLANDER, Staples, has been named to the Fall Semester 2020 Chancellor's List at the University of Minnesota-Crookston. To qualify, students must complete 12 or more letter-graded credits while attaining a 4.00 grade point average.

RYAN WICK, son of Christie Berg of Baxter and the late Paul Wick of Staples, was named to the 2020 Fall Semester Dean's List at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, Carlson School of Management. To qualify, students must attain a grade point average of 3.66 or higher.

CONCORDIA COLLEGE, MOORHEAD has announced its 2020 Fall Semester Dean's Honor List. To qualify, students must carry a minimum of 12 semester credits and have a grade point average of at least 3.7 on a 4.0 scale. Local students named include:

- Zachary Strickland, Staples
- Andrew Bates, Staples
- Torrence Salcido, Staples

SAMANTHA THOMAS, daughter of Joseph and Larae Thomas of Pillager, has been named to the 2020 Fall Semester Dean's List at Bethel University in St. Paul. To qualify, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.6 or higher.

Student Achievements

Obituaries

Walter Hed

Walter (Wally) G. Hed, 88, of Cambridge died February 9, 2021.

Memorial services to celebrate his life will be held this summer.

Wally ministered at Scarsdale, NY, Clinton, MD, Bermuda and Champlin. He ministered at Anoka Treatment Center and served as a military chaplain in the National Guard, retiring as Full Colonel. In retirement he worked, volunteered and counseled into his 80's at Hazelden, Moose Lake Prison and Cambridge Lutheran.

Wally cared deeply for people and had a gift for making anyone feel loved and welcome. He listened and brought the best out of anyone. He loved adventure, travel, learning, nature, the environment and was physically active into his 80's, cross country ski racing and biking.

Wally is survived by three children, Kathy (Jeff) Iverson, Staples, Steve (Jennifer) Hed, Putney, VT and Paul (Michelle) Hed, Ham Lake; nine grandchildren, Becki, Kirsti, Lynnea,



Jenessa, Natasha, Naomi, Noah, Mikayla and Samantha; four great-grandsons, Milo, Solomon, Amari and Rocky and his close friend, Chris Misewich of Cambridge and her family.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Charlette and five siblings.

In lieu of flowers or gifts, please give to Lutheran World Relief (www.lwr.org/wallyandchar) - Wally and Char's favorite charity.

Condolences at www.carlsonlillemoen.com. Arrangements are with the Carlson-Lillemoen Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Cambridge.

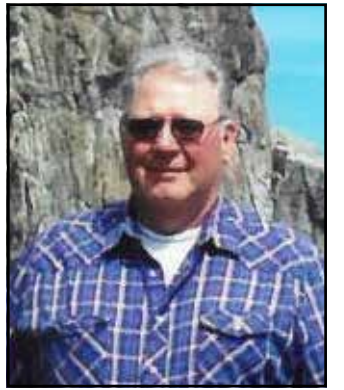
w9c A00006B2021FB24

Larry Hansen

Larry Ivan Hansen, 73, of Staples, passed away peacefully February 18, 2021, surrounded by his family after a short battle with cancer.

Funeral services will be held Feb. 26, 2021 at 2 p.m. at the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples. Visitation will be held Feb. 25 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples and one hour prior to the services on Friday.

Larry was born to Ivan and Myrtle (Stowe) Hansen on September 23, 1946 in Bertha. He worked with the 49's for a few year before beginning his own construction company. Larry worked hard, but in his free time he enjoyed dancing and watching old western movies. He



loved his grandchildren and cherished his time with family. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Larry is survived by one son Kelly (Wendy) Hansen; one daughter, Karina Ramsey; one stepson, Daniel Ward; three grandchildren, Dylon Hanson, Jayden Hansen and Andrea Hansen; two great-grandchildren, Marlee Edwards and Jacob Hanson; two brothers; three sisters and many nieces and nephews.

Larry was preceded in death by his parents.

Arrangements are by the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

w9c A00006B2021FB24

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

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

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

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

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

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

Sacred Heart Church
310 4th St. NE, Staples
Church 218-894-2296
Pastor Fr. Gabriel Walz
Youth and Young Adult Ministry
Coordinator:
Monica J. Simmons 218-414-0081 cell/text
MASS:
Thursday and Friday 8:30 a.m.
Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 a.m.

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

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

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

United Methodist
310 5th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2248
Pastor Greg Leslie
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
(Nursery Available for Sunday Worship)
Sunday School (for grades K-12 and adults) 9:15-10:15 a.m.

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

Cushing
Bethany Lutheran
25430 Bison Rd. Cushing, MN
320-749-2140
Pastor Carl Larson
Associate Pastor: Carleton Smee
www.bethanylutherancushing.org
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School and
Coffee Fellowship 9:30 a.m.
Pancake Breakfast 11:45 a.m.
2nd Sunday, each month

Lincoln Evangelical Free
1354 320th Street, Cushing, MN 56443
Phone: 218-575-2449
www.lincolnefree.org
Facebook Lincoln E Free
Office Hours: Tues. - Thurs., 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Senior Pastor: Dan Reigstad
Community Life Pastor: Jim Brown
Associate Pastor/Youth Joe Reigstad

SUNDAY
Church Worship Gathering 10:00 a.m.
Facebook Live 10:00 a.m.
YouTube Channel 10:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Praise & Prayer 6:30 p.m.

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

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

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

Motley

Motley Free Methodist
33 Wellwood St. E
Motley 56466 218-352-6888
Jim Johnson, Senior Pastor
Charles Mallory, Associate Pastor
Sunday Worship 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
facebook live 9 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Youth Group 6:00-7:30 p.m.

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

St. Michael
1st St. and Birch, Motley 218-894-2296
Pastor Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday 8:30 a.m.
Saturday 7:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:30 a.m.

United Methodist
847 3rd Ave. S. Lane, Motley 218-352-6466
Pastor Greg Leslie
www.motleyumc.net
Sunday Worship Service 9:00 a.m.
Monday AA meeting 8:00 p.m.

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

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

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

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

Leaf River Township
The Old Country Church
Leaf River Twp., Wadena County Rd. 6
Info. 218-837-5690 .. Open by arrangement

Hewitt

Church of the Nazarene
114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146 Hewitt, MN
218-924-2028
Pastor Wayne Hoffer
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m./6 p.m.
WEDNESDAY PRAYER 7:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS)
524 Front Street, PO Box 116, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Robin Fish
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
United Methodist Church
Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Kenneth Uhren
Sunday Services 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

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

Family Life Church
402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale 218-445-5668
VerndaleFLC@gmail.com
Pastor Amos Self 218-371-7189
Children's Pastor Kenneth Kjeldergaard
SUNDAY
Sunday School 8:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting 5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Night Life Groups 6:30-8 p.m.

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

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

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

Central United Methodist
5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar)
Pastor Chuck Horsager, 218-639-4225
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

"God With Us"

Pastor Zach Jones, Staples Alliance Church

Oftentimes during the Christmas season, we teach about Emmanuel, "God with us." However, after the Christmas season ends we tend to forget that God continues to be with us. We enter into the new year and the hustle and bustle of everyday life resumes. As we put away our Christmas decorations we also tend to put away the teaching of the present God until next December rolls around and we will meditate and pray on it once again. I have found, though, that it is quite advantageous to the Christian to keep this teaching constantly at the forefront of our thinking. God is with us at all times. Christ still reigns from the right hand of the Father and is actively interceding for His people, the Church. What is more, God has sent the Holy Spirit to live and dwell in each believer. The Gospel of John tells us that the Holy Spirit is continuing to teach us and is bringing to our minds the teachings of Jesus. He is declaring to us the very thoughts and will of God. Importantly, this is not merely a one-way connection. We are actively encouraged to go before the throne of God and ask as we have need, to intercede on the behalf of others, to seek the will of God, or simply to bask in His presence and learn His ways and be further transformed into the likeness of the Son.

As we approach the one year anniversary of the total lockdown that we experienced due to the COVID pandemic I have been filled with a spirit of gratitude and thanks for our God. He knows and sees our needs. As our community has experienced isolation, loneliness, depression, fear, anxiety, anger and pretty much every other feeling under the sun we can rest assured that God is in control and that He is working all things together for the good of those who love Him. One of the passages that the Lord has used as a balm for my soul has been from the Sermon on the Mount. "Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." (ESV) Even in the midst of the sorest trial or the mightiest challenge we are called first and foremost to pursue the things of the Lord and His righteousness. He knows what we need, He is with us, and He is for us.

When we are crushed, our lights burn the brightest.

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Needing/Wanting a Granite Memorial FOR YOUR FAMILY?
I can help!
Diane M. Hahn
27 years serving our area!
Rep. for Fergus Falls Monument Co.
Call 218-445-5685 or 218-640-2341

SCHROEDER'S APPLIANCE CENTER
16603 State Hwy 371 North, (Just North of the Pine Beach Rd)
Brainerd/Baxter • 218-829-3624
KitchenAid AMANA Whirlpool MAYTAG
SCHROEDERSAPPLIANCE.COM

WHERE THE FOREST MEETS THE PRAIRIE
Todd County
• MINNESOTA • EST. 1855 •
Todd County Health & Human Services
is currently scheduling Todd County residents aged 65 and over for COVID-19 vaccine appointments. Residents who would like to schedule an appointment should call 320-732-4500, and press option 1, on Fridays between the hours of 12 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Understand that there is limited vaccine available each week. Residents are encouraged to call in on Friday afternoons to verify the status of Todd County's vaccine clinic schedule.



Wrapped up tight

Alex Giza puts his opponent in the cradle before earning a pin against Deer River. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Wrestlers earn two wins

The Staples-Motley wrestling team had one win and one loss in each of their triangular meets last week. In a home match Feb. 16, the Cardinals beat Deer River 43-33, then lost to Little Falls 52-20. On Feb. 19, they beat Wadena-Deer Creek 55-15 and lost to Crookston 51-24.

Dalton Wells won three of his four matches in the week, with a pin, technical fall and 10-0 major decision. His only loss was against a ranked wrestler from Crookston, where Wells stuck with him until the final ten seconds when he got pinned.

Against Deer River, Aiden Winter worked hard to remain in the upper position and preserve a 5-2 win at 113 pounds.

Against Little Falls, Colbe Tappe provided an exciting win in the closest match of the day. He broke a 1-1 tie with a takedown in the final five seconds of the third period to win 3-1.

Against Wadena-Deer Creek, the Cardinals had the benefit of six forfeits, but they also had four wins on the mat, with Dalton Wells, Conner Dobson, Logen Weite and Sam Jennissen earning wins.

Against Crookston, Tappe and Cole Winkels won close decisions, while Logen Weite and Alex Giza won by fall.

Throughout the season, some of the inexperienced wrestlers have shown the ability to stay with their opponent, but sometimes get caught and pinned.

"We are young and inexperienced at some weights but we are feisty and persistent," said Coach Shane Tappe. "I am proud of the hard work that these guys



Turn for a takedown

Dalton Wells picks up his opponent before twisting over for a takedown against Little Falls.

keep putting in and I think we will be right where we want to be by the end of the year."

Team results

Staples-Motley 43, Deer River 33

106 Riley Reese L fall, 113 Aiden Winter W 5-2, 120 Colbe Tappe W 12-0, 126 Jason Trantina L fall, 132 Dalton Wells W fall, 138 Blake Neelan L fall, 145 Conner Dobson W fall, 152 Dustin Converse W ff, 160 Logen Weite W ff, 170 Sam Jennissen L 3-0, 182 Hunter Martin L fall, 195 Alex Giza W fall, 220 ff, 285 Cole Winkels W ff

Staples-Motley 20, Little Falls 52

106 Reese L13-1, 113 A. Winter L fall, 120 Tappe W 3-1, 126 Trantina L fall, 132 Wells W 23-8 TF, 138 Dobson W ff, 145 Neelan L fall, 152 Weite W fall, 160 Jennissen L 3-2, 170 Andrew Salcido L fall, 182 Giza L 10-7, 195 ff, 220 Steven Petrich L fall, 285 Winkels L fall

Staples-Motley 55, Wadena-Deer Creek 15

106 Chase Mikel L fall, 113 A. Winter W ff, 120 Tappe W ff, 126 Trantina W ff, 132 Caden Dobson L fall, 138 Wells W 10-0, 145 Conner Dobson W fall, 152 Weite W fall, 160 Salcido L 9-4, 170 Jennissen W 3-0, 182 Giza W ff, 195 Petrich W ff, 220 double ff, 285 Winkels W ff



Gaining momentum

Blake Neelan covers his opponent after earning a takedown.



Strong on the top

Aiden Winter rides out victory against Deer River.

Three pointers spark second half comeback

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team generated a second half comeback to win at Lake Park Audubon 47-41 on Feb. 16.

Despite Adam Oberlander's 11 first half points, the Cardinals only managed 16 total points in the half. LPA scored 24 points in the half.

Sivert Klefsaas got the team going in the second

half by hitting two three pointers, which were followed by a three from Dakota Hennigar and two three pointers by Wyatt Kobliska. By the time Kobliska hit his third long shot, the Cardinals were in the lead and kept it the rest of the way.

The Staples-Motley defense also improved in

the second half, holding their opponents to 17 points.

Team results

Staples-Motley 47, Lake Park Audubon 41

Scoring: Sivert Klefsaas 12, Adam Oberlander 11, Wyatt Kobliska 11, Max Strickland 7, Chandler Braith 3, Dakota Hennigar 3



Running the floor

Alli Olander leads a fast break for the Staples-Motley girls basketball team, with Lauren Rutten, top left, running alongside waiting for a pass. The Cardinals used

their speed to build up a lead against Browerville. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Cardinals show positive signs in losses

The Staples-Motley girls basketball team suffered two conference losses, 73-42 against Detroit Lakes on Feb. 12 and 81-33 against Pequot Lakes on Feb. 15. The team came back with a strong game against Browerville on Feb. 18, but lost a second half lead to fall 60-46.

In all three games, the Cardinals had players making good plays, but they were unable to put it all together for one game.

Against Detroit Lakes, an injury to one of the players left the team struggling. "We did not adjust well after a player went down with a sprained ankle," said Coach Bruce Fuhrman. "Tabetha Allen had quite a task playing inside among a very tall group of Lakers."

Against Pequot Lakes, "It was a night where we could not get a basket to fall, and we played very timid," said Fuhrman.

Against Browerville, the Cardinals held a three point halftime lead, but had foul trouble that continued into the second half. Browerville took advantage by sinking 20 free throws, "which determined the outcome of the game," said Fuhrman.

Addison Lorber was the leading scorer after coming back from an injury earlier in the season. "She played well for us to score a bunch of points," said Fuhrman.

"When you find yourself in a game like this, you do get an opportunity to see other players on the floor filling various roles," said Fuhrman. "Ashley Robben and Mandy Carter had some key contributions both offensively and defensively, which did not go unnoticed."

Team results

Staples-Motley 42, Detroit Lakes 73

Scoring: Tabetha Allen 13, Aften Robinson 10, Allison Knosalla 7, Haley Cichos 7, Lauren Rutten 5

Staples-Motley 33, Pequot Lakes 81

Scoring: Robinson 10, Knosalla 10, Rutten 6, Cichos 3, Alli Olander 2, Addison Lorber 2

Staples-Motley 46, Browerville 60

Scoring: Lorber 16, Knosalla 11, Allen 8, Rutten 6, Olander 2, Cichos 2, Ashley Robben 1



Inside score

Addison Lorber slashes to the basket to score against Browerville.



Defensive play

Allison Knosalla gets a loose ball to get a steal.



Todd County Commissioners Minutes

MINUTES OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS January 5, 2021

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 5th day of January, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kircher. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present except Commissioner Erickson.

Oaths of Office

The Oath of Office was administered for elected candidates beginning their new term of service to the citizens of Todd County as of January 4, 2021: Barbara Becker, Todd County Commissioner - District 1 and Randy Neumann, Todd County Commissioner - District 5. The Oaths of Office were administered on January 4, 2021 by Todd County Court Administration for Rodney Erickson, Todd County Commissioner - District 3.

Approval of Agenda

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

Board Organization

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To appoint Commissioner Becker as the Chairperson of the Todd County Board of Commissioners for 2021 proceedings.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To appoint Commissioner Erickson as the Vice-Chairperson of the Todd County Board of Commissioners for 2021 proceedings.

Consent Agenda

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Kircher, the following motions were introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for December 29, 2020 as presented.

To hire Nathan Przybilla for PT Correctional Officer, start date 1/5/2021.

To approve the hiring of Mr. Alex Miller to fill the vacant Public Works Mechanic position at Grade 8, Step 8.

To approve the hiring of Jolene Devitt to fill the open position of Deputy Assessor, beginning 1/6/2021.

To approve Christopher Dinndorf to fill the open Eligibility Worker position.

To approve Carrie Wiechmann to fill the open Eligibility Worker position.

To approve the 2021 tobacco license applications for Clarissa Municipal Liquor, Don and Dave's Store, Hub Supper Club, Eagle Valley Express, American Legion Post #417, Partridge Creek Blinds and More LLC, Rohde's Midway Gas, Bar and Grill, Shady's Golden Eagle and Jon's Food Inc.

Auditor-Treasurer

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

A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AN OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR 2021

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 375.12 requires the annual letting of bids for publication of official proceedings of the County Board and similar statutes require the publication of delinquent tax lists, County Financial Statements, and local transportation project bid advertisements, and;

WHEREAS, pursuant to advertisement bids were opened to be designated for those parties interested in being named as the official newspaper for Todd County on January 5, 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners accept the bid from Staples World, with a bid of \$10.50 per column inch to be the Official Newspaper for the year 2021 and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Todd County website (www.co.todd.mn.us) be also designated as an official publication for all statutory requirements.

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

A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AN EXTRA PUBLICATION NEWSPAPER FOR 2021

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 375.12 requires the annual letting of bids for publication of official proceedings of the County Board and similar statutes require the publication of delinquent tax lists, County Financial Statements, and local transportation project bid advertisements, and;

WHEREAS, pursuant to advertisement bids were opened to be designated for those parties interested in being named as the extra publication newspaper for Todd County on January 5, 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners accept the bid from Long Prairie Leader with a bid of \$9.80 per column inch to be the Extra Publication Newspaper for the year 2021.

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

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE 2021 TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS BOARD PROTOCOL

(Copy of full resolution language available in the Auditor-Treasurer's Office for public inspection.)

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meetings on the first and third Tuesday of every month at 9:00 a.m. in the Todd County Historic Courthouse and Worksessions designated by Board Chairperson or three members of the County Board as deemed necessary. The County Board also approves that the year-end board meeting be scheduled for December 28, 2021.

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

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE COMMISSIONER'S COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT FOR 2021

WHEREAS, The County Commissioners have wide ranging and diverse responsibilities, and;

WHEREAS, it is necessary for Commissioners to be assigned to Committees for the purposes of advocating for the County, and to effectively complete the work of the County.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached Committee Roster (Attachment 1) is hereby adopted as the County Commissioners' Committee Assignments for 2021 and will remain on file in the Auditor-Treasurer's Office.

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

DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITORIES, INVESTMENTS & ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFERS

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute § 118A.02, subdivision 1 (a) states "The governing body of each government entity shall designate, as a depository of its funds, one or more financial institutions."

WHEREAS, in accordance with Minnesota Statute § 118A.01 through § 118A.08, the County Board of Commissioners has the official role to authorize the County Auditor/Treasurer to select depositories and make investments of funds under Minnesota Statute § 118A.01 to 118A.08 or other applicable law for and on behalf of the County of Todd and;

WHEREAS, in accordance with Minnesota Statute § 385.07, the County Board of Commissioners has the official role to authorize the County Auditor/Treasurer the use electronic funds transfers where deemed appropriate, expeditious and in the best interest of the County of Todd.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners authorize the Todd County Auditor/Treasurer to select depositories and make investments in accordance to Minnesota Statute § 118A.01 through § 118A.08 where the following financial institutions are currently in place:

- American Heritage National Bank
- Minnesota National Bank
- Unity Bank
- US Bank
- MAGIC Fund

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners authorize the Todd County Auditor/Treasurer the use of electronic funds transfers where deemed appropriate, expeditious and in the best interest of Todd County.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the December 2020 Auditor Warrants number (ACH) 901243 through 901257 in the amount of \$191,430.96, (Manual) 592 through 597 in the amount of \$75,940.28 and (Regular) 236696 through 236695 in the amount of \$1,533,756.89 for a total of \$1,801,128.13.

Todd Wadena Community Corrections

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

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERSHIP Todd-Wadena Community Corrections 2021

This is a resolution appointing membership to the Todd-Wadena Community Corrections Executive Committee and Advisory Board.

WHEREAS, In accordance with MN Statutes Chapter 401, in 1976 Todd and Wadena Counties entered into a joint powers agreement and established Todd-Wadena Community Corrections, and

WHEREAS, on July 19, 2016, Todd and Wadena Counties reaffirmed their continued commitment to providing community corrections in their respective counties through Todd-Wadena Community

Corrections, by approving the updated joint powers agreement, and

WHEREAS, Membership of the Todd-Wadena Community Corrections Executive Committee and Advisory Board needs to be appointed by the Boards of Commissioners in Todd and Wadena Counties, and

THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the members of the Todd-Wadena Community Corrections Executive Committee are appointed as follows:

1. Barbara Becker, Todd County Commissioner.
2. David Kircher, Todd County Commissioner.
3. Sheldon Monson, Wadena County Commissioner.
4. Bill Stearns, Wadena County Commissioner.
5. Kyra Ladd, Chairperson of the Community Corrections Advisory Board.
6. Jane Gustafson, Vice-Chairperson of the Community Corrections Advisory Board.
7. Honorable Daniel Benson, District Court Judge.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the Todd-Wadena Community Corrections Advisory Board are appointed as follows:

1. Donald Asmus, Citizen Member.
2. Eric Monson, Citizen Member
3. Naomi Moyer, Citizen Member
4. Lane Waldahl, Citizen Member.
5. Katherine Langer, Correctional Administrator.
6. Sheena Prizler, Corrections Agent.
7. Barbara Becker, Todd County Commissioner.
8. David Kircher, Todd County Commissioner.
9. Sheldon Monson, Wadena County Commissioner.
10. Bill Stearns, Wadena County Commissioner.
11. Honorable Daniel A. Benson, District Court Judge.
12. Patrick Sutlief, Educational Administrator.
13. Sandra Ahrendt, Ethnic/Minorities Representative.
14. Cindy Pederson, Health Services Representative.
15. Jackie Och, Health and Human Services Representative.
16. Jennifer Westrum, Human Services Representative.
17. Melissa Birkholtz, Police Chief.
18. Jane Gustafson, Prosecuting Attorney.
19. Kyra Ladd, Prosecuting Attorney.
20. Sarah Federle, Public Defender.
21. Jason Sellnow, Public Defender.
22. Michael D. Carr, Wadena County Sheriff.
23. Steve Och, Todd County Sheriff.
24. Connie Nelson, Victim Services.

Public Works

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the purchase of a new equipped plow truck per the attached purchase agreements for \$242,701.99.

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

Minnesota Local Road Improvement Program Todd County State Highway 34 Project Recommendation

WHEREAS, Minnesota Counties can apply for funding support for transportation infrastructure projects on local roads as part of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's Local Road Improvement Program which has approximately \$75 million in bond

funds available for constructing or reconstructing local roads in Fiscal Year 2021-2023, and;

WHEREAS, funding may be requested for projects that will reduce traffic crashes on rural County State Aid Highways and County Roads (Rural Road Safety Account), reconstruct routes that have regional significance (Routes of Regional Significance Account), or for the local share of a trunk highway project (Trunk Highway Corridor Account), and;

WHEREAS, this project is currently listed on the Todd County Public Works Department and Wadena County Highway Department recommends that the following project be submitted for State of Minnesota Local Road Improvement Program Funding in Fiscal Year 2022:

Todd County State Aid Highway 34 / Wadena County State Aid Highway 3 from CSAH 3 (Airport Road) to Cass County Line (Crow Wing River)

and;

WHEREAS, this project is currently listed on the Todd County Public Works Department and Wadena County Highway Department recommends that the following project be submitted for State of Minnesota Local Road Improvement Program Funding in Fiscal Year 2022:

Todd County State Aid Highway 34 / Wadena County State Aid Highway 3 from CSAH 3 (Airport Road) to Cass County Line (Crow Wing River)

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Todd County State Aid Highway 34 / Wadena County State Aid Highway 3 from CSAH 3 (Airport Road) to Cass County Line (Crow Wing River)

REGENTS OF THE UNIV OF MN.....37,098.74
STAPLES ADVANTAGE.....2,560.18
THOMSON REUTERS - WEST.....2,615.31
46 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000.....14,460.28
BETMAR LANGUAG., INC.....6,790.00
BHH PARTNERS.....10,124.84
CENTERPOINT ENERGY.....4,566.31
DAKOTA WHOLESALE TIRE.....5,904.00
DOHERTY STAFFING SOLUTIONS.....4,146.31
HILLIG AUTO CENTER.....2,306.50
LAKESIDE PROPERTY GROUP LLC.....5,550.00
MADDEN GALANTER HANSEN, LLP.....3,766.83
MILLE LACS COUNTY SHERIFF.....2,400.00
MINNESOTA POWER & LIGHT.....8,315.55
MINNESOTA SEC. OF STATE.....9,113.86
MORRISON COUNTY.....2,270.06
STEP.....6,284.41
STOECKEL JAHNER INC.....11,145.00
US POSTAL SERVICE.....6,757.50
USPS-POC.....2,514.58
VOYANT COMMS, LLC.....3,714.19
37 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000.....18,517.02
ARC ELECTRIC SERVICE.....2,731.84
CHAMBERLAIN OIL CO.....2,162.45
GALLAGHER BENEFIT SERVICES INC.....2,000.00
METRO SALES INC.....2,589.89
NATIONAL BUSINESS FURNITURE, LLC.....2,344.94
OTTER TAIL COUNTY TREASURER.....6,551.00
RURAL MN CEP INC.....13,585.90
SEACHANGE PRINT INNOVATIONS.....16,945.52
SHI CORP.....4,020.00
TODD SOIL & WATER CONS DIST.....251,886.01
TODD TRAILS ASSOC.....58,981.05
ZIEGLER INC.....3,045.15
28 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000.....12,607.85
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES.....2,643.79
AMERICAN LEGION POST 12.....10,000.00
ARC ELECTRIC SERVICE.....2,110.77
ARZEN CONST INC.....488,186.69
B & B'S SPORTS BAR & GRILL.....2,367.00
BECKS BURGER CO.....20,000.00
BERTHA-HEWITT COM. FOOD SHELF.....7,778.00
BROWERVILLE VETERANS CLUB.....8,684.00
BURTRUM CABOOZE LLP.....10,000.00
CENTRA CARE HEALTH SYSTEMS - LP.....10,000.00
CIRCLE R RANCH.....10,000.00
CLARISSA BALLROOM.....5,810.00
COUNTRYSIDE REST.....10,000.00
DEB'S SIDEWALKS BAR & GRILL.....10,000.00
DOUBLE EAGLE GOLF COURSE.....8,258.00
DOUBLE R SALOON INC.....10,000.00
DRAGON WILLOW WINERY, LLC.....7,041.00
EAGLE BEND VETS CLUB, INC.....10,000.00
FARMHOUSE CAFE.....10,000.00
GEORGE H ELLIOTT POST 7902 VETERAN.....20,000.00
GREAT RIVER REG. LIBRARY.....4,688.14
HATS OFF COFFEE.....16,263.00
LAKE BEAUTY COVENT BIBLE CAMP.....10,000.00
LEFTYS INC.....20,000.00
LOCAL LEGENDS LIQUOR.....20,000.00
LOG CABIN PIZZA.....10,000.00
LONG PINES BAR AND RESTAURANT.....10,000.00
LONG PRAIRIE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION.....10,000.00
LONG PRAIRIE SUBWAY.....10,000.00
LONGBELLA DRUG INC.....10,000.00
LOS CORRALES MEXICAN GRILL LLC.....10,000.00
MIDWEST LOCK & DOOR, INC.....14,028.98
NORTHERN BUSINESS PRODUCTS.....2,040.34
SMOKE N MOTION.....4,353.00
STAPLES AREA FOOD SHELF.....8,198.00
STAPLES MOTLEY ISD #2170.....10,000.00
STEP.....10,000.00
STOMPING GROUNDS OF STAPLES LLC.....5,338.00
STONE HILL FARM WEDDING & EVENT VE.....20,000.00
TAGUERIA CHAVEZ LLC.....3,114.00
THE HUB SUPPER CLUB LLC.....10,000.00
THE ROCK TAVERN.....10,000.00
THUNDER LODGE SPORTS BAR & GRILL.....20,000.00
TIMBERS RESTAURANT & EVENT CENTER.....10,000.00
TJ'S ON DIAMOND POINT INC.....20,000.00
VERIZON.....4,754.83
13 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000.....8,158.32
Total.....\$1,801,128.13

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held January 5, 2021 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on January 19, 2021.

Witness my hand and seal:

Barbara Becker,
County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

9pnc

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NOTICE MORAN TOWNSHIP ELECTION AND ANNUAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Moran Township, that the Annual Meeting and elections will be held Tuesday March 9, 2021. In case of bad weather, the meeting and elections may be postponed until Tuesday, March 16, 2021.

The election poll hours will be from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., at which time the voters will elect one (1) supervisor, one (1) clerk and one (1) treasurer.

The Board of Canvas will immediately follow elections.

The Annual Meeting will begin at 3:00 p.m. to conduct all necessary business prescribed by law. The elections and meeting will be held at the Moran Town Hall located at 23608 430th St., Browerville, MN.

Teresa Wagner, Clerk
Moran Township
9-10pnc

NOTICE MOOSE LAKE TOWNSHIP 2021 ANNUAL MEETING AND BID REQUEST

Moose Lake Township will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. at the Leader Community Hall.

The township is now accepting bids for road maintenance and cemetery maintenance. Please send bids to: Moose Lake Township Clerk, 5335 51st Ave. SW, Pine River MN 56474.

In case of inclement weather, the alternate meeting date will be Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. at the Leader Community Hall.

Karen Roubal, Clerk
Moose Lake Township
9-10pnc

NOTICE STAPLES TOWNSHIP ELECTION AND ANNUAL MEETING

The Staples Township Election and Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at the Staples Town Hall. The Polling Hours are 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Positions to be filled are:

- One (1) Supervisor, three (3) year term;
- One (1) Treasurer, two (2) year term.

Board of Canvass will follow the election with the Annual meeting immediately after that.

In case of inclement weather, the election and Annual meeting will be held one week later on Tuesday, March 16, 2021.

Bonnie Thoele, Clerk
Staples Township
9-10pnc

NOTICE BECKER TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING

The Becker Township Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Becker Town Hall.

In case of bad weather it will be held the following Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Becker Town Hall.

Due to COVID and the public health emergency all participants will be required to wear a mask and social distance. Township residents are encouraged to attend.

Mary Fitcher, Clerk
Becker Township
9pnc

NOTICE FAWN LAKE TOWNSHIP ELECTION AND ANNUAL MEETING

Fawn Lake Township will hold its election for one (1) supervisor and one (1) treasurer on Tuesday, March 9, 2021. Polls will be open from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the town hall.

The Board of Canvass will immediately follow the election.

The annual meeting will follow the Board of Canvass.

In case of inclement weather the election and annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 16, 2021.

Any questions please call the clerk at 218-531-0287.

Kelly Miller, Clerk
Fawn Lake Township
9pnc

NOTICE MAY TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING

May Township (Cass County) will hold their regular meeting Tuesday, March 9, 2021, 7 p.m. at the May Township Hall.

All are welcome to attend in person or if you would like to use Zoom to watch and participate in the meeting, go to our website: www.maytwp.com and look on the public notice page for directions.

Bianca Wyffels, Clerk
May Township
9-10pnc

NOTICE POPLAR TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING

The Poplar Town Board will hold its Annual Meeting on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 4 p.m. in the Leader Community Hall. The regular meeting is to follow the annual meeting and the regular agenda will be followed.

Sue Peet, Clerk
Poplar Township
9pnc

(ABBREVIATED ADVERTISEMENT)

TODD COUNTY 2021 BRIDGE PROJECT

Closing date: March 9, 2021

Sealed bids will be accepted until 10:00 a.m., March 9, 2021 by the Todd County Public Works Director/Engineer and County Auditor/Treasurer at 44 Riverside Drive, Long Prairie, Minnesota 56347 for the following construction project:

SAP 077-611-034

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

Loren Fellbaum
Todd County Public Works Director/Engineer
7-9pnc

Todd County approves several resignations, retirements

By Karin L. Nauber
Todd County correspondent

As part of the Todd County Board consent agenda on Feb. 16, 2021, several resignations/retirements were approved some dating back to December 2020.

Commissioners asked why some of them were so late in coming to the board?

It was explained that many times the department head is working on getting the position filled and putting the resignation/retirement on the board agenda gets lost along the way.

The following resignations/retirements were approved:

- Retirement of Loren Miller as of December 31, 2020 from planning and zoning.
- Resignation of Reba Van Beusekom as of January 15, 2021 from soil and water.
- Resignation of Joshua Crider effective February 16, 2021, a correctional officer in the sheriff's department.
- Resignations of Riley Mounsdon and Kellen Pulliam, effective December 31, 2020 from seasonal water patrol position with the sheriff's department.
- Resignation of Kathleen Nauber effective February 19, 2021 from administration.

In other board business

- Approved hiring Joshua Crider for part-time dispatch position.
- Approved; hiring Angela Chamberlin, administrative assistant, start date pending. Chamberlin's starting pay will be Grade 6, Step 1, \$20.63 per hour.
- Approved; hiring Danielle Pratt, payroll and benefits specialist. Start date to be determined, starting pay, \$23.89.
- Approved; seasonal On Sale and Sunday liquor license for Birchwood Resort, Birchdale Township.
- Approved; Seasonal Off Sale and On Sale 3.2 malt liquor license and Set-up license for Rainbow Lodge, Kandota Township.
- Approved; On Sale and Sunday liquor license for Thunder Lodge, Inc.
- The board approved, with Commissioner David Kircher opposing, a resolution requesting approval from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for the sale of tax forfeited land within Todd County.

Auditor/Treasurer Denise Gaida said that they do their homework to create this list, and that the DNR does have the option to pull properties from the list and not sell them, instead being retained by the DNR.

• Held a joint session of the commissioners and Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) supervisors.

The commissioners heard updates on work items including One Watershed One Plan, grants, feedlots and more.

• Heard an update from Livestock Production Systems Educator Brenda Miller. She talked about the creative ways they've been holding their meetings and educational experiences. She said that they've had very good turnouts for their online sessions.

• Approved the purchase of two, 2021 Ford Explorers from Tenvoorde Ford of St. Cloud, squad vehicles for the sheriff's department. The price of each vehicle was \$36,018.24 on the state contract bid, for a total purchase price of \$72,036.48. These squads are a budgeted item in the 2021 budget.

• Approved the purchase of one, 2021 Chevrolet Traverse from Ranger GM of Hibbing, with the purchase price of \$28,659.05 on the state contract bid. The purchase of the 2021 Chevrolet Traverse is in the 2021 budget. This vehicle will be used for investigations.

There are currently 17 full-time deputies, each having a squad. They also have a few vehicles for their part-time staff.

• Approved submitting the Sauk River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources for formal review.

• An application for a subdivision to create a single lot plat in R-10 Zoning named Kuhlmann Oaks Preliminary Plat was submitted on January 11, 2021. The Planning Commission reviewed the plan at their February 4, 2021 meeting. Final recommendation from the Planning Commission was to approve the preliminary plat with one condition. Removal of all wood framing of the abandoned trailer home prior to final platting.

• Approved the update to the Personnel Policy Article VII, Section 7.27 on Emergency Closings.

With this update, the Personnel Policy will be reformatted to improve compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act.

• Authorized the adoption of the Courthouse Unit Collective Bargaining Agreement for 2021.

Highlights of the agreement included; no change to health insurance premium cost sharing, two percent general wage increase for 2021, \$50 increase in the clothing allowance for Solid Waste employees and the elimination of the sick leave bonus.

• Heard update on COVID-19 in the county. The vaccination clinic is going well and the call center for scheduling vaccinations is running much smoother.

The county receives approximately 100 first doses of the Moderna vaccine each week. They are advocating to get more each week.

House fire near Nimrod

On Feb. 13, at approximately 11:21 p.m., the Wadena County Sheriff's Office received a report of a structure fire in section 7 of Lyons township, which is south of the City of Nimrod. The 911 caller indicated that there was a house on fire.

When the deputy arrived he found that that there was a single level dwelling with the roof framing in flames. The flames quickly spread to other parts of the structure.

The occupant of the

house was already out when the deputy arrived. The occupant indicated that the fire started in an attic space near the wood stove pipe.

Sebeka and Menahga Fire departments responded and fought the blaze in -23 degree temps. The house was a complete loss.

The Wadena County Sheriff's Office was assisted on scene by the Sebeka Fire Department, Sebeka Fire Department, Menahga Fire Department and Tri-County Ambulance.

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Public Notices

MINNESOTA COURT RULES CIVIL PROCEDURE FORM 1. SUMMONS

STATE OF MINNESOTA DISTRICT COURT COUNTY OF TODD SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT CASE TYPE: Quiet Title Action

SUMMONS

Michael G. Nosek, Plaintiff

vs.

David Monkman, John Doe, Jane Roe, ABC Corporation, XYZ, LLC, all other persons unknown claiming any right, title, estate, interest, or lien in the real property described here in, Defendants

THIS SUMMONS IS DIRECTED TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS.

1. YOU ARE BEING SUED. The Plaintiff has started a lawsuit against you. The Plaintiff's Complaint against you is attached to this summons*. Do not throw these papers away. They are official papers that affect your rights. You must respond to this lawsuit even though it may not yet be filed with the Court and there may be no court file number on this summons.

2. YOU MUST REPLY WITHIN 21** DAYS TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS. You must give or mail to the person who signed this summons a written response called an Answer within 21** days of the date on which you received this Summons. You must send a copy of your Answer to the person who signed this summons located at: 319 South 6th Street, Brainerd, MN 56401.

3. YOU MUST RESPOND TO EACH CLAIM. The Answer is your written response to the Plaintiff's Complaint. In your Answer you must state whether

you agree or disagree with each paragraph of the Complaint. If you believe the Plaintiff should not be given everything asked for in the Complaint, you must say so in your Answer.

4. YOU WILL LOSE YOUR CASE IF YOU DO NOT SEND A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE COMPLAINT TO THE PERSON WHO SIGNED THIS SUMMONS. If you do not Answer within 21** days, you will lose this case. You will not get to tell your side of the story, and the Court may decide against you and award the Plaintiff everything asked for in the complaint. If you do not want to contest the claims stated in the complaint, you do not need to respond. A default judgment can then be entered against you for the relief requested in the complaint.

5. LEGAL ASSISTANCE. You may wish to get legal help from a lawyer. If you do not have a lawyer, the Court Administrator may have information about places where you can get legal assistance. Even if you cannot get legal help, you must still provide a written Answer to protect your rights or you may lose the case.

6. ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION. The parties may agree to or be ordered to participate in an alternative dispute resolution process under Rule 114 of the Minnesota General Rules of Practice. You must still send your written response to the Complaint even if you expect to use alternative means of resolving this dispute.

7. To be included only if this lawsuit affects title to real property: THIS LAWSUIT MAY AFFECT OR BRING INTO QUESTION TITLE TO REAL PROPERTY located in Todd County, State of Minnesota, legally described as follows:

That part of Government Lot 7 and that part of the Southeast Quarter lying North of the Northern Pacific Railway Company's right-of-way, in Section 10, Township 133, Range 32 West of

the Fifth P.M., Todd County, Minnesota, EXCEPT the following described tract, to wit: Commencing at the Southwest corner of Government Lot 7, Section 10, Township 133, Range 32 West, thence South on the Quarter line of said Section 1012 feet, more or less, to the Northerly line of the Northern Pacific Railway Company's right-of-way; thence Southeasterly along the Northerly line of the Northern Pacific Railway Company right-of-way, a distance of 437.1 feet; thence North and parallel with the West line of said section 1994 feet, more or less, to the meander line of Crow Wing River; thence Westerly along the meander line of Crow Wing River, a distance of 433 feet, more or less, to the Quarter line of said section; thence South on said Quarter line 1000 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning, except right-of-way of Minnesota State Highway No. 10, AND EXCEPT the following described tract: Commencing at the Southeast corner of Government Lot 7, thence North 320 feet; thence West 1047.99 feet to the point of beginning; thence East along last described line 220 feet; thence North 400 feet more or less to the Crow Wing River; thence Westerly along the Crow Wing River 220 feet more or less to a point 400 feet more or less due North of the point of beginning; thence South 400 feet more or less to the point of beginning, Todd County, Minnesota.

AND

Government Lot 5, Section 11, Township 133 North, Range 32 West, Todd County, Minnesota

AND The Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 11, Township 133, Range 32, Todd County, Minnesota

AND That part of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 11, Township 133 North, Range 32 West, Todd County, Minnesota, lying North of railroad right of way Except that part of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter and the Northwest Quarter of the South-

west Quarter described as follows: Beginning at the northeast corner of said Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter; thence South 89 degrees 02 minutes 47 seconds West, assumed bearing, 312.07 feet along the north line of said Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter; thence North 64 degrees 34 minutes 46 second West 674.04 feet; thence North 35 degrees 34 minutes 46 seconds West 403.17 feet; thence South 01 degrees 04 minutes 07 seconds East 752.08 feet to the northerly right of way line of US Highway No. 10; thence South 82 degrees 06 minutes 29 seconds East 1156.06 feet along said northerly right-of-way line to the east line of said Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter; thence North 00 degrees 42 minutes 39 seconds West 298.77 feet along said east line of said Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter to the point of beginning.

The object of this action is Quieting Title.

Dated: July 7, 2020

SEVERSON PORTER LAW

By /s/ Kurt W. Porter
Mark A. Severson (Reg. No. 0388914)
Kurt W. Porter (Reg. No. 0391461)
Joseph T. Pates (Reg. No. 0401046)
Kevin J. Egan, of Counsel (Reg. No. 0390606)
34354 County Road 3
P.O. Box 430
Crosslake, MN 56442
Telephone: (218) 692-6999
Facsimile: (218) 692-6970
e-mail: kurt@seversonporter.com

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The parties above-named represented by the undersigned, hereby acknowledged that sanctions may be imposed pursuant to Minn. Stat. Section 549.211.

Kurt W. Porter
9-11pnc



SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT

208 Storage

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

205 Help Wanted
PART-TIME CASHIER:
30-35 hrs. every 2 weeks.
Must be 21-years-old. Don & Dave's Store, 218-894-2014.
7-9p



HELP WANTED: Staples-Motley School is taking applications for a Full Time Custodian at the Middle/High School

PM/evening shift. Must be able to stand for extended periods of time; background check is required. Benefits include insurance, vacation and sick leave.

Applications may be submitted to:
District Office, 905 4th St. NE, Staples
EOE/EF

209 Business Services

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

REAL ESTATE

602 Apartments for Rent

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

FREE HEAT: Quiet, 2 bdrm., great location. Welcome, 218-296-2713. 7tfc

607 Houses for Sale

ONE BDRM. for sale by owner, 603 7th St. SE, Staples, \$54,500. 218-296-1535. 8-10p

STAPLES: Upper and lower 2 bdrm. duplexes, detached garage, large lot, \$89,500. 218-639-2558. 8-10p

FRONTIER TOWNHOMES

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

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



Income guidelines apply.

GARAGE SALES 701

A/G YOUTH: Now accepting donations for upcoming garage sale. Call Kathy at 218-296-1647 for drop off or pick up. 6-13c

Install Repair Technician I

West Central Telephone Association is looking for an **Install Repair Technician I** to join their team! The responsibilities will include but are not limited to assisting in the construction of new facilities; installing, repairing, and maintaining customer telephone, internet, and television systems; and testing equipment to ensure that it is functioning properly. Installation, maintenance and repair will be primarily on fiber optic of WCTA facilities and/or customer owned equipment. Candidates must have high school diploma and/or equivalent and a valid driver's license with a clean driving record; CCENT certification, PLT license and 2 years telecommunications experience preferred but not required. Competitive wages and benefits including health, dental, life, retirement benefits, and a great working atmosphere await the right person! **TO APPLY:** send cover letter and resumé to hr@wcta.net or WCTA, Attn: Jennifer Grewe, PO Box 304, Sebeka, MN 56477 by **March 19, 2021**.
EOE

ASSESSMENT / PROGRAM SPECIALIST

Freshwater Education District is seeking an assessment/program specialist. The position will be a combination of completing assessments, scoring, writing reports, and assisting staff with due process requests, programming, and overall education district projects. A MN Special Education licensure is required and at least three years of teaching experience is preferred. The position will be a 200 day contract.

-- Application deadline: Noon on March 12, 2021

Send Letter of Application, Resumé and 3 Letters of References to:

Lori Murdock, Director of Special Education
Freshwater Education District
2222 Industrial Drive, Wadena, MN 56482
218.631.3505, ext. 1042
lmurdock@fed.k12.mn.us

CENTRAL TODD COUNTY

Care Center

Certified Nursing Assistants

We are in search for someone who is looking for a rewarding job in the Nursing field. **Evening and Night shifts now available for CNAs.** Must be a TEAM player and possess a special interest in working with Long Term Care residents, families and visitors. **CTCCC offers a wide variety of benefits and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.**

Contact Amanda Rickbeil, arickbeil@ctcccinc.com or call 218-756-3636 ext. 12

Pick up an application in the Business Office, Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. or after hours at the Nurse's Station.

CENTRAL TODD COUNTY CARE CENTER IS LOCATED IN CLARISSA, MN.

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Deadline: Friday at Noon



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sellnowt@sellnowlaw.com
Jason R. Sellnow
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229 Central Ave., Long Prairie
320-732-1919 • Toll free: 877-297-1125
*Thomas Sellnow is a Real Property Law Specialist certified by Real Property Section of Minnesota State Bar Association.
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Family floral tradition

Five generations of the Williams family have been a part of Williams Floral & Nursery in Staples since it first opened in 1927. Pictured above at the landmark stop along 2nd Ave. NE in Staples are, from left, Pat Williams, Kathryn Mary (Williams) Erickson, Frank Williams, Blake Gerard, Lynnette Kern and Bridget (Williams) Gerard.

FLORAL continued from page 1a

Williams family grew up around the floral shop

nette graduated high school in 2017...Blake from Staples-Motley and Lynnette from Verndale. "She was on the same swim team as my sister Emma," Blake said of his future bride. That's how their paths initially crossed.

She comes from a big family, Lynnette shared, noting that her parents raised 11 children. They also always had a garden, which is where she first developed a love for flowers and gardening.

Lynnette is currently studying accounting at M-State, gaining skills that will definitely come in handy on the business end of Williams Floral & Nursery. She will graduate this spring. "Perfect timing," Blake says.

Since graduating high school, Blake went on to get a Fire, Science and Technology degree, moved to Wyoming where he worked full-time at a fire station. After returning to Minnesota, Blake's been employed as a wildlife firefighter for U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services, based out of Fergus Falls. That job has led him to help fight fires in six or seven states, including Paradise, Calif. He has also become a member of the Staples Volunteer Fire Department.

Because his work as a wildlife firefighter is seasonal, Blake will be able to devote a lot of time to Wil-

iams Floral & Nursery.

As the family gathered to sign papers with their realtor, Nikki Bjerga, they shared a few memories from their years at the flower shop.

When his grandfather Louis Williams started the store in 1927, he sold nursery stock and bedding plants, Frank said. It was simply known as Williams Nursery in those days.

In 1945, Frank's dad, James Williams, took over the family business, building the adjoining living quarters. He had returned from service in WWII, during which time he met an Irish woman named Kathleen, whom he later sent for to become his wife. Kathleen arrived in Minnesota, and "I showed up in 1947," Frank said.

James and Kathleen later had a daughter, Kathryn Mary, who would later join her brother Frank, and his wife, Karen, in working at the floral shop. Frank and Mary Kathryn shared that they had another brother, Steve, who worked there when he was a boy. He has since passed.

After he graduated from Staples High School in 1965, Frank studied floral design at Brainerd Vocational School, prior to joining the U.S. Air Force. Upon returning from the service, Frank joined his dad in business at

Williams Floral and Nursery. "Dad passed away in 1993," he said. Frank's wife, Karen, was a part of the family business for many years as well, until her death in 2015.

Kathryn Mary really didn't start working at the floral shop until her children were older, she said, going on to share that she and her husband, Bob, had four children - Sara, Erin, Roy and Liam, who all helped out on occasion.

Kathryn Mary loved many aspects of her work, but when it came to arranging flowers for events, prom was always her favorite.

Frank and Karen's three children, Bob, Bridget and Pat, also were practically raised at the floral shop.

Bridget (Gerard), Staples, recalls helping out during high school at very busy times, including Valentine's Day and Mother's Day. "My cousin Sara worked with me."

Pat Williams, also of Staples, has memories of working at the family business when he was in high school. He enjoyed it and went on to attend horticulture school, returning to his hometown later on, joining forces with his relatives. He'll be around to lend a helping hand to his nephew and fiancée', Pat says.

So will Grandpa Frank. Yes, he's ready to turn over

the business to Blake and Lynnette, but there is a lot he will miss, Frank says.

He always loved the spring-time open houses, Frank said. Christmas was always a special time at the floral shop as well. And, in 50 years' time, you get to know a lot of wonderful customers. He recalled an older couple who for years has faithfully driven from the Lincoln area each week to stop by the floral shop in Staples, being sure to say, 'Hi, Frank,' upon their arrival.



Flowers, balloons and more

Blake Gerard and Lynnette Kern, new owners of Williams Floral & Nursery in Staples are excited to continue this service to the community, a family tradition since 1927. In time they plan to give the

shop a face-lift and add some modern features, but offering quality flowers and gardening supplies, gifts, along with friendly service will remain the same. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

CARE ministry remains strong

Still serving the community during Covid

The year 2020 brought many challenges that lead to opportunities for change. CARE ministry, whose ministry is to aid those in need, remained committed to helping families in the Staples-Motley area despite these challenges.

In 2013, CARE ministry held its first Back to School fair, an event that gave local families the opportunity to receive school supplies, a healthy snack and a haircut. Since then, this event has been held on an annual basis.

However, with the safety concerns of COVID-19, this needed to take a new form. Last fall, what they were able to do for local families was offer them an opportunity to shop for themselves in the form of vouchers. Each child was given a Cardinal backpack which included these vouchers so that they were able to purchase their own supplies, clothing and shoes of their choosing.

The feedback from families was very positive. As with all new experiences, there are opportunities to adjust how this fair will occur in the future. CARE ministry remains committed to this project but recognizes that opportunities to adapt may occur for future events.

CARE ministry has also sponsored the Great Coat Giveaway since 2012, an annual event held to ensure people in the Staples-Motley area have access to

proper attire in the winter. This also looked different than in the past. In 2020, people in need of coats were given a coat/boots/winter supplies bought specifically for them. This allowed the team to purchase exactly what was needed. Overall this experience worked well so that families were given exactly what they need. Again, as planning begins for the future, there are opportunities to change and expand how this program is run.

Additionally, CARE community meals have been very successful. Again, with the safety concerns of COVID-19 these were cancelled for the time. We were able to contribute to the Thanksgiving and Christmas meals provided by Timbers which was an excellent opportunity to serve the community while following COVID-19 precautions. We are exploring ways to adapt our future CARE meals in order to best fit the needs of the current time.

The CARE ministry remains strong. CARE ministry is excited to find new and exciting ways to serve the area. If you are interested in donating or being a part of this, contact Jeannie Hajek at mjhajek@arvig.net or give her a call at (218) 894-2442.

If you are in need of assistance, contact a local church and they will assist you as able.

COALITION continued from page 1a

Reading programs will continue through other local organizations

have voted to dissolve the Coalition, they want the Staples Motley community to know that many important projects will continue.

Move, Drop Everything and Read! and The Big Equipment Show have been taken over by the ECFE program (Early Childhood Family Education).

Books in the Park (those bright yellow bins at our Staples Motley parks during the summer which have distributed over 600 free books each year) will be taken over by the Faith Lutheran Church Social Concerns Committee. Coalition funding will accompany this project.

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten will be taken over by the Great River Regional Library in Staples. Through the years many local children reached the "1,000 books" milestone and received recognition for their efforts. Coalition funding will accompany this project.

Finally, the Staples-Motley School Readiness Program will receive funding from the coalition to aid families who need financial assistance to enable their child's participation in this important program.

The coalition appreciates those organizations that have taken over these projects.

Since 2008, so many Staples Motley people have given of their time, talents and resources to make all of the coalition projects possible and successful, including the organization LEAP, which helped the coalition secure additional funding due to that organization's 501(c)3 status.

The members of the Staples-Motley Early Childhood Coalition wish to thank all of you for being an integral part in making Staples Motley a great place to raise children. The work that is "For the good of the children" will go on.



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Student interview with Josh Lee

By Colbe Tappe
7th grade, SMMS



Josh Lee

I am writing an article on an interview I did with Josh Lee, our Athletic Director (AD) and Dean of Students. Before I talk about the interview, I would like to state my thoughts on Mr. Lee. I think that Mr. Lee is a very nice person and I think he fits into Staples really well. I also think that he is very well suited for this job. Mr. Lee is a really good role model for Staples as a whole; he knows what to do and when to do it. I am very glad that he is here.

Before coming to Staples, Mr. Lee worked as a coach for Gustavus College and worked at Loyola Catholic. He moved to Staples because he knew that Gustavus was not a long term place for him and his family. He also wanted the opportunity to be an AD. The difference in jobs between Gustavus and Staples-Motley is the different atmosphere of college versus high school.

He also said that the positions changed and that he wanted to bring with things he learned from Gustavus to Staples.

He said that there were lots of good things about moving and also some things that he and his family missed. He is also confident that Staples is the place that he and his family really like.

Staples provides the life he invisions. The reason is that he likes the small town and the activities that he can do more here. Mr. Lee

said he loves the school and the history. He also likes the plan for growth in the school. He said he felt very welcomed into the district and thinks that his co-workers are really supportive and nice. He said that any job has its challenges and that's okay, challenges are good. He also said that he likes some things and others not so much, and that is how my interview with Josh Lee went.

Why I love living in Rural Minnesota

By Owen Carlson

I love living in rural Minnesota because we are not in super crowded neighborhoods and most people have a lot of land.

In the winter we have multiple sledding hills everywhere and in the Cities they have to drive/walk one+ miles away to get to a hill to sled. We can

build things on our land and in the Cities they only have a small backyard with one tree that they can build a treehouse in.

When you go to a friends house you have more options on what to do. A really cool thing is that almost everybody knows everybody in our community. You can go into a store and see five

people that you know and that would be normal.

Everybody is so nice, in the winter if you don't have a plow truck, (most people do), someone will probably offer to plow your driveway even if they just met you.

And it's the little things like that, that make me love rural Minnesota.

Student interview with Jim Opelia

By Elijah Greenwaldt



Jim Opelia

Mr. Opelia, a long time teacher, has had many different experiences as a teacher and has done lots of good for the schools that he has worked at, so here are some things I think you should know about him.

Jim Opelia started his teaching career in 1998 at age 28 and has been teaching for the past 22 years. His first and favorite teaching job was as a fourth grade teacher at Sacred Heart Area School (SHAS) then their principal retired so they decided there was no one

better than Mr. Opelia to take over.

Three years ago Mr. Opelia came to the Staples-Motley High School/Middle School (SMHS/MS), and for his first year he was a special education teacher. Right now he teaches seventh grade science, astronomy, space exploration and success.

Mr. Opelia says he teaches because he is excited to learn things about the kids he teaches and his favorite part of teaching is how often he gets to see his family and kids.

teaching is how often he gets to see his family and kids.

Staples Motley Sno Daze



Weds., February 24: Dress Up Theme - Red Carpet/Hollywood. Vote for Sno Daze King and Queen during first hour. EARLY OUT

Thurs., February 25: Dress Up Theme - Outer Space; 2:35 p.m. Championship Powderbuff game during homeroom in the main gym (only students from the grades competing can come to

the gym to watch).

Fri., February 26: Dress Up Theme - Wilderness Explorer/UP; 2:35 p.m. Assembly in the auditorium during homeroom to crown Sno Daze King and Queen. You must sign up to attend. There is a sign up sheet near the office. Seniors and Juniors have first opportunity to sign up.



Ms. Hirschey's middle school student projects

- Seventh grader Emmalee Dobson's 3-D bedroom (left)
- Sixth grader Jaxon Macheel's drawing of rapper Juice Wrld (below left)

Mrs. Schneider's high school student project

- Senior Libby O'Neil's ornaments (below)



Poems by Staples-Motley High School eighth grade students

My First Game

By Dustin Converse

MY FIRST FOOTBALL GAME,
IT WAS NOT A TIME OF FAME
IT WAS MORE A TIME OF SHAME
I LOST MY FIRST FOOTBALL GAME
THEY WEREN'T CHEERING MY NAME
IT WASN'T THE BEST CLAIM
TO SAY I LOST MY FIRST FOOTBALL GAME,
BUT NOW OUR TEAM IS NOT THE SAME
WE WILL START NEXT SEASON WITH FLAMES
AND ALL GO DOWN IN THE HALL OF FAME.

RIDDLE

By Levi Page

Once was living, now I'm dead
Try not to drop me on your head
When I waved, you'd not wave back
An axe in the morning, a brutal attack

To make like a tree and leave you alone
Where I go, you might not have known
My skin is ruff and sometimes thin
Stuck in a trailer with my kin

What am I?

The Lunker

By Heidi Zimmerman

It swam like a bullet
And it'll fight like a tiger
Wait! I gotta bite so I'll pull it
That guy's going on the wall!

It was fat as a hippo
And it sparkled in the sun
But then my line went zippo
And that beast of a bass was gone

The river flows

And life goes on
The wind blows
Another day is gone

The sun rises in the east
And sets in the west
You should never try your least
But always do your best
By Ben Tyrrell

MY CAT

BY Sawyer Ferdon

I love my kitty cat
But she is super fat
She needs to lose some weight
But I think she's really great

Six years living inside
Six years diets we've tried
Stairs should be a workout
But like a teapot she's still stout

She hates other cats
but really loves me
I'm in charge of her food
so she greets me with glee

She waddles and plays
I laugh at her ways
Every ounce of fat
I love my kitty cat

The baby blue sky
As pretty as his eyes
When we are together
nothing else matters
The world is just him and me
Walking in the field
on top of the world

His strong legs
supporting me
He is mine
I am his
we are better
together
And terrible
apart
Just my horse and me
By Emma Lamke

The Leaf

By Jack Carlson

Falling from the tree without a care
Hit the wind, a blast of air
Soaring high above the trees
As far as the eye can see

Hit the ground so very soft
Feeling the morning frost
Laying there sitting there alone
Knowing I will be blown

By: Olivia Opheim
Bursts of bright, vibrant, colors, popping out of the field
Stretching for miles, you'd have to walk for days to see
The lilies, and poppies and violets oh, the flowers you'd yield
Down under by the mountains far from me
I'd like see those flowers in person so I can believe in my head
The beauty I marvel at, in photos and postcards I knew
No matter how far, and challenging the journey ahead
I travel to see, to believe, to know, if the picture on that puzzle is true

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