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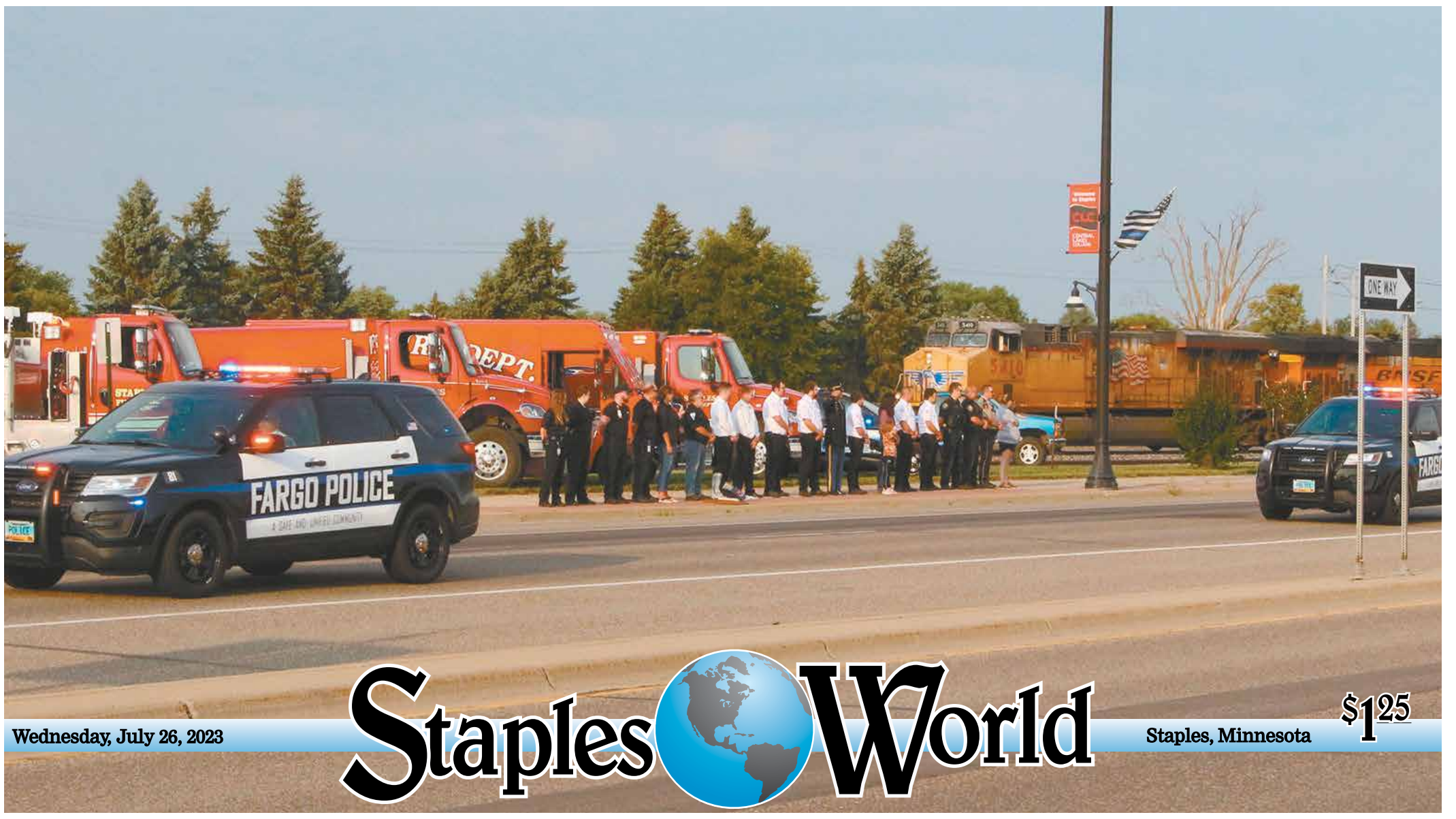


Wednesday, July 26, 2023 **Staples World** Staples, Minnesota $1.25

First responder solidarity for Fargo Police procession

Staples Police, Fire Department and Amublance line up in solidarity to pay respect to Jake Wallin, 23, a Fargo Police officer who died in the line of duty when an assailant fired his gun at police who were helping at a car accident. Wallin is from St. Michael-Albertville High School and has grandparents are in Pequot Lakes, where his funeral was held on July 22. The procession from Fargo to Peqout Lakes included many Fargo Police Department vehicles, three buses and many other vehicles. The procession arrived alongside a BNSF freight train, pictured in the back. See more, page 11a. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Gorka headlines Rendezvous music lineup

This year's Old Wadena Rendezvous will feature two big folk music names on the list of entertainers taking the Rendezvous stage.

The Rendezvous and Chautauqua will be held August 12 and 13 at the Old Wadena County Park located about seven miles north of Staples on the Crow Wing River (13491 Old Wadena Circle, Staples, Mn. 56479).

John Gorka, a singer/songwriter of national and international renown, will be back to close out the Saturday, August 12, bill.

Also returning to Old Wadena will be the very entertaining duo of Curtiss and Loretta. They will do two sets, at 1:30 p.m. on both Saturday and Sunday.

Both John Gorka and the husband/wife team of Curtiss Teague and Loretta Simonet are based in Minnesota and spend major portions of the year touring and performing their own folk songs and many traditional numbers as well.

Rolling Stone magazine years ago labeled John Gorka "the leading singer/songwriter of the New Folk Movement."

John Gorka

Gorka grew up in New Jersey and found himself attracted to folk music and song writing while studying history in college. His folk-inspired acoustic music and his baritone voice combined to catch the attention of other singers and recording studios.

In 1987 Minnesota based Red House Records released his first album "I Know," to popular acclaim. At least 11 very successful albums have followed over the years. Though he has been based in Minnesota for years, he still tours for major portions of each year. In the past he has toured across the United States and Europe.

Like Gorka, Curtiss and Loretta are returning to the Old Wadena stage with their music that comes straight

See **RENDEZVOUS** on page 12a

Building a new Old Wadena

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Old Wadena County Park is open for visitors but is still a work in progress. Visitors to the Old Wadena Rendezvous on Aug. 12-13 will be experiencing the county park in the process of reconstruction after a tornado devastated the area in 2022. The new version of Old Wadena will be a big change for people who have visited in previous years.

Late on Memorial Day of 2022, a large tornado touched down near the Crow Wing River, rolled through the Old Wadena Campground, knocked down the new pavilion and flattened a large swath of pine forest beyond the parking area. The park was closed for the rest of 2022.

The Wadena County Parks department opened the park again in May of this year, one full year after the tornado hit.

Deana Malone, Parks Administrator for Wadena County, and Glenn Motzko, Parks Maintenance Supervisor, visited the park on July 20 to go over the progress and see what else needs to be done before the Rendezvous. They talked about the park as a place for history, camping, river recreation and the annual rendezvous site.

Malone said the biggest part of the cleanup was the thousands of downed trees and branches. The Minnesota DNR conducted a timber sale so that most of the trees were taken out of the forested area.

The Wadena County Highway Department also has devoted time to clearing logs and putting them into piles. The forested area still has a few piles of stumps and unburned logs. Malone said they plan to burn those in the winter when there is snow cover.

Work on cleaning up the campground didn't get going until this spring. Motzko and the Todd-Wadena Sentence To Serve crew did a lot of the work, also Carr's Tree Service bid to do stump grinding and tree work. Motzko said it took a full month this spring, working around the late snowfalls in April and May, but they had the park open to campers by Memorial Day weekend.

Before the tornado, the main camp site and Rendezvous area was in a shady grove of oak trees. Now it is wide open, with plans to plant more trees in the coming years.

The new pavilion at the park was completely flattened by the tornado. It was rebuilt on the same footings by JR Construction of Vern·

See **PARK** on page 12a

Rebuilt out of the rubble

Wadena County Parks Maintenance Supervisor Glenn Motzko and Parks Adminstrator Deana Malone check out the new pavilion at Old Wadena, which was rebuilt after being flattened by a tornado in 2022, right. (Staples World phtotos by Mark Anderson)

Railrad Days shaping up for Aug. 14-20

Many events are planned for Staples Railroad Days, the week of Aug. 14-20, with the main events on Friday, Aug. 18 and Saturday, Aug. 19. The preliminary schedule is as follows, with additional events possible and the final schedule could change.

The Railrad Days Parade will be at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 19.

During the week starting Monday, Aug. 14, Mid Minnesota Federal Credit Union will hold their annual Medallion Hunt, and there will also be an event called Penny Wars.

On Wednesday, Aug. 16, Staples-Motley Beyond Poverty will hold their Communities Connect resource fair to connect area people with services and providers who can help.

On Thursday, Aug. 17, the Little Red Caboose Variety Show will be at Timbers Event Center because of school construction.

Friday, Aug. 18 will have a Staples history and barn quilt bus tour starting at the Staples Depot. LAPS will host The Great Give Away event. Beck's Burger Co. will have a car and bike show and will close the evening with an '80s theme glow in the dark dance party. A fireworks show will begin at dusk.

On Saturday, Aug. 19, a pancake breakfast will be at Trinity Lutheran Church, The Women of Today Car Show will be at the Sourcewell parking lots starting at 9 a.m., the Piecemakers Quilt Show will be at the United Methodist Church, the grand parade starts at 10 a.m. on 4th Street and 5th Street NE. Vendors will be downtown all morning, plus axe throwing, bounce houses, beer garden and Leaf River Pottery opportunity.

Special events on Saturday will include the Cannon Old West Society Bank Robbery at 1 an 3 p.m. at First International Bank and Trust. Tower Pizza will hold a pizza eating contest at 2 p.m.. Bingo will start at 2 p.m. at Beck's Burger Co.

At 8:30 p.m., Beck's Burger Co. will host a street dance featuring the band 32 Below, a country rock band.

On Sunday, Aug. 20, a community worship and potluck will be held at Northern Pacific Park in Staples.

A new event this year is a wiffle ball tournament at Holst Acres starting at 10 a.m. on Sunday, with proceeds going to the Staples-Motley Athleteic Hall of Fame.

Weather

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
July 26	98	68	M. Sunny
July 27	94	61	P. Cloudy
July 28	85	59	P. Cloudy
July 29	81	59	Sunny
July 30	80	58	M. Sunny
July 31	81	56	P. Cloudy
Aug. 1	82	57	M. Sunny

Last Year, 2022

	High	Low	Cond.
July 26	74°	61	P. Cloudy
July 27	76	60	M. Sunny
July 28	70	53	Sunny
July 29	77	55	M. Sunny
July 30	85	63	Sunny
July 31	81	62	Rain
Aug. 1	75	58	Sunny

Average Temps:
H = 82° Low = 60°

Compiled by Dale Hausmann, WCCO's Staples area Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Todd sample ballot **9A**
Wadena Co. public hearing: **9A**
Freshwater: **9A**

Obituaries

Nicholas Hopp
Lorraine Mertens
John "Jack" Wilson

Motley Police business discussed at the Motley council meeting held July 10

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Matters pertaining to the police department were at the forefront of the Motley City Council's regular meeting July 10, as well as the preceding work session.

In regard to the hiring of the full-time police officer (a position created when former officer Cody Holtz resigned), a motion was approved to officially set the hiring committee. It includes all three department heads (Bruce Brotherton, Public Works Director; Darci Odden, City Clerk/Treasurer; Police Chief Jason Borash), council member/police department liaison Pat O'Regan; and council member Steve Johnson.

At the regular meeting in June, Johnson had expressed interest in being on the hiring committee, but Chief Borash had requested that Johnson not be on it. However, at the regular meeting in July, it was noted that this matter had been resolved during the preceding work session.

During his monthly report, Police Chief Borash noted the department had a total of 49 calls during June, and two call-outs from home.

In addition, Chief Borash provided a breakdown of all call-outs, which had been a request of Mayor Schmidt.

The types of calls noted in the breakdown included arrests, welfare concerns, domestic assaults and shooting, mental health/suicidal subjects, death investigations, drug-related issues, vehicle thefts, weapons violations, providing traffic control at a large funeral, an abduction, and animal attacks.

In addition, the chief's documentation noted bringing the squad car in for repairs, providing guard watch at a hospital for an arrestee who ingested drugs on Officer Holtz's traffic stop, and conducting meetings and interviews. Chief Borash also noted that the breakdown does not include the numerous phone calls from dispatch or other officers received while off duty, during which time information was provided as needed.

In other matters the council:

∘ HEARD a summary of a closed meeting held regarding the performance review for Darci Odden, City Clerk/Treasurer. Odden received 53.6 points out of 56, determined to be highly satisfactory. Mayor Schmidt expressed appreciation for Odden's work, adding, "Job well done."

∘ HEARD the monthly report from Fire Chief Brad Olson. Olson noted that the fire department had a total of seven calls in June.

∘ APPROVED a motion to remove Nikki Bjerga as the administration liaison, and adding Mayor Mike Schmidt to this position. The change had been requested by City Clerk/Treasurer Darci Odden, who expressed frustration with Bjerga's lack of support. Odden suggested that the council switch their liaison positions occasionally, so that they learn about all of the city departments. Prior to the vote, Bjerga said that she's checked in with Odden in the past, but her offer to help was declined. Odden's response was "agree to disagree."

∘ APPROVED the Public Assembly and First Amendment Activity Policy.

∘ SCHEDULED a performance evaluation for Police Chief Jason Borash to be held in a closed meeting following the council's regular meeting in August.

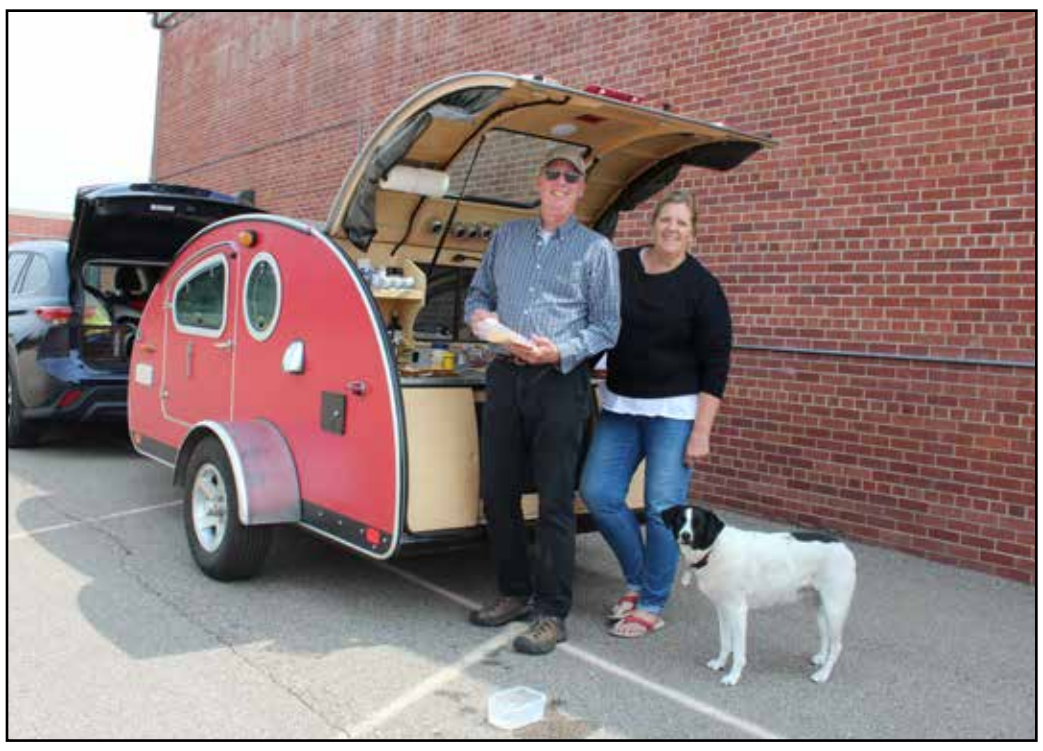
∘ APPROVED Public Works Supervisor Bruce Brotherton's request to purchase a locator/transmitter for the charging station. The total price is $12,055 and Brotherton noted that there is money in the water/wastewater budget to cover this.

∘ SET budget workshop meeting for Thursday, Aug. 3, at 6 p.m.

∘ DISCUSSED, during the council forum, the public forum policy, per request of council member Bjerga who wondered if limiting speaking time could help in conducting more orderly meetings. City Clerk/Treasurer Odden noted that public members (who have signed in) can be heard during the public forum, but no action can be taken on issued voiced. She also noted that the speaking time (for public input) was currently set at five minutes. After some discussion, the council approved adjusting the public speaking time (per person) from five minutes to three minutes.

∘ HEARD both praise and concerns from council member Brenda Borash during the council forum. Borash expressed appreciation to all who worked so hard at the recent community events - June Fest and the Motley Fair. She also had concerns about people speaking poorly of city employees and council members in public. She encouraged people to be supportive of each other.

∘ SET next regular council meeting for Monday, Aug. 14, 6:30 p.m., preceded by a regular work session at 5:30 p.m.



Lunch stop in Motley

Byron and Karyl Rice of Richfield, along with their dog, Shiloh, took a lunch break in Motley July 18, enroute to Detroit Lakes for a camping trip with family. Their Vistabule Teardrop Trailer came equipped with a kitchenette in back, and sleeping quarters in the front. The Rices said that they noticed some changes in town since they'd last driven through Motley, including a new business name by the seafood plant on Highway 10. They were also surprised to learn they hadn't stopped at a school parking lot to make their sandwiches. No, the school was closed a few years ago, they were told, and the building was recently sold to someone who plans to bring a classic car business to town. They'll have to stop by again next year on their way through Motley to check it out. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Downtown revitalization in action

Members of the Staples Downtown Revitalization group were busy July 19, tending to three of the city's large planters along Highway 10.

After first getting rid of all of the weeds, the group filled the planters with potting soil, planted a variety of perennials, which were then covered with plastic garden sheeting and mulch. The plants will need to be watered on a regular basis.

Pictured at top, from left, are Adam Frost, Colleen Frost, Sandy Knosalla, Lindsey Williams, Lynnette Girard and Blake Girard. In lower photo, the group finishes work on the planter near Beck's Burgers. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

Todd County Commissioners take care of July business

Karin L. Nauber
Todd County correspondent

The regular meeting of the Todd County Board of Commissioners was held July 5, 2023 due to the 4th of July holiday.

The board approved updates/changes to the Todd County Fairgrounds for the Todd County Ag Society for the fair.

The first change was to move two of the small buildings that are used for ticket booths for events.

Apparently when it rains, the water runs off the roof right onto patrons purchasing tickets. If moved it will change the way the water runs off and won't be such an issue.

They will also be adding a larger window to each of the small buildings which will help with ticket sales having more space. There are currently small windows in the two buildings. These will be replaced with larger sliding windows.

The two buildings were made by Eagle Creek Builders and were purchased with COVID funds in the event that the county would need them for vaccination clinics.

The board approved the move of the buildings at $75 by Eagle Creek Builders.

The board also approved the window replacement at $175 per window for two windows (one in each building).

The second update was to put more electrical outlets in the north end of the livestock building (where the horses are kept).

Currently, there are two outlets - one on each end of the building. This creates a safety concern with people running extension cords up above the pens.

The 18 additional outlets, would allow for easy access to electricity for those needing fans or other electrical devices during the fair and other events that take place at the fairgrounds.

The cost of this is $6,317.08 from ARC Electrical Service.

The Ag Society has $3,000 to put toward the update and requested the remaining be paid by the county. It was approved.

In other business:

• Approved a gambling permit for Ivy's Legacy Foundation to hold a raffle at The Shed in Kandota Township on October 13.

• Approved the resignation of Social Worker Maggie Chapin effective June 30.

• Approved the resignation of Eligibility Worker Mika Kunerth effective July 5.

• Due to a promotion, the behavioral health supervisor position is vacant. It was approved to promote Jacob Schwebke to fill this position with a start date of July 6.

• Approved the hiring of Emily Olson as a Solid Waste seasonal temporary worker starting July 6.

• Recognized several staff for their years of service to the county.

• Approved a budget request to transfer $8,318.50 from the Stationary and Forms account to the Equipment Purchase account within the elections department's 2023 budget to facilitate the Election Equipment updates/upgrades.

• Approved the electronic roster (Pollpad) upgrade on behalf of the county equipment needs and the participating Todd County municipalities and townships with KnowInk for a total of $34,125.

• Heard the 2023 report from Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust (MCIT).

The county received a dividend of $74,156.

• Acting as Ditch Authority, the board approved a Hold Harmless Agreement (HHA) petition from Amthor Cattle to install three pivot crossings. The crossings will be 24" culverts with fabric under them and crushed concrete on top for the irrigator tires to travel on. This project will be done in Ward Township, Section 25 and will be done at Amthor Cattle's own expense. This is on County Ditch 19. They are at the end of the lateral so the crossings will not affect anyone downstream as there is no one beyond their property.

• At the February 21, 2023 board meeting, Todd County authorized retaining WSN to provide design, bidding and observation services for closure of demolition landfill (Cells 6-18).

WSN had furnished two proposals, one for $26,000 and one for $44,000. The lower cost proposal was inadvertently approved. The board approved the correct one for $44,000.

Solid Waste Supervisor Mike Eberle said that although it was uncertain, they expected bidding on the solid waste project in August.

• The Solid Waste Dept. has reviewed its roll-off service for collecting demolition waste from Todd County properties for disposal at our county owned demolition landfill with the solid waste committee and county board at a work session.

Based on recent discussions, solid waste recommends discontinuing this service effective January 1, 2024.

After discussion at the meeting, the board approved to discontinue service of collecting demolition debris with county owned roll-offs, hook trucks and staff effective January 1, 2024.

They also authorized them to sell up to two hook trucks and 20-30 roll-off containers.

The solid waste department will continue using hook trucks and roll-offs where appropriate, including transport of materials to end markets and abatement of non-compliant properties.

Commissioner Barb Becker asked for clarification on what would be sold.

Eberle said they would be keeping about a dozen of the roll-off containers for county use.

He said if the county no longer does this, it would provide opportunities for private businesses to do these projects and to purchase the equipment the county will sell.

Chair Randy Neumann asked if they would need a resolution instead of a board action.

It was uncertain, but the Home Care program had been discontinued with a board action. It was approved as a board action.

• Authorized the hiring of one social worker to provide Childrens' Mental Health-Targeted Case Management.

• Heard an update on the Home Care program discontinuation.

There were over 50 clients to start with and that is down to 40 that the county is working with to find comparable services. They are working with a company that is willing to work in Todd County to provide services.

Some clients are looking at assisted living options and some have decided they no longer need services.

• **Background**: Todd County has completed a conditions assessment and received construction documents for the rock wall. These were funded in part through a grant provided by the Minnesota Historical Society.

The next step is to begin Phase 1 of the restoration and repair of the rock wall. The estimated cost for Phase 1 is $1,011,150.

The Facilities Committee met and discussed the grant match and recommends utilizing $606,690 from county funds to assist in the Phase 1 project.

In order to apply for the grant, the governing body of the organization must authorize someone to conduct business and accept funds on behalf of the organization. Pre-applications for the grant are due July 21, 2023.

The board authorized Coordinator Chris Pelzer to conduct business and accept grant funds for Phase 1 of the rock wall project on behalf of the county.

• The commissioners held a closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.05 Subd 3(c) 3 to develop or consider offers or counteroffers for the purchase or sale of real or personal property.

The property for discussion is located at 120 2nd Ave. S and 121 2nd St. S in Long Prairie.

Staples Police report

Recent reports taken by the Staples Police Dept.

July 6, Staples Police assisted the Todd County Sheriff's Dept. with a search warrant in the City of Motley to look for stolen items that may have been taken from vehicles in the City of Staples and several other communities in Todd, Morrison, Wadena and Ottertail counties. The residence was on Beaulieu St. W.

July 6, at 11:14 p.m., Staples Police took a report of two aggressive feral cats attacking a resident and their dog near 3rd St. SW. One cat was black and the other was "tiger striped." The individual wanted it reported incase the animals had a disease.

July 7, Staples Police responded to Dollar General for a report of an employee stealing from the business. Police cited Jamie Corey for misdemeanor theft.

July 7, Staples Police responded to the 300 block of 5th St. SE for an individual having a mental breakdown. The individual was taken to the LHS emergency room for a mental health evaluation.

July 8, at 12:24 a.m., Staples Police observed a suspicious vehicle parked at the water treatment plant. Upon patrolling near the vehicle, the occupied vehicle left the scene. Police followed the vehicle, observed it stopped at Ernie's. Police attempted to speak with the driver, who was uncooperative.

July 8, Staples Police received a call of a intoxicated individual who was attempting to ride a bicycle. The caller was concerned due to the subject's level of intoxication. Police located the individual a few blocks from his residence and made sure the subject made it home safely.

July 8, Staples Police assisted Todd County with a report of a domestic in the 29000 block of Warner Rd. Both individuals involved denied any physical contact and said it was a verbal argument. One of the individuals, Molly Young, 38, was arrested on a warrant out of Crow Wing County and transported to the Todd County Jail.

July 10, Staples Police responded to the 600 block of Iowa Ave. NE for a report of a lost child. Police along with Staples Fire Dept began a search of the surrounding area. The child was found safe nearby by a family member.

July 11, Staples Police received report that there has been individuals filling a vacant building with garbage. Officers attempted to get more information from the caller but were unsuccessful. Extra patrol will be provided near Dakota Ave. SE.

July 12, Staples Police received a report that a Husqvarna push lawn mower was stolen from a residence on the 100 block of Dakota Ave. SE.

July 13, Staples Police received a suspicious activity call on the 400 block of Hwy 10. The caller returned home and found their upstairs apartment window open and their cat was missing.

July 13, Staples Police received a report items stolen from a residence on the 100 block of Wisconsin Ave. SE. Taken were a set of four stock Chevy rims and two bicycles.

July 14, Staples Police took a report of an Amazon Fire Tablet that was stolen from the Staples Library. After reviewing security footage, they were able to identify a suspect. The suspect was identified as Alice Jackson, 36. The tablet was turned after talking with the suspect.

July 14, Staples Police attempted to issue an order to abate nuisance in the 700 block of Forest Ave. SE. Officers learned that the homeowner was currently in Wadena County Jail with pending charges. The order was faxed to WCSO to be served on the homeowner.

July 13, at 11:07 p.m., Staples Police were dispatched to the Dower Lake Campground on report of a group being loud and inappropriate. Contact was made and the group was advised.

July 15, Staples Police received a report of a blue rope tied to dock that was sinking into lake, something very heavy was attached on end. Police checked the rope and believed the rope had a magnet attached to the other end and the magnet appeared to have gotten wedged on something.

July 15, Staples Police received a driving complaint around 1500 block of 8th St NE. A report of a blue car and a four-wheeler racing up and down the street. Police will do extra patrol in the area.

July 15, Staples Police stopped and cited Benjamin Weekley for driving an off road motorcycle on a public street and driving after revocation.

July 15, Staples Police were called to a report of damage to property on the 400 block of 5th St. SE. A male subject was causing a disturbance at a residence, yelling for his girlfriend to come out of the house. The male subject was told by several people in the house that the person was not there, after being told to leave the property, the subject threw a brick through a front window, fled the scene but was identified by the people at the house. The subject will be charged with damage to property and disorderly conduct.

July 16, Staples Police transferred a driving complaint from Wadena County. Officers located the suspect vehicle parked at Casey's gas station and spoke with the driver who admitted to speeding and stated that it was because he needed to use a restroom. The driver was verbally warned and was advised he was free to leave.

July 16, Staples Police responded to the Pirates Den in Verndale to assist Wadena County Sheriff's Dept.with an incident involving a weapon. Upon arrival, the officers had the incident under control and a subject was detained.

Looking back

75 Years Ago - 1948

∘ July 22, 1948 - The Janitor's school held in the Staples school the past few days had an attendance of more than 30 janitors during the three day session.

The school took up all phases of janitor duties and in talking with some of the janitors, they were of the opinion that they had learned a lot that will help them with their work during the coming school year.

- o -

Compiled by
Dawn Timbs

- o -

The instructors who came to Staples were L. O. Thompson of the Los Angeles County Schools of Los Angeles, Calif., and Mr. Jack Adweer of the University of Omaha, Neb. Every angle of school sanitation was delved into, from waxing old floors to washing the windows.

∘ July 22, 1948 - Showing at the Staples Theatre July 27, 28, 29 - Story of the Old South - "Gone With The Wind," (In Technicolor), starring Clark Cable, Olivia DeHavilland and presenting Vivien Leigh as Scarlett O'Hara.

∘ July 22, 1948 - Visitors to the 1948 Wadena County Fair July 26 - 29 will see some of the finest horses of this section of the country in an excellent racing program.

Horses that set records in races on famous California tracks last winter are included in the entry list of 51, reported this week by Warren O. Hartman, superintendent of speed for the fair board.

July 22, 1948 - Motley high school defeated Brainerd's Intermediates yesterday at Motley by a score of 5 to 0. The younger boys from Brainerd, 15 year olds and under, could not stand up to the pace set by the winners.

Until the third inning, Motley was held scoreless, then three men crossed the plate in the fourth and one came in in the fifth.

Both teams made only two hits. Duane Lindberg, catcher connected for both of Brainerd's singles. Pitcher Schelenski and left fielder Turnborn made hits for Motley.

∘ July 22, 1948 - The Rev. Kilburn K. Holt, pastor of the First Congregational church of Staples, has been notified by the publishers of "Who's who in America" that his name and biography will be included in the next edition, in the "Midwest" volume. This honor comes from the many lectures and articles he has delivered and written on music and religion.

50 Years Ago - 1973

∘ July 26, 1973 - Fire of undetermined origin completely destroyed the large barn on the Walt Thorn farm early Saturday morning, July 21.

It was reported that the fire was first noticed by a Mr. Stevens, who called for the assistance of the Staples Fire Department.

∘ July 26, 1973 - In Bronco baseball play, boys age 12 and under, Staples and Motley tied at 8-all after six innings of play in a game played at Motley July 17.

The game was suspended after six inning in order to allow Coach Riewer to return to Staples to take the VFW Baseball team to Crosby-Ironton for a doubleheader.

Hitting stars for Staples were Joe DesMarais with a 2-run homer, Steve Hajek, John Norberg and Greg Dravis each with a triple, Craig Redemske with two singles and Mark Crawford and Mike Kennedy each with a single.

Other boys seeing action for Staples were Brent Baustian, Ken Corbett, Jerome Dukowitz, Steve Volesky, Steve Sanda, John Miller, Earl Mergens, Paul Mergens, Barney Miller, Dave Olson and Tim Sanda.

∘ July 26, 1973 - Warehouse Wig Sale Aug. 5 - 7, in the basement of Staples City Hall. Largest wig show in five states! Over 1,500 wigs on display! 14 styles to choose from!

∘ July 26, 1973 - Showing at the Staples Theatre July 25 - 28, E.B. White's "Charlotte's Web." Rated G.

∘ July 26, 1973 - Lori Underhill, daughter of Mrs. Rena Underhill, captured the title of Miss Motley for 1973 last Friday evening, the opening night of the annual Morrison County Fair in that village.

Miss Underhill, who was sponsored in the contest by Jinx Cafe, received her crown from Debbie Griffith, last year's winner. Also on hand to assist with the coronation ceremonies was Karie Greig, Motley's Junior Miss of 1972.

25 Years Ago - 1998

∘ July 23, 1998 - Roy Rogers died Monday, July 6, 1998 at his home in California. He was 86 and had been suffering from congestive heart failure for some time.

His passing brought back memories of the time at the height of his career when, for a few brief minutes, he stopped in Staples and created quite a stir at a local coffee shop.

Lloyd Heldman remembered that Rogers had stopped. He was just a kid 48 years ago when Roy Rogers and Dale Evans stopped for lunch at the Staples Coffee Shop, which was located where a later generation of local residents would have called it Tony's Chicken.

Word spread quickly among the citizens of the city that these noted movie celebrities were here, and dozens of people gathered in, and in front of, the Coffee Shop, and around their bus, which was parked on second Ave., in front of Mae's Dress Shop.

The two starts were headed to Fargo for an appearance that night, according to the short article under the picture, which was taken by Sam St. Pierre and provided to the World.

Mabel and Gib Simon owned the Coffee Shop at that time. Their daughter, Jan Goff, remembers that she was about 16 at the time, and while she worked at the cafe, she was probably in school when Rogers and Evans stopped in Staples. "I think my mother waited on them. The other waitresses were too excited to do it," she said.

∘ July 23, 1998 - Showing at the Cozy Theatre in Wadena July 24 - 20, Screen 1, Tom Hanks in, "Saving Private Ryan", and Screen 2, Sandra Bullock in "Hope Floats."

∘ July 23, 1998 - Lt. Col. Curtis V. Neal, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Neal of rural Staples, and a 1971 graduate of Staples High School, was promoted to the rank of Colonel in the United States Air Force in a promotion ceremony at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada on May 29.

∘ July 23, 1998 - "Lightning strikes in Motley too close for comfort," was the top headline in the Crow wing River Review portion of the paper. The lightning strike happened around 9:20 p.m. July 14, and residents who shared their experiences with the paper included Lee and Janet Greig, Bob and Marian Schroeder, Troy and Connie Davis, and Jo Philipp.

10 Years Ago - 2013

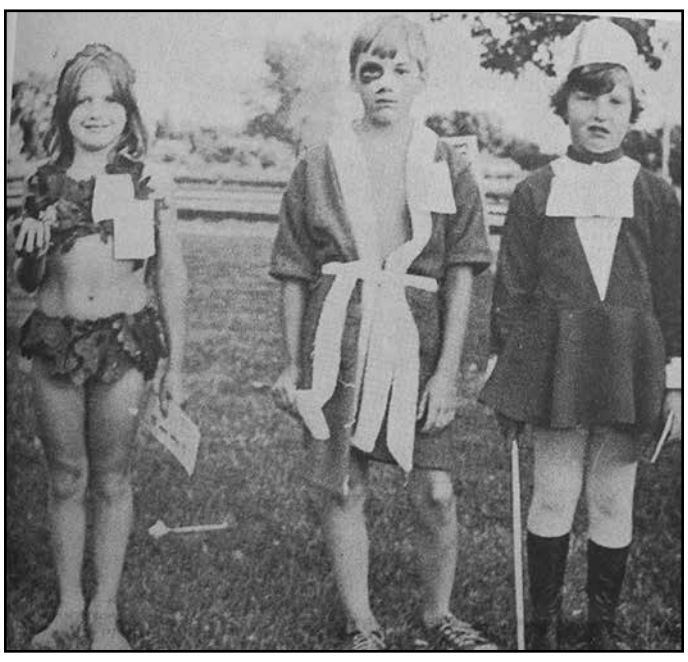
∘ July 25, 2013 - Gavin Kadlec, a 2011 Staples Motley High School graduate, will soon be heading off to the largest amateur national motocross event in the world.

The AMA Amateur National Motocross Championships are held each year at Loretta Lynn's Ranch in Hurricane Mills, Tenn.

Kadlec was the number one qualifier in the 250 A, 450 A and the number two qualifier in the Open Pro Sport class at the regional qualifier in Millville, in June.

Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from 1993. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photo? Do you have a memory to share? Email your answers and where you're from to dtimbs@staplesworld.com by Friday, or call 218-894-1112. The answers will be published in next week's paper, as well as a new mystery photo.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the July 19, 1973 edition of the Staples World featured the top winners in the original costume category of the Kiddie Parade in Staples. From left are Kathy Schaefer, first; Curt Jenkins, second; and Karen Scott, third.

There were no responses to this week's photo.

Truck accident

On July 13, a water tank truck from Ideal Construction suffered a blown out tire on County Road 21, just south of Highway 210, causing it to swerve into the ditch and tipped, knocking off the water tank. The driver, Jeff Kobliska, was shaken and bruised, but not seriously injured. Pictured left, crews secure the truck on a trailer and right, pick up the water tank to bring back. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Steve Fields
Minnesota Attorney

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Quote of the week

"It sounds so simple, but if you just be yourself, you're different than anyone else."
— Tony Bennett

New Minnesota laws in 2023

Some of the new Minnesota laws that will go into effect on Aug. 1.

Cannabis rules

Effective Aug. 1, 2023, adults at least age 21 can possess or publicly transport 2 ounces of adult-use cannabis flower, and up to 8 grams of cannabis concentrates. Adults can also possess up to 2 pounds of adult-use cannabis flower in their home. Limits on edible cannabis product possession are 800 milligrams of THC, the active ingredient in cannabis. penalties are established for violating possession limits, making illegal cannabis sales, selling to a minor, and exceeding personal cultivation limits.

The law will also prohibit possession of opened cannabis products in a motor vehicle, similar to the existing "open bottle" law.

Criminal records of Minnesotans with petty misdemeanor and misdemeanor cannabis convictions will begin to be expunged. Although the records are not destroyed, they are removed from public view and will not appear in criminal background checks.

Lands bill becomes law

The Department of Natural Resources and counties received authorization to modify or exchange several land parcels around the state.

Sponsored by Rep. Rick Hansen (DFL-South St. Paul) and Sen. Foung Hawj (DFL-St. Paul), a new law modifies certain provisions applying to leases of tax-forfeited land, authorizes a land exchange between the National Guard and the City of Rosemount, and authorizes acquisition and divestment of public land, including the sale of parcels in Beltrami, Cass, Crow Wing, Fillmore, Goodhue, Hennepin, Itasca, Pine, St. Louis, and Sherburne counties.

Under the law, application fees may be waived by the Department of Natural Resources in some cases when issuing or releasing an easement. The legislation also clarifies that the DNR can lease land for recreational trails or facilities for a term of 30 years.

A county may lease tax-forfeited land for up to 25 years rather than 10 under previous law. The consideration amount for a lease is increased from $12,000 to $50,000. Counties may also lease tax-forfeited land for conservation easements.

Firearms background checks required

Effective Aug. 1, 2023, a law prohibits private transfers of pistols and semiautomatic military-style assault weapons without a firearms eligibility background check of the recipient.

Chief law enforcement officers must deny an application if, for example, there exists a substantial likelihood the proposed transferee is a danger to themself or the public when in possession of a firearm.

The law will require a private party wanting to receive a pistol or semiautomatic military-style assault weapon from another private party to present a valid transferee permit or permit to carry and government-issued identification. An exception to the record of transfer process is created for unlicensed parties to transfer weapons through a firearms dealer.

Bike stops

Bicyclists won't have to completely halt their progress at all stop signs beginning Aug. 1, 2023. Per the transportation finance and policy law, "a bicycle operator who approaches a stop sign must slow to a speed that allows for stopping before entering the intersection or the nearest crosswalk.

… If there is not a vehicle in the vicinity, the operator may make a turn or proceed through the intersection without stopping."

Quote of the week

"We're hoping to succeed; we're okay with failure. We just don't want to land in between."
— David Chang

Bird moms carry big burdens, bird dads are a mixed bag

This is a season full of life's possibilities. Possibilities for wildlife, too. Most obvious and visible of these are the many new lives we're seeing in the next generation of ducks, geese, grouse, songbirds, and many other wild creatures. These young lives are the product of Nature's greatest urgency—to reproduce—next in importance only to obtaining food needed to stay alive, and avoiding becoming food for one of Nature's many predators.

On a lake near where I live, I've been watching the steady maturing of a brood of young common merganser ducks. A brood of eleven has managed to reach the half-grown stage. This is not unique, but this large number is quite an accomplishment when you consider the many dangers young ducklings face from both under the water and above it. Many duck broods do not even begin life this large, let alone reach this state of maturity in this large number. To what extent this is due to good mothering, or to good luck, is hard to say. Perhaps both, because I've never seen this brood without seeing their mother close at hand, and always in a posture of alertness. As with most species of waterfowl, their father has been out of the picture since courtship, leaving the hen to carry out parenting duties on her own.

- o -
Inside the Outdoors

Mike Rahn
- o -

One of the behaviors I've found most interesting in this brood differs from many other duck species, and might puzzle someone whose contact with ducks has been mostly with the abundant mallards, wood ducks, or teal. Unless there is food on the water's surface, those more common species "tip up" to feed, with their tail feathers in the air, and their neck extended underwater to probe for aquatic plants, crustaceans, or aquatic insects.

These merganser youngsters, however, repeatedly make splashy dashes across the shallow water's surface, often ending in their partial submersion at the end of a rush. This is "minnowing," the chasing of small fish just under the surface. For these ducks, fish will be a mainstay of their diet for the rest of their lives. For the first couple of weeks of life, a merganser hatchling is likely to feed on more readily catchable prey, like aquatic insects. But beyond that, Nature has outfitted them to be successful fishermen, giving them narrow bills that bear rows of teeth-like serrations, which are ideal for gripping active, slippery prey.

I've seen this same feeding behavior elsewhere, including on the rivers of Lake Superior's North Shore, where I have fished for the migratory rainbow trout known as steelhead. At such times our own self-interest is apt to reveal itself. I recall wondering then whether the young mergansers were herding and capturing young trout, rather than minnows, which in my greediness I might have resented. In such circumstances we'd do well to remember that relationships among wildlife have evolved over millions of years, and our desires—whether for sport, consumption, or both—do not always have to come first.

Several days ago, a friend emailed to say that, while out blueberry picking, his dog had flushed a family group of ruffed grouse. Three of the gangling youngsters landed close enough to him to be photographed. This is not so surprising, when you remember that young creatures of many species—even game bird species, like ruffed grouse—are quite naïve when very young. Tim's encounter reminded me of a similar encounter my wife and I had recently while biking, spotting a hen and five half-grown grouse chicks on the shoulder of the county road. Presumably the birds were there to pick gravel as grit for their crops, something necessary as part of the digestive process, at least for their more fibrous foods. Like the hen merganser and her ducklings, this hen was the only parent playing a role in the upbringing of these young grouse. The cock grouse's parenting involvement began and ended with courtship and mating.

In contrast, the male Canada goose—gander, more properly—is considered a model of family devotion in the bird world. Canada geese typically pair for life, and only turn their attention to another mate if their partner dies. The gander plays a protective role, while the female incubates their eggs. Geese, too, can be prolific, as evidenced by a brood we watched on the lake where our family cabin stands. One morning we watched a pair of adults lead their 10 goslings—strung out in perfect linear order—into the shallows to feed. With them was a mature but slightly smaller bird, which in all probability was an unmated yearling from last year's brood that had remained attached to its parents through spring's northward migration; further testament to the strength of their family ties.

Across the spectrum of bird life, mothers are always involved in rearing their young and "showing them the ropes" of survival. Dads' involvements vary greatly. In most northern nesting ducks, the male plays no role whatsoever in the rearing of ducklings. On the other hand, male geese and swans raise their young jointly with their mates. So do loons, sandhill cranes, and many hawk and owl species. Like male ruffed grouse, the male pheasant, turkey, prairie chicken, and sharptail grouse are not involved at all in brood rearing. Songbirds, on the other hand, commonly exemplify shared parenting, including the ubiquitous robin, wrens, Baltimore orioles, and many others.

Why wildlife species evolve as they do, with some acquiring such opposite approaches to the important business of raising offspring, is a mystery with an assortment of clues, but no absolute answers.

LCCMR agrees on $79 million for environment

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) announced it has agreed to recommend funding for 101 projects totaling $79,644,000 to the Minnesota Legislature. The agreement is the result of a competitive, multi-stage process for recommending spending from the Minnesota Lottery-supported Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF).

LCCMR co-chairs, Rep. Rick Hansen, Sen. Foung Hawj, and Nancy Gibson, said in a statement, "This year's recommendations continue the ENRTF's long legacy of supporting science-based and innovative environmental and natural resource projects across the state. These recommendations will translate to tangible and long-lasting benefits for all Minnesotans and the waters, wildlife, prairies, forests, and parks that make Minnesota's environment so special."

The LCCMR's 2024 ENRTF Request for Proposal (RFP) sought proposals that address several priority issue areas, including water resources, invasive species, renewable energy, natural resource management, habitat protection and restoration, outdoor recreation, and environmental education. The 101 projects recommended for funding seek to address both ongoing and emergent challenges across the state. Some highlights include recommended funds for:

- Modeling to better predict and manage cycles of flooding and drought throughout Minnesota.
- Fundamental research to more thoroughly document the life cycle of Minnesota's elk population.
- Investigating the use of microbes and enzymes to break down PFAS (forever chemicals) in contaminated areas.
- Planning and developing a long-distance hiking trail through southeastern Minnesota's Driftless Region.
- Improving and expanding Minnesota's state parks, trails, and scientific and natural areas (SNAs).
- Continued research into fighting invasive species undertaken by the Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center.
- Several outdoor and environmental education initiatives that serve a wide diversity of Minnesota's youth.

The LCCMR received 218 proposals requesting a total of approximately $174 million. After evaluating the proposals and hearing presentations from proposers, the LCCMR voted to recommend full or partial funding to 101 proposals. These recommendations will be finalized by LCCMR in bill form later this winter and presented to the 2024 Legislature for consideration during the legislative session beginning February 12, 2024. Approved projects would begin work after funds become available on July 1, 2024 For more information, visit the 2024 Proposal and Funding Process page on the LCCMR website.

Trust fund

The Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund is a permanent dedicated fund in the Minnesota state treasury that was established by 77% voter approval of a constitutional amendment in 1988. The amendment directs forty percent of the net proceeds of the Minnesota State Lottery into the ENRTF until the year 2025. Since 1991, approximately $875 million from the ENRTF has been spent on over 1,800 projects that protect and enhance Minnesota's environment and natural resources in every county of the state.

LCCMR

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources is made up of 5 state senators, 5 state representatives, and 7 citizen members. The function of the LCCMR is to make funding recommendations to the Minnesota State Legislature for special environment and natural resource projects, primarily from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. The LCCMR developed from a program initiated in 1963. Since then over $1 billion has been appropriated to over 2,300 projects recommended to protect and enhance Minnesota's environment and natural resources.

Current LCCMR members are Rep. Patty Acomb, Rita Albrecht, Rep. Jeff Backer, Sen. Kari Dziedzic, William Faber, Nancy Gibson, Sen. Steve Green, Rep. Rick Hansen, Sen. Foung Hawj, Rep. Josh Heintzeman, Rep. Athena Hollins, Shona Langseth, Seth Moore, Sen. Kelly Morrison, Jeremy Peichel, Michael Reese, and Sen. Torrey Westrom.

Excess pandemic deaths in rural areas

By Al Cross
Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues

Scientists generally believe that the number of deaths attributed to the Covid-19 pandemic has been understated, and they point to what they call "excess deaths," the number of deaths above the number that would have been expected if the pandemic hadn't occurred, based on recent trends. A new study shows that excess deaths in the U.S. increased in the second year of the pandemic even though that is when Covid-19 vaccines became widely available, and that they went up largely because of increases in rural counties, where fewer people were vaccinated.

"In rural counties across the United States—where vaccines were harder to obtain, where vaccine skepticism remained higher, and where access to good health care is often more challenging—excess deaths in year two of the pandemic actually increased, despite the presence of vaccines," Boston University says of the study, done mainly by BU faculty and published in Science Advances. "The study provides the first look at monthly estimates of what the researchers call "excess deaths" for every U.S. county in the pandemic's first two years."

Andrew Stokes, an assistant professor of global health at BU and corresponding author of the study, pointed to a shortage of rural vaccinations as the main cause. The study reports, "In urban areas, 75 percent of people aged five years and older were vaccinated as of January 2022 compared to only 59 percent of people aged 5 years and older in rural areas. This urban-rural difference in vaccination rates more than doubled since April 2021."

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..... Kathy Odden kodden@staplesworld.com
Reporter.....Dawn Timbs dtimbs@staplesworld.com
Front Office..... office@staplesworld.com
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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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Pat and Donna Surface to perform at 'Music in the Park' series in Staples

Pat and Donna Surface will perform at the Music in the Park Series in Staples on Sunday, July 30, at 7 p.m. Bring a lawn chair.

Expect to hear a variety of music from the Surface duo, including Americana, folk and inspirational. You'll enjoy Pat's rich voice, stellar guitar work, as well as Donna's accompanying sign language.

In hearing about Pat's journey, it's clear music was a path he was meant to take.

Born in St. Paul, Pat was abandoned to the foster care system. At two, he was adopted by the LaPlants of Grand Rapids, a family with a music legacy that dates back to William Boyd (Hopalong Cassidy - The Singing Cowboy).

Pat grew to 6'8" tall and became an All-Star basketball player and college coach. But then music called.

In 1987, Pat became a full-time touring artist, showcasing nationally for the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA), performing at colleges around the country. He pioneered Family Programming on college and university campuses and has worked with several community education organizations on early childhood/family programming. Pat and his wife, Donna, were also key-note presenters and performers at the National Marriage Encounter Conference at St. John's University.

In addition to performing, Pat owns Spiritwood Music of the Boundary Waters, based in Ely. He has produced and recorded with Grammy award winning artists, and has won a Telly award for his DVD, "Spirit of the Wilderness."

In his stage performances, Pat is joined by Donna, who is a performance artist in sign language. They perform at theaters, festivals, churches and other events around the country. They've also written the hit shows, "American Top 40," based on the songs of the 60s and 70s; and "Feelin' Alright!" which celebrates Woodstock 1969.

During the summer months, Pat and Donna live on a lake in Ely. They spend their winters with their son, Trevor, in South Venice, Fla.

The Music in the Park Concerts are held in the Northern Pacific (NP) Park on Sunday evenings at 7 p.m. and will run through August 13. For more information on the Music in the Park series as well as the regular concert series, check out www.staplesmotleyarts.org.

Northern Pacific (NP) Park is located at 625 6th St. NE. Go north on 6th St. at the junction of Hwys 10 and 210 and go six blocks. In case of rain, the concerts will be moved to Faith Lutheran Church.

The Music in the Park Series is funded by the Staples Host Lions Club. The Series is organized by the Staples Motley Area Arts Council, with the assistance of the City of Staples.

Heartfelt music

Singer/songwriter Pat Surface, along with his wife, Donna, will perform at Music in the Park Series in Staples on Sunday, July 30, at 7 p.m. The series is made possible with a gift from the Staples Host Lions Club. (Submitted photo)

Tristan Jenkins to preach at Staples UMC

Tristan Jenkins of Staples has recently been certified as a lay speaker and he will give his first sermon on Sunday, July 30, at the Staples United Methodist Church. The service starts at 10:30 a.m.

All are welcome. The church is located at 310 5th St. NE in Staples. For information, call 218-894-2248. To attend via Zoom, go online to staplesunitedmethodist.org.

Student Achievements

Emma Hopman, Pillager, has been named to the 2023 Spring Semester Honor List at Minnesota State University, Mankato. To qualify, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 to 3.99.

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Mark Your Calendar

July 27

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

Wadena Whirlaways Square Dance Group Dancing Thursday, July 27, 7:30 - 10 p.m., at St. Michael's Church, 280 1st Ave. S., Motley. Charley Huhtala, caller. For info., 218-296-1642.

July 28

Women's OPEN AA Recovery Meeting Every Friday in person, 10:30 a.m., Motley Free Methodist Church (lower level), 33 Wellwood St. E. Motley. All women welcome.

July 31

AA group Mtgs In Motley are held at the United Methodist Church, 847 3rd Ave. S., on Mondays at 8 p.m.

August 1

Living Legacy Gardens, Staples, Welcomes Volunteers Tuesdays, from 9 - 11 a.m. Located at 26505 Co. Rd. 2.

Experience Strength And Hope AA group Mtgs In Staples are held at the Staples Congregational Church, 204 5th St. NE, Tuesdays at 7 p.m. For info., call Dan at 218-640-7228.

Ruby's Pantry is held on the first Tuesday of each month at the parking lot of Central Lakes College in Staples beginning at 6 p.m.

Old Time Dance is held the first Tuesday of every month at the Wadena VFW. For information, call 218-639-0132.

August 2

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

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Memories shared at concert

Several Motley area residents stopped by Music in the Park in Staples July 16, to cheer on 1975 Motley High School graduate Tamara (Kraft) Barnett, who sings as part of 'Tami and the Bachelor' with her husband, Phil Barnett. The duo, who reside in Northeast Minneapolis, sang a number of hits encompassing a variety of styles and spanning several decades.

In the top photo, Tamara met up with Cynthia (Swecker) Gold and her mother Gay Swecker from Leader. Tamara shared that "Gay Swecker was 4-H mom to us all." She also noted, "Cynthia was a year behind me in school. We were all in choir together at church." She went on to recall that, "The first time I played guitar in public was while singing with Cynthia and her sister Coleen. We sang, 'Run to Me,' by the Bee Gees."

In lower photo, Tamara caught up with sisters Carol (left) and Cathy Disterhaupt, bus mates of hers growing up. She graduated with their older brother, Albert. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

FARM AUCTION
The following items will be sold at public auction located from LINCOLN, MN: Hwy 10 to Cty. Rd. #7 approx. 10 miles north; OR from STAPLES, MN Hwy. #210 south to Cty. Rd. #7 south approx. 6 mi. to #66 and then west 1-1/2 miles to Quartz Rd, south 1/4 mi. or (from Staples), Hwy. #210 to Cty. Rd. #21 south to #66 then east 2 miles to Quartz Rd. Fire #43840. Follow signs on:
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Fuel oil barrel
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Ritchie waterer
Potato digger Gas cans
Potato planter
Wheel barrows
Fence stretchers
5th wheel horse trailer, older Old topper
2 pt. bale forks
Snow bucket
Dirt bucket Misc. tires
Lawn cart
Used tractor tire 16.9x30
Used tires, 15"x16"
Old snow blower
Garden hoses
Fly horse scratcher
Nuts & bolts Metal shelf
2 alum. ladders, ext.
3 lb. sand blaster
Organizer for bolts
Some engines, small hp
Torpedo air compressor
Assorted cylinders
10" miter saw, Superior
Alum. step ladders
Knipko heater
Snow rakes, alum.
Stove pipe
Air compressors
Old topper
Long handle tools
Weed trimmers
Garden cultivator
Small torch set
A lot of wrenches and sockets Log chains
Come alongs
Tractor chains
LP torch Floor jacks
Metal band saw
Saw horses
Hand tools
DeWalt radial arm saw
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Hello World

Online births removed at the request of Lakewood Health System.

Obituaries

John Wilson

John "Jack" G. Wilson, 91, of Staples, passed away July 19, 2023 at the Little Falls Care Center in Little Falls.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, July 27 at 11:00 a.m. at Faith Lutheran Church in Staples. Visitation will be held one hour prior to services at the church. Lunch will be served following the service.

Burial will be at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery in Little Falls.

Jack was born June 3, 1932, in Torrington, CT to William H. and Ethel (Alcott) Wilson. He was raised in Fairfield, CT and graduated from Roger Ludlowe High School. He attended the University of CONN and entered the United States Air Force in 1951. He graduated from Florida State University and was a member of Delta Gamma Sigma, an honorary business fraternity. While stationed in Alaska, he met the love of his life, Louise Anderson. They were married in 1957.

He attended the Aviation Cadet Program, graduating in 1954 as a 2nd Lieutenant pilot. Jack spent his career in various flying and staff positions serving in Alaska, Delaware, Washington, Florida, Vietnam, Massachusetts and Texas. His awards included the Air Medal with Cluster, Air Force Commendation with Medal Cluster, Vietnam Service Medal and the Good Conduct Medal. Jack retired as a Major in 1971 with over 7,000 flying hours.

After retirement, he and his family moved to Staples to operate and co-own DJ's Men's Wear, with Doug Anderson, until 1991.

Jack served in numerous public and service organizations including Mayor of Staples from 1976-1994, Lions Club President, Chamber of Commerce President, the Staples Technical College Advisory Board, was a member Masonic Lodge #207, the VFW Post #1910, American Legion Post #70 Commander, the Staples Area Men's Chorus, member of the Brainerd Dispatch Advisories Board and the Staples Community Foundation Board. He received the Lions Club Melvin Jones Fellow Award and the Helen Keller Sight Award. Jack received the Duane R. Lund Award for lifetime achievement given through the Staples-Motley Area Community Foundation.

He is survived by one son, Craig "DJ" (Sheryl) Wilson, Staples; one daughter, Kristy (Ken) Jedinak, Nisswa; five grandchildren, Jessi (Jeremy) Weinhandl, Baxter, Jason (Beth) Gustason, Pillager, Cory Wilson, Staples, Blair (PJ) Klemens, Elk River, Bo (Emily) Jedinak, Baxter; eight great-grandchildren and one sister-in-law, Carol (Tom) Cross of Wichita Falls, TX.

Jack was proceeded in death by his wife, Louise, and his parents.

The family requests Memorials be made to Minnesota Lions Eye Bank and the Staples Veterans Park.

Arrangements are by Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

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Nicholas Hopp

The Time of Remembrance celebrating the life of Nicholas Hopp of rural Staples will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, July 28 at the Domian-Anderson Chapel in Bertha. Family and friends may gather at the Chapel for an open house on Friday from 2:00 until 4:00 p.m.

Nick, age 58, passed away unexpectedly of natural causes on July 18, 2023 at his home in rural Staples.

Nicholas "Nick" was born to Herbert and Karen (Hoemberg) Hopp on February 17, 1965 in Bertha. After completing high school at Staples he went to work as a rubber molder at Stern Manufacturing in Staples for 39 years. In hours away from work he enjoyed the outdoors while tending to the tasks of farming and deer hunting. It meant a lot to him to spend time with his family.

Memories of Nick will remain with his fiancé, Cindy Smith of Long Prairie; one son, Corey Hopp of Staples; one step-son, Christopher Lynch of Alexandria; one grandson, Connor Hopp of Sebeka; mother of

his children, Kim Kortuem of Clarissa; six siblings: Marianne (Ralph) Boyer of Long Prairie, Beth (Larry) Denault of Hastings, John Hopp of Staples, Bruce (Tammy) Hopp of Hewitt, Michael Hopp of Bertha and Matthew (Autumn) Hopp of Wadena; along with many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Preceding Nick in death were his parents, Herb and Karen and one son, Jamie Hopp (2021).

Arrangements with the Schuller Family Funeral Homes & Cremation Services, Bertha (www.SchullerFamilyFH.com).

w31c A00006B2023JY26

Lorraine Mertens

Lorraine B. Mertens, 94, longtime resident of Hibbing died July 15, 2023, at New Perspective Senior Living in Cloquet. She had moved to Cloquet in assisted living to be closer to her family.

Funeral services were held July 21 at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Hibbing with the Rev. Fr. Daniel Weiske celebrating the Mass of Christian Burial. The Rev. Fr. Charles Flynn was con-celebrate.

Interment will be in Maple Hill Cemetery of Hibbing.

Lorraine was born May 27, 1929 to Henry and Alice (Haugen) Hall in Staples. She entered into the Sacrament of Marriage with Lloyd Mertens on December 29, 1949, in Staples. A homemaker by trade, Lorraine was very active in her church. She was a member of St. Leo's Catholic Church in Hibbing and often volunteer at the church. She was a member of the Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary. Lorraine enjoyed puzzles, sewing, oil painting and was known as the Chinese Checkers Master at her assisted living facility in Cloquet - no one could defeat her. Lorraine's favorite pastime was decorating her doors and windows. Each and every holiday, you would find that theme littered throughout her space. She enjoyed it very much.

Lorraine is survived by five children, Diane (Art Gibbs) Peterson, Green Valley, AZ, Alice (Arnold) Workman, Kelly Lake, Debbie (Milan) Bigo, Ashland, WI, Douglas (Mary-Sue) Mertens, Eveleth and Christine (Timothy) O'Hara, Cloquet; two sisters, Norma Minor, Hibbing and Lois Mertens, Staples; nine grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by one son, Stanley Mertens; husband, Lloyd Mertens in 1999; parents; one granddaughter, Shana Pfeilstickler; three brothers, Leonard, Lloyd and Lawrence Hall and one sister, Lavina Hitzmann.

To leave an online message of condolence, please visit us at: www.doughertyofhibbing.com.

Arrangements were with the Dougherty Funeral Home of Hibbing.

w31c A00006B2023JY26

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Aldrich

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

Cushing

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

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

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

Leader

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

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

Motley

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

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

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

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

Oylen

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

Pillager

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

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

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

Hewitt

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

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

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

Verndale

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

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

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

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

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

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

Leaf River Township

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

w31c

"Which Defines You? The Past or the Present?"

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

Before I go any further, you need to know that I enjoy coming across a copy of "Reminisce" or "Good Old Days" magazines. It is good to reflect upon the past. We are in a crisis of historical revisionism at best and not caring about the past at worse. Even when caring about the past, we need to be careful with nostalgia. we can make perceptions of the past something other than the way it really was.

Another thing before moving on: I do believe we are racint toward very dangerous directions in our culture and also in Christendom. yet, we need to be careful to thinking that only "now" do we have it worse than any other time beofre us. I remember once looking at a book dated 1900 that was decrying how bad things had become. Sodom and Gomorrah in Genesis 19 (1898 B.C.?) is another historical perspective maker.

But an equal mistake is to think that history has no importance and only now is what counts. Periods of history have self-appointed their "now-ness" to being the truly enlightened age, somehome believing that they/we have arrived to be the historical age and culture of "coming into our own," somehow believing that we are a perceived gift to all humanity and history.

Here's the crux. Sugar-coating either the past or the present is dangerous, especially when that coating comes as a result of getting disconnected from the God of both the past, present and future.

So, historical moorings and stability must be centered in the Creator God. I am intrigued when Jesus says in Matthew 10:52 (NIV, 2011), "Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old." Jesus, as the Second Person of the Triune God, is the literal Master-craftsman of the past (old) and present (new). No one is more grounded in the past and present than Jesus is. Indeed, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8).

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

State champions update sign

The Staples-Motley 4x800 meter relay team added their title to the state champions sign on Highway 10 in Staples on July 5. From left, Kyanna Burton, Audrey Brownell, Ashley Robben and Aften Robinson won the relay at the state meet on June 9 in a school record 9:33.33. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Celebrating a state title on the sign

Golf teammates of Carter White showed up to add his number to the Staples-Motley state champions sign on July 11, as the 67th individual state champion competing for the Cardinals. White won the state golf title in June, shooting even par at Ridges at Sand Creek in Jordan. Pictured from left, Thomas Johnson, Grant Bestland, Peyton Mithun, Carter White and Jackson White. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Colbe Tappe

Ben Tyrrell

Dylan Lawrence

Jack Carlson

Legion baseball action

Photos from the Staples-Motle Jr. Legion baseball team. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Alex Schultz

Services & Employment

205 Help Wanted

POTATO HARVEST HELP WANTED
JCP Farms is immediately accepting applications for work now until approx. the first week of October. Women, men and students welcome to apply. All types of work available. Air conditioned facilities.
Apply in person at:
JCP Farms ~ John Petron
25461 County Rd. 5
Long Prairie, MN 56347,
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
cl29-36c **320-732-3789**

PRIVATE HOME CAREGIVER for elderly woman in Baxter. $25/HR + perks. Call Stacy, 218-270-2565. 30-32p

TODD COUNTY HHS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: Todd County HHS is looking for reliable, service oriented individuals to serve the citizens of Todd County in the following positions: ****Social Worker - Comprehensive Re-entry Program (full-time). ** Social Worker - Children's Mental Health (full-time). **Social Worker - Adult Services/Adult Protection (full-time). **Office Support Specialist II (seasonal, part-time).** To learn more about these openings and how to apply, visit the official Todd County website at https://www.co.todd.mn.us/. Questions can be directed to Todd County Administration 320-732-6155. EOE 31c

POTATO HARVEST: JCP Farms is immediately accepting applications for work starting about August 1 until approx. the first week of October. Women, men and students welcome to apply. All types of work available. Air conditioned facilities. Apply in person at JCP FARMS: John Petron, 25461 County 5, Long Prairie, MN 56347, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., 320-732-3789. 29-36c

Make a difference in your community!
The City of Staples is looking for an individual who is passionate about their community to bring their ideas and opinions to the Planning and Zoning Commission. The Planning and Zoning Commission meets the third Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. to review and make recommedations on development proposals, re-zonings, and conditional use permits. If you're ready to take an active role in shaping the future of Staples, we encourage you to volunteer for this position.
For more information or to express your interest, contact the City Clerk at 218-894-2550.
cl30-31c

EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION PARAPROFESSIONAL
Freshwater Education District
has an opening for a part time paraprofessional
to work with preschoolers with special needs
in the integrated preschool program at Staples.
4 days/week, 7:30 a.m. -3:30 p.m.
Applications Due: Noon on August 4, 2023
Fill out Application on our
Freshwater Website: www.fed.k12.mn.us
and send to:
Freshwater Education District
Shawn McAllister, Director of Programs & Evaluations
2222 Industrial Drive, Wadena, MN 56482
Phone: 218-629-6079, Fax: 218-631-3588
smcallister@fed.k12.mn.us
cl31c

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

STAPLES: 2 bdrm., washer/dryer included. Attached garage. Non smoking. No pets. Avail. Aug. 1. 218-251-1837 or 763-439-0206. 29-31p

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

40+ ACRES between Wadena/Pillager, with or without house, 218-831-3521. 30-32p

Place your Classified Ad
for only $9.85/wk.
Your ad will appear Wednesday in the
Staples World
and online at www.staplesworld.com
Mailing address for checks:
Staples World
P.O. Box 100
Staples, MN 56479
Payment must accompany the order.
Use form below or click on www.staplesworld.com
Deadline: *Friday at Noon*

208 Storage

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

209 Business Services

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

For Sale

301 Good Things To Eat

FRESH HAMBURGER from young steer. Born/raised on our farm. Processed 6-18-23. No growth hormones; finished on corn. Leaness varies. 218-894-3275, leave message. 30-32p

Real Estate

602 Apartments for Rent

Garage Sales 701

SWAN VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE: Hwy. 64, Leader (13 mi. north of Motley). **Thurs., July 27, Fri., July 28, Sat., July 29, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. each day.** 30-31p

SALE: Fri., July 28-Sat., July 29, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Carlson's, 13184 Cty. Rd. 26, Staples. Clothing, jewelry, books, garden décor, jars, vintage, dining chairs, low prices. 31p

THE OLD RIVER RAT is having another big garage sale, **Thurs., July 27, Fri., July 28, Sat., July 29:** Spears, a lot of wood boxes, copper, brass, tons/traps, tubs, agates, way too much to list. Gary Stevenson 5220 Crystal Rd., Motley, MN 56466. 218-820-2197.31p

GARAGE SALE: Fri., July 28, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat., July 29, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. 48540 275th Ave., Staples. Tools, furiture, household items, house plants, yard art and much, much more.

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*Thomas Sellnow is a Real Property Law Specialist certified by Real Property Section of Minnesota State Bar Association.
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SW 2023 changed wk #31

Freshwater Education District

MINUTES

FRESHWATER ED. DISTRICT #6004
June 28, 2023
Wadena, MN

Call to order

By V. Chair Anderson at 5:00 p.m.

Board Present: L. Anderson - S-M; C. Funk - Sebeka; C. Wolf - LP-GE; B. Tumberg - W/DC; S. Veronen - Verndale; J. Hillmer - Browerville; R. VanDenheuvel - B–H; R. Thalmann - Henning. Absent: K. Howard - Menahga. Supv. Supts: L. Westrum - W/DC; D. Fjeldheim - Sebeka; S. Vedbraaten - Browerville. FED Admin: E. Weber, Ex. Dir.; L. Murdock, SPED Dir.; J. Wothe, Dir. Prog. & Evals; J. Anderson, Bus. Mgr.; B. Tollefson, ABE Cord.; S. Thiel, Admin. Assist.

Agenda

MOTION BY VanDenheuvel seconded by Tumberg to approve the agenda as modified. VOTE- U/C

Presentation

B. Tollefson presented on the successful events and accomplishments within the ABE Prog.

Old Business

MOTION BY Funk seconded by Veronen to approve the 4/26/23 minutes as presented. VOTE-U/C

MOTION BY Tumberg seconded by Hillmer to acknowledge receipt and review of the 5/10/23, 6/14/23 Supt. Advisory Min. as presented. VOTE-U/C

Business

MOTION BY Thalmann seconded by VanDenheuvel to approve Mileage Claims for the period of 5/1/23 - 5/31/23, as presented. VOTE-U/C

The following resolution is hereby MOVED BY Hillmer seconded by VanDenheuvel to gratefully accept the following donation: Astera Health Foundation, Wadena, MN~$1,300 for the purchasing of an AED Unit for the Academies Site in Wadena. VOTE on adoptions of this Resolution was as follows; ABSTENTIONS: None AYE: VanDenheuvel, Hillmer, Veronen, Tumberg, Wolf, Funk, Thalmann and Anderson. NAY: None ABSENT: Howard.

Resolutions was declared duly adopted.

New Business

MOTION BY Tumberg seconded by Wolf to adopt Policy 516.5 - Overdose Medication as presented. VOTE-U/C

MOTION BY Funk seconded by Thalmann to authorize Supt. E. Weber to act as the IOwA and Admin. Assist. S. Thiel to act as the IOwA to add and remove names only for the FED No. 6004-61. VOTE-U/C

MOTION BY VanDenheuvel seconded by Hillmer to approve the FY24 Adopted Budget as presented. VOTE-U/C

MOTION BY Tumberg seconded by Veronen to purchase approximately 1.33 acres of land adjacent to the WALC from Astera Health for the purchase price of $40,000 as presented.

ABSTENTIONS: None; AYE: Thalmann, VanDenheuvel, Hillmer, Veronen, Tumberg, Wolf, Funk and Anderson. NAY: None; ABSENT: Howard. Motion Carried.

Recommendation of MSBA to update the school board policies due to legislative changes.

MOTION BY Veronen seconded by Thalmann to approve the MOU between FED and Ed. MN FED Para and RVR Drivers to forego the HITA bid process in 2023 to retain at least a nine percent (9%) rate cap from health insurance carrier Sourcewell. VOTE-U/C

MOTION BY Funk seconded by Tumberg to approve the MOU between FED and Ed MN FED T-I Group to forego the HITA bid process in 2023 to retain at least a nine percent (9%) rate cap from health insurance carrier Sourcewell. VOTE - U/C

MOTION BY Hillmer seconded by VanDenheuvel to approve the Service Agrmt. w/LCSC for FY24, 25, & 26 as presented. VOTE - U/C

MOTION BY Thalmann seconded by Funk to approve the FY24 Ins. Renewal w/EMC Ins. as presented. VOTE - U/C Abstained: Veronen

MOTION BY Hillmer seconded by Tumberg to approve the 2-Yr. Renewal Service Agrmt. Northland Fire Protection as presented. VOTE - U/C

MOTION BY Tumberg seconded by Funk to approve the Addendum to the Agrmt. for E-Rate Emergency Connectivity Services as presented. VOTE - U/C

MOTION BY Wolf seconded by VanDenheuvel to approve the Agrmt. for E-Rate Emergency Connectivity Services for the FY24 as presented. VOTE - U/C

Update given of Summer Unemployment Ins.

MOTION BY VanDenheuvel seconded by Tumberg to approve the Otter Tail Services Collaborative Agrmt. as presented. VOTE - U/C

Reviewed the request of sharing expense of paving the shared driveway. Recommendation from Admin. of paying up to $5,000.

MOTION BY Wolf seconded by Funk to approve the Summer "Extended Time Service Agrmt. between FED #6004 and participating districts as presented. VOTE - U/C

MOTION BY Thalmann seconded by VanDenheuvel to approve the 23/24 SY Nutrition Prog. Contract between LPGE ISD# 2753 & FED LPALC as presented. VOTE - U/C

Tech Update: Astera Health will consider the agreement between Tri-County Health & FED until it expires on 6/30/24.

Personnel Consent Agenda

MOTIONED BY Tumberg seconded by Hillmer to approve the items as follows:

SPED: Increase in Days: K. Harstad, School Psych.; Resignation: M. Wright, ECSE Teacher; C. Petron, ECSE Para; N. Cramer, School Psych. Hiring: M. Walberg, SPED Teacher; M. Holmes, Reserved Para-Sub; M. Rasmussen, SPED Para; R. Mettler, Reserved Short-Call Sub Teacher; A. Potvin, Behavior Specialist. Decrease in Hrs.: A. Peeters, ECSE Teacher; Voluntary Reduction in Days: J. Schwartz, ECSE Teacher. Lane Change Request: A. Truax, ECSE Teacher;

ADMIN: Resignation and Reduction in Days: E. Hoyt, FACTS Facilitator. Hiring: E. Huebner, IT Specialist; M. May, FACTS Facilitator; Reassignment: L. Truax, from Custodian to SPED Teacher. Approve hours beyond 2,080 to be paid at current hourly rate for Bus. Man. J. Anderson, for additional services to Verndale ISD 818, Henning #545, & West Central #2342. VOTE-U/C

Ex. Director Updates: Negotiating process started w/T-I Group & Para/RVR Driver's Group. Hosting a Principal & Supts Mtg. on 8/3; Ten FED staff members participated in the Leadership Retreat; Discussed Shared Bus. Mang. Services with Henning, West Central & possibly LPGE School Dist.; Summer Programming is average attendance, but higher in districts that are offering transportation; WCTA will be the 23/24 SY internet provider.

Adjournment

MOTION BY Funk seconded by Wolf to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Pre-approved Publication Summary

Charles Funk, Clerk

31pnc

TODD COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TESTING

The public is welcome to observe the Public Accuracy Testing of Election Machines for the upcoming Todd County Special Primary Election.

Testing will be held on July 31, 2023 beginning at 2:00 p.m. in the County Board Room located in the Historic Courthouse at 215 1st Avenue S, Long Prairie, MN.

Please contact 320-732-4414 with any questions.

Denise Gaida,
Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

31pnc

CITY OF STAPLES NOTICE OF MEETING TO CONSIDER THE VARIANCE APPLICATION FOR A MINIMUM SETBACK IN THE R-1 DISTRICT AT 524 6TH ST NE

NOTICE is hereby given that the Staples Board of Appeals and Adjustment will meet at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 2, 2023, at the Staples City Hall, 122 6th St NE, to consider the application for a Variance to Section 109-72(e)(4), to construct an attached garage that is within nine (9) feet of the alleyway.

All persons interested are invited to attend this meeting and be heard on this matter. If you would like to submit a comment, please email it to tgreer@ci.staples.mn.us. If you would like to mail a comment the address is 122 6th St NE, Staples MN 56479.

Dated July 21, 2023

Tara Greer, City Clerk
218-541-5004

31pnc

NOTICE VILLARD TOWNSHIP ROAD WORK BIDS

The Township of Villard is seeking bids for the following road conditions:

291st - class 5 replacement and culvert replacement

Starlight Road - pave, fabric, class 5 approximately 1,500 feet

Ditch cleaning approximately 3/4 of a mile on 331st Avenue

313th Avenue by bridge clean up. County Road 28 Philbrook

Forward all bids to the Villard Township Clerk at:
31836 Timberlane Road
Staples MN 56479

Call Shawn Jordahl, Township Chairman at 218-270-0137 with questions.

All bids should be received by the Clerk no later than 5 p.m. on August 8, 2023.

Mary Trantina-Koenig,
Clerk
Villard Township

31-32pnc

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE WADENA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Wadena County Board of Commissioners will be holding a Public Hearing regarding the proposed Housing Tax Abatement Policy and will provide an opportunity to Wadena County citizens to give comment relating to the same.

The draft of the proposed Housing Tax Abatement Policy is located on the Wadena County Website, www.co.wadena.mn.us, under "News".

Written comments will be received by Heather Olson until August 14, 2023 at 415 Jefferson Street South, Wadena, Minnesota 56482.

The meeting is scheduled to be held on **Tuesday, August 15, 2023 at 9:15 a.m.** in the Wadena County Courthouse, Small Courtroom-Upper Level, 415 Jefferson Street South, Wadena, Minnesota 56482.

Ryan Odden
County Coordinator

31-32pnc

PUBLIC NOTICES: Your Right to Know

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

Notice is hereby given that a Special County Primary election will be held in the following polling places within Todd County:

- Long Prairie City at Long Prairie City Hall, 615 Lake St S, Long Prairie, MN 56347
- Long Prairie Township at Long Prairie Township Hall, 25411 County 12, Long Prairie, MN 56347
- Reynolds Township at Reynolds Township Hall, 21797 County 11, Long Prairie, MN 56347

on Tuesday the (8th) Eighth day of August 2023 at which the polls will be open from the hours of Seven (7) o'clock AM to the hour of Eight (8) o'clock PM for the purpose of nominating candidates for the following office listed which is to be voted for at the Special County General Election to be held on Tuesday the Seventh (7th) day of November, 2023 to wit:

County Commissioner District 3

Contact your Municipal Clerk or the County Auditor's office for polling place location information or the Todd County Website at www.co.todd.mn.us

Witness my hand and seal this 17th day of July, 2023
Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer
320-732-4414

SAMPLE BALLOT

Official Ballot

Primary Election Ballot
County Election Ballot
Todd County, Minnesota
August 8, 2023

Judge _____
Judge _____

SAMPLE

Instructions to Voters:
To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ●

County Offices

Special Election for County Commissioner District 3
To fill vacancy in term expiring January 6, 2025
Vote for One

- ○ Bob Byers
- ○ Bob Kunz
- ○ Otis Ostendorf
- ○ Daiv Freeman

SAMPLE

SAMPLE BALLOT

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has FT paraprofessional position opening for 2023-2024. Apply at www.kms.k12.mn.us or send letter of interest, resume and three letters of recommendation to: KMS District Office, Box 168, Kerkhoven, MN 56252

ANNANDALE SCHOOLS
are hiring superb subs and helpers – teachers, paras, more! Join our team! You decide your availability. Visit www.isd876.org, human resources page.

COOK'S HELPER
Annandale Schools is hiring. 4.5 hours per day during the school year. Join a great team! Visit www.isd876.org, human resources page.

FT NIGHT SHIFT CUSTODIAN
Annandale Schools is hiring. Excellent pay and benefit package. Join our team! Visit www.isd876.org, human resources page.

PT CUSTODIAN
Annandale Schools is hiring. Excellent pay, 4-9 pm M-F, year-round. Join a great team! Visit www.isd876.org, human resources page.

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MISCELLANEOUS

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INFLATION IS AT 40 YEAR HIGHS
Interest rates are way up. Credit Cards. Medical Bills. Car Loans. Do you have $10k or more in debt? Call National Debt Relief & find out how to pay off your debt for significantly less than what you owe! Free quote: Call 844/205-5439

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Showing their respect

People attending the recent Pillager Parade waved to members of the Pillager American Legion as their float passed by. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Here comes "The Music Man"

Cast members from Pillsbury Players Community Theatre's production, "The Music Man" marched in the recent Pillager Parade. The show opens July 27, at the CTC Center Performing Arts Theater in Pillager. For more information, visit www.ctccenter.org. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

First place parade float

'Pillager Monopoly,' a float coordinated by Lisa Gentry, took first place at the Pillager Parade July 15. There were a total of 15 floats and over 61 units that participated in the annual parade. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Colorful train and clowns

No parade is complete without a colorful train and candy-throwing clowns. The Pillager Parade July 15 did not disappoint. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

At the 'Built 2 Beat' mud races

The Pillager Fair's grandstand was full of spectators July 15, all there to cheer on their favorite drivers competing at the 'Built 2 Beat' mud races. There were a number of activities available to people of all ages during the fair, which was held July 13 - 15, at the Pillager Fairgrounds. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

Pillager's Citizen of the Year

Marlene Lindeman, named the 2023 'Citizen of the Year' for the City of Pillager, waved to the crowd during the Pillager Parade July 15. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Blue ribbon winner

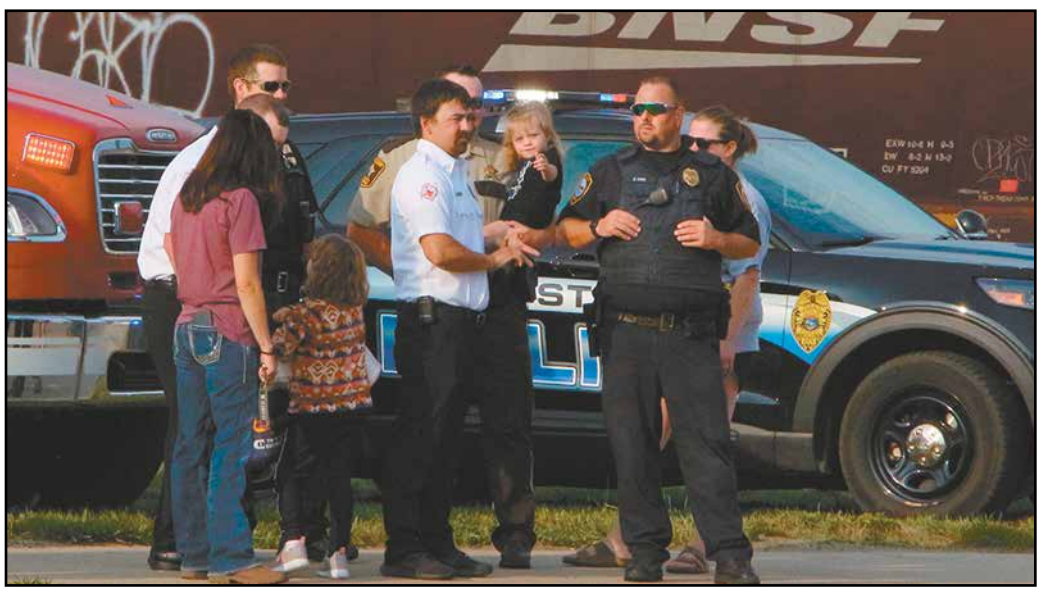
Kayla Paul, 16, of Nisswa, along with her horse, Jewell, won a blue ribbon at the Pillager Fair while competing in the pole weaving event. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Ribbon winners

Everly Wutzke (left), eight; and Wren Wutzke, six, sisters from Pillager, were both grand champions at the recent Pillager Fair. Everly received a ribbon for her Native American project; and Wren received one for her Legos project. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

First responders making a difference

In a video of Jake Wallin taken during police training, he stated "Throughout my entire life, I've always wanted to work in some sort of position that had purpose behind my job and police officer is always what kind of came to me. I don't want to be sitting in an office wondering why I'm here every day. I want to be out, I want to be doing something that I can tell myself at the end of the day I made a difference somehow."



Supporting local law enforcement

More than 100 local people lined Highway 10 in Staples to pay respect to officer Wallin, many arriving before 7:30 a.m. to support local law enforcement. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Standing with Jacob

"We Stand With Jacob" was the second place winner at the 2023 Pillager Fair Parade. There were 10 units representing Jacob Borgstrom, the local young man who tragically passed away June 15. Friends and family marched to show their support for Borgstrom, and there were also dozens of horses ridden, as well as tractors driven, as part of the march in memory of Jacob, who'd participated at the fair since he was a young child. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

Proud uncle

Gary Kort of Pillager drove his late nephew Jacob Borgstrom's 1952 John Deere tractor in the Pillager Parade. Borgstrom, a Pillager native and 2022 Brainerd High School graduate, had purchased the tractor on his 13th birthday and had spent a lot of time working to restore it. He had it on display at the 2022 Pillager Fair, at which time he thanked his grandpa George Krushe (a retired mechanic) for offering valuable tips along the way. Kort said that he and Jacob did everything together, calling his nephew his "right hand man." (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

PARK continued from page 1a

Socialcted members

dale, the same company that put up the original structure.

They also built a new stairway going heading from the campground to the river. Motzko said it is still a popular spot for tubers and kayakers to enter the river.

A few of the features in the campground were not damaged or had minimal damage. Motzko said they repaired the roof on the outhouse bathrooms and on the smaller picnic shelter. The historical ox cart, a park diorama and the new bench dedicated to Duane Lund were not damaged.

There are still more projects to do. The trail to the Little Round Hill battle site is still blocked by several fallen trees. Malone said they plan to get that open next spring. The main campground area will get seeded with grass and they plan to add more picnic tables, said Malone.

The forested area will be replanted by hand, mostly with red pines but also some jack pines and Norway pines, said Malone. They are looking at adding a few camper friendly sites, possibly in the forested area, but that will have to wait until an archeological survey is completed.

Archeological survey

All of the grounds of Old Wadena are a historical site on the National Register of Historic Places. It is labeled the Old Wadena Historic District. The designation also complicates cleanup and replanting trees.

Because of the historical status, the county is not allowed to dig in the park unless it is cleared by the National Register. That is why they are planning to plant seedling trees by hand to start the regrowth of the campground grove and the pine forest.

The archeological survey will identify specific areas with historical value. Once those areas are identified, the county will be able to do more, such as plant larger trees, in areas that do not have the designation. But the survey may not be completed for several years, so Malone said they have to start by planting saplings.

Archeological digs in the past have revealed artifacts from Native American camps and voyageur trading posts. One of the digs was on the Little Round Hill battle site, which furthered the story of a battle there where Ojibway people and fur traders fought back an attack from Dakota warriors.

Rendezvous

Previous rendezvous events utilized the shady grove for many of their stations and workshops. This year organizers said they are putting up extra tents for shade and some of the stations may be in different locations.

But the lineup will be as full as ever, with music, workshops, artisans and fur trader reenactors giving demonstrations of life at the old trading post.

Wadena county parks

Although the tornado wiped out a wide swath of animal habitat, Motzko said the site became an animal haven last summer, with a herd of deer walking through every day.

The rebuilding of Old Wadena got some help from insurance money for the pavilion. The rest is coming out of the county's park reserve fund and they did get some money from the timber sales.

There are nine other Wadena County Parks, all along the Crow Wing River. Motzko said he visits every one to make sure payments are being made and things are being kept up. He said camping at Old Wadena is still down this summer but the rest of the parks have been very busy, some filling up before the weekend even starts.

Malone said while Old Wadena has gotten the most attention since the tornado, they have done some big projects at other parks, including an expansion at Tree Farm Landing Campground and a new monument at Frame's Landing Campground.

Peaceful camping

Although the main part of the Old Wadena campground is open, there are still trails and peaceful campsites that are nestled into the forest.

New river access

The new stairway at Old Wadena County Park leads to an entry point on the Crow Wing River. Despite limited camping, the park is still a popular place for people to get onto the river.

Major tornado treefalls cleared, more work to be done at Old Wadena

Trees felled by the 2022 tornado were cleared out of the Old Wadena forested area, left, but more work needs to be done, including opening the path to the Little Round Hill battle sight, right.

RENDEZVOUS continued from page 1a

Curtiss and Loretta sing folk songs from the heart; traditional music at 2023 Rendezvous

from the heart. They combine their own original songs with traditional folk pieces from America and the British Isles.

During the pandemic, these veteran performers found themselves 'home alone' with no work as their gigs were canceled. "We found time, for the first time in many years, to reflect back on life," Loretta said. "This translated into many new songs inspired by the pandemic, songs of clear vision, letting go, and realizing what is really important in our lives."

That time to reflect resulted in 'Lift the World,' an album of ten new songs released on late 2022. Lift the World's originals are combined with old folk songs like "Hand Me Down My Walkin' Cane" and "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder."

Additional performers at the Old Wadena weekend will see a combination of traditional acts and others new to Old Wadena.

Jake Kaehne, as he has for the past 10 to 15 years, begins each morning with his traditional Ojibwe flute music. Also on stage each day will be Paulino Brener with puppetry performances of "Battle of the Giants."

Also returning are Dave Virnala with his ballads and story songs and Caitlin Robertson, singer and song writer, accompanied by Alex Sandberg.

Three new acts will appear at Old Wadena this year. Boots and Needles will be on stage at noon Saturday. On Sunday, Leane Flynn is slated for an 11 a.m. slot, while Kelley Smith will close out the music at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday afternoon. Both are singer-songwriters combining original work with old folk standards.

The Old Wadena Rendezvous, which dates back to 1992, is nearing the 30 year mark. The production was an annual affair until 2020, when it was canceled due to the Covid pandemic. Resumed in 2021, it was canceled again last year after a Memorial weekend tornado tore through the Old Wadena campground, taking out virtually all of the majestic trees that had shaded the Rendezvous area for years.

A pavilion that had only been in use since 2019, was demolished and has been rebuilt by Wadena County. This year additional large tents have been secured for the weekend to provide much needed shade.

Curtiss and Loretta

Ukulele, banjo, guitar and harp are just a few of the instruments these veteran Old Wadena performers will use in their performances this year. (Submitted photo)

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SWCD can help with drainage, ditch maintenance

In Minnesota, drainage is a practice regulated by the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA), which was passed in 1991 to protect and achieve no net loss in the quantity, quality, and biological diversity of Minnesota's existing wetlands. Within the WCA, drainage is defined as "any method for removing or diverting waters from wetlands. Methods include, but are not limited to, excavation of an open ditch, installation of subsurface drainage tile, filling, diking, or pumping". If you are seeking to maintain an existing drainage system or create a new system, here are the proper steps.

For drain tile, if you are currently enrolled in a federally administered program, you will need to contact your local Farm Service Agency office. An FSA AD-1026 form must be completed by the FSA in order to confirm compliance with USDA Farm Program requirements. A Certified Wetland Delineation will then be provided after review by USDA staff. When you receive the completed 1026 form, bring a copy to your Local Government Unit (LGU) who administers the WCA. In Todd County, the Todd County Soil and Water Conservation District (Todd SWCD) is the local LGU. When you submit the 1026 form, the Todd SWCD wetland coordinator will review and determine setbacks using USDA provided lateral effect tables. With the calculated setbacks, the wetland coordinator will create a map for perforated subsurface drain tile. Setbacks are required to be followed to ensure compliance with USDA, State, and US Army Corps of Engineer's regulations.

For ditch maintenance, public ditches regulated by the drainage authority need to be reviewed and approved by the county ditch inspector. Maintenance or repair of existing public draining systems conducted by the public drainage authority can be maintained to their original dimension as long as the maintenance or repair does not drain type three, four, or five wetlands that have existed for more than 25 years. The county ditch inspector will also work with the local LGU for following the WCA exemptions. For private ditches, landowners can work directly with the LGU. The wetland coordinator will conduct a site visit verifying current site conditions. All impacts resulting from maintenance or repair to existing drainage systems cannot drain wetlands that have existed for more than 25 years. To be eligible for cleaning private ditches, the landowner must provide documentation that the ditches were maintained in the last 25 years. Aerial photos or maintenance records can be used to determine if ditches were maintained. Whether it's a public or private ditch, no enhancements to the ditch by increasing size or depth are allowed.

For more information regarding drainage or wetlands, contact the Todd County SWCD office at 320-732-2644.