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Conference champions in track, baseball
Cardinals Got Talent show
New Motley Clerk/Treasurer
Baby Steps moving
Bass fishing analysis



Wednesday, May 22, 2024

Staples World

Staples, Minnesota \$1²⁵

A close encounter with donkeys

As part of the Agriculture Appreciation and Farm Safety Day May 16, at Staples-Motley Elementary School, students had the opportunity to meet Mary and Shaggy, donkeys owned by Staples-motley FFA advisor Kaylee Pratt. One of the things students learned is that donkeys have a life-span of 25-30 years. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

Memorial Day events in Staples, Motley

Several Memorial Day events will be held on Monday, May 27, in the Staples and Motley area.

Staples

The Staples service will be held at the All Veterans Park located at 820 Hwy 10 at 10 a.m. Bring your lawn chairs. In case of rain, the event will be held at Faith Lutheran Church.

Huck Holst will serve as emcee, Deb Otteson will sing the National Anthem, Pastor Barry Klein will give the invocation, U.S. Army Veteran Phil Miller will be the guest speaker, and the SMHS Choir, directed by Cade Bestland, will perform. A 21-gun salute, followed by Taps, will be conducted by the Motley American Legion Color Guard. Staples Dairy Queen will be providing Dilly Bars.

Miller's talk is titled, "To Protect and Defend." Miller attended the U of M for three years before enlisting in the U. S. Army in 1966. After three years (one in Vietnam), he returned to the U of M and earned a degree in agriculture.

He worked several years (Kraft Foods and Northrup King) before starting a small ag business in southwest Minnesota. In 1981, he



Guest speaker

Army Veteran Phil Miller will be the guest speaker at the Memorial Day Service in Staples.

reenlisted and joined the National Guard. In 1983, he went into active duty as a trainer in the ARNG.

After retiring in 1999, Phil and his wife, Ana, moved to Browerville. He later attended Central Lakes College for Criminal Justice, graduating with honors, and proceeded to spend the next 10 years working in law enforcement (Wadena Police Dept., two years; and the Todd County Sheriff's

Dept., eight years). After retiring a second time, Phil and Ana moved to Staples, where they reside today.

As part of the service in Staples, the following veterans who have passed away during the past year will be honored: Nolan Bacon, Tom Bilek, Bob Blessing, Dan Brown, Darrell Davis, Neil Dvorak, Stan Edin, Ray Garland, Scott Meech, James Olsen, Adolph Rabe, Stan Schuette, Gary Schwanke, John Tkalcich, Jack Wilson.

In addition, the Bell Tower at Veterans Park in Staples will be dedicated on Memorial Day. It was recently completed by metal sculptor Jeff Kreitz. The tower houses the park's 100-plus year old bell from a Northern Pacific steam locomotive.

Motley

The Motley American Legion, Tri-County Post #124, will host Memorial Day programs May 27, at the following locations:

- Bridgeman Cemetery, 9 a.m.
- Motley Public Cemetery, 11 a.m.
- Poplar Cemetery, 1 p.m.

Guest Speaker at these locations will be Motley American Legion member Dave Bartle. Pastor Jim Johnson, Motley Free Methodist Church, will give the Invocation.

Following the service at Poplar Cemetery, the Poplar Ladies will serve lunch at the Leader Community Hall.

The Motley Historical Society will have an open house at Motley City Hall from noon to 3 p.m. on Memorial Day. Pie and ice cream will be served.

Class of 2024 excelled at technology, finding paths

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Class of 2024 knows where they are going and how to navigate the technology to get there.

"This class is more technological than any other class," said Staples-Motley High School Principal Debbie Ferdon.

She pointed out that the Class of 2024 was in 8th grade when they were forced into distance learning by the pandemic and they've been navigating the post-pandemic world for their entire high school careers.

Emali Jimenez-Kloeckl and Lauren Rutten were two of the top three students by grade point average and will be speaking at graduation this year. They reviewed their high school careers and talked about navigating the new educational landscape.

"We're back on track now," said Rutten. "Hybrid learning had a rough start, there were so many failing students. Now we hate talking about it."

Rutten was frustrated with online classes early on. She remembers getting called on by a teacher and then shutting off her computer, pretending that it froze up, just to avoid the awkward situation.

Jimenez-Kloeckl pointed out that the teachers were also learning how to use technology at the same time, so it was awkward on both ends.

By the end of their high school careers, the students and teachers had both become proficient at using technology.

"Now it's your responsibility if your internet doesn't work or if your computer



Senior speakers

Lauren Rutten and Emali Jimenez-Kloeckl

See 2024 on page 12a

Staples electric rates to rise

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Citizens of Staples can expect a seven percent increase in electrical rates starting in July, plus another five to seven percent increases each year for the next three years.

The exact amount of increase will vary by the class of each customer, whether residential or commercial.

At the May 14 Staples City Council meeting, Evan Leebens of Missouri River Energy Systems (MRES), the company that supplies most of the power to the city of Staples, presented the results of a rate study that

called for the increases.

Leebens said the rising costs of purchasing power, plus local operating costs, are among the main reasons for the increases. Because of new requirements to convert to sustainable energy, they are planning on doing more building and infrastructure projects. He said the cost of electrical equipment is also rising.

Leebens said that MRES has returned \$290,000 in refunds to Staples between 2020-22, which helped stabilize power costs the past few years.

Although power and transmission costs have been trending down since 2015, Leebens said they are

expected to go up significantly for the next three years, with at least five percent increases each year.

The City of Staples is also looking at two different projects to improve the electrical grid in the city, but could also increase rates further. Leebens said the if the city does one of the projects, they likely wouldn't do the other one.

The first project idea is for substation and distribution improvements. That project would cost about \$800,000 for the city. The other project would be to build a generation facility with diesel engines that would be used in emergencies and possibly at times of

high usage. The city would get paid back much of the building costs and would get paid when generating energy, but the city would not likely make money on the project, Leebens said.

With the proposed rate increases, the average Staples residential customer would go from paying \$92 per month to \$98 per month. Both residential and commercial rates would be among the highest for cities in the area, but would still be less than Minnesota Power, Xcel Energy and Todd-Wadena Co-op.

The council had no questions about the rate study presentation and approved

See COUNCIL on page 2a

Weather

2024
This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
May 22	64	45	Showers
May 23	68	49	P. Cloudy
May 24	63	47	Rain
May 25	66	48	M. Sunny
May 26	73	52	M. Cloudy
May 27	70	53	Showers
May 28	70	50	Showers

Last Year, 2023

	High	Low	Cond.
May 22	85°	55	Sunny
May 23	86	61	M. Sunny
May 24	86	62	M. Sunny
May 25	78	50	M. Sunny
May 26	82	53	Sunny
May 27	80	54	Sunny
May 28	81	55	Sunny

Average Temps:
H = 71° Low = 49°

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

City of Staples
T-Hangar bids

9A

City of Staples
Ordinance #546

9A

Villard Township

9A

Obituaries

Raymond
Garland
Bridget King
Mark Peterson

Tami Brotherton on board as Motley’s Clerk/Treasurer

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

The City of Motley’s newly appointed Clerk/Treasurer, Tami Brotherton, took minutes at both the city council’s regular meeting May 13, and its preceding work session. Outgoing clerk/treasurer Kari Jacobson was also present to offer assistance as needed.

Brotherton had recently been hired as the city’s Deputy Clerk/Office Manager. However, when Jacobson unexpectedly accepted a job in Faribault County, a special meeting was held May 2, during which the hiring committee recommended transferring Brotherton into the full-time clerk/treasurer position at a Pay Grade 7-Step 1.

At the special meeting, Jacobson’s resignation was accepted, and Brotherton accepted the city’s officer to promote her to clerk/treasurer. In addition, the hiring committee recommended offering the deputy clerk/office manager position to Janae Stern at a Pay Grade 4-Step 1.

During their work session May 13, it was learned that Stern had accepted the job offer, and would begin her duties later that month. Jacobson said she had started training Brotherton in the areas of payroll and utilities billing, and would try to cover as much ground as she could until her final day.

Brotherton noted that there was a lot to learn, and a lot of work for one person, and wondered if the council would be willing to close the office early some days so she could concentrate on training, especially until the new deputy clerk arrived.

After some discussion, the council decided to post a sign saying that city hall will be temporarily closed each day at 2 p.m.

During the work session, the council discussed the question of Tami Brotherton’s benefits, in light of her husband, Bruce Brotherton, also being on staff with the city as it’s Public Works Supervisor. They will reach out to Morrison County to see how they handle this matter with married couples on staff, and also consult with their insurance company.

In other matters the council:

- HEARD a presentation of Lakewood Health System’s annual report by Lisa Bjerga, LHS President and CEO. Bjerga said 2023 was an exciting year for Lakewood in terms of growth. She noted that over 500 babies had been born at Lakewood in 2023, and that several new providers had

been hired. From 2022 - 2023, Lakewood had an employee growth rate of 6.4 percent, and currently has 880 employees on its roster, the largest in the area.

Areas of growth also include healthcare services, with the opening of The Plaza, home to Longbella Rugby Lakewood, and TCO (Twin Cities Orthopedics) Therapy, a partnership with Lakewood. Other projects in the works for Lakewood are its new Cancer Center, a 20,000 square-foot addition at the main campus; and The Nest, an addition to the south gymnasium at Staples-Motley High School, which will include an elevated walking track, new weight room, fitness area and training room. Bjerga also mentioned that all of their residential apartments located at The Plaza have been rented out, and that a new business is slated to open there soon.

- HELD a closed session to conduct an employee review for Public Works Supervisor Bruce Brotherton.

- SET next regular council meeting for Monday, June 10, at 5:30 p.m., preceded by a work session at 4:30 p.m.

- LEARNED the city’s new website will be revealed May 22, from 10:30 - 11:15 a.m.

- APPROVED a resolution naming the following persons as authorized signers for all of the city’s 2024 banking transactions: Tami Brotherton, Clerk/Treasurer; Pat O’Regan, Mayor; Steve Johnson, Nikki Bjerga, April Skeesick-Larson and Dennis Erickson, council members.

- APPROVED a resolution appointing Tami Brotherton as the responsible authority.

- APPROVED a resolution accepting a \$50 donation from Billy and Kristie Haehnel in honor of Charles Tangen, to be used in Veterans Park.

- APPROVED a fire-works permit for June Fest in Motley on June 15.

- APPROVED the following liquor license renewals for 2024 - 2025 (subject to background check, liquor liability insurance certificate and payment of fees): Bremer’s Bar Inc., H & R Ten-Hi Inc., Motley Discount Liquor Inc., Y Knot Package Liquor.

- HEARD monthly report from Fire Chief Brad Olson which included a total of 12 calls during April.

- HEARD monthly report from Police Chief Al Yoder, which included a total of 39 calls during April.

- APPROVED a 36-month cloud services contract from Oracle, which includes the Public Safety Records Manage-



Hearing updates about Lakewood Health System

Lisa Bjerga (standing), President/CEO at Lakewood Health System in Staples, attended the Motley City Council’s regular meeting May 13, and presented Lakewood’s annual report. Council members, from left, included Dennis Erickson, Mayor Pat O’Regan, Nikki Bjerga and Steve Johnson. Seated in the forefront are

ment System-Sworn Officer, and the Public Safety Vehicle Communication System - Vehicle Outfitted. The cost is \$5,310 and the funds will come from the public safety funds.

- APPROVED a letter of commitment to collaborate with Region Five Development Commission (R5DC) with a grant application to the Department of Energy Local Government Energy Program. Motley plans to install a 72KW solar energy system which will cover a significant percentage of the city’s wastewater treatment plant’s energy needs.

- HEARD monthly report from Public Works Supervisor Bruce Brotherton, and learned that the electric charging station is working again. He also noted that the city’s recent clean-up day went very well, adding that council members Dennis Erickson and April Skeesick-Larson came to help.

- LEARNED from outgoing City Clerk/Treasurer Kari Jacobson that the Motley Police Department’s Facebook page is still under the administration of the former chief. Attempts to have it released have been attempted, but to no avail. After some discussion the council approved a motion to have the clerk contact the city attorney to discuss options regarding the MPD’s social media account.

- APPROVED donating \$550 for youth swimming lessons at the Staples Community Center.

- APPOINTED a committee to evaluate city

hall, regarding organizing and rearranging rooms as necessary. The committee includes council members Bjerga and Johnson, Police Chief Yoder, Fire Chief Olson and Public Works Supervisor Bruce Brotherton.

- HEARD from Motley resident Gayle Quinn during the public forum regarding the dirt road in front of Harmony House, an assisted living/memory care facility. She wondered if it could be graded, as it is in rough shape. Quinn was told that this is a private road and she should contact the owners.

- HEARD from council member Bjerga during the council forum. She expressed thanks to Police Chief Yoder, going on to note that it was National Police Week.

department heads Fire Chief Brad Olson, City Clerk Tami Brotherton, Public Works Superviso Bruce Brotherton, Police Chief Al Yoder. This was Tami Brotherton’s first meeting as clerk, having been hired at a special meeting May 2. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Chief Yoder recognized

The Motley City Council expressed their appreciation for Police Chief Al Yoder at their recent regular meeting, noting that National Police Week was being recognized May 12 - 18. (Submitted photo)

Motley area law enforcement reports

Recent reports from the Morrison County Sheriff’s Office (MCSO) included the following:

May 8 - 14

May 9 - Motley Police issued a speeding citation to Fernando Edwards, 20.

May 9 - Motley Police responded to a vehicle crash on Hwy 10 in Motley. According to their report, Donald Miller was traveling east on Hwy 10 when he drove on the sidewalk and hit a light pole. The crash caused damage to the pole and the vehicle.

May 9 - The MCSO reported that a subject

was found fishing illegally (the season was closed) at the 1200 block of Hwy 10 S., Motley. There was one wall-eye on the back.

May 11 - Morrison County deputies assisted the MN State Patrol in locating a wrong-way driver at Hwy 10 and 50th Ave., Motley. The driver was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

May 11 - Morrison County deputies issued a citation to Cheyenne Doble, 37, for no proof of insurance.

May 9 - The MCSO received a call from a resident at the 2200 block of W.

Shamaineau Dr. in Motley, advising that a post office driver nearly hit him, then drove back through and flicked him off. A deputy called the postal worker, who said that there have been issues in the past. The postal worker went on to say that the previous day, the caller had a vehicle parked in front of his mailbox which made it difficult to deliver mail. The postal worker said she had advised the caller about that, and that he was very upset. The postal worker said she suspects the caller was retaliating from that incident.

STAPLES continued from page 1a

Question of whether Staples needs to build electric generator

the rate increases without discussion.

Another MRES representative, Tim Blodgett, gave the council some details on the diesel generation station that Staples is looking at. He said MRES needs to increase power supply capacity for times when wind and solar are not being used, for example when it is not windy or sunny, he said. They expect the city’s plant would only run less than one percent of the time.

Council member Doug Case questioned the need for the generation facility, saying “I don’t remember many instances when we were without power. I don’t see the sense of it, if it involves rate increases.”

Also at the meeting, it was announced that the Staples Light Department was recognized by American Public Power Association for their excellence in reliability for the third year in a row. The national average

for a utility customer is to go without power for 148 minutes a year. In Staples that average is 10 minutes.

“This is due to the knowledge, experience and dedication of our linemen,” said Public Works Director Scott Grabe.

The city crews also do extra maintenance work to make sure equipment is in good shape before a power outage event hits, said Grabe.

In other news, the

council

- Approved labor agreement with AFSCME union with 5.5 and 4.5 percent wage increases.

- Approved liquor licenses for Still Lefty’s, Beck’s Burger Co., B&B Sports Bar, Staples Food Corporation, I am Rare Presents, Timbers, Liquor Depot, Boxcar, Monte Azul and Family Dollar.

- Approved adoption of rezoning Valley View lots, changing some double lots to single family home lots.

- Approved special assessment process for street improvement projects, in which an appraisal will determine the increase in value of properties before and after the project. That will allow the city to assess the properties for an appropriate amount.

- Approved Staples Amateur Baseball Association permit to use Pine Grove Park fields for Staples Lumberbats, \$300 for permit and \$300 for any tournaments they host. Council member Blake Gerard questioned the permitting fees, “considering the amount of dollars they stuck into the field over the years,” he said.

- Approved City of Staples Invocation Policy to allow area clergy to give a short prayer before each meeting.

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GENERAC

StaplesWorld

Staples World newspaper advertising and copy DEADLINE is Wednesday, May 22 by 4 p.m. for the May 29 issue (Memorial Day week)

Classifieds: office@staplesworld.com

Copy: editor@staplesworld.com

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

Baby Steps to move in with thrift store

STEP has made the decisions to close the Baby Steps store in Staples. Childrens items will be moved to the other STEP (formerly the Thread Shed) store in Staples.

STEP Executive Director Cory Lawrence said “We’re just changing the structure how we serve our clients.

We’ll be moving all the children’s items to STEP On In Thrift.”

Lawrence said the building will still be utilized to serve people with disabilities.

Baby Steps will no accept donations after June 1 and plan to move inventory to Step On In by June 30.

Staples Police report

Recent reports taken by the Staples Police Dept:

May 7, Staples Police responded to the 400 block of 7th St. SE of a report of a disturbance involving juveniles riding scooters on the sidewalk and harassing their dogs. Police made contact with the reporting party, advised them the juveniles could ride scooters on the sidewalk. Police spoke with the juveniles about harassing the dogs and staying away from the address when the dogs were in the yard. The juvenile’s parents were advised as well.

May 8, Staples Police received a report of a counterfeit \$100 bill that was used at a local business.

May 8, Staples Police received a report of a white Chevy pickup driving at a high rate of speed past the Sacred Heart School around 9 a.m. Police located the vehicle, spoke with the driver and gave a verbal warning for driving conduct.

May 8, Staples Police received a report of a school bus stop arm violation that

occurred around the 1500 block of 8th St. NE. A juvenile was cited in the incident.

May 9, at 3:02 a.m., Staples Police located an intoxicated subject sleeping on a bench on the 400 block of 2nd Ave. NE. Motley Taxi was contact and the subject was given a ride to a rural Staples address.

May 10, Staples Police assisted the MN State Patrol with a two vehicle crash on Hwy 210 and Co. Rd. 9. State Patrol arrived on scene and took over the investigation.

May 12, Staples Police received a report of a suspicious person who ordered food at a restaurant, then told the employees they didn’t order anything and walked out. The subject then tried to get into vehicles with other people prior to walking away. Police located the subject, who appeared to be having mental health issues. The subject had a phone, money and denied being homicidal or suicidal. Police attempted to offer the subject help, but they refused.

Court report May 16

Long Prairie Police Department

Danelle Jan Breitenfeldt, Long Prairie. Speed 42/30. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Wayne Alexander Jorgensen, Little Falls. Motor vehicle registration, operate vehicle with expired registration. Fine \$30. Fee \$85.

Jeffrey John Larson, Long Prairie. Disorderly conduct. Dismissed.

Vivica Ofelia Ortega, Long Prairie. Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Variel Enrique Paulino Franco, Long Prairie. Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. Fine \$100. Fee \$85. Driver must carry proof of insurance when operating vehicle. Fine \$200. Careless driving. Fine \$100.

Noe Silva Marquez, Long Prairie. Domestic assault. Dismissed. Disorderly conduct. Dismissed.

Isaac Scott Tolifson, Browerville. Speed 38/30. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Minnesota State Patrol

Isabelle Jane Ferrian, Browerville. Speed 75/65. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Tasha Marie Morlock, Motley. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Tristan Mae Allord, Long Prairie. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Parker John Bayne, Karlstad. Speed 91/70. Fine \$70. Fee \$155.

Douglas Michael Blumer, Parkers Prairie. Expired registration. Fine \$30. Fee \$85.

Kenneth Orlando Crouch, Brooklyn Park. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Juan Antonio Delacruz Rodriguez, Fargo, N.Dak. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85. No Minnesota Driver’s License. Fine \$100.

Roberta A. Forward, Oakes, N.Dak. Hands-Free Law- engage in cellular phone or video call. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Edwin Abran Garcia Ruiz, Long Prairie. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85. Seatbelt required. Fine \$25. No proof of motor vehicle insurance. Fine \$200.

Pedro Gutierrez Garcia, Long Prairie. Seatbelt required. Fine \$25. Fee \$85. No proof of motor vehicle insurance. Dismissed.

Jacob Shawn Hanson, West Fargo, N.Dak. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Sarah Nicole Herr, Brandon. Expired registration. Fine \$30. Fee \$85.

Mitchell Kevin Hierlmaier, Hutchinson. Window tint less than 50 percent light transmittance. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Monte Stephan Lund, Evansville. Hands-Free Law- access video content, images, games, software applications. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Bonnie Lou Maxwell, Saint Joseph. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Donovan Thomas Newman, Bemidji. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Austin Christopher Ray, Alexan-

dria. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Reed Michael Ritzer, Holdingford. Speed 71/60. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Enmanuel Antonio Rodriguez Pena, Long Prairie. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Troy Robert Stegora, Little Falls. Driving after suspension. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Brian Raymond Terhaar, Long Prairie. Hands-Free Law- engage in cellular phone or video call. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Matthew Thomas Vanderheyden, Maple Grove. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Shannon Maria Wettstein, Long Prairie. Speed 69/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Raul Alberto Wood, Long Prairie. Window tinted or glazed. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Staples Police Department

Nicole Anna Twa, Staples. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85. No proof of insurance- driver. Fine \$200.

Todd County Sheriff’s Office

Justin David Houdek, Long Prairie. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Gilliana Esperanza Lopez Arevalo, Eagle Bend. Forestry Open Burning- prohibited materials. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Salvador Medina Benitez, Long Prairie. Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. Fine \$100. Fee \$85. Driver must carry proof of insurance when operating vehicle. Fine \$200.

Mercedes Marie Meier, Sauk Centre. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County May 9, 2024.

Omar Concel Del Rio, Long Prairie. Theft-take, drive motor vehicle, no owner consent. Dismissed. Disorderly conduct. Sentenced. Local confinement 90 days. Stay 65 days for one year. Credit for time served: 25 days. Fine \$100. Fee \$75. Supervised probation, one year.

Zachary Mason Bielejeski, Little Falls. Felon convicted crime of violence, firearm violation. Sentenced. Commit to Commissioner of Corrections, 60 months. Fine \$50. Fee totals \$125. Felon convicted crime of violence, firearm violation. Dismissed. Drugs third degree, possess 10 grams or more a narcotic drug other than heroin or fentanyl. Sentenced. Commit to Commissioner of Corrections, 45 months. Fine \$50.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County May 10, 2024.

Sean Joseph Wessel, Long Prairie. Assault fifth degree. Dismissed. Disorderly conduct. Dismissed. Assault fifth degree- inflict or attempt bodily harm. Sentenced. Local confinement 90 days. Stay 84 days for

75 YEARS Ago - 1949

• May 26, 1949 - F. W. Perry, owner of Perry’s Be Franklin Store in Staples, was elected president of the Staples Rotary club recently and will be installed into office the first meeting in July Mr. Perry succeeds Rev. E. C. Mead who served during the past year.

• May 26, 1949 - From the Kardinal Kronicle: Staples High School is making an addition to the building, to be in use in the fall of 1949. The addition will be used as a machine shop-band building combination. It will be equipped with all types of metal working tools, such as lathes, shapers, saws, drills, planers, etc.

The new shop building

- O -

Compiled by Dawn Timbs

- O -

has a floor coverage of 100 by 50 feet exclusively for machine shop, making it one of the finest in the state.

• May 26, 1949 - Motley high school track team placed well with 9 points in the District Track Meet at New York Mills, Monday, May 23. Frisk copped 3rd in the broad jump and the 220 yd. dash. He also got 4th in the 100 yd. dash. The relay team ran well to place 5th. Motley has had a successful season. This year was the first time Motley has fielded a track team and we are looking forward to next year’s season.

• May 26, 1949 - The Staples baseball team bowed to the South Long nine at the latter place Sunday afternoon My 22, in their opening contest of the Crow Wing Valley League, to take the short end of a 3 to 1 score. The game was a pitcher’s battle from the beginning to end.

South Long’s Halverson and Staples’ Stewart each allowed three hits. Stewart struck out 11 men and so did Halvorson.

• May 26, 1949 - Baccalaureate services for the 1949 graduating class of the Staples high school will be held at the high school auditorium Sunday evening, May 29, with the Rev. Harvey

Harkle giving the sermon to the graduates.

On Thursday evening, June 2, Dr. A. C. Clark, vice president of the state teachers college at Bemidji, will give the commencement address to the graduates at the auditorium. Both programs will start at 8 p.m.

50 YEARS Ago - 1974

• May 23, 1974 - Mrs. John Hayes (Edna) of Motley invited six neighbor ladies to a birthday party Monday afternoon at Mrs. Moberly’s home to help her observe her special day. The ladies were Mrs. Clara Michalek, Mrs. Emma Butler, Mrs. Roxie Underhill and Mrs. Albert Williams. Mrs. Moberly received nice cards and gifts. Mrs. Hayes served a nice lunch making Mrs. Moberly’s day a delightful one for her.

• May 23, 1974 - “So Long, Joey!” is the title of a bold new film which is to be shown at the Lincoln Evangelical Free church Sunday, May 26, at 7:30 p.m.

This film documents the true life story of Dave Boyer who adopted the stage name of Joey Stevens in order to pursue a career in the entertainment world.

• May 23, 1974 - A group of 15 young people will be received as communicant members of Trinity Lutheran Church through the Rite of Confirmation Sunday, May 26. The Rev. Clarence Bremer will officiate the service.

The members of the confirmation class are Lester Bain, Sharon Bain, Ronny Barr, Mark Card, Scott Grossman, Glen Johnson, Timothy Jacobson, Jeanne Jutz, Karen Klappenbach, Robert Mueller, Debra Oltman, Mark Palmer, Todd Swenson, Kathleen Wilson nd Randy Worden.

• May 23, 1974 - Michael Hassler and Nancy Sadusky were among the recipients of the Outstanding Speech Awards for the 1973-74 year. They received their awards from Dr. Duane R. Lund, superintendent of schools.

Michael is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jon Hassler and Brainerd. Nancy is the daughter of John Sadusky of Staples, and Mrs. Linda Sadusky of Deerwood.



Mystery solved

Last week’s mystery photo published in the May 20, 1999 edition of the Staples World featured Harold Griffiths, seated left, of Minneapolis, formerly of Motley, who had recently given the Staples and Motley Dollars for Scholars chapter a \$15,000 donation to make his total contribution for scholarships

\$100,000. Pictured with Griffiths are members of the local Dollars for Scholars and of the committee which interviewed applicants for that year’s scholarships. Seated, from left, are Griffiths, Lisa Kajer and Jeannette Evans. Standing, from left, are Mike Wilhelmson, Kevin Beard and Brenda Halvorson.

Looking back



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week’s archive photo is from 1980. 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.

• May 23, 1974 - Two Staples track girls will advance to the Region Six competition at Breckenridge after placing as top contenders in their events at the District 24 meet held at Wadena last week.

Nan Bendson made a new district record in her mile run as she finished with an outstanding time of 5:51, erasing the old record of 6:14.5.

Renee Stave also beat the district record in the shot put (32’3”0 as she threw a 34’2 3/4”) and placed second in the meet.

Other girls placing in the meet were Sue Oldenburg, third in shot at 32’8”, and the 880 Medley team (Connie Becker, Cheryl Sanderson, Donna Brown and Nan Bendson), fifth place at 2:06.7.

• May 23, 1974 - Jeff Marden and Don Pavlacky were named last week as the co-captains of the Cardinal Track squad of Coach Ron Beachy. They are both senior members of the team.

the growing importance of technical education for the future workforce in Minnesota.

• May 27, 1999 - The Cardinal girls golf team last week took second at a meet in the Minneapolis area on Monday and came back to win the Mid-State Conference tournament on Friday.

• May 27, 1999 - The Cardinal tennis team last week took the Sub Section 29 title with 6-1 and 7-0 wins in team competition. A day later, in individual play, the Cards two doubles teams fought their way to the finals, where they faced each other for first and second place.

• May 27, 1999 - The Cardinal baseball team this week began Sub Section 24 action, with a game Tuesday on the Staples Motley field against Browerville.

• May 27, 1999 - The Staples Motley girls chose the most important meet of the season to show their stuff as the Cards finished second at the Sub Section 24 meet last Thursday in Pequot Lakes.

Twelve Cardinal girls qualified to advance to the Section 6 track meet to be held this week at Fargo.

Wadena-Deer Creek had 254 points for first, with Staples Motley second with 105.

• May 27, 1999 - The Staples Motley boys won the Sub Section 24 track meet held Thursday at Pequot Lakes, with the Cards taking first in 10 events, including three of the four relay races.

10 YEARS Ago - 2014

• May 15, 2014 - Leona Hobson, Staples, was one of the ‘Rosie the Riveters’ who worked on airplanes during WWII at McClellan Air Force Base in California. She shared memories of that time with the Staples World.

• May 15, 2014 - The World caught up with Tom Girtz, in its ‘What ever happened to...?’ periodic column. Girtz, who had since moved to Walker, said that Staples will always hold a special place in his heart.

It’s where he first began a career in teaching, where he met his wife, Andrea, and where their two children, Adam and Susanna, were born. It’s where he lived when he was named Teacher of the Year for both Staples High School and the State of Minnesota.

Schedule I, II, III except marijuana with intent to sell. Dismissed. Fifth degree possession of a controlled substance. Statutory stay of adjudication. Local confinement 121 days. Credit for time served: 121 days. Fine \$50. Fees waived. Supervised

probation, two years. Pharmacy-Legend Drugs- unlawful possession, sell, give away, barter, exchange, distribute. Dismissed. Driving after revocation. No sentence pronounced upon conviction.

StaplesWorld

Staples World newspaper advertising and copy DEADLINE is Wednesday, May 22 by 4 p.m. for the May 29 issue (Memorial Day week)

Classifieds: office@staplesworld.com
Copy: editor@staplesworld.com
224 4th St. NE, Staples, MN, 218-894-1112



Mark Your Calendar

May 23

‘WALK WITH A DOC’ Thursdays at 5:15 p.m., at Lake-wood 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 WHIRLWAYS SQUARE DANCE GROUP DANCING Thursday, May 23, 7:30 - 10 p.m., at St. Michael’s Church, 280 1st Ave. S., Motley. Abe Maier, caller. For info., 218-894-2900.

May 24

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.

May 26

CELEBRATE RECOVERY GROUP MEETINGS are held every Sunday at 6 p.m., at Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood St. E., Motley.

May 27

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

May 28

EXPERIENCE STRENGTH AND HOPE AA GROUP MTGS IN STAPLES are held at the Church of Christ, 27343 490th St., Tuesdays at 7 p.m. For info., call Dan at 218-640-7228.

WADENA COUNTY REPUBLICANS MTGS are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Wadena VFW at 7 p.m. If you wish to eat early you may order from the menu prior to meeting.



Preschool Storytime at Staples Public Library

Preschool Storytime was recently held at the Staples Public Library celebrating the life of ducks with stories, songs and crafts. Above: Archie and Alida Hanson, Faith Frisk, Alana and Samuel Reigstad and Jameson

and Irelyn Basara
Stop at the Staples Library and sign up for the opportunity to read for fun prizes as the summer reading challenge begins June 3. (Submitted photo)



Fun at the bike rodeo in Staples

A total of 102 children enjoyed the Bike Rodeo in Staples May 16. The event, hosted by the City of Staples Parks and Recreation Department, included an obstacle course, a bouncy house, hot dog supper, and the oppor-

tunity to win a free bike and helmet (ten were given away). Free bike repairs, offered by Jake’s Bikes (along with Staples Rotarians Bob Hamann and Curt Wilson), were also available. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



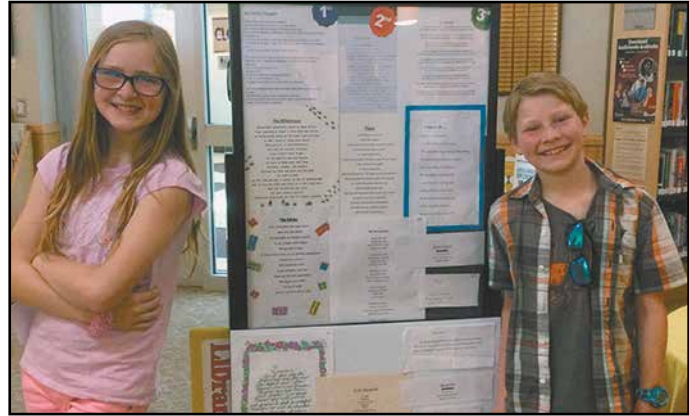
Love those hot dogs

The Brusewitz brothers Will (left) and Maverick, ages seven and four respectively, enjoyed eating hot dogs at the Bike Rodeo in Staples May 16. The Staples Rotarians cooked and served the hot dogs, donated by Ernie’s Grocery, and the buns donated by Jon’s Grocery. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Free bike repairs given

A few volunteers, including Staples Rotarian Kurt Wilson, offered to check the bikes of participants at the Bike Rodeo in Staples May 16, and make sure they were in good working order. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

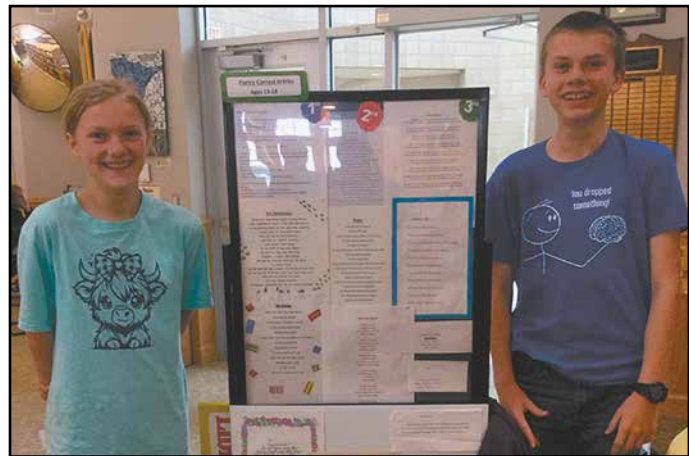


Azalee Kumpula, Jericho Kumpula

Poetry winners at Staples Library

Congratulations to the Poetry Winners of the Staples Public Library Poetry Contest. Each participant could submit up to two original poems throughout the month of April for the opportunity to win \$10, \$15 and \$25 in chamber bucks. Categories were ages 8-12 and 13-18. The program was provided by the Staples Friends of the Library.

Ages 8-12 winners: First - Jericho Kumpula; second - Hannah Noordmans; third - Azalee Kumpula. Ages 13-18 winners: First - Addie Brenny; second - Abigail Decker; third - Asher Noordmans.(Submitted photos)



Hannah Noordmans, Asher Noordmans



Addie Brenny



Abigail Decker

Cardinal Calendar

SM school events

May

- **LAST DAY OF SCHOOL** May 24
- **CORDS AND AWARDS** May 24, 10 a.m., main gym
- **COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY** May 24, 7:30 p.m., main gym

◦ **MEMORIAL DAY** May 27, District Offices closed

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

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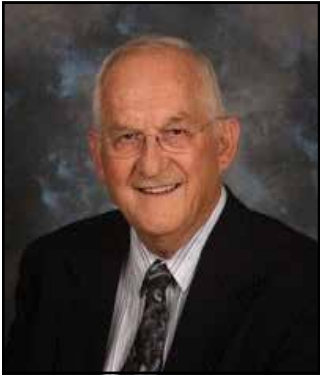
Obituaries

Raymond Garland

Dr. Raymond Orval Garland, 89, of Lakeville, formerly of Staples, passed away March 29, 2024.

A Celebration of Life Memorial Service will be held Saturday, June 1, 10:30 a.m. at Staples Alliance Church, 1512 8th Street NE, with Pastor Zach Jones officiating. Lunch served following the service.

w22x A00006B2024MY22



Bridget King

Dr. Bridget R. King, 70, of Aldrich, passed away suddenly on May 13, 2024.

Per her request, there will be no service and she will be cremated. A Celebration of Life in her honor will be held Sunday, June 9, 2024, at Pine Grove Park in Staples from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Bring your pets.

Bridget was born January 25, 1954 to Charles J. and Grace A. (Meuret) King in Wausau, Wisconsin. Her love of animals has been a lifelong obsession. She always had pets in her life.

Bridget graduated from Wausau West High School in 1972. She was a member of the orchestra, playing the violin. In later years, she belonged to many local orchestras including the Long Prairie Chamber Orchestra, playing the violin and viola. She started her college education at the UW-Central Wisconsin and later transferred to UW-Platteville. She graduated in 1976 with a BS in Animal Science and a minor in Chemistry. At the time, Wisconsin did not have a veterinarian school and she moved to Minnesota to establish residency and later applied to the U of M Veterinarian School. She graduated in 1982 with her Doctorate of Veterinarian Medicine. She always wanted to be a vet.

In September 1983, Bridget started Homestead Vet Clinic in Aldrich. In 1998, she and friends founded Pets Abandoned Wanting



Support (PAWS), a nonprofit to help animals find good homes. "Stop the cycle and save the strays. Spay and neuter your pets."

She loved to play softball. Through the years she played and coached softball, bowled on a league, square danced and was an avid jewelry lover. She was always up for a game of cards.

Bridget was active in her community, sitting on the city council serving as treasurer. She was a large supporter of live music and the Wadena Area Concert Association.

She will be greatly missed.

Contributions may be made in her name to PAWS, PO Box 515, Motley, MN 56466, or your favorite local charity.

Visit www.karvonenfurneralhome.com to leave memorials and condolences on Bridget's Tribute Wall.

Arrangements are by Karvonen Funeral & Cremation Service of Wadena.

w22c A00006B2024MY22

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples Staples Alliance 1512 8th St. NE, Staples218-894-2891 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: Adult Bible Study.....6:30 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 Catholic Church 310 4th St. NE, Staples Church.....218-894-2296 info@marysacc.org Fr. Aaron Kuhn Fr. Gabriel Walz MASS: 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 Pastor Vicar Paul Koehler 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 Janet Eckman SMA.....218-837-5831 jre227@yahoo.com Sunday Worship.....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 - July9 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 Catholic Church 1st St. and Birch, Motley.....218-894-2296 info@marysacc.org Fr. Aaron Kuhn Fr. Gabriel Walz MASS: Saturday.....4:00 p.m.	St. Michael 280 1st Ave S, Motley.....218-894-2296 Pastor Fr. Joe Korf MASS: 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 Matthew Sundquist 717 River Street S, Pillager, MN 218-746-3775 Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 2nd and 4th Sundays.....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. Hewitt Community Church Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN Pastor Kenneth Uhren Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m. Verndale Verndale Alliance 109 NW Brown Street, Verndale, MN 56481 218-445-5619 Senior Pastor Tony Stanley Heath Belknap, Pastor of Student Ministries Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m. Sunday Bible Fellowship Classes.....11-11:45 a.m.	Family Life Church 402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale 218-445-5568 VerndaleFLC@gmail.com Pastor Amos Self.....218-371-7189 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 Community Church 5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar) Pastor James Middendorf, 320-260-4952 Sunday Service.....9:00 a.m. Bible Study.....10:30 a.m. St. Frederick Catholic Church 20 Mason Avenue NW.....218-894-2296 info@marysacc.org Fr. Aaron Kuhn Fr. Gabriel Walz MASS: Saturday.....6:00 p.m. St. Hubert Catholic Church Bluegrass.....218-894-2296 info@marysacc.org Fr. Aaron Kuhn Fr. Gabriel Walz MASS: Sunday.....10:30 a.m.
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Support (PAWS), a nonprofit to help animals find good homes. "Stop the cycle and save the strays. Spay and neuter your pets."

She loved to play softball. Through the years she played and coached softball, bowled on a league, square danced and was an avid jewelry lover. She was always up for a game of cards.

Bridget was active in her community, sitting on the city council serving as treasurer. She was a large supporter of live music and the Wadena Area Concert Association.

She will be greatly missed.

Contributions may be made in her name to PAWS, PO Box 515, Motley, MN 56466, or your favorite local charity.

Visit www.karvonenfurneralhome.com to leave memorials and condolences on Bridget's Tribute Wall.

Arrangements are by Karvonen Funeral & Cremation Service of Wadena.

w22c A00006B2024MY22

Mark Peterson

Mark L. Peterson, 67, of Sartell passed away May 18, 2024 at his home surrounded by his family.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 11:00 a.m. Friday, May 31, at Messiah Lutheran Church in Sartell. Visitation will be held from 4 to 8 p.m., Thursday, May 30 at Williams Dingmann Family Funeral Home in Sauk Rapids and one hour prior to the services at the church on Friday. Rev. Justin Hesterman will officiate and Rev. Brady Finern will concelebrate.

Burial will be at Trinity Lutheran cemetery at a later date.

Mark was born April 25, 1957 in Staples to Richard and Phyllis (Chapin) Peterson. He grew up in Leader and after graduating from high school, he attended Central Lakes Community and Technical College in Wadena to become a Lineman. Mark married Bonnie Dykhuizen on May 22, 1982 at Trinity Lutheran Church. They lived in the St. Cloud area and in 1990 moved to Sartell. It was home for the past 34 years. Mark worked for Gold'n Plump as a truck driver for many years before retiring in 2015. He was an active member of Messiah Lutheran, even helping build the church and was very involved. Mark enjoyed many outdoor activities such as trapshooting leagues, fishing, snowmobiling and downhill skiing. He was a volunteer who found excitement in acts of service, especially doing carpentry work at Lutheran Island Camp. He truly was a jack



of all trades. Mark had a strong faith and was calm, fair, protective of his family and friends and he always gave the best hugs. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Mark is survived by one daughter, Lindsay Peterson of Sartell; one grandson, Roman Peterson; significant other, Karla Cool of Sartell; two brothers, Craig (Sharon) Peterson of Staples and Ronald (Sue) Peterson of Gillette, WY; two sisters, Sandy Lorber of Motley and Vickie (James) Hanley of Staples.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Bonnie; one son, Kyle Peterson and infant daughter, Allison.

The family would like to thank everyone who put the time and effort into caring for Mark.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to Lutheran Island Camp, 45011 230th St. Henning, Minnesota 56551.

Obituary, Guest Book and Video tribute available online: www.williamsdingmann.com

w22p A00006B2024MY22

Pastor Carl Larson, Faith Lutheran Church, Staples

"When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability." Acts 2:1-4

When I was about eight or nine years old, Sundays in church usually evoked two emotions: monotony and amazement, and the two were not distributed in equal measure. There were many Sundays that I worked hard at letting my mind drift off to a baseball game where I was the next Bert Blyleven striking out my opponents with the devastating curveball, or I would reflect on the sights and wonders of our family camping trip to the Bighorn Mountains. But every once in a while the mental escapes where punctuated by an occasional instant of awe. The amazement came on rarely, maybe a handful of times each year. It came down from on high and was so awesome that I felt the butterflies swirling around in my stomach and goosebumps taking over my arms and climbing up the back of my neck. It came upon me like a Pentecostal rush of wind and forever changed how I saw the world.

One Sunday morning the pastor, Pastor Harvey, started his sermon by passing out pencils. Some of them were new, most were old and used. Some had been sharpened, but most were not. Most were pencils that advertised area businesses or seed corn promotions, but there were a few colored pencils in the lot and one or two expensive mechanical pencils. Pastor Harvey had each of the congregational members take one pencil and then pass the rest on until everyone in the congregation, young and old, had one. He then passed out a piece of paper and had all write his or her name on the paper. He then came out into the congregation, which was not the norm, and laughingly commented on how some pencils legibly wrote the names while others made it difficult to determine what was written on the paper. After that little handwriting exercise he then climbed back into the pulpit and began to preach about how all the pencils that were used by the congregants were different, different in size, shape and color, but each performed the task asked of it. It was then that he changed directions in his sermon and made his point, that it's not what one looks like on the outside that is important, but rather, what one is like on the inside. He then moved into an argument about race, stressing how we as a church have a duty to address the issue.

After the service was over, I remember going into the Fellowship Hall for a snack and the whole place was abuzz with talk about the sermon. Then in Sunday school, the sermon became the lesson instead of the one that was scheduled. I recall talking about that sermon in relation to what was happening in our country, for it was May of 1968 and Martin Luther King had been assassinated and there were race riots in Detroit, Chicago and Washington D.C., and in the church in the quiet little farming community of Amboy people were wondering what to think and feel about all that seemed to be national chaos.

On that Sunday, butterflies were swirling around within me and so many others and goosebumps were growing on arms and moving up the back of the neck of all the members, young and old. It was a day when the Holy Spirit had blown through the church and the church was alive. It was a day of amazement.

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Satisfying strike

Mallory Uselman watches her 260 yard drive go straight down the middle of the fairway on the par 5 sixth hole at The Vintage. She ended up with a birdie on the hole. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Uselman's eagle sets up high level rounds

Mallory Uselman shot a three on the par five 13th hole at The Vintage golf course in Staples, scoring an eagle on the 393 yard hole. The Cardinals were third at the Mid State Conference meet on May 14, with some young and improving players filling out the rest of the varsity roster.

Uselman shot one under par on the front nine at The Vintage. She came close to winning the meet, but was set back with a double and triple bogey during the round, dropping her to second place.

The Cardinals also played at the Otter Invite at Fergus Falls on May 17. Uselman continued her hot play with three birdies and six pars. Katelyn Schotzko had two pars on the back nine and Sarah Kroll shot one par in her round.

Team results
Mid State Conference at The Vintage, Staples
Detroit Lakes 313, Park Rapids 387, Wadena-Deer Creek 397, Staples-Motley 422, Crosby-Ironton/Aitkin 457
2. Mallory Uselman 77, 15. Katelyn Schotzko 108, 17. Sarah Kroll 112, 24. Maci Mithun 125 26. Molly Hoemberg 126, 27. Brooklyn Winter 133
Otter Invite at Pebble Lake, Fergus Falls
Moorhead 329, Fergus Falls 338, Bemidji 361, Crookston 364, Hawley 372, Melrose 409,



Sarah Kroll, left, reacts to her par put bouncing off of the hole.

Staples-Motley 415, Pine River-Backus 433, Wadena-Deer Creek inc. 3. Uselman 80, 33. Schotzko 100, 40. Kroll 110, 47. Winter 125, 48. Hoemberg 126



Cardinal golf action

Left, Molly Hoemberg follows through on a fairway shot. Below, Katelyn Schotzko chips a ball out up a hill onto the green. Right, Peyton Mithun sends a putt towards the hole. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Bestland shoots under par, great team score

The Staples-Motley boys golf team shot their best score of the year with four golfers in the 70s at their home conference meet on May 14. The team score of 299 is their first time scoring under 300 in a long time and shows they are capable of great golf as a team.

Grant Bestland, Carter White, Jackson White and Keller Anderson contributed to the team score. The Cardinals made a lot of their gains on the tough back nine at The Vintage, where Bestland crushed it with four birdies to finish at two under par. His birdies were on holes 10, 11, 13 and 16. He was one over on the front nine, leaving him at one under for 18 holes.

Carter White parred every hole on the back nine except the par-4 14th, which he birdied.

Jackson White was better on the front nine, with birdies on holes 1 and 6.

Anderson started the back nine with a birdie, then finished three over par for the nine holes, which included missing a birdie putt by a fraction of an inch.

The Cardinals also participated in the pre-section meet at Sartell on May 13. They did not have their best day on the course, but still finished in second place. Birdies were hard to find on the course with only four players shooting one birdie each: C. White, J. White, Peyton Mithun and Thomas Johnson. Johnson and Mithun stepped up to be the team's third and fourth scorers with their best rounds of the year on a tough course. Bestland had 12 pars on the course, including six in a row.

Team results
Pre-section at Blackberry Ridge, Sartell
Pequot Lakes 306, Staples-Motley 326, St. Cloud Cathedral 328, Little Falls 335, Crosby-Ironton/Aitkin 356, Milaca 366, Pierz 368, Foley 375, Royalton 376, Wadena-Deer Creek 395
4. Carter White 78, 7. Grant Bestland 79, 11. Thomas Johnson 83, 20. Peyton Mithun 86, 23. Keller Anderson 87, 30. Jackson White 90
Mid State Conference at The Vintage, Staples
Staples-Motley 299, Crosby-Ironton/Aitkin 350, Park Rapids 351, Wadena-Deer Creek 391
1. Bestland 71, 2. C. White 72, 3. J. White 77, 4. Anderson 79, 6. Mithun 82, 8. Johnson 83



Hot putter

Grant Bestland holsters his putter as he watches his 33 foot birdie putt drop into the cup on the par 3 11th hole at The Vintage. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Keller Anderson



Thomas Johnson

SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT
205
Help Wanted
T H O M A S T O W N
TOWNSHIP is immediately seeking applications for a **road maintenance operator**. Position would be part-time with the potential of full-time employment over

the summer months. Job duties include but are not limited to operating heavy equipment such as road grader and plow truck for snow plowing. We ask that applicants have at least 3-5 years of experience in related fields. The pay rate will depend on qualifications and experience. For extensive details on the job or to apply contact: Stacy Dukowitz, 218-371-5046.

19-23c

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Do you enjoy making people smile?
Can you solve problems faster than a download on a 5 Gbps internet connection? Then you might be our perfect Customer Support Specialist! Join our team and be the hero our customers deserve.
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FOR RENTAL INFO CALL **218-296-5031**
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611
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40+ ACRES between Wadena/Pillager, with or without house, 218-831-3521. 22-24p

GARAGE SALES
701

ANNUAL GARAGE SALE: Thurs., May 23-Fri., May 24, 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Sat., May 25, 8 a.m.-noon. Staples Assembly of God, 914 3rd Avenue NE, Staples. Items of interest: 17' Coleman Canoe w/ paddles (1978 Ram X17), wood stove, 2011 Nissan Versa, home schooling materials, guitar, material (fleece, etc.), tools, bi-fold doors, treadmill, stackable kid's chairs, hunting gear (coats, decoys, etc.), dining table with leaves/6 chairs. 21-22c

FIVE FAMILY GARAGE/ YARD SALE: Fri., May 24, Sat., May 25, Sun., May 26, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. 304 Warner Rd NE, Staples. Tools, adult clothing, antiques, lg. dog kennel, bird cages, horse tack, saddles, saddle racks, horse statues, furniture, sewing machine, craft/sewing, embroidery, knitting supplies; movies, books and more. 21-22p

Staples World
Staples World newspaper advertising and copy DEADLINE is Wednesday, May 22 by 4 p.m. for the May 29 issue (Memorial Day week)
Classifieds office: staplesworld.com
Copy: editor@staplesworld.com
224 4th St. NE, Staples, MN, 218-894-1112



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**ADVERTISEMENT
FOR BIDS**

**2024 T-Hangar and
Taxilane Construction
Staples Municipal
Airport
Staples, Minnesota
AIP No. 3-27-0145-
019-2023
SP No. A7712-44
SEH No. STAPL
172857**

Notice is hereby given that Online Bids will be received by the City of Staples until 11:00 a.m., Friday, June 7, 2024, via **QuestCDN** for the furnishing of all labor and material for the T-Hangar and Taxilane Construction.

The bid opening will be conducted via Microsoft Teams, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud:

2024 T-Hangar and Taxilane Construction Bid Opening

June 7, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. (CDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone: <https://bit.ly/3UbH7MT>

Or call in (audio only)
+ 1 872-242-7640.186980654# United States, Chicago

Phone conference ID: 186 980 654#

Any person monitoring the meeting remotely may be responsible for any documented costs. Message and data rates may apply.

Major components of the Work include: excavation, site grading, aggregate base, bituminous paving, and drain tile installation, and construction of a new T-hangar.

The Bidding Documents may be viewed for no cost at <http://www.sehinc.com> by selecting the Project Bid Information link at the bottom of the page and the View Plans option from the menu at the top of the selected project page.

Digital image copies of the Bidding Documents are available at <http://www.sehinc.com> for a fee of \$30. These documents may be downloaded by selecting this project from the "Project Bid Information" link and by entering eBid-DocTM Number 9038017 on the SEARCH PROJECTS page. For assistance and free membership registration, contact QuestCDN at 952.233.1632 or info@questcdn.com.

For this project, bids will **ONLY** be received electronically. Contractors submitting an electronic bid **will** be charged an additional \$42 at the time of bid submission via the online electronic bid service **QuestCDN.com**. To access the electronic Bid Worksheet, download the project document and click the online bidding button at the top of the advertisement. Prospective bidders must be on the plan holders list through **QuestCDN** for bids to be accepted. Bids shall be completed according to the Bidding Requirements prepared by SEH dated April 11, 2024.

In addition to digital plans, paper copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained from Docunet Corp. located at 2435 Xenium Lane North, Plymouth, MN 55441 (763.475.9600) for a fee of \$125.

A pre-Bid conference will not be held for this project.

Bid security in the amount of 5 percent of the Bid must accompany each Bid in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

A Contractor responding to these Bidding Documents must submit to the City/Owner a signed statement under oath by an owner or officer verifying compliance with each of the minimum criteria in Minnesota Statutes, section 16C.285, subdivision 3.

This Work shall be subject to minimum wages and labor standards in accordance with U.S. Department of Labor and the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry.

The City of Staples reserves the right to reject any and all Bids, to waive irregularities and informalities therein and to award the Contract in the best interests of the City of Staples.

Jerel Nelsen
City Administrator
Staples, Minnesota
22-24pnc

**NOTICE
CITY OF STAPLES
ORDINANCE NO. 546
AN ORDINANCE
AMENDING THE
ZONING OF
PROPERTY**

WHEREAS, the City Council has the authority to re-zone property within the city limits of the City of Staples; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it to be in the public interest, convenience and general welfare to amend and rezone the following described parcel;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Staples as follows:

This Property, described as follows, is to be re-zoned from R-3 Multi-Family Housing to R-1 Single-Family Homes: Lots 1 through Lot 28, Block 1, and OUTLOT A, all being located in VALLEY VIEW NIEGHBORHOOD, Section 25, Township 134 North, Range 33 West, Wadena County, Minnesota

Adopted this 14th day of May 2024.

APPROVED: Ron Murray, Mayor
Attest: Tara Greer, City Clerk
First Reading: April 23, 2024
Second Reading: May 14, 2024
Adoption: May 14, 2024
Published: May 22, 2024
22pnc

**NOTICE
TOWN OF VILLARD
COUNTY OF TODD
STATE OF MINNESOTA
BID FOR
DITCH MOWING**

To Whom It May Concern:

The Town of Villard, Todd County, MN is now accepting quotes for ditch mowing. The ditch mowing will take place once before July 1, 2024, and once before August 31, 2024. Any other time will be as needed and instructed by the Town Board.

This contract will be for one season of 2024 and is to mow approximately 38 miles of Township ditches in Villard Township. One swath of 6 feet on both sides of the road is recommended.

If you are selected for the job, you will need to provide a copy of your insurance and sign the contract before starting.

Please mail or email your quote to the clerk at the address shown below.

Description:

Quote to mow on township roads per time

Quote Amount:

Your quote will need to be received by the Clerk no later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday June 11, 2024. Quotes can be emailed to the address listed below.

If you should have any questions, please contact the Villard Township Chairman at 218-270-0137. Thank you for your time.

Your Name:

Company Name:

Signature:

Mary Trantina-Koenig, Clerk
Villard Township
31836 Timberlane Road
Staples, MN 56479
marykoenig169@gmail.com
22-23pnc

"Trust Us!"

Without public notices, the government wouldn't have to say anything else.

Public notices are a community's window into the government. From zoning regulations to local budgets, governments have used local newspapers to inform citizens of its actions as an essential part of your right to know. You know where to look, when to look and what to look for to be involved as a citizen. Local newspapers provide you with the information you need to get involved.

Notices are meant to be noticed.
Read your public notices and get involved!

New principal for Staples-Motley Elementary

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples-Motley School Board approved the hiring of Ryan Koenigs as the new Staples-Motley Elementary School Principal. Current Principal Allen Berg has been hired as superintendent at Alden-Conger/Glenville-Emmons in southeast Minnesota.

Staples-Motley Superintendent Shane Tappe said the school had five "very solid" candidates and called three back for a second interview. After the process, Koenigs was the unanimous selection.

Koenigs has been working for the Ogilvie School District and has elementary school experience, said Tappe.

The second part of the May 6 meeting was a tour of the new construction at the high school.



Walking track pathway

Staples-Motley School Board members check out the space where the walking track will circle the refurbished gym at Staples-Motley High School, with open-

ings to the newly built community fitness room. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



Knocking down walls

The Staples-Motley School Board toured gym construction as part of their May 6 meeting, above. Less than a week later, that wall was cut out to connect to new

construction going up this summer. Below, another hole was cut in the gym wall for the walking track that will circle the gym. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



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

Notice is hereby given that the Todd County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, June 6, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Commissioners meeting room, Historic Courthouse, 215 First Ave South, Long Prairie, MN to consider the following applications.

NOTE: This meeting is again being held in-person and the public is encouraged to attend, but Zoom and phone options are still available for those who are

unable to attend in person. If you wish to join via Zoom, please contact our office for the call-in information. Those who do attend in person can find parking atop the hill on the west side of the Historic Courthouse and enter through the north doors, near the American Flag and monument.

Questions? Phone 320-732-4420 or Email toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us

Agenda

- Call to Order.
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Introduction of Planning Commission Members and process review.
- The applicant is introduced
- Staff report
- Applicant confirms if staff report accurately represents the request
- Public comment
- Board review with appli-

cant, staff, and public
•Approval of agenda.
•Approval of the May 2, 2024 Planning Commission meeting minutes.

1. Windy Acres Preliminary Plat: Section 02, Wykeham Township
Site Address: 15394 380th St., Eagle Bend, MN 56446
PID: 28-0001400

1. Request to plat (one) 10-acre lot in R-10 Zoning.

2. Berrys Wooded Acres Preliminary Plat: Section 32, Pine Island Lake and Thunder Lake, Turtle Creek Township.
Site Address: 30472 Lightning Pass, Cushing, MN 56443
PID: 24-0036000

1. Request to plat (one) 1.85-acre lot in AF-2, Recreational Development and Natural Environment Shoreland Zoning.

3. Tammy Brandanger: Section 27, Bartlett Township

Site Address: 46485 County 11, Aldrich, MN 56434
PID: 01-0027701

1. Request for CUP for Fiber Processing in AF-2 Zoning.

Adjournment – Next meeting: July 11, 2024

All persons interested are invited to attend said hearing or submit a letter to be heard on these matters. All correspondence must include name, mailing address and be received 48 hours before the date and time of the hearing.

Todd County Planning Commission
Jim Pratt, Chair
22pnc

Cardinals Got Talent

Staples-Motley High School musicians performed a variety of songs for the Cardinals Got Talent show on May 8 and 9, for high school and middle school audiences.



Musical respect

Chloe Wingert reacts to getting a standing ovation from the Staples-Motley High School crowd. She was very nervous before starting her song, but blew the crowd away by singing "Part of Your World" from The Little Mermaid.



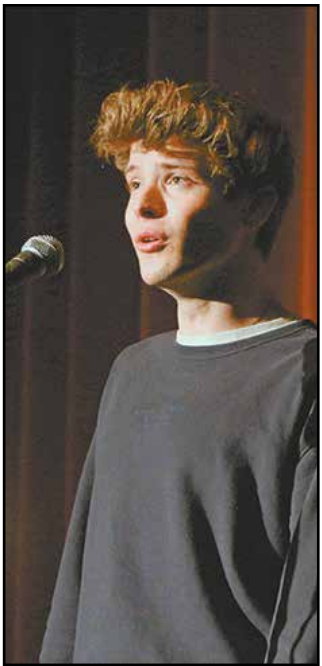
Emali Jimenez-Kloeckl sings with Emery Lorber and Zach McIlravy on saxophone.



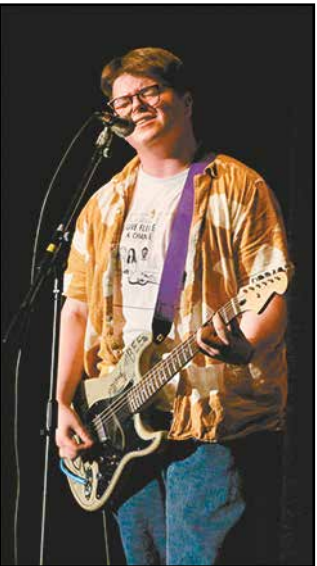
Naila Mikhaeil



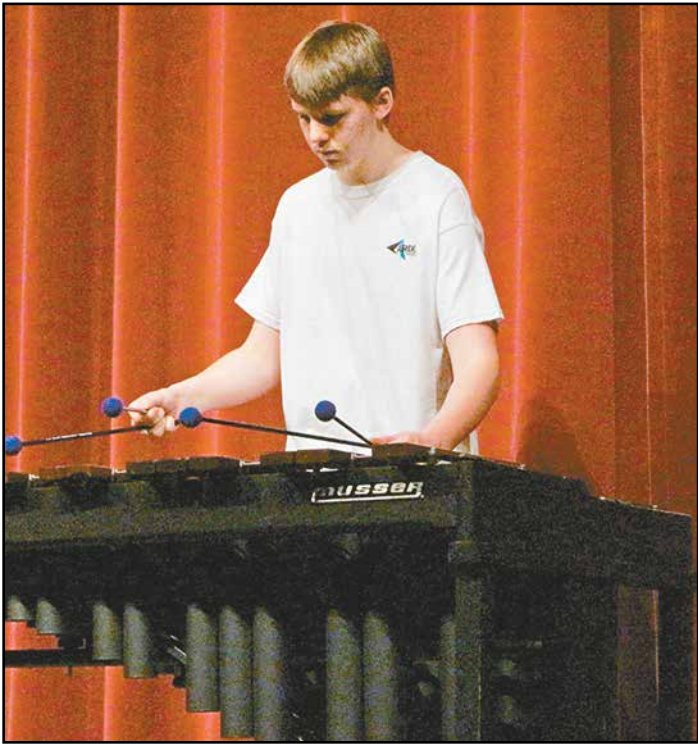
Marly Simmons



Zach McIlravy



Brendan Macheel



Keller Anderson



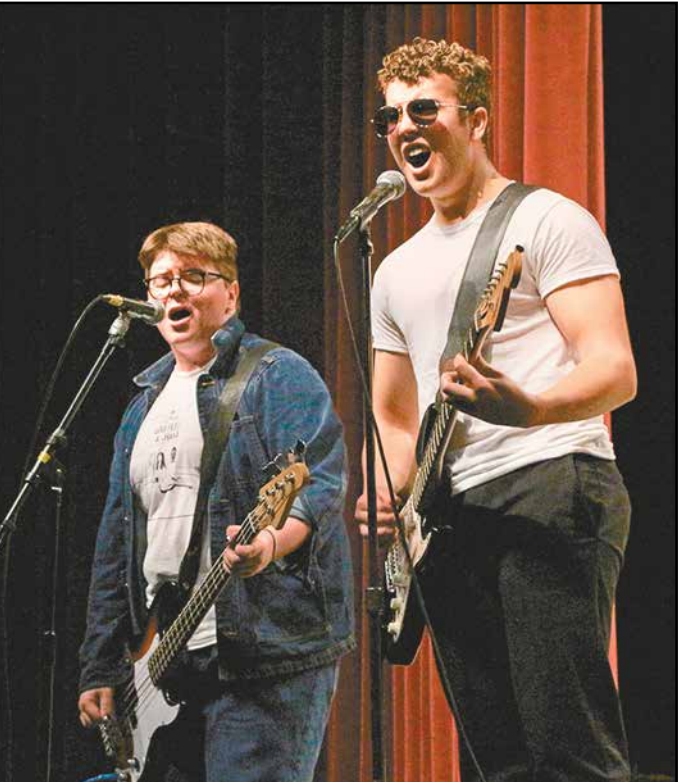
Staff quartet of Daren Blanck, Marly Simmons, Steve Fligge and Cade Bestland.



Multi-talented Cardinals



Goeffrey DeCamp highlighted his talents on marimba, piano and drums, above. AJ Nienow showed his classical side on cello, left, and his rock and roll side, playing a hard rock version of Elvis Presley with Brendan Macheel, below.



Olivia Opheim, Sabina Moe and Emali Jimenez-Kloeckl

StaplesWorld

Staples World newspaper advertising and copy DEADLINE is Wednesday, May 22 by 4 p.m. for the May 29 issue (Memorial Day week)

Classifieds: office@staplesworld.com

Copy: editor@staplesworld.com

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





Rachel Kossan zeros in on a pitch



Big plays in loss

The Staples-Motley softball team lost 15-5 against Pequot Lakes on May 16. Above, Ellie Lange hammers a bases loaded triple over the head of the center fielder. Below, she scores a run on a passed ball, accounting for 4 of the 5 Cardinal runs. The team had two closer games during the week, a 10-8 loss at Breckenridge and 12-11 loss at Pillager. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Lauren Rutten makes a catch in the outfield.



Isabel Birkholtz flings a pitch



Baseball team are conference champions

The Staples-Motley baseball team beat Aitkin twice, 13-3 and 18-0 on May 14, to clinch the Mid State Conference baseball title, the last title to be won because the conference will be disbanded after this year. The team kept up their winning ways with a 2-0 win at Pillager on May 18.

Brandt, Brownell, Beachy, Burton, Anderson earn conference titles

The Staples-Motley track/field teams unleashed a swarm of killer B's on the Mid State Conference, with four of their five conference champions having last names starting with B.

Avandre Brandt and Audrey Brownell are double conference champions, each winning two events at the Mid State Conference track/field meet held at C-I on May 14.

In the boys meet, Brandt won the 200 meter dash and the high jump, while Brownell won the girls 800 and 1,600 meter races.

Brandt came close to a third title, finishing second in the long jump. Turner Beachy was the other boys

title winner, in the pole vault.

Cami Anderson was the conference champion in the shot put and Burton won the 3,200 meter run. Burton was also second in the 1,600.

Boys results

Detroit Lakes 114, Park Rapids 59, Crosby-Ironton 50, Staples-Motley 49

100 - 5. Massimo Pili 12.19, 6. Benet Robinson 12.20, 11. Jesus Gallardo 13.01, 13. Alexander Helstrom 13.23 16. Justin Olson 14.35

200 - 1. Brandt 23.97, 7. Gavin Chenoweth 26.40, 12. Gallardo 27.09

800 - 2. Logan Robben 2:06, 11. Odin Trif 2:24, 16. Andrew Dobson 2:40

1,600 - 7. Blaine Plattner 5:20

3,200 - 8. Ivan Lozano 12:07

110 hurdles - 4. Noah Larson 17.26, 5. Chenoweth 19.17

300 hurdles - 2. Larson 45.03, 6. Dillan Robben 48.18

4x100 - 3. SM 47.09

4x200 - 2. SM 1:34

4x400 - 4. SM 3:46

4x800 - 4. SM 10:27

High jump - 1. Brandt 5'10", 7. Josiah Critten 5'4", 9. Turner Beachy 5'2", 11. Plattner 5'0"

Long jump - 2. Brandt 21'1.5", 5. Robinson 18'6.5", 6. Critten 18'2.25", 12. L. Robben 16'3.25"

Triple jump - 3. Sawyer Ferdon 40'8", 5. Conner Kuhns 37'3.5", 6. Gallardo 34'4.5", 9. Helstrom 33'11.5", 10. Chenoweth 33'8.25"

Pole vault - 1. Beachy 13'6", 3. Kuhns 11'6"

Discus - 7. Steven Petrich 107', 8. Dustin Converse 96'11", 10. Larson 86'8", 14. Liam Jennissen 66'10"

Shot put - 7. Petrich 40'5.5", 9. Drake Dukowitz 38'11.75", 10. Converse 35'1.25"

Girls results

Detroit Lakes 121, Park Rapids 66, Crosby-Ironton 46, Staples-Motley 39

100 - 3. Sophia Luna 13.88, 4. Corrine Olson 13.99, 16. Tamara Strelly 15.32, 18. Charlotte Wunderlich 15.83

200 - 5. Olson 29.39, 14. Kana Reese 31.66, 16. Martina Lopez Matarredon 33.11, 18. Leah Greenwaldt 34.41

400 - 13. Brooke Bendson 1:15

800 - 1. Brownell 2:23, 11. Naila Mikhaeil 2:46

1,600 - 1. Brownell 5:04, 2. Burton 5:24, 7. Alea Holst 6:03, 10. Suhaila Mikhaeil 6:21, 14. Madelyn Kist 6:57

3,200 - 1. Burton 11:45

100 hurdles - 8. Bailey Weiland 19.24, 10. Abby Brichacek 20.27

4x100 - 3. SM 55.91

4x200 - 4. SM 2:07

4x400 - 4. SM 5:20

High jump - 7. Avery Japke 4'4", 13. Dalma Kovacs 4'4", 14. N. Mikhaeil 4'

Long jump - 9. Paula Rauwerda 12'9", 11. Francesca Malagone 12'3", 14. Luna 11'8.5", 15. Marissa Heifort 8'6"

Triple jump - 6. Brichacek 29'5", 7. Ronnie Noska 28'9.5"

Pole vault - 10. Wunderlich 7', 11. Strelly 6'6"

Discus - 4. Annie Schlosser 94'7", 9. Weiland 76'5", 10. Josie Jennissen 67'9", 11. Noska 64'7"

Shot put - 1. Camden Anderson 31'9.5", 5. Weiland 28'11", 8. Jennissen 26'6", 11. Heifort 23'4.5"



Cardinal track and field stars

Above, Avandre Brandt races to the Mid State Conference 100 meter title. Left, Noah Larson was 2nd in the 110 meter hurdles. Right, Logan Robben races to second place in the 800 meter run. (Submitted photos)



Audrey Brownell



2024 continued from page 1a

After mastering technology, Class of 2024 students are inspired to follow a wide variety of academic and extra-curricular interests

freezes up,” said Rutten.

Both seniors took a combination of online classes and live classes throughout their high school careers. They realize how the new educational landscape has changed the class.

“Online and Zoom classes are difficult to interact with your classmates,” said Jimenez-Kloeckl. “There’s no chance to make friends, so our class split up into certain groups.”

Rutten agreed, although she said that the class is still somewhat cohesive.

“No one is not friends, but everyone has their smaller groups,” said Rutten.

Even though they figured out the online classes, both of them prefer in-person classes with live teachers.

Principal Ferdon said all that technological learning has put this class on a different playing field.

“If they miss school for an event or if they’re sick, they know how to log in and catch up,” said Ferdon. “They know how to do online meetings through Zoom or Google Meet and others. It’s normal now for classes and teachers to be able to do everything online.

“With all those adjustments, this could be the most different class. It’s a very different world than it was four years ago when they started high school.”

Learning paths

Jimenez-Kloeckl is planning to attend Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, looking to do environmental sciences and biology.

Rutten is attending Bemidji State University and to study biology and pre-dental.

Both students agreed that their post-high school choices were shaped by their teachers and classes.

Rutten said one of her favorite teachers was Lorna Birkholtz, who inspired her to go into biology.

Jimenez-Kloeckl said Mrs. Card’s class with grow tower inspired her to go into biology.

“We would grow different things like lettuce and dill, then you would go in and make your own salad before class,” she said.

Rutten said another big boost for her learning path was a career exploration class she took through Central Lakes College.

“I originally wanted to do as little college as possible,” said Rutten, “now I’m really enjoying school, I enjoy my classes.”

Jimenez-Kloeckl agreed, pointing out how students should realize how lucky they are to be going to school.

“It’s so fun to constantly have the opportunity to learn things, see other people and just leave your house for a while,” she said.

Even before high school, both girls felt they had a good learning start at Sacred Heart Area School. Rutten pointed out that the top three students in grade point average were all girls who attended Sacred Heart.

Rutten felt that the smaller classes at Sacred Heart helped them.

Jimenez-Kloeckl agreed, saying “It helped us to have a close group. It gave you a chance to be your own person.”

Rutten said this is also the first class that didn’t go to middle school in Motley, so the students have been one class since the beginning.

“The year before us was when Staples and Motley collided,” said Rutten.

She said the class heard stories about that melding, but it didn’t affect this class.

“I think it’s going better now that we’re all together,” said Rutten.

Both Rutten and Jimenez-Kloeckl were involved in extracurricular activities throughout their high school careers.

Rutten thought that being in sports and music helped her get better grades.

“I could go do the thing I love and then go home and study,” said Rutten. “If I wasn’t doing anything after school, I probably wouldn’t get my homework done.”

Jimenez-Kloeckl said each student needed to find out what works.

“Some weeks you have to put all your effort into school, then fall behind in music, but the next week you might be able to catch up in music and not do as much for school,” she said.

But it wasn’t easy.

“I was pretty stressed the whole time,” said Jimenez-Kloeckl.

Class of 2024

Ferdon said that this year’s graduating class is “a huge mix of different kids, some are really into agriculture, machining, academics or athletics.

She said it is also a class with designs for their future.

“A lot of them know what they want to do next,” said Ferdon.

Rutten said “I feel our class is intelligent. We have a lot of people who earned an AA degree, we have the most college credits. Most people know what direction they want to go in.”

She said the academic excellence was female-led, with girls earning most of the top grade point averages.

Jimenez-Kloeckl also noted the wide variety of academic interests and extracurricular excellence that the class has achieved.

“We have people who have excelled in speech, music and sports,” she said.

Jimenez-Kloeckl and Rutten will tell more about the Class of 2024 during their graduation speeches. Graduation is Friday, May 24, at 7:30 p.m. at the Staples-Motley gymnasium.



Pretty in pink

Fifth Street NE in Staples was ablaze with pink May 16, as several flowering trees were in full bloom. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Nectar buzz

A flowering crab tree attracted many bees, making the trees buzz with a large number of them finding nectar. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)





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For all caregivers, family members, and friends, who are caring for someone with dementia

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Wadena: Immanuel Lutheran Church, 11 am-12 pm	Sep 24
Long Prairie: Great River Regional Library, 2-3 pm	Oct 22
	May 28
	Nov 26
	Jun 25
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