



Wednesday, November 18, 2020

Staples World

Staples, Minnesota

\$1

Veterans honored with drive-by parade

Staples-Motley Elementary School students line the sidewalk to wave and greet veterans as they parade past the school in their vehicles on Veterans Day. (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)

Weather

This Week's Forecast

High Low Cond.

Nov. 18	45°	31°	M. Cloudy
Nov. 19	46°	26°	M. Sunny
Nov. 20	39°	26°	M. Cloudy
Nov. 21	38°	21°	M. Cloudy
Nov. 22	38°	20°	P. Cloudy
Nov. 23	34°	25°	Sunny
Nov. 24	35°	28°	P. Cloudy

Last Year, 2019

High Low Cond.

Nov. 18	34°	22°	Cloudy
Nov. 19	30°	24°	Snow
Nov. 20	31°	23°	Cloudy
Nov. 21	29°	20°	Cloudy
Nov. 22	36°	21°	Cloudy
Nov. 23	39°	24°	Sunny
Nov. 24	42°	30°	P. Cloudy

Average Temps:

H = 35° Low = 20°

No report on rain or snow.

Compiled by

Dale Hausmann,

WCCO's Staples area

Weatherwatcher

Todd County approves 115 CARES Act grants

By Karin L. Nauber
Todd County correspondent

There have been 115 businesses in Todd County who have so far been approved for CARES Act grants through Todd County.

At their meeting held on Nov. 2, the Todd County Board of Commissioners approved another \$676,693 in grants to businesses and non-profits. This was part of the Round 2 grants.

The first round grants were in the amount of \$109,299.

The county has extended the timeline for the second round grants to November 13 giving more opportunities for businesses that may have not applied.

They hope to get at least 20 more applications.

They also approved a third round application period for grants.

According to Coordinator Chris Pelzer, "CARES Act CRF funds remain available for small business relief due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Todd County's first Round Small Business Relief Grants excluded businesses that received funds through the MN DEED lottery program.

"Due to funds remaining in the small business relief program, an application

has been created to allow for businesses who received the MN DEED lottery funds to apply for up to \$5,000 of grant funds if application criteria are met," she said.

The county anticipates about \$25,000 for these third-round grants.

The CARES funds must be done by Dec. 1 or the county will have to return any remaining funds.

There were three additional actions that were also related to the CARES Act funds.

- Approved the purchase of an emergency management vehicle. It will be a Ford F-150 truck with a state bid price of \$40,339 plus licensing. The radio for the vehicle is an additional \$4553.65.

They also added a hard tonneau cover for \$1,200.

The installation of these add-ons is \$3,120.

- Approved the purchase of a Ford 10 passenger transit van which will be used to transport inmates who may be COVID positive to other correctional facilities or clinic/hospital appointments.

The van can also be used to transport COVID positive bodies to the Midwest Medical Examiners Office for

See **TODD** on page 3a



Students draw Peace Through Service

The winner of the annual Lions Peace Poster Contest was Aliza Qureshi. She said she saw this year's theme, "Peace Through Service," in all the essential workers. She made symbols for police, firemen, justice department, educators, military and doctors. She added 7 stars for the continents and a world with a heart showing a great world when we all work together. At the end she said she

made the stethoscope pink because her mom was studying to be a doctor and she made the one on her poster look like her mom's.

Pictured below are Beth Gedde Winner Aliza Qureshi, Kathy Johnson and Kris Taylor second place winner. Kris was the first place winner in the 2019 contest. (Submitted photos)



Making their voices heard

Staples-Motley winners of the Voice of Democracy essay contest, from left, Tiana Gonzalez (2nd place), Isabel Birkholtz (1st place), Gabe Koval (3rd place). (Submitted photo)

Care Center confirms COVID-19 in residents

Lakewood Health System Care Center has identified positive cases of COVID-19 in two of its residents.

"While this is an unfortunate situation, we are well prepared and doing everything we can to ensure the ongoing safety of our residents and staff," said Kathy Dobson, Vice President of Senior Services. "Aggressive proactive infection control measures and screening procedures are in place which we believe will help us manage these cases as effectively as possible. We have enacted our emergency response plan with heightened infection control protocols, and we are working in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) to ensure we are taking appropriate steps. Our staff and residents are following recommended preventative actions, we continue to screen staff, residents and visitors, and all residents and their primary contacts have been notified."

"As we navigate this challenge, we are especially grateful for our dedicated caregiving team who are working tirelessly to ensure a clean, safe environment for all who live and work here. We all remain focused on providing exceptional care and services for our residents/tenants."

The care center has been doing testing of all residents and staff who work in the care center per directive from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the MDH. We are continuing to restrict visitors to our facility (with the exception of compassionate/essential care visits) until we are able to confirm there are no longer positive cases.

Public Notices

May Township: 9A

Obituaries

Marlys Jares
Maurice Peterson
Comfy Yeske

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Thank you for subscribing!



Motley American Legion donates special flag

The Motley American Legion, Post #124, presented a special American flag at the Motley City Council meeting Nov. 9, in honor of the city's police department (blue line), fire department (red line) and the military (green line). Pictured, from left, are Motley Fire Chief Brad Olson, Motley American Legion Commander Tom Ladwig;

Motley City Council member Pat O'Regan; Motley Mayor Al Yoder; Motley City Council member Steve Johnson; Motley American Legion member Frank Vasecka; and Motley Police Chief Jason Borash. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Motley City Council approves Cares Act Funding purchases

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Thanks to Covid-19 Cares Act Funding received in September, the City of Motley has been able to purchase a variety of operating supplies and services. Curt Bryniarski, the city's Clerk/Treasurer, gave an update of these funds at the Motley City Council's regular meeting Nov. 9.

A total of \$49,921.46 had been received by the city (including elections amount from the county) to be used

for non-budgeted items or services that are related to the pandemic, with the stipulation that these funds be used by Nov. 15. Of these funds, \$8,000 went to businesses and the Motley Area Food Shelf. The rest went to supplies and services.

Previously, the council had approved purchasing a variety of items, including hand sanitizer dispensers, security cameras, safety glasses and masks, medical gloves, a one-year Zoom account, webcam, fiber installation at Converse Park and tables for the council meetings.

At their meeting Nov. 9, the council learned that the funds remaining totaled \$27,824.37. After some discussion, they approved the following purchases:

- A ChargePoint Cloud Plan one-year renewal for \$672
- Additional funding for council tables, \$1,500
- New audio system for the council chambers, \$2,165. This includes installation
- Two new radios for the police department, \$8,945
- Six new pagers for the fire department, \$2,928
- A \$2,000 donation to the Motley Area Food Shelf, which is a non-profit.

Mayor Al Yoder thanked Bryniarski for all of his hard work in getting the various quotes. "You did a great job keeping us moving forward on this," Yoder said.

Although not all council members were physically present at the meeting, there was a quorum. Attending in person were the mayor, along with council members Pat O'Regan and Steve Johnson. The other two council members, Jace Carlson and Amy Hutchi-

son, attended virtually via Zoom.

In other matters the council:

- HELD a public hearing prior to the regular meeting to consider an amendment to the nuisance ordinance to add language limiting the use of storage/shipping containers for storage use. No one from the public was present. The council decided to discuss this further at a special meeting on Nov. 13.
- LEARNED the fire department had 13 total calls during October.
- HEARD from Motley Firefighter Todd Judd in regard to the Relief Association's pension. Currently, fully vested members of the Motley Fire Department Relief Association receive \$2,000 per year of active service upon retirement. After some discussion the council approved raising that amount to \$3,000 per year. Council member Jace Carlson, who is also a member of the fire department, abstained from voting.
- LEARNED the police department had 70 total calls during October.
- HEARD an update from Police Chief Jason Borash on the Follis property at 149 Front St. East in Motley. The city had previously obtained an administrative search warrant to enter the property and clean it up. Chief Borash said a total of 116 hours were spent cleaning the Follis property, with the work being done by himself, police officer Josh Pesta, Public Works Supervisor Bruce Brother-ton and Maintenance Assistant Bryan Stevens. Follis is responsible for all hearing costs incurred, as well as for the cleaning services.
- HEARD from Bryan Stevens that there have been no violations at the wastewater treatment facility, in regard to the waste-

water pond effluent limits. Stevens said that the chemical they started using last year appears to be working.

- APPROVED purchasing two signs for the dog park that read, "Parking for Park Users Only. Violators will be towed at owners expense and risk." The signs are black and white.
- APPROVED a motion not to waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minnesota Statutes, section 466.04. Motley is a member of the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT), the company from which they obtain their liability coverage.
- PASSED a resolution establishing precinct boundaries and designating a polling place for 2021 elections.
- APPROVED sending out certified letters to eight households that have past-due utility bills.
- APPROVED a motion to lease a Marco Konica Bizhub C250i copier through Sourcewell for 60 months. The cost is \$140.76 per month.
- APPROVED the prosecution agreement between the City of Motley and Morrison County, which is a three-year contract. Brian J. Middendorf is the Morrison County Attorney.
- APPROVED the following three Motley businesses receiving Covid-19 Business Assistance Program grants, as they met all of the criteria: Country Terrace LLLP, Smitty Music & Vending Inc., and FCA Sales. Each grant is \$2,000. Three other businesses previously received the grant.
- SET the next regular council meeting for Monday, Dec. 14, at 6:30 p.m., or immediately following the final 2021 budget/levy public hearing which is scheduled that day at 6 p.m.

COVID-19 now spreading in Wadena County

Central Minnesota is seeing the effects of record COVID-19 numbers in Minnesota. Wadena County saw the second straight week of more than 100 new cases of COVID-19, with 120 cases reported Nov. 9-15. Nearly 44 percent of the 519 total cases in the county have come in the last two weeks. Before this, the county had seen relatively low numbers of the virus.

Todd County saw 207 new cases during the week, which is lower than the 241 recorded in the previous week. Cass County had 246 new cases and Morrison 258. Area counties saw record numbers in the past week with Crow Wing hitting 629, Otter Tail 609, Douglas 492, Hubbard 141 and Stearns

1,860 in just one week.

Zip code numbers were released Nov. 12, with Staples seeing 52 new cases from the previous week. Motley had 23, Pillager 31, Wadena 40 and Long Prairie 68.

Area counties saw more deaths from COVID-19 in the past week, two in Todd County, one in Wadena, One in Cass, four in Morrison and 14 in Stearns.

Riverside Assisted Living in Pillager was added to the list of congregate care facilities that have detected an active case in residents, staff or visitors in the past 28 days. Lakewood HealthSystem announced two cases at the Lakewood Care Center.

Lakewood makes temporary operating changes to Motley and Eagle Bend clinics

Lakewood Health System, Staples, is temporarily closing its Motley clinic effective Nov. 13, and its Eagle Bend clinic will be closed Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, effective Nov. 16. Both operational changes are due to the need to effectively deploy staff and resources in response to COVID-19.

These closures and changes are temporary, and we will continue to assess the situation in order to determine when to resume normal operations. Patients

who have upcoming clinic appointments scheduled will be notified. Patients can still receive in-person care Monday through Friday at Lakewood's Browerville, Staples and Pillager clinics, and Wednesdays and Thursdays at the Eagle Bend clinic.

Lakewood also offers virtual and Click Care visits, as well as drive-up COVID testing by appointment at the Staples and Browerville clinics.

WELCOMING HOME TO MOTLEY...



Hayden
Beautiful daughter of Christine & Taylor
Born 10/5/20 in Staples.



Olson
Beautiful son of Brittney & Keith
Born 10/8/20 in Staples.



Hudson
Beautiful son of Mikaela & Greg
Born 10/9/20 in Staples.



Sampson
Beautiful son of Brittany & Dylan
Born 10/10/20 in Staples.

WE ARE SO HONORED TO BE A PART OF YOUR CHILD'S BIRTH.



218-894-1515
lakewoodhealthsystem.com

WELCOMING HOME TO MOTLEY...



Liza & Kora
Beautiful twins of Tayah & Justin
Born 10/5/20 in Staples.

WE ARE SO HONORED TO BE A PART OF YOUR CHILD'S BIRTH.



218-894-1515
lakewoodhealthsystem.com

Motley police, MCSO reports

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

Nov. 5 - The MPD responded to a report of burglary at the 900 block of Hwy 10 S., Motley.

Nov. 8 - The MCSO received a report of a male in Motley who was possibly suicidal.

Nov. 6 - The MCSO issued a speeding citation to Justin Bischoff, 34.

Staples World

Staples World newspaper

We are available Mon.-Fri. from 8 a.m. - noon; closed for lunch.

Mon.- Thurs. afternoons, please call first.

Classifieds: office@staplesworld.com

Copy: editor@staplesworld.com Notary service: morning only.

Excluding holiday schedules, **deadline is Friday by noon.**

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





Another Covid closing

Casey's gas station and convenience store in Staples was shut down temporarily Nov. 13, due to an employee who had tested positive for Covid-19. A spokesperson at the corporate office said that their company follows strict guidelines and that along with the shutdown, a deep cleaning had been scheduled and quarantine measures were in place. After approximately 24 hours, Casey's reopened to the public. In lower photo, Mike Wallace of Staples reads the sign on the door after attempting to enter the store that morning. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Staples World

DEADLINES

Newspaper deadline for copy and advertising: 12 noon Fridays

Looking back

75 YEARS Ago - 1945

• Nov. 22, 1945 - A well crowded auditorium greeted the children of Sacred Heart Parochial school at their annual program the evenings of Nov. 16 and 18.

A great improvement was noted in the program, over that of the past year. This is possibly due to the fact that a complete new program of plays, music and drills was presented this year, with no repetitions whatsoever.

Perhaps the outstanding numbers were those by the rhythm band. The director,

Compiled by
Dawn Timbs

Little Nancy Schultenover, did a splendid job at leading the little musicians in perfect rhythm.

The music of the Misses Donna Greeno, Eileen Jaeger, and Audrey Griep added a great deal to the program. These three young women are accomplished musicians, and performed in excellent way.

• Nov. 22, 1945 - The Rockets of Motley High school will resume league basketball after a lapse of several years. They will take the floor against a strong Hewitt five on Nov. 27, at the Fair-ground pavilion. The building is being sheeted in the inside with cel-o-tex which will make it much easier to heat, lighter and more favorable for basketball.

The Motley boys, none of which have ever played any basketball, are coming along in nice shape and should put up a good game against Hewitt Nov. 27, and Backus Nov. 30.

Barring unforeseen developments or ineligibility, the Rockets should start Harvey Marohn at center, Bill Strong and Clem Coverston as forwards; with Milford (Andy) Rosvold and Laird Flora as guards. The balance of the first ten are Joe Hazuka, Arnold Dvorak, Melvin Aleshire and Marvin Swecker.

• Nov. 22, 1945 - The Staples Cardinals have a 17 game schedule for the 1945 - 46 basketball season.

Six men will make up the nucleus of the Card Quint this season they are being Mac and Russ Dahl, John Peterson, Jerry Grant, Orin Peterson and Doug Johnson.

The first home game is to be played on Dec. 14, with the Brainerd Warriors.

50 YEARS Ago - 1970

• Nov. 26, 1970 - Salaries of faculty members in Independent School District 793, Staples, are about at the state median. This fact was brought out in a state-wide



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our Nov. 26, 1970 edition. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photos? Email your answers and where you are from

to dtimbs@staplesworld.com by Friday morning, or call 218-894-1112. The answers will be published in next week's paper, as well as a new mystery photo.

survey of faculty salaries prepared and released by the Minnesota Education Association of St. Paul this week.

Staples high school, with an enrollment of 2,043, has a minimum two-year starting salary of \$5,600; the three-year minimum salary is \$5,950, and the B.A. minimum salary is \$7,000.

The state median for B.A. teachers is \$6,988, which is an increase of \$453 over last year's. The state median for M.A. teachers is \$7,635, and the Staples M.A. minimum is \$7,875.

• Nov. 26, 1970 - A break-in at Ronnie's Skelly Station, located on South Sixth Street, was reported by Staples Police.

Chief of Police, William Card, said that the break-in apparently took place early Thursday morning, Nov. 19. Entrance to the business was gained by breaking in the front door.

Card also said that 7 cartons of cigarettes and 2 rolls of pennies were stolen as a result of the break-in. Staples Police are investigating the incident.

• Nov. 26, 1970 - The fire alarm sounding in Staples about 7:20 p.m. Nov. 23, summoned the members of the Staples Fire Department to the Jay Miller residence, located north of Staples.

Leo Fahnländer, Fire Chief, said that the fire was confined to the chimney and no serious damage resulted.

• Nov. 26, 1970 - George Marden, Staples, was the winner of the Big Buck contest, sponsored during

the deer hunting season by KWAD Radio. Marden bagged a buck that weighed 280 pounds. The big buck was shot near the Rainbow Trail, 9 miles north of Staples. Others in his hunting party were Frank Doyle, Sr., Frank Doyle, Jr., Terry Doyle and Ronald McCauley.

• Nov. 26, 1970 - Under the reins of their new coach, Tom Wolhowe, the Cardinal cagers of Staples high school have been preparing for their season's opener Dec. 1, against the Frazee quint on the home court. Co-captains of the Cardinal team, and the only two returning lettermen, are Jack Kirk and George Smith.

25 YEARS Ago - 1995

• Nov. 23, 1995 - Mel Nefstead, Jr. will be the executive director for the Staples Area Chamber of Commerce. His office will be in the First Integrity Bank Annex.

• Nov. 23, 1995 - Bruce Pederson, Staples Motley High School principal, was one of two finalists considered for the job of superintendent at Pine River-Backus school.

The PR-B board made their decision at their regular meeting Nov. 20. Patrick Flanagan, superintendent at Braham, will be offered the job.

• Nov. 23, 1995 - Students of the Week at Motley Staples Middle School were Pam Johnson, 6th grade, nominated by Mr. Larson; Joe Richards, 7th grade, nominated by Mr. Carlson; and Lindsey Williams, 8th

grade, nominated by Mr. Skogen.

• Nov. 23, 1995 - Derek Mattila, 15 years old, captured the 1995 Junior Olympics cross country individual championship this past weekend in Mount Horeb, Wisc. The top 25 individuals from each of the eight states in Region VIII were eligible to compete in the meet.

Derek's victory was a truly remarkable feat, considering he had finished 11th in the state meet the week before. "He's accomplished a feat that he will remember with pride for years to come, and so will I," said his father, Gene Mattila.

10 YEARS Ago - 2010

• Nov. 25, 2010 - A celebration of homegrown food took place on Nov. 20 at the Staples Depot, with the first Thanksgiving of the Staples Farmer's Market.

The regular market was set up and vendors provided a Thanksgiving meal for customers. They served turkey, corn potatoes and gravy, bread, spiced apple cider, pumpkin bars, blueberry pie and more.

• Nov. 25, 2010 - Jaelin Beachy was the only Staples Motley Cardinal swimmer to make an appearance at the 2010 State Swim Meet last week at the University of Minnesota Aquatics Center.

Beachy qualified in the 100 breaststroke in the Section 6AA meet, and went on to reset her personal record and swim her fastest time.

Coach Bruce Onischuk noted that Beachy raced to a 17th place finish, just missing the top 16 by two tenths of a second. She set her personal record at 1:10.0; her time coming into the meet was 1:10.37.

Needing/Wanting a Granite Memorial FOR YOUR FAMILY?

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Rep. for Fergus Falls Monument Co.

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DEADLINE

for all classified ads and copy is 12 noon Friday

For the Staples World

Community holilday meal will be pickup at Timbers

Due to COVID-19, the local area faith-based organizations will not be able to provide a holiday meal to community members. To assist with the number of individuals and families who partake in this community benefit the Staples Chamber, Timbers Restaurant, Staples Methodist Church, Lakewood Health System, Care Ministries and Staples Motley Beyond Poverty are teaming up to provide holiday meals to those in the community.

Timbers Restaurant will be offering a hot meal (serving for one) pick-up only. Registration is required, as we have a limited amount available. Registration will close at noon on November 17. It will be on a first come

first serve basis via registration.

Timbers Restaurant will be serving on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 26. Once, the individual(s) have registered there is no need to call ahead. Pick-up times are from 4-6 p.m. Timbers Restaurant will have a list of all who have registered via Eventbrite and will verify when they pick up. This also allows them to know how many meals you have reserved.

Share this information with your staff and any individuals that may be in need.

Go to www.eventbrite.com/e/staples-holiday-meals-tickets-126814943911.

TODD continued from page 1a

Items purchased with grants

autopsy. This includes the van being fully equipped.

The van will also be purchased with CARES Act funds for the amount of \$46,760.

• Approved the purchase of 10 encrypted portable ARMER radios using CARES Act funds. These will be used to improve mass dispensing site secure communications for public health, law enforcement and traffic control.

The cost of the radios is \$44,050.30

In other business

• Hired John Fick as a part-time road deputy beginning Nov. 2.

• Adopted the 2020 county fee schedule to be effective Jan. 1, 2021.

• Michelle Buer the owner of Willow Bridge Recovery, LLC, an adult non-residential treatment program, is planning to open the facility in Long Prairie as during the first part of 2021.

As part of the licensing process, Willow Bridge Recovery, LLC is requesting a letter of support/need from the Todd County Board of Commissioners.

This will be an outpatient facility for people with substance abuse issues.

Buer previously ran an adolescent facility in Vernadale.

Commissioner Randy Neumann told Buer if they outgrew the facility in Long Prairie, there was a really good school building in Clarissa he would recommend.

The board approved the letter.

• Heard an update on COVID-19 from Health and Human Services Director Jackie Och.

The number of those infected who have been lab-confirmed has risen 278 since the last October meeting of the board.

She told the commissioners that the local hospitals are starting to keep patients here and not sending them to St. Cloud.

Community transmission continues to be the largest factor in the spread of the disease.

This increase has been further attributed to out-

door activities now being moved back indoors with the cooler temps.

Och is meeting with someone to try to set up a free community testing site in Long Prairie. They continue to look at options for drive-thru testing.

She shared that the Expo Building was used by CentraCare on Wednesday for a flu shot clinic.

• Held the second reading of the tobacco ordinance.

The ordinance will be approved at the next meeting.

• Held the second reading of the solid waste ordinance and approved the waste designation ordinance which will become effective January 1, 2021.

• Commissioner Gary Kneisl and Solid Waste Director Chris McConn gave an update on MCIT.

McConn said that MCIT has informed the counties that they may no longer insure the Perham waste incinerator facility in 2021, but at the same time, MCIT's contract does not allow the counties to shop for another insurer. They have asked, but have heard nothing back from MCIT on the matter.

• During the brief work session that followed the regular meeting, Sheriff Steve Och and Chief Deputy Lonnie Marcyes shared that they are looking into the contract with Midwest Medical Examiners on using citizen death investigators.

They would like to switch it to the law enforcement model at Todd County which would result in an approximate \$28,000 savings annually. The current contract is for \$60,000. With the law enforcement model, the cost would drop to about \$32,000.

Both said that it would save time and money if the sheriff's department conducted the death investigations.

Marcyes said it made sense financially and would result in a cleaner and quicker investigation.

They will be bringing a board action to the next regular meeting.

Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo, published in the Nov. 19, 1970 edition of the Staples World, featured three brothers from Staples who had had a successful time deer hunting about seven miles north of Staples. Pictured from left are Douglas, 18; Steve, 16; and Donald, 14, the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hoemberg of Staples. According to the article, "The buck shot by Doug was 130 pounds and the buck downed by Steve tipped the scales at

170 pounds. The fawn shot by Donald was a 75 pounder."

Pat Soule of Staples correctly identified all, as did Mike Koppes, also of Staples. In addition, Molly Hoemberg, 10, and her sister, Meredith, eight, identified their grandpa, Steven, and their great-uncles. They also knew it was a photo of opening day for deer hunting. Thanks for participating in our Mystery Photo.

Friendly Rider

Friendly Rider's Hours for Dispatching are
Monday - Friday
8:00a.m. to 4:30p.m.

Friendly Rider will be closed
Saturdays and Sundays.

218-631-5730
WWW.FRIENDLYRIDER.COM

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Wadena County



Celebrating veterans

Staples-Motley Elelemtary students lined the sidewalk in front of the school waving their veterans drawings, banners and flags in appreciation of the veterans participating in the drive-by parade Nov. 11. Above: Second graders show their artwork. (Staples World photos by Janice Winter)



Coming out to support veterans

Staples-Motley Middle School and High School students lined 4th Street NE Nov. 11. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Bright moments amid school changes

By Shane Tappe
Staples-Motley School Superintendent

It has been a challenging week as we navigate through the difficult decisions that come with educating students in the midst of COVID-19. I want to start by thanking you for your flexibility and grace as we announced the temporary shift to distance learning for grades 9-12, and the reduction of on-site hybrid days for grades 7-8 beginning on Tuesday, Nov. 17.

Though we had some tough moments this week, we had some bright ones, too.

• Sadie Claussen embodied our Cardinal Priorities by respectfully rallying the pride of S-M fans at the girls volleyball game, Tuesday evening - an effort that was so remarkable, CI Superintendent Dr. Jamie Skjeveland called me the next morning just to tell me about it!

• On Wednesday, we were able to adapt our typical indoor Veterans Day program to a brief, outdoor “Parade of Appreciation” to ensure our local veterans know

how grateful we are for their service. Students at the Middle/High School, Elementary School and Early Education Center made their way to the street to wave flags, hold signs and perform in honor of our vets.

• The Tackle Cancer event held at our final home football game last week raised almost \$500 for Randy Shaver Cancer Fund and was featured on Karell’s Prep Sports last Friday evening.

Our goal this year is to have students learning in-person as much as possible while minimizing the risks of COVID-19 amongst our students, staff and community. We hope the adjustments at the Middle/High School over the next two weeks will help us “reset” and enable us to return to our current hybrid model on November 30th. The district continues to work through challenges with staffing due to contact tracing & quarantine requirements, and this date may adjust based on the data in our counties, quarantine requirements in our student and staff bodies, and any positive cases within our school buildings.

Additionally, the district is working through the accommodations of Executive Orders 20-94 and 20-95. This may result in minor adjustments to the daily and/or weekly schedules district-wide. More information will be released on these adjustments next week.

We ask that you carefully decide whether or not your child is healthy enough to attend school each day by using the MDH Decision Tree, and ensure that your student has an appropriate face covering with them every day. If you believe you have symptoms of COVID-19, at-home COVID-19 saliva testing is now available to all Minnesotans who believe they need to be tested, with or without symptoms, at no cost.

As a reminder - if any household member has symptoms or is being tested for COVID-19, all household members must stay home. The MDH Decision Tree and our District Nurse Kristy Brownell can help you navigate whether or not your students should attend school.



Waves and cheers

The entire length of SMES was lined with students as veterans drove past in their vehicles.

Ella Judd represented the school handing out pillows and poems from the third grade to each veteran, including Huck Holst (right). Materials for the pillows was provided by a grant from Thrivent Financial to Jody Johnson’s classroom for the project.



Minnesota executive orders change due to COVID-19 outbreak

Todd County is experiencing a significant increase of COVID-19 cases, from October 30 through November 12, 396 cases were reported in Todd County.

With this amount of community transmission, residents are more likely to come in contact with a person who is infected with COVID19 in settings where they are around other people. There is great concern that without following prevention measures our local hospitals may reach capacity and hospital beds will not be available to those who are seriously ill or injured. It remains critically important, at this point in time, that we all wear masks, social distance by at least 6 feet, wash our hands often, keep social/family gatherings small, and stay home if we’re feeling sick or have been exposed to COVID-19. The more we work together to practice these measures, the more we will help to slow the spread of COVID-19.

In response to the statewide rapid increase of COVID-19 cases, Governor Walz signed Emergency Executive Order 20-96 on Tuesday, November 10 which

restricts social gatherings, celebrations, and the hours and operations of bars, restaurants, and venues to prevent further spread of COVID-19.

Effective November 13, 2020:

- Total restaurant and bar capacity will be capped at 150 people, including both inside and outside settings, and it may not exceed 50% of the establishment’s total capacity. Table size remains at 10.
- Bar counter service for all establishments will be closed for seating and service.
- If the establishment uses a “counter-service only” model for ordering food and beverages, it must create a social distance queueing model.
- Patrons must remain seated; no bar games such as darts and pool. If the establishment offers pull tabs, it must be offered in a queue that is marked and socially distanced.
- All bars and restaurants must end on-site consumption of food and beverages between 10 p.m. to 4 a.m.
- Recreational entertainment venues (like movie

theaters, bowling alleys, or similar settings), must cease food and beverage services and must not permit food and beverages to be consumed on site between the hours of 10 p.m. and 4 a.m.

Additionally, Executive Order 20-96 tightens restrictions on social gatherings:

- Private parties, private celebrations, and receptions for weddings, funerals, and similar events hosted at venues will also have capacity limits. Effective November 13, these celebrations must end at 10:00 p.m. and remain closed until 4:00 a.m., if they serve or permit consumption of food or beverages.
- Celebrations events at venues including receptions for weddings, funerals, birthday parties, reunions, anniversary celebrations, and private parties will be limited to 50 total participants on November 27; and 25 total on December 11.

There will be no change to wedding, funeral, and religious services - just the related celebrations and receptions.

StaplesWorld

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Quote of the week

“You call my candidate a horse thief, and I call yours a lunatic, and both of us know it’s just till election day. It’s an American custom, like eating corn on the cob. And, afterwards, we settle down quite peaceably and agree we’ve got a pretty good country - until next election.”
— Stephen Vincent Benet

Quote of the week

“Being good is easy, what is difficult is being just.”
— Victor Hugo



Cross country staff presents trophies

With no trophy presentations after cross country meets, the Staples-Motley athletics department held a ceremony on Nov. 13, to present section and conference trophies, and honor both teams that finished the season ranked number one in the state. Pictured from left, Athletic Director Josh Lee, coaches Tony Spandl, Bruce Fuhrman and Steve Jennissen. Fuhrman said "These are two of the best teams ever to come out of Staples-Motley. Ten of our runners are on the school

honor roll, and we have both school 5K record holders, Emmet Anderson and Kyanna Burton." Although the season was limited and the state meet was not run this year, Fuhrman said "The bigger the meet, the more they would have stood out. They will go down in the history books as the state champions." The ceremony was streamed online. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Champions rewarded

Above left, cross country senior captains Emmet Anderson, Sam Jennissen and Tanner Robben show their section championship trophy. Above right, captains Abby Brown, Addison Lorber and Ashley Robben. Left, Anderson shows the three first place medals presented to him at the ceremony. Two were for the section individual and section team titles, the third was a special medal from the Staples-Motley Athletics Hall of Fame Committee. Anderson was ranked number one in the state all season and won the post-season Twin Cities Running Club Showcase, a race that replaced the state meet. The Hall of Fame Committee considered that a state title and refurbished an old state medal, put his name and section time on it and presented it at the ceremony. Anderson has four section titles and four conference titles. Coach Fuhrman predicted "He would have crushed the state record if there had been a state meet."



Christmas for Kids

The Staples '93 Lions are once again preparing for the annual Christmas for Kids program.

Their goal is to assist where there is a need and to provide holiday joy to those children in our Staples-Motley School District who otherwise may not have a Christmas.

If you or someone you know could use a little help with Christmas gifts this year, pick up an application at either Staples-Motley Elementary or Staples-Motley

ley High School. The application deadline is Nov. 24.

The ages served are birth through 15 years.

Parents or guardians will then need to pick up gifts on Saturday, Dec. 5, at the Staples Host and '93 Lions building.

For questions, call Lion Janet Opheim at 218-397-2376, or Lion Gail Honek at 218-296-1957.

Donation boxes are located at area businesses if you are interested in donating toward this project.

Staples-Motley school board

The Staples-Motley School Board will meet in regular session Monday, Nov. 23, 6:00 p.m. at the District Office, 905 4th St. NE, Staples.

The agenda includes but is not limited to:

- Facilities update by Mike Hubbard, ICS Consulting; LTFM Project Report, Troy Miller, LHB

- Approval of Canvass Election Results of Nov. 12

- Curriculum and Policy (Policy Committee minutes 10-26-20); other policies, procedures; Science Curriculum

Upcoming dates and meetings include:

Thurs., Nov. 26: Thanksgiving Day - Nov. 27, no school

Thurs., Dec. 3: Facility Committee meeting

Mon., Dec. 7: Board Work Session and Truth in Taxation Hearing, 6:00 p.m. District Office

Tues., Dec. 8: Facilities

Committee meeting

Mon., Dec. 21: Regular Board meeting, 6 p.m. District Office

Mon., Jan. 4, 2021: Organizational meeting, 6 p.m. District Office. Elect Officers, set the 2021 meeting schedule, etc.

Mark Your Calendar

November 18

STAPLES ALL VETERANS AND COMMUNITY PARK ASSOCIATION BOARD Mtg will be held online, due to COVID-19, on Wednesday, Nov. 18, 5:30 p.m. For more information, or if interested in attending the online meeting, contact Bob Hamann at 218-894-3139.

Community Thanksgiving Dinner To Go

BY RESERVATION

Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26

Curbside pick-up at Timbers Restaurant, 1220 2nd Ave. NE, Staples, 4 - 6 p.m.

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/y35fql6s>

Visit Staples Chamber of Commerce on Facebook or email stapleschamber@gmail.com

Sponsored by Staples Chamber, Timbers Restaurant, Staples Methodist Church, Lakewood Health System, Care Ministries and Staples Motley Beyond Poverty.

THANK YOU

for making a difference!

Congratulations to these 5-Star employees

Left to right: Lois Walters, Laurel Buchanan, Patrick Schoon, Jackie McManigle, Leah Anderson

Lois Walters, Executive Assistant
Nominated by Lynn Rice. "With Dr. Henrickson's retirement we had solicited his patients to send in letters or thoughts. We received a great response of handwritten letters and notes that we needed to have typed up to place in a book for Dr. Henrickson. I can't thank Lois enough for taking on this overwhelming project. Without her assistance Marketing would not have been able to make a bound book to give Dr. Henrickson as a keepsake of his time here at Lakewood."

Laurel Buchanan, Clinical Data Analyst
Nominated by Lynn Rice. "When the Foundation was restructured, there was a software program that was used to capture donations made to the Foundation. No one in the organization but Laurel was familiar with the software besides the Foundation. Laurel volunteered to help and has - on her own accord - cleaned up old information, set up processes and is training another individual to use the software. All of this was outside of her job responsibilities. Thanks, Laurel, for being a team player and helping out with the restructure of the Foundation."

Patrick Schoon, MLT, Laboratory
Nominated by Cathy Kinnaman. "When Patrick came to re-draw some blood work the patient was not sure that she wanted another needle stick. Patrick, in his quiet voice, explained to her why the blood work was needed and she agreed to it. While Patrick was preparing to draw the lab the patient started singing and without missing a beat Patrick joined in, singing along with her. Patrick was able to calm the patient and when I, well, we all had smiles on our faces. Patrick is always very polite to everyone, and on this occasion, he went above and beyond to make our patient feel at ease. We appreciate Patrick's kindness."

Jackie McManigle, Environmental Services
Nominated by Seth Witthuhn. "In the midst of a VERY busy night shift, Jackie came to work at her usual 3:00 a.m. The ER was full and the ER staff were very busy. Jackie had every opportunity to leave the department and go about with her day elsewhere in the hospital. Instead, she stayed in the ER and helped. Jackie demonstrated integrity and compassion by going above and beyond her job description to help her colleagues and the customers of Lakewood Health System. I'm sure this made for a long and busy day for Jackie, but she didn't hesitate to help and went through the morning with her ever-present warm smile. Jackie deserves a S.T.A.R. award for her greatly appreciated contributions to the team in ER on a busy early morning."

Leah Anderson, RT (R), Radiology
Nominated by Bev Young. "During my recent inpatient stay in the ICU, Leah came and got me from my room and took me for an x-ray. Once I was discharged, I needed to come back to x-ray for an injection, and Leah was the one that got me prepped for it. Both times Leah was so kind and gentle. Leah made me feel so special, like I was her only patient. I cannot say enough nice things about her."

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Hello World

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BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:

Born to Kaitlynn and Shane Bertram of Pillager, a baby girl, Briella Saige weighing seven pounds, 2.5 ounces on October 30, 2020.

Born to McKenzie and Brett Fellbaum of Hewitt, a baby boy, Flint Gregory weighing seven pounds, five ounces on November 3, 2020.

Born to Ashley and Derek Orth of Staples, a baby girl, Ellie Jean weighing seven pounds, 14 ounces on November 5, 2020.

Born to Cayanne and Matt Ruis of Brained, a baby girl, Soren Jean weighing six pounds, eight ounces on November 6, 2020.

o

Marlys Jares



Marlys Jares, 85, of Staples passed away November 4, 2020, at the Lakewood Pines Assisted Living in Staples, under the gentle care of Lakewood Hospice and Dr. Julie Mayer-Benson.

A private memorial service was held at Staples Assembly of God Church with Pastor Roy Miles presiding.

Burial was in Green Lawn Cemetery, Verndale.

Marlys was born to Otto and Neoma (Sculley) Bacon on August 5, 1935, in Wing River Township, Wadena County and was educated in the Sebeka School District.

As a homemaker, Marlys' hands were busy with raising her children and every day tasks. She was talented at quilting, embroidery, baking, cooking and enjoyed reading. She solved crossword puzzles, played cards, watched the Game Show Network and did anything that challenged her mind. Her favorite activity was spending time with her family. Marlys was a member of the Staples Assembly of God Church and it's Women's Ministry.

Marlys is survived by three daughters, Beverly (Fred) Williams, Elizabeth (Mark) Capistrant and Cheryl (Brent) Hahn; two

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Obituaries

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Comfy Yeske

Comfy Yeske, 94, of Perham and formerly of Staples, passed away November 14, 2020.

A gathering of friends will be held Saturday, Nov. 21 from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. at the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel in Staples.

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Maurice Peterson



Maurice "Maury" Edmund Peterson, 90, formerly of Motley, went to be with Jesus on November 9, 2020, after a short battle with COVID.

There will be no service at this time, but a late spring 2021 military burial is planned in Fargo.

Maury was born in Motley, to Lawrence and Effie (Carry) Peterson on June 14, 1930 - Flag Day. The oldest of three children, he graduated from Staples High School in 1948 and worked on the family farm until he enlisted in the Army in 1952. He proudly served in the Korean War as a member of Company A, 279th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division. He was on Christmas Hill the night the Korean Armistice was signed, ending U.S. participation in the conflict. After the war, Maury worked as a Railroad Fireman for Burlington Northern. He married Mavis Engberg of Rice Lake, WI, on June 2, 1956. They made their home in Brooklyn Center from 1958-1990, where they raised three children: Susan (Sue), Nancy and Thomas (Tom). Maury worked hard at whatever he did, including his years on the railroad and then as a beloved custodian and caretaker of a couple of local elementary schools. Maury and Mavis retired to Crookneck Lake near Motley in 1991, spending many wonderful years there. In 2019 they moved to Fargo, ND, to be closer to family.

To know Maury was to love him and his joy and love for the Lord was apparent to all. He loved to spend time with his grandchildren and summers at Grandpa's were filled fishing with the bamboo poles he purchased, games of baseball and basketball in the driveway and trips to town for ice cream at the Silo. After an afternoon of fishing, Maury would painstakingly filet and fry up each and every tiny sunfish they caught, much to the delight of his little apprentices. He enjoyed spending time at his hunting property, making great memories with his family, and simply being outdoors in God's creation. Maury was intentional about physical fitness and could still beat his adult grandsons in a push-up contest on his 80th birthday. He invested the same love and care into his great-grandchildren, getting on the floor to play with them and letting them know how often they were in his prayers. When he lived in Motley, you could catch him on one of his daily miles-long walks or meeting his friends at the Countryside Café. On Friday nights, Maury and Mavis would head to Tower Pizza in Staples, Maury for lasagna, Mavis for pizza. He enjoyed helping out in a variety of ways at his church, Lincoln Evangelical Free, including mowing the lawn, driving the Awana bus and serving as an usher. He also loved being a member of the Color Guard for Tri-County American Legion Post #124, Motley. A skilled woodworker, he enjoyed crafting birdhouses, benches and an incredibly detailed dollhouse for his granddaughter that continues to be loved by future generations. He was also passionate about birdwatching, and his home was the go-to place for birds of all shapes and sizes. Checking the handmade birdhouses he'd placed at his grandchildren's homes was a regular part of every visit, as was a "walk around the property." He was a lifelong Minnesota Sports Fan who enjoyed napping in his recliner with the Sunday paper on a weekly basis. A treasure to friends, family and strangers alike, the joy of the Lord emanated from him in all that he set his mind to do. Maury was the kind of guy you hoped to grow up to be - a man after God's own heart. His smile lit up every room he entered, and his legacy - his love for Jesus - will continue on in the lives of those he touched for years to come.

Maury is survived by his wife, Mavis, of Moorhead; two daughters, Sue (Dan) Hodgson of West Fargo, ND and Nancy Peterson of Minneapolis; one son, Tom (Michelle) Peterson of Moorpark, CA; six grandchildren, Cassie (Drew) Viele of Walcott, ND, Dustin (Amber) Hodgson of Fargo, ND, Tyler Peterson of Simi Valley, CA, Isaac Peterson of Mountain Home, ID, Ella Mitchell of Tempe, AZ and Liam Mitchell of Simi Valley, CA; eight great-grandchildren and two sisters, Betty Wuollet, of Plymouth and Ladonna Peterson, of Staples.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers-in-law, Reino Wuollet and John Peterson.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to Tri-County American Legion Post #124, Motley.

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Russell Bacon

Russell "Larry" Bacon, formerly of Staples, passed away October 21, 2020 at St. Gabriel's Hospital in Little Falls.

Services will be held at a later date.

Larry was born June 26, 1947 in St. Louis County to Neoma (Scully) Bacon and Otto Bacon. He attended school in Staples and after schooling he worked various jobs.

Larry is survived by four sisters, Marlys Jares of Staples, Geraldine McKinney of Brimson, Lois Kern of Fergus Falls and Deb Brandt of St. Cloud and one brother, Randy (Connie) Bacon of

Albertville.

He was preceded in death by his parents; six brothers, Hubert, Darrell, Clyde, Glen, Earl and Bernard; two sisters, Norma and Carol; five brothers-in-law Frank Jares, Roy McKinney, Dick Kern, Mike Elarton and Mike Brandt; one nephew, Robert Bruun and one very special friend, Vicki.

The family would like to give a special thank you to all the staff at the Harding Place and St. Gabriel's Hospital.

Arrangements by Brenny Family Funeral Chapel.

Staples Area Church Directory

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Lincoln Evangelical Free
1354 320th Street, Cushing, MN 56443
Phone: 218- 575-2449
www.lincolnefree.org
Facebook Lincoln E Free
Office Hours: Tues. - Thurs., 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Senior Pastor: Don Reigstad
Community Life Pastor: Jim Brown
Associate Pastor/Youth Joe Reigstad
SUNDAY
Church Worship Gathering 10:00 a.m.
Facebook Live 10:00 a.m.
YouTube Channel 10:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Praise & Prayer 6:30 p.m.

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

Motley
Motley Free Methodist
33 Wellwood St. E
Motley 56466 218-352-6888
Jim Johnson, Senior Pastor
Charles Mallory, Associate Pastor
497 3rd Ave. S, Motley 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
facebook live 9 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Youth Group 6:00-7:30 p.m.

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

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

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

Oylen
Oylen Alliance
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.

Check with your church to be up-to-date on service options. Many offer remote services.

What can we thank God for in this 2020 Pandemic Thanksgiving?

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

One of my monthly prayer guides is a daily thank you list. At the top of it are the words "Always remember: God is the Greatest Gift of all! All is borrowed from God. God is lavishly generous!"

Also included at the top are Scriptures to savor about the truths of what we just heard. Some of those Scriptures are I Corinthians 4:7; Matthew 5:45; Luke 11:13 and 12:15; I Timothy 4:3-5; Psalm 143:5-6; James 1:17; I Chronicles 29:9-20; Habakkuk 3:17-19; Psalm 92:1 and Romans 8:32.

Now, I'd like to share again from the monthly "gift list" of reasons we have to thank God in these trying times and any other times throughout each year. At the end will be space for you to add some of your own experiences of God's generous goodness:

fresh air	beauty	countryside
a deep breath	music	summer screens
farms/farming	art	soap
clothing	creation's music	banana bread
summer shade	singing	grass
full woodsheds	libraries	winter wonderlands
autumn harvest	pumpkins	senses
family	cricket songs	grace
walking	listening	working appliances
one day at a time	shelter	good memories
a seed	morning newness	
rainbows	fishing	
relationship in Jesus		
fertile soil	colors	
healthy traditions	alertness	
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Swimmers keep improving with Flyers

By Connie Moe

When the Staples Motley swim team ended after last season, the team was quite disappointed. Early this past summer, the girls learned that Little Falls was open to the idea of being a co-op with Staples, Pillager, and Royalton in swimming.

While this was not workable for most of the girls, a few, including seventh graders Walker Johnson and Cecily Moe and ninth grader Sabina Moe, were willing and able to make the journey back and forth daily. We appreciate athletic director Josh Lee and teachers Jim Opelina and Erik Johnson for being willing to allow the girls to leave class early, so they didn't miss too much practice. What a season it has been with coronavirus restrictions, limited competitions, no spectators, and getting to know new teammates and coaches. Even with the challenges, all three noted that this was a great swim season and voiced that they plan to swim again next year. The girls were strong contributors to their new team at both the JV and varsity level. The girls competed at the conference meet against five other teams.



Cecily Moe



Sabina Moe



Walker Johnson

Volleyball team splits conference matches

The Staples-Motley volleyball team moved into a tie for second in the Mid State Conference with a 3-2 win over Crosby Ironton on Nov. 10, but then got knocked back to third place with a 3-0 loss to Detroit Lakes Nov. 13.

Against Crosby-Ironton, Tabetha Allen's 21 kills pushed the Cardinals to the victory in five sets. Allen added 10 digs, 3 blocks and 4 ace serves. The team played good defense, with three players finishing with more

than 20 digs: Heidi Lombard 33, Leah Bestland 25 and Maggie Claussen 22.

Team results

Staples-Motley 3, Crosby Ironton 2

25-22, 19-25, 25-9, 23-25, 15-10
Heidi Lombard: digs-33, assist-1, kill-1

Bo Erholtz: digs-4, kills-12, blocks-3

Leah Bestland: aces-2, assists-31, digs-25, kills-3

Maggie Claussen: Ace-1, digs-22, kills-5

Tabetha Allen: aces-4, digs-10, kills-21, blocks-3

Ava Schnieder: Ace-1, digs-18, assists-12

Morgan Becker: aces-2, digs-17, kills-9

Libby O'Neil: digs-1

Jayce Kobliska: dig-1

Staples-Motley 0, Detroit Lakes 3

20-25, 11-25, 16-25

Bestland; digs-9, assists-17, kill-1

Klaire Storry: digs-2, kills-4

Allen: digs-8, assist-1, kills-14

Schneider: digs-5, assists-7

Erholtz: kill-1

Becker: digs-3, kills-8

Lombard: digs-16

On defense, Sam Opheim led the team with four tackles and seven assists for 11 total tackles, while Weite had one solo tackle and nine assists. Martin had seven tackles, Braith five, Strickland five, Anderson four, Dominic Gomez three, Cole Winkels three, Alex Giza two, Dusty Koval one, Schultz one, Conner Dobson one and Alex Ross-Bahn one.

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Trumpeters sounding the season's swan song

No one needs to tell a Minnesotan that our seasons don't begin and end strictly by the official dates on the calendar. Nature provides more reliable signs, even though their timing might vary a little from one year to the next.

Winter does not officially begin for another five weeks. But the build-up of migrating trumpeter swans on some of the state's waters that are still unfrozen tells a different story.

Swans — both Minnesota-breeding trumpeters, and their smaller tundra swan relatives that pass through the state—are among the hardest waterfowl we see as winter nears.

They'll be found on the last ribbons of open water on larger lakes, and on rivers with sufficient flow to keep some reaches open as ice and winter gradually gain the upper hand, and the days of open water dwindle.

To anyone whose familiarity with waterfowl is limited to ducks and the much larger Canada goose, a trumpeter swan up close seems like a creature out of mythology; pure white adult plumage, a wingspan that can reach as much as eight feet, a neck whose length is measured in feet, not inches, and a majestic, unhurried wingbeat that's not easily confused with any other bird.

It's no surprise—the bird's name says it plainly—that its voice is likened to the notes of a trumpet. But to me there is equal similarity to those simple handlebar-mounted horns of my bicycle-riding youth, which sounded by squeezing the rubber ball that forced air through the horn's "bell." This, as antique auto buffs know, is essentially the way the very first automobile horns functioned, too.

What is believed to give the trumpeter swan its unique vocal quality is a windpipe—yes, birds

have them—that has a pronounced hump and curves within the bird's breast bone, a curve that is reminiscent of those found in brass orchestral instruments[MR1], like trumpets, trombones and tubas.

As fall and winter have vied for dominance in recent weeks, alternating between icy temperatures, unseasonable warmth, multiple snow events, and even lightning and thunder for novelty, swans have been gradually sliding southward with the formation of ice on those places where they bred and reared their cygnet young.

I've watched and listened to them on a National Wildlife Refuge near Detroit Lakes where I hunt ducks, on a DNR Migratory Waterfowl Feeding and Resting Area farther to the south and east, trained my binoculars on them on the Gull and Crow Wing Rivers in southern Cass County, and—more southerly, still—recently found them feeding along the shoreline of a popular fishing lake in northern Morrison county. I've seen them in small family groups of two adults and several young, as well as in congregations of as many as 60 or 70 swans, feeding along a river's open shoreline.

While some trumpeters may make more distant migratory flights with the onset of winter, their inclination is to remain where there is open water, frigid midwinter Minnesota temperatures notwithstanding. A number of the birds have historically spent the entire winter on the Mississippi River near Monticello, Minnesota, where the river remains open, far from any winter climate that could be called hospitable.

Minnesotans like to point to the wood duck as one of wildlife conservation's great success stories, having come back from threatened status to today's abundance. Every year, the wood duck is one of the top species harvested in Minnesota. But the trumpeter swan recovery story is easily as remarkable.

The bird's great size and handsome plumage were also its downfall, and the trumpeter was heavily harvested without restriction

during the market gunning era for meat and feathers. Its original range is believed to have extended from Missouri and Illinois to the Pacific Northwest, north to Hudson's Bay, and northwesterly to Alaska. But by the 1880's, trumpeter swans had disappeared from Minnesota, and by the 1930's there were thought to be only about 70 in the entire lower 48 states; these in two isolated populations, at Red Rock Lakes in remote southwestern Montana, and in Yellowstone National Park.

A refuge was established at Red Rock Lakes, and the trumpeter's numbers there gradually grew. A breeding population of some 2,800 birds was also found in Alaska, in 1954. Minnesota's efforts to re-establish the trumpeter swan began in the 1960's, when the Hennepin County Park Reserve District obtained 40 birds from Montana, and a breeding population was reestablished here after an absence of 80 years.

In the mid-1980's, trumpeter swan eggs were obtained from Montana and Alaska, and were incubated and reared at the Carlos Avery Wildlife Management Area near Wyoming, Minnesota, northeast of Coon Rapids. Twenty-one two-year old birds were released on the Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge in Becker County. Since that time, more trumpeters have been released in Nicollet, Becker, Itasca, St. Louis, Rice, Le Sueur, and Jackson counties.

These releases—totaling some 350 birds—became acclimated to the wild, nested successfully, and have multiplied exponentially with the complete protection afforded swans in Minnesota and the other states of the Mississippi Flyway. By 2008 there were an estimated 3,600 trumpeters in Minnesota, by 2015 more than 17,000, and today a difficult-to-believe 30,000. Similar re-introduction efforts are underway in South Dakota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, and Ontario, and the interior North American population is now estimated at more than 63,000.

Quite a chorus for a seasonal swan song.

Football team stopped at Breckenridge

The Staples-Motley football team found little running room against Breckenridge and ended up with a 54-0 loss on Nov. 11.

The Cardinals fell behind in the first quarter despite making one drive past the 50 yard line and another drive, highlighted by a 33 yard run by Logen Weite, got down to the 16 before a fourth down pass fell incomplete.

Breckenridge scored

three touchdowns on kick and punt returns, giving them quick scores.

The Cardinals gained 89 total yards on offense, with Weite rushing 11 times for 64 yards. Hunter Martin had 13 rushes for 7 yards. Chandler Braith caught two passes for eight yards, while Max Strickland and Dayton Anderson each caught a pass. Isaiah Schultz completed four of 12 passes.

On defense, Sam Opheim led the team with four tackles and seven assists for 11 total tackles, while Weite had one solo tackle and nine assists. Martin had seven tackles, Braith five, Strickland five, Anderson four, Dominic Gomez three, Cole Winkels three, Alex Giza two, Dusty Koval one, Schultz one, Conner Dobson one and Alex Ross-Bahn one.

major issues, said Beau Liddell, DNR wildlife manager at Little Falls.

"We have a strong partnership with Central Lakes College and Camp Ripley, and they did a great job managing traffic and checking deer this year," Liddell said. "The event is also a valuable experience for students pursuing careers in wildlife management."

The archery hunt at Camp Ripley is an annual event. The DNR coordinates the hunts in collaboration with Central Lakes College Natural Resources Program and the Department of Military Affairs, which manages the 53,000-acre military facility.

Archers have record success rate at Camp Ripley hunt

Archery hunters who participated in the Camp Ripley hunts near Little Falls harvested 310 deer and had a record success rate during the event held Oct. 15 to Oct. 16 and Oct. 31 to Nov. 1.

"It was an exceptional event this year," said Dr. Bill Faber, head of the Central Lakes College Natural Resources Program. "Despite fewer participants, the harvest was up 11.5% from last year; and above the 40-year average of 305 deer."

During the hunts, 16% of archers harvested a deer, representing an unprecedented success rate at Camp Ripley. The rate is well

above the long-term average of 9%.

This year, 1,864 participating hunters harvested 310 deer. During the 2019 hunts, 2,137 hunters harvested 278 deer. This year, hunters harvested at least 25 large, antlered bucks (greater than 8% of total harvest) during the event, well above the 3.5% long-term average of total harvest. The largest was a 16-point buck that a hunter checked in on the last day.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources modified some aspects of this year's hunt as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Administration of the event went well and without any

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SW 2020 changed wk #39



NOTICE
MAY TOWNSHIP
CASS COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA

RESOLUTION NO.
2020.11-09

RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING
ISSUANCE OF
CERTIFICATE OF
INDEBTEDNESS

WHEREAS, the Town Board of May Township has deemed it necessary to construct a 60' x 80' pole building for the purposes of maintaining and storing equipment, owned by the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has deemed it necessary to borrow \$220,000.00 to finance the construction of the pole building; and

WHEREAS, the Township is authorized under Minn. Stat. § 366.095 to issue a certificate of indebtedness to finance the construction of the pole building;

NOW, THEREFORE,
BE IT RESOLVED BY
THE TOWN BOARD OF
MAY TOWNSHIP, CASS
COUNTY, MINNESOTA:

1. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 366.095, the Township hereby authorizes the issuance of a Certificate of Indebtedness in the amount of \$220,000.00 in favor of the Pine River State Bank, Pine River, Minnesota, with interest thereon from the date hereof at the annual rate of 2.5 percent (%) per annum, calculated on a 360 day basis, amortized over ten (10) years, payable in semi-annual installments each year, commencing July 1, 2021. The payments will be made as follows:

Payment Date	Payment	Interest	Principal
12/09 2020	-	-	-
07/01 2021	\$12,552.32	\$3,138.74	\$9,413.58
01/01 2022	\$12,552.32	\$2,708.00	\$9,844.32
07/01 2022	\$12,552.32	\$2,539.05	\$10,013.27
01/01 2023	\$12,552.32	\$2,452.64	\$10,099.68
07/01 2023	\$12,552.32	\$2,284.66	\$10,267.66
01/01 2024	\$12,552.32	\$2,190.73	\$10,361.59
07/01 2024	\$12,552.32	\$2,034.98	\$10,517.34
01/01 2025	\$12,552.32	\$1,922.24	\$10,630.08
07/01 2025	\$12,552.32	\$1,756.25	\$10,796.07
01/01 2026	\$12,552.32	\$1,646.72	\$10,905.60
07/01 2026	\$12,552.32	\$1,481.76	\$11,070.56
01/01 2027	\$12,552.32	\$1,364.12	\$11,188.20
07/01 2027	\$12,552.32	\$1,200.23	\$11,352.09
01/01 2028	\$12,552.32	\$1,074.27	\$11,478.05
07/01 2028	\$12,552.32	\$916.53	\$11,635.79
01/01 2029	\$12,552.32	\$777.04	\$11,775.28
07/01 2029	\$12,552.32	\$615.35	\$11,936.97
01/01 2030	\$12,552.32	\$472.12	\$12,080.20
07/01 2030	\$12,552.32	\$311.57	\$12,240.75
01/01 2031	\$12,552.28	\$159.36	\$12,392.92

2. The Township designates this Certificate a "qualified tax-exempt obligation" within the meaning of Section 265(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

3. The Certificate of Indebtedness shall be payable from the May Township Certificate of Indebtedness Debt Service Fund ("Debt Service Fund") which is hereby created. All levies made pursuant to this resolution for the repayment of the Certificate of Indebtedness shall be deposited in

the Debt Service Fund and are hereby pledged to said Debt Service Fund. If any payment of principal or interest on the Certificate of Indebtedness becomes due when there is not sufficient money in the Debt Service fund to pay the same, the Treasurer will pay such principal or interest from the general fund of the Town, and the general fund may be reimbursed for such advances out of the proceeds of levies when collected.

4. The Township hereby levies the following amounts in the following years upon all property included in the Township's net tax capacity for the purpose of repaying the Certificate of Indebtedness:

2021	\$13,179.94
2022	\$26,359.87
2023	\$26,359.87
2024	\$26,359.87
2025	\$26,359.87
2026	\$26,359.87
2027	\$26,359.87
2028	\$26,359.87
2029	\$26,359.87
2030	\$26,359.87
2031	\$13,179.89

The preceding levy amounts, which represent 105% of the amount due on the Certificate of Indebtedness in each respective year, shall be deposited in the Debt Service Fund upon receipt by the Township.

5. The Township Clerk and Chair are hereby authorized to execute the attached Certificate of Indebtedness and deliver the same to the Pine River State Bank, along with a copy of the County Auditor's Certificate required by Minnesota Statutes § 475.63.

6. The Township Clerk

is hereby directed to file a certified copy of this resolution with the County Auditor and obtain the certificate required by Minnesota Statutes §475.63.

Passed this 9th day of November, 2020.

Jason Barg,
Chairperson

Attest:

Bianca Wyffels
Township Clerk

47pnc

MEADOWBROOK
TOWNSHIP
Board of Canvass

The Board of Canvass of Meadowbrook Township will meet on Friday, Nov. 20, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. at the Leader Community Hall to certify the results of the township election.

Ty W. Peterson, Clerk
Meadowbrook Township
47pnc

LEGAL NOTICE
WADENA COUNTY

NOTICE OF
RESOLUTION TO
ESTABLISH THE
APPOINTED OFFICES
OF A COUNTY
AUDITOR/TREASURER
AND COUNTY
RECORDER

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §§469.1812 through 469.1815, notice is hereby given by the Wadena County Board of Commissioners of the intent to hold a public hearing for the purpose to consider a "Resolution of Establishing the Appointed Offices of a County Auditor/Treasurer and County Recorder." There will be a public hearing held at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 7, 2020 at the Wadena City Council Chambers, 222 2nd Street SE, Wadena, MN 56482, regarding this matter.

WADENA COUNTY
BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION TO
ESTABLISH THE
APPOINTED OFFICES
OF A COUNTY
AUDITOR/TREASURER
AND COUNTY
RECORDER

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute §375A.1205, passed by the Legislature and signed into law by the Governor, provides a process for making certain county offices appointed in Wadena County; and

WHEREAS, the Wadena County Board of Commissioners desires to make the offices of County Auditor/Treasurer and County Recorder filled by appointment by the County Board and not as elected offices; and

WHEREAS, the Wadena County Board of Commissioners wishes to appoint the offices of County Auditor/Treasurer and County Recorder effective upon completion of the term of office to which the incumbent was elected or until a vacancy occurs in the office, whichever occurs earlier; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wadena County Board of Commissioners hereby makes the offices of County Auditor/Treasurer and County Recorder appointed offices filled by appointment by the County Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the incumbent appointed to the office they previously held as an elected office will be responsible to meet the qualifications and fulfill the duties of the of job description created by the County Board for the appointed position and the appointed official shall be granted tenure based on prior years of service, shall be placed on the county wage scale after having the job description graded and scaled, and they shall otherwise receive county employee benefits the same as any other county employee that is not elected; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Wadena County Board of Commissioners order that the effective date of said appointments will take place upon completion of the term of office to which the incumbent was elected or until a vacancy occurs in the office, whichever occurs earlier.

Dated this 15th day of December, 2020.

WADENA COUNTY
BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS
Charles Horsager, Wadena County Board Chair

ATTEST:
Ryan Odden,
County Coordinator

Emailed and written comments will be accepted by Ryan Odden, Wadena County Coordinator, at ryan.odden@co.wadena.mn.us or Wadena County Courthouse, 415 Jefferson South, Wadena, MN 56482.
46-47pnc

Wadena Armory is COVID-19 testing site

The Wadena National Guard Armory is a new COVID-19 testing site, located at 517 Jefferson St. N. in Wadena. Appointments can be made online at www.primarybio.com/r/wadena or <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/testsites/>. If you are not able to sign up online, or need a translator, call 1-855-612-0677 for assistance.

In order to expand access to free, "no barrier" COVID-19 testing, the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) today announced 11 new longer-term COVID-19 testing sites will open across Minnesota in the coming weeks. Ten of the testing sites will be at National Guard Armories in Albert Lea, Anoka, Crookston, Fairmont, Hibbing, Hutchinson, Inver Grove Heights, Morris, Stillwater, and Wadena.

In addition to the 11 new testing sites, the COVID-19 Test at Home program is now available to all Minnesotans across the state. This is an expansion from the pilot, which was previously made available in 23 counties and the Red Lake Nation.

"Minnesota is entering the most difficult phase of the pandemic yet," said Minnesota Commissioner of Health Jan Malcolm. "We have record levels of new cases, high hospitalization numbers, and increased community spread. At the same time, we know promising vaccines are entering new stages of development."

"Right now, our job is to build a bridge to that day when safe and effective vaccines are widely available. We do that by working together to limit the impacts of COVID-19 on our families and communities through the simple steps we know make a difference. That includes social distancing, masking, avoiding crowds, staying home when sick, and getting tested when appropriate. This latest expansion of testing makes that last part easier by providing Minnesotans with an unprecedented level of access to COVID-19 tests, putting nearly every Minnesotan just three days from a test result," continued Malcolm.

All of the new testing sites, as well as the mail order program, offer COVID-19 testing to any Minnesotan who wants to be tested, whether they have symptoms or not, and does not require insurance. Some sites will offer nasal swab testing, others will offer saliva testing. They will stay in op-

eration until at least the end of the year to provide sustained testing capacity across the state.

The sites at National Guard armories will be staffed by a combination of local public health staff and members of the Minnesota National Guard. Nearly 100 members of the National Guard are being deployed to provide support with logistics, registration, check in and check out, supply management and transportation. These sites will replace the "pop-up" style of community testing events, which for the past several months would arrive in a community for 2-3 days of testing.

"Our mobile community testing events allowed us to test thousands of Minnesotans, in all corners of the state," said Dan Huff, assistant commissioner for health protection. "We came to communities experiencing spikes in cases or hotspots. But now, every community is seeing spikes in cases. By placing these testing sites in armories for the time being, we're able to spend more time providing tests, instead of setting up new testing sites every week. This expansion allows us to be more efficient and provide more access to more people."

"Our mail order at-home test program is another way we are helping Minnesotans stay safe, which also includes the 10 on-site testing facilities across the state, and the Oakdale COVID-19 lab," said Vault Health Founder and CEO Jason Feldman. "Now, residents can access our tests from the safety of their own home under the digital supervision of a practitioner with results in the same amount of time."

Through the COVID-19 Test at Home program, any person in Minnesota can order a saliva test to be delivered at their home with expedited shipping. The test is then sent to the new lab in Oakdale, Minnesota, for processing.

"The pilot program provided valuable insight and important information about how the program works in practice, not just in our more populated areas of the state, but in our smaller communities as well. Using what we've learned, we've made the Test at Home program easier to use, more accessible, and more user-friendly," continued Huff.

TCHC expands CentraCare cardiology partnership

Tri-County Health Care announced the expansion of its partnership with CentraCare's Heart & Vascular Center for Cardiology services. Through this partnership, CentraCare's top-ranked cardiologists will provide weekly coverage at Tri-County's Wadena location.

CentraCare – St. Cloud Hospital is one of the leading providers of heart and vascular care in the nation. In an annual ranking, which evaluates nearly 5,000 hospitals, U.S. News & World Report ranked the hospital in the country's Top-50 for cardiology and heart surgery. The rankings are based on outcomes and

experience, nurse staffing, patient services and more.

"We are excited to team up with the top-ranked staff at CentraCare's Heart & Vascular Center," said Jose Alba, Chief Ambulatory Officer at Tri-County. "This expands access to service and provides heart health close to home for all of the communities Tri-County Health Care serves."

The team of cardiologists will offer cardiac diagnostic testing, procedures like cardiac pacemaker insertion and generator changes and offer advice on cardiac nutrition and atrial fibrillation management. Providers will also answer questions about open-heart

surgery and other related procedures.

It is recommended to consult a cardiologist if you experience chest pain, have high blood pressure, shortness of breath, palpitations or dizziness, diabetes, a history of smoking or high cholesterol, chronic kidney disease, family history of heart disease, peripheral arterial disease or are inactive and planning to start an exercise routine.

Patients do not need a referral in order to receive cardiology care. To schedule an appointment with the cardiologists at Tri-County Health Care, call 218-631-7579.

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Todd County Commissioners Minutes

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS Oct. 6, 2020

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 6th day of October, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kircher. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda

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

Consent Agenda

On motion by Becker and seconded by Erickson, the following motions were introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for September 15, 2020 as presented.

Hire Richard Ziegler for PT Correctional Officer, start date 10/06/2020.

To approve Brandy Nathe to fill the open Social Worker position.

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the September 2020 Auditor Warrants number (ACH) 900972 through 901038 in the amount of \$620,082.72, (Manual) 573 through 577 in the amount of \$60,282.40 and (Regular) 236005 through 236155 in the amount of \$479,928.92 for a total of \$1,160,294.04.

On motion by Becker and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 400829 through 400856 in the amount of \$156,407.47 and (Regular) 53938 through 54007 in the amount of \$82,087.33 for a total of \$238,494.80.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 801044 through 801055 and (Regular) 707112 through 707148 for a total amount of \$126,056.18.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 600264 through 600270 and (Regular) 515998 through 516018 for a total amount of \$75,922.84.

County Extension Office

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

National 4-H Week Proclamation

WHEREAS, 4-H is America's largest youth development organization, having supported almost six million youth across the country thus far; and

WHEREAS, 4-H has helped numerous youth in Todd County, Minnesota, to become confident, independent, resilient and compassionate leaders; and

WHEREAS, 4-H is delivered by Cooperative Extension - a community of more than 100 public universities across the nation that provides experiences where

young people learn by doing in hands-on projects in areas including health, science, agriculture and citizenship; and

WHEREAS, National 4-H Week showcases the incredible experiences that 4-H offers young people, and highlights the remarkable 4-H youth in Todd County, Minnesota, who work each day to make a positive impact on those around them; and

WHEREAS, 4-H's network of 600,000 volunteers and 3,500 professionals provides caring and supportive mentoring to all 4-H'ers, helping them to grow into true leaders, entrepreneurs and visionaries;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Todd County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim October 4 - 10 2020 as NATIONAL 4-H WEEK throughout Todd County, Minnesota, and encourage all of our citizens to recognize 4-H for the significant impact it has made and continues to make by empowering youth with the skills they need to lead for a lifetime.

Hands of Hope Resource Center

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

2020 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION FOR TODD COUNTY

WHEREAS, home is defined as an enjoyable, happy place where you can live, laugh and learn, and where you are loved, respected and cared for; and

WHEREAS, for many of us, that is our home, but there are also folks living in our county that live in fear, intimidation, physical and sexual abuse; and others have never had a hand laid on them, but live in an intense world of humiliation, degradation and hostility, financial and psychological abuse; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a crime, not just a family matter, and children often times suffer long term physical and mental health victimization, sometimes ending up in their own violent relationship.

WHEREAS, to date, Hands of Hope has worked with a total of 87 victims, 54 new females, 7 new males, 27 returning clients from prior years, as well as multiple children and secondary victims; and

WHEREAS, without intervention, the cycle of violence can perpetrate through generations. Our children deserve better from us. We need to actively advocate for non-violence, by getting involved, volunteering, holding those that act violent accountable for their actions, and believing and supporting those that are victimized; and

NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2020, we the Todd County Board of Commissioners along with Hands of Hope Resource Center urge all citizens of Todd County to safely do your part in eliminating domestic violence in our communities.

Solid Waste

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To authorize a second public hearing on November 2, 2020 for the proposed Waste Designation Ordinance.

Planning & Zoning

On motion by Becker and seconded by Erickson, the following resolution was

introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

Final Plat Approval - "Kobliska Brothers"

Subdivision

WHEREAS, Applicant Jeffrey Kobliska and owner Tony Dukowitz applied to subdivide a property that is described as the South ½ of the SE ¼ of the SE 1/4 of Section 11 in Staples Township with the plat to be known as 'Kobliska Brothers';

WHEREAS, the Kobliska Brothers subdivision consists of 1 lot, Block One Lot 1 9.53± acres, located in Commercial zoning in Staples Township,

WHEREAS, On September 3, 2020 the Todd County Planning Commission recommended the following property be considered for Subdivision pursuant to Todd County Subdivision Regulation and Ordinance:

SECT-11 TWP-133N RANGE-33W

10± acres located in the South Half of the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter

WHEREAS, On September 15, 2020 the Todd County Board of Commissioners considered the Preliminary Plat for the above described property and approved the Kobliska Brothers Subdivision preliminary plat with no conditions,

WHEREAS, the Planning & Zoning Department has completed the necessary final plat review and find that all items required for final plat approval have been completed,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the final plat of "Kobliska Brothers" subdivision be approved as presented.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Memorandum of Agreement for the Long Prairie River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan and assign Commissioner Barb Becker as a policy committee member and Commissioner Rod Erickson as the alternative.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by majority vote with Neumann against: To acknowledge the violation and place a \$2,000 assessment on the property 15-0079700 for the 2021 tax year and further allowing the opportunity for the property owner to resolve the violation by December 29, 2020 at which time the County Board may choose to rescind this official action.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To acknowledge the violation and place a \$2,000 assessment on the property 22-0007500 for the 2021 tax year and further allowing the opportunity for the property owner to resolve the violation by December 29, 2020 at which time the County Board may choose to rescind this official action.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by majority vote with Neumann against: To acknowledge the violation and place a \$2,000 assessment on the property 22-0007201 for the 2021 tax year and further allowing the opportunity for the property owner to resolve the violation by December 29, 2020 at which time the County Board may choose to rescind this official action.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was

introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To place a \$1,000 assessment on property 08-0036300 for the 2021 tax year for failure to correct the open septic tank violation.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To acknowledge the violation and place a \$1,000 assessment on the property 25-0046200 for the 2021 tax year and further allowing the opportunity for the property owner to resolve the violation by December 29, 2020 at which time the County Board may choose to rescind this official decision.

On motion by Becker and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To acknowledge the violation and place a \$1,000 assessment on the property 25-0007500 for the 2021 tax year and further allowing the opportunity for the property owner to resolve the violation by December 29, 2020 at which time the County Board may choose to rescind this official decision.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To acknowledge the violation and place a \$1,000 assessment on the property 21-0040200 for the 2021 tax year and further allowing the opportunity for the property owner to resolve the violation by December 29, 2020 at which time the County Board may choose to rescind this official decision.

On motion by Becker and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To acknowledge the violation and place a \$1,000 assessment on the property 19-00024700 for the 2021 tax year and further allowing the opportunity for the property owner to resolve the violation by December 29, 2020 at which time the County Board may choose to rescind this official decision.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To acknowledge the violation and place a \$1,000 assessment on the property 20-0030703 for the 2021 tax year and further allowing the opportunity for the property owner to resolve the violation by December 29, 2020 at which time the County Board may choose to rescind this official decision.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To acknowledge the violation and place a \$1,000 assessment on the property 06-0051300 for the 2021 tax year and further allowing the opportunity for the property owner to resolve the violation by December 29, 2020 at which time the County Board may choose to rescind this official decision.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To acknowledge the violation and place a \$1,000 assessment on the property 13-0002200 for the 2021 tax year and further allowing the opportunity for the property owner to resolve the violation by December 29, 2020 at which time the County Board may choose to rescind this official decision.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was

introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To acknowledge the violation and place a \$1,000 assessment on the property 22-0007001 for the 2021 tax year and further allowing the opportunity for the property owner to resolve the violation by December 29, 2020 at which time the County Board may choose to rescind this official decision.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To acknowledge the violation and place a \$1,000 assessment on the property 13-0002200 for the 2021 tax year and further allowing the opportunity for the property owner to resolve the violation by December 29, 2020 at which time the County Board may choose to rescind this official decision.

Health & Human Services

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To set the Todd County Tobacco Sales & Access Ordinance dates for its first reading as October 20, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. and its second reading as November 2, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.

Jackie Och, HHS Director presented an update on the COVID-19 Situation for discussion.

MIS

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve use of Compliance Funds for purchase of a GIS plotter/printer through HP Direct for \$5,545.37.

Administration

On motion by Becker and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the CMEMS Joints Powers Agreement.

On motion by Becker and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To implement Phase 4 of Reopening the Staples Branch Office.

On motion by Becker and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve CARES CRF Funds for remodel of Long Prairie Corrections Office, utilizing Kuhl Construction at a cost of \$55,792.25.

A progress report was provided by the County Coordinator regarding the CARES Act Funds projects for the County Board's review and discussion.

Closed Session

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To enter into closed session pursuant to MN Statute §13D.03 to discuss labor negotiation strategy at 10:37 a.m.

Chairperson Kircher reopened the meeting at 11:11 a.m.

Commissioner's Report

The Commissioner's reported on meetings attended.

Recess

Chairperson Kircher recessed the meeting until October 20, 2020.

AUDITOR WARRANTS	
Vendor Name.....	\$ Amount
MN DEPT OF REVENUE	\$3,953.00
MN DEPT OF REVENUE	51,028.03
1 PAYMENT LESS	
THAN \$2,000	770.64
US BANK	3,719.38
1 PAYMENT LESS	
THAN \$2,000	811.35
CLIFTON LARSON	
ALLEN, LLP	5,250.00
EBSCO INC	225,553.29
GALLAGHER BENEFIT	
SERVICES INC.	2,000.00
GREAT RIVER	

REGIONAL LIBRARY	83,351.50
LONG PRAIRIE	
SANITATION INC	4,507.78
MORRISON COUNTY	45,595.54
PETERS LAW OFFICE, P.A.	3,980.00
PHEASANTS FOREVER	4,000.00
PLEASURELAND RV	6,318.00
PRAIRIE LAKES MUNI	
SOLID WASTE AUTH	82,637.00
REGENTS OF THE	
UNIV OF MN	2,390.80
VERIZON	4,533.89
WATERGUARDS, LLC	22,991.84
WONDERLICH/SCOTT A	6,020.00
29 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	16,645.60
BOARD OF WATER	
AND SOIL RESOURCES	5,008.35
CENTRAL	
APPLICATORS INC	3,374.55
COUNTIES PROVIDING	
TECHNOLOGY	5,085.00
COUNTYSIDE	
RESTAURANT	2,282.75
FLEET SERVICES/	
WEX BANK	5,183.78
GALLAGHER BENEFIT	
SERVICES INC.	2,000.00
LONG PRAIRIE LEADER	3,305.30
LONG PRAIRIE OIL CO.	2,040.75
MIDDENDORF/DENISE	7,456.19
MINNESOTA POWER	
& LIGHT	14,059.20
MN DEPT OF FINANCE	7,698.50
PHILIP'S REPAIRABLES	
& COLLISION CENTER	9,494.78
STAPLES ADVANTAGE	3,091.73
VOYANT COMMS., LLC.	4,049.28
45 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	15,062.08
LONG PRAIRIE OIL	
COMPANY	4,394.29
MCCC, MI83	159,555.00
METRO SALES INC	2,483.11
REGENTS OF THE	
UNIV OF MN	36,946.74
SANDERS	
CONSTRUCTION, INC	146,564.31
STAPLES WORLD	3,346.18
STREICHER'S	3,670.32
TODD COUNTY	
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE	3,715.73
WILDER FOUNDATION	2,350.00
73 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	32,766.33
ANOKA CO GOV'T	
CENTER	14,994.25
BIG STONE EXCAVATING	23,400.00
IDEAL CONST. LLC	38,814.00
STREAMWORKS	5,850.00
30 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	16,193.90
TOTAL	\$1,160,294.04

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS	
Vendor Name.....	\$ Amount
BIG STONE THERAPIES, INC.	\$2,591.41
CENTRAL APPLICA. INC.	8,852.43
CENTRAL MCGOWAN INC.	3,442.10
COMMISSIONER OF	
TRANSPORTATION	5,262.20
CONTECH ENGINEERED	
SOLUTIONS, LLC	32,045.86
FRIEDRICH'S TIRE	
& OIL CO	2,675.80
IDEAL CONSTRUC. LLC	4,370.00
KENNEDY AND	
GRAVEN CHARTERED	2,500.00
KRIS ENGINEERING	23,880.00
MCKESSON MEDICAL-	
SURGICAL	5,480.86
MORRISON CO	
PUBLIC HEALTH SERV	5,518.18
MOTOROLA	4,553.65
ROGGE/RICKEY J.	2,380.00
SHI CORP	2,632.50
TOWMASTER	107,562.50
WIDETH SMITH	
NOLTING INC	2,890.00
ZIEGLER INC	3,410.97
81 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	18,446.34
Total	\$238,494.80

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS	
Vendor Name.....	\$ Amount
CARLSON/BARBARA J.....	3,600.00
DHS - MSOP - MN SEX	
OFFENDER PROGRAM.....	6,091.50
DHS - ST PETER RTC - 472 ..	9,982.00
GERARD TRMT PROG	9,821.42
MIDWEST MONITORING	
& SURVEILLANCE	3,858.00
NEXUS INC - MILLE	
LACS ACADEMY	11,278.73
VILLAGE RANCH INC	14,797.71
WEST CENTRAL	
REG JUVENILE CTR	4,114.00
PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	12,379.48
Total	75,922.84

Vendor Name.....	\$ Amount
DHS - SWIFT	95,454.65
ITEN FUNERAL HOME -	
BROWERVILLE	3,500.00
PERISH/ALAN	3,704.46
TODD COUNTY	
AUDITOR/TREASURER	15,096.10
45 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	8,300.97
Total	126,056.18

On a motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held October 6, 2020 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on October 20, 2020.

Witness my hand and seal:

David Kircher,
County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

47pnc



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Congratulations



Cross Country State Champions



Staples World photos by Mark Anderson

Cardinal boys section team

Cardinal girls section team



WE ARE PROUD OF THE BOY'S AND GIRL'S CROSS COUNTRY TEAMS AND INDIVIDUALS FOR THEIR PERFORMANCE.

Cardinal boys Cross Country team

Cardinal girls Cross Country team



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Giza Plumbing & Heating
Ideal Construction
Company

Japke Decorating,
Carpet & Gift
Lefty's Inc.
Mid Minnesota Federal
Credit Union
Orth Insurance Agency
Staples Eye Clinic
Sourcewell

Mayer, Porter & Nelson,
Ltd., CPA's
Lake Country Insurance,
Inc., Motley
D & B Mosquito Control
Staples Assembly of God
Church
Unity Bank
Staples World

Sharing dreams and friendship, with help from Alex Trebek

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

The year 2020 has not been an easy one, to say the least. Covid-19 and a contentious presidential election have dominated the headlines, and it seems that it's increasingly difficult for Americans to find common ground.

When the news broke that Alex Trebek, the beloved long-time host of Jeopardy! had died Nov. 8, people seemed to forget, for a moment, their differences. Conversations turned to a shared admiration of the Canadian gentleman who had displayed grace and integrity all through his career, even as he battled stage four pancreatic cancer up until the end. The final episode of Jeopardy! was taped Oct. 29, and less than two weeks later, the 80-year-old icon was gone.

Two Staples-Motley grads, Dana Bacon and Alan Bjerga, were fortunate enough to not only meet Trebek, but to have had the opportunity to compete on Jeopardy! years ago. The Staples World reached out to them recently to ask if they'd be willing to share their memories of Trebek and of being on his show. Their written responses are included below.

Dana Bacon

It was 30 years ago this month that a letter from Merv Griffin Enterprises arrived in our mail box in Leader, informing me that I was invited to participate in the 1991 Jeopardy! Teen Tournament. That letter -

and the chance to spend a moment in the orbit of the larger-than-life Alex Trebek - gave me a life-changing opportunity that I was lucky to get to share with so many people.

The odds of reaching the show were slim. Tens of thousands of kids sent postcards (website? what website?), and producers drew about 1,200 names. At regional tryouts, about 120 of those kids passed the 50-question "gatekeeper" quiz and earned the chance to play a mock version of the live game in front of the producers. From all those postcards and games, 15 high schoolers were chosen to play Jeopardy! in Beverly Hills in January.

As if the chances weren't tough enough on their own, I wouldn't have made it to Jeopardy! were it not for my brother Travis. We both had our tryout postcards drawn in 1989, but the next year only Travis' postcard was drawn. I called the producers and asked if I could tag along since I'd passed the tryout test the year before. They said yes, and the rest played out better than I ever could have hoped.

Travis was one of many people who helped me find my way onto Jeopardy! My mom and grandma Ruth were eclectic and encouraging learners, and our neighbor Ken Olson liked to listen to shortwave radio and talk with us about world news and history. I've had an incredibly smart friend by my side since kindergarten in Alan Bjerga - the only downside to be chosen for the show was knowing it meant Alan wouldn't get to go. I had so many good teachers, including Becky Hasselberg and Pam Sachs (my Knowledge Bowl coaches) and Russ Lee (who prodded me to take summer classes at the University of Minnesota). This thank-you list could stand to be a lot longer: suffice it to say I'm a grateful product of the community that raised me.

Most of my enduring Jeopardy! memories have little to do with the games themselves. Peeking in at "Soul Train" being recorded next door to our show? Riding around L.A. in a limousine at night with the other contestants? Staying at the Beverly Hilton? Hiding behind the hotel lobby sign after the Golden Globe awards and popping out from behind a plant to ask Patrick Swayze, Walter Matthau, and Bob Saget for autographs? If only every weekend were that cool.

The games had their moments, too. I'll never forget "Rule Britannia" - the answer that kept me from completing my attempt at a comeback on the second day of the finals - and I'll always be glad I ignored the producers' instructions not to ring in twice on the same question. (It worked, and I made Trebek laugh when I confessed I was curious what would happen. It's on YouTube somewhere, I

promise).

Trebek was someone who kept the old and the new together in one place for us. When he passed away earlier this month, one of my friends from the tournament remarked that we've almost reached the same age Trebek was when we met in L.A. to film the shows. Most of us kids are nearing 50 now - wish you were still here, Jim - and 1991 looks like another world in some ways. Most families in the area had only a few channels on TV, there was no internet to send spoilers our way, and we all shared in the excitement of seeing how things would go for that kid from Leader. Thanks for being there with me, and let's raise a glass to the passing of a great.

Dana Bacon is a 1991 graduate of Staples-Motley High School. He lives in Rosemount, Minn., with his wife Michelle and two children, and works for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society as a regional government affairs director.

Alan Bjerga

I was checking my phone, on a beach with my family in Maryland, when I found out that Alex Trebek had died, and the first thing I did was text Dana. His run on the Teen Tournament meant he always had a connection to Alex, and I did too to a lesser extent, since I also had an episode on the show. It's interesting, being a former Jeopardy! contestant. Whenever the show is in the news, people who know you've been on it ask what you're thinking, because you're their connection to it. I wanted to check in with Dana because I know he gets these reactions even more than I do - and, along with where we grew up, Jeopardy! is a bond we also share.

My Jeopardy! dreams really began before I was even a teenager, playing along with the game on the farm where my family lived south of Motley. In my pursuit of the dream, I ended up meeting Alex Trebek several times, because he often would attend Jeopardy! tryouts, and it took me several attempts to get on the show. Dana (with his brother Travis) and I tried out for the 1991 Teen Tournament in Chicago, but we were signed up for different days. Alex was there. Of course, everyone at the tryout was in awe of him, but he was ever-gracious and in good spirits, just like you'd expect. But when it came time for me to actually meet and interact with him, I was a massive bundle of nerves - and that wasn't good.

The way it works is, everyone takes a trivia test, and the handful of people who pass play a short game and do interviews. Dana and I both passed the test. Because Alex was at the

test site, he ran the interviews and mock games. He pronounced my last name correctly, which is pretty rare for anyone outside of Norway or Central Minnesota, so I was instantly impressed. But I was incredibly stressed about doing well in front of the already-legendary Alex Trebek. As a result, I talked about 3,000 words a minute during my interview and over-anticipated on the buzzer during the test game.

I wasn't surprised one bit when Dana got on and I didn't. Even on the Staples-Motley Knowledge Bowl team I was always more Scottie Pippen to Dana's Michael Jordan, though I often tried too hard to be Jordan. Dana's episodes will always be a high school highlight memory for me. The way the school day was extended to 3:30 and the buses held back so everyone could watch. Hearing the whole school erupt from their classrooms, watching on TV as he made his crazy comeback on Day Two of the finals. Through it all, I was truly just proud to be his friend.

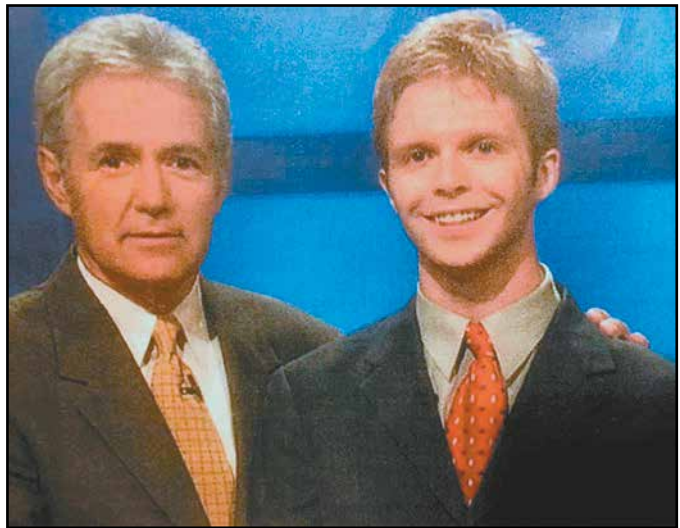
But of course, I still had my own dream. I tried out for the College Tournament once, driving with my dad from Concordia College in Moorhead to Omaha. Again, I passed the test. Again, Alex was there. Again, my interview and mock game was a wreck, and again, I wasn't selected. But Alex remembered me from Chicago, still pronounced my name flawlessly, and was still very kind. My Jeopardy! ambitions faded after that. I don't think I would have ever tried out again, except about a decade later, a co-worker I knew had me be his phone-a-friend on Who Wants to Be a Millionaire, and that got me thinking about Jeopardy! again. At that point I was living in Washington, D.C., and Jeopardy! did local tryouts. I signed up, and again, Alex was there. And again, I passed the test - and finally, at age 30, I was able to take enough deep breaths during the tryout to be selected.

My actual episode was frustrating. After tying or holding the lead through single Jeopardy - thanks to my knowledge of baseball nicknames and Sioux Indians -- I started falling behind in Double Jeopardy. In the last clue of the second round, I responded with "What is the Center for Disease Control?" Alex accepted it, but the judges asked me to repeat what I said. I immediately knew my mistake, but I wasn't going to try to cheat, so I repeated it and lost \$2,000. The contestant in the lead said "Centers," and gained \$2,000. That gave me less than half her score going into Final Jeopardy - which was crucial, because as it turned out, I was the only contestant to correctly answer Final Jeopardy in that game. I bet everything on "The Pirates of



Two Staples-Motley grads competed on Jeopardy!

Dana Bacon and Alan Bjerga, both 1991 graduates of Staples-Motley High School, had the opportunity to meet Alex Trebek, the beloved host of the game show Jeopardy! and compete on the show. Pictured above, Trebek shakes the hand of Leader native Bacon, who competed in the 1991 Jeopardy! Teen Tournament in California. Below, at a Jeopardy! taping in 2003, Trebek is pictured with rural-Motley native Bjerga, whose dreams of being on the show were fulfilled that year.



Penzance," but I couldn't catch up - all because of the CDC.

Of course, in the COVID era, I'm reminded of my error every time I read the news, and now I can smile at it. For the record, if Alex's judgment had stood, I would have won that game. But I doubt my streak would have been long. The contestant who defeated me only lasted one more day, and again, Dana was always the true trivia master. It's great to know his run in '91 is being remembered. You could see that from the news about Alex Trebek, how Dana's Facebook page was overwhelmed with memories. It shows you how much Jeopardy! meant to people - maybe more than any of us realized. It's an honor to have that connection to a program that became so culturally important, and to have had the chance to meet and interact with Alex Trebek, someone who was beloved by so many and who became something genuinely more than simply a game-show host.

I'm also grateful that, in the end, I got to share Dana's experience of being on the show. Along with

the awe of being a part of Jeopardy!, these past couple weeks have also been a reminder of the gift of long-term friendship.

And sometimes things work out. Two years after my Jeopardy! heartbreak, I went on Who Wants to Be a Millionaire, seeking a better ending. I made it to \$50,000 when I ran out of lifelines. Had I guessed at the \$100,000 question, I would have been right. But that wasn't why I was there. I told the host I was finished, and calmly, I walked away.

Alan Bjerga lives in Alexandria, Va., just outside Washington, DC. After 17 years as a journalist in DC, which included terms as president of the National Press Club and the North American Agricultural Journalists, in 2018 he became the Senior Vice President of Communications for the National Milk Producers Federation, representing dairy cooperatives nationwide. He also teaches at Georgetown University.

Lakewood Health System offers drive-up COVID-19 Testing

Lakewood Health System, Staples, has been working diligently to increase the ease of accessing COVID-19 testing for patients and community members.

A standing order is now in place which allows a drive-up COVID-19 test to be ordered and completed for those who meet the following criteria:

- Individual is experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19
- Individual has a known exposure
- Individual needs a test result in order to return to work
- Individual needs a test result in order to travel

Drive-up testing is only available by appointment, which can be scheduled by calling 218-894-1515 and choosing option #1 when directed. This line is staffed Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Drive-up testing is available by appointment in Browerville: Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 - 4 p.m.; and in Staples: Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

In-person, virtual and Click Care visits remain available care options.

Township, local election results

Results of township and other local races from the Nov. 3 election:

City elections

Aldrich Mayor
Justin Genosky 16
Jesse Baugh 11
Aldrich Council Member (Elect 2)
Jeff Ludovissie 27
Pillager Mayor
Bret Mattheisen 193
Pillager Council Member (Elect 2)
Adam Sparrow 142
Shawn Thayer 104
LeRoy Smith 102

Todd County Villard Town Supervisor Seat B
James Wegscheid 198
Rudy Bjerga Sr. 179
Villard Town Clerk
Mary Trantina Koenig 332

Cass County Becker Town Supervisor Seat 2
Kent Smith 128
Mike Fitcher 115
Becker Town Clerk
Mary Fitcher 213

May Town Supervisor Seat 1
Chad Converse 431
Special Election for May Town Supervisor Seat 3
Mark Breneman 277
Daniel Donahue 184
May Town Clerk
Bianca Wyffels 319
Thomas F Bisek 169
Meadow Brook Town Supervisor Seat 1
Ernest Haehnel 70
Meadow Brook Town Supervisor Seat 2
Donald A. Ottenstroer 94
Special Election for Meadow Brook Town Clerk
Ty W Peterson 91
Meadow Brook Town Treasurer
Greg McDonald 92
Poplar Town Supervisor Seat 1
Doug Shequen 70
Poplar Town Supervisor Seat 3
Troy Mevissen 62
Poplar Town Treasurer
Susan Bartels 65

Sylvan Town Supervisor Seat 1
Greg Booth 1,262
Sylvan Town Supervisor Seat 2
Bob Johnson 754
John Wulff 574
Sylvan Town Supervisor Seat 4
Greg Bennett 1,286
United Hospital District Board (Lakewood Health System)
Staples Area At Large
Robert M. Mueller 3,248
Staples Township
Ronald Storbakken 265
Villard Township
Amy Brichacek 335
Motley
Lana Hansen 251
Meadowbrook Township
Billy Haehnel 92
Moose Lake Township
Linda R. Dietrich 60
Poplar Township
Susan Peet 58

WELCOMING
HOME
TO STAPLES...



Emmett
Beautiful son of
Virginia
Born 10/2/20 in Staples.



Oliver
Beautiful son of
Allyson & Robert
Born 10/6/20 in Staples.



Alida
Beautiful daughter of
Jackie & Zach
Born 10/18/20 in Staples.



Elijah
Beautiful son of
Tasha
Born 10/26/20 in Staples.

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