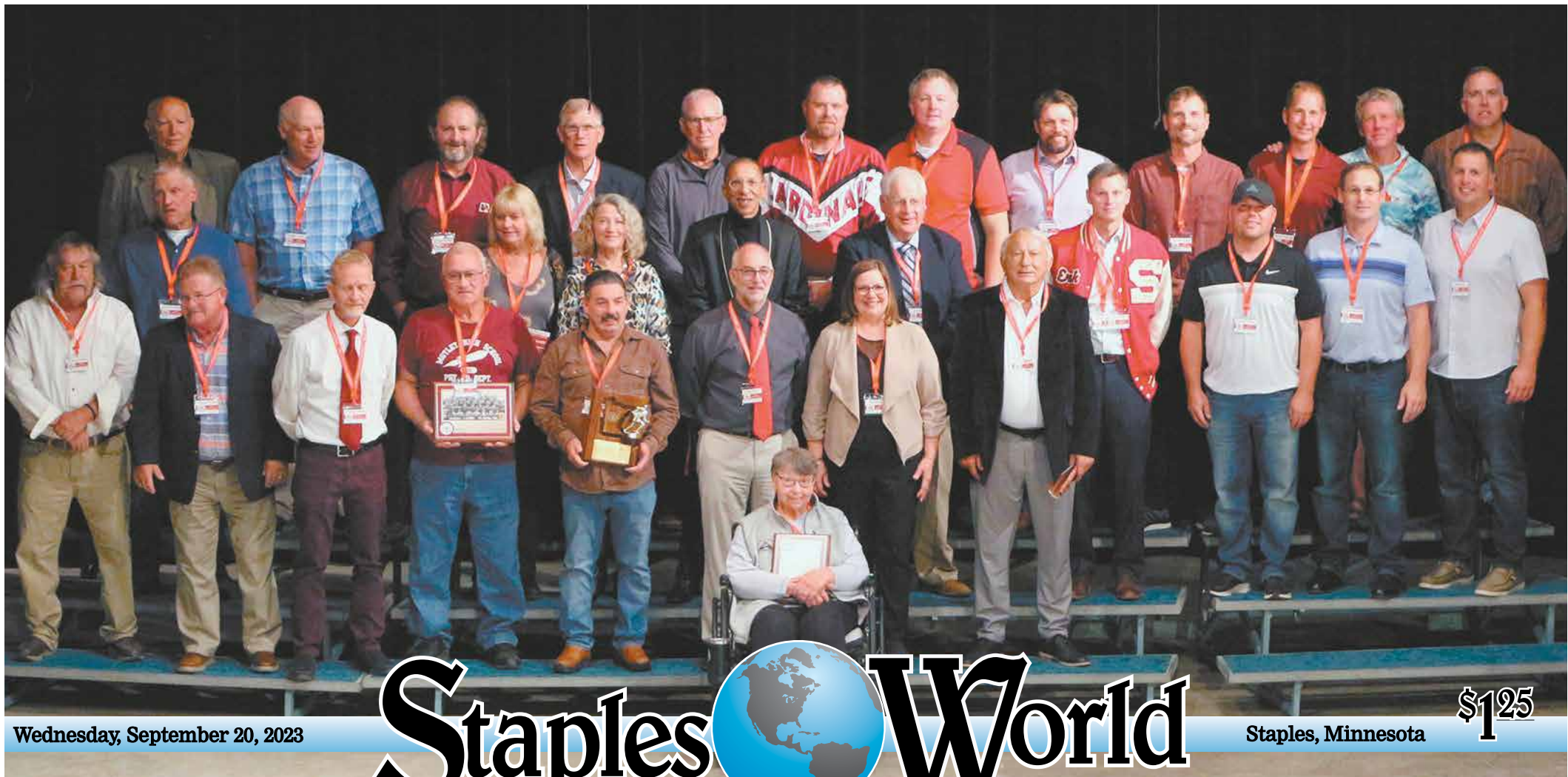


Inside this issue:

Motley hires interim police chief
Staples Area Men's chorus starts new season
Class of 1958 reunion
Football team's third straight win
Burton sets Lucky Lindy meet record



Wednesday, September 20, 2023

Staples, Minnesota

\$1²⁵

Athletic Hall of Fame The Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame inducted a new class on Sept. 16, pictured above. Inductees included the 1995 Staples-Motley boys basketball team, the 1972 Motley football team, individual athletes Collin Beachy, Curtis Jenkins, Blaine Joerger, Erik Kelly and Jody (Wilson) Hagenson; Coach Joe Joerger and Community Contributor Pamela Sachs. See more photos on page 11a. (Photo by Mark Anderson)



Thanking first responders on 9/11

Representatives of Mahube-Otwa RSVP, under the umbrella of AmeriCorps Seniors program, stopped by the Staples Police Department on 9/11 to express their thanks to the first responders there. Pictured, from left, are AmeriCorps Se-

niors volunteer LaVonne Selleck, Staples; Staples Police Officer Sgt. Ryan Walwick; Staples Police Chief Melissa Birkholtz; Sheila Stave, Mahube-Otwa Senior Services Coordinator, Wadena County. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Council asks if Amtrak should pay more for depot

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples Historical Society asked the Staples City Council for help paying operating costs for the Staples Historic Depot. At their Sept. 12 meeting, the council approved paying a \$2,000 donation, but asked if rent on the building could be renegotiated.

Tom Kajer of the Staples Historical Society told the council how the depot finances work. He said they are experiencing increased costs, which include an annual lease of \$3,700 and insurance \$4,930 per year. They also have heating and utility costs, plus upkeep.

Council member Doug Case asked if some type of business could use the space, such as retail.

Kajer said the Staples Chamber of Commerce had rented the ticket office room for a while but they now don't have an office. He said the BNSF railroad was interested in establishing an office at the building, but that hasn't come through.

Amtrak is operated by the federal government and is separate from the railroad. Amtrak pays \$710 per month to use the building. Daily trains pick up and drop off passengers in Staples. Kajer said Amtrak

made \$483,000 on tickets from people using the Staples Depot. He said 5,500 passengers got on or off at Staples last year.

Kajer said when they asked Amtrak about increasing their payment, they said they were paying too much already. He said it is a long term lease agreement that isn't likely to be renegotiated soon.

Several council members wondered if the Amtrak payment was too small and asked if they could compare it to other depot stations.

"We're the only ones who own our own depot," Kajer said. "It's the only one that's not manned that's open 24 hours a day."

The council approved the \$2,000 donation but council member Doug Case asked for them to come back every year to get further donations approved so it doesn't become a permanent item on the city's budget.

In other news, the council

- Approved gambling permit for Frosty's Spirits and Social Club at the Batchelor Block Opera House.
- Accepted donations from Staples Lions Club for boulevard flags and planters.
- Approved permit for Knights of Columbus to

conduct raffle at Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

- Approved permit for Wahoo Valley Deer Hunters Association to conduct a raffle at Timbers Event Center.
- Approved cost share agreement with Todd County for pictometry arial photography. The city pays \$1,560 per year and the ariel photographs and mapping take place every three years. City Administrator Jerel Nelsen said they use the maps every day at the city office.
- Approved \$3,024 donation to Hilltop Kitchen, which provides Meals on Wheels program and other senior dining meals in Staples. Mayor Ron Murray said he has driven for Meals on Wheels, with around 20 people getting the meals through the Staples Community Center. He said he toured the Hilltop Kitchen facility in Eagle Bend and said it is a worthwhile investment for the city.
- Approved \$65,000 for engineering work for water and wastewater infrastructure projects on several streets on the south side of Staples and on 2nd St. NE near the school. Public Works Director Scott Grabe said he expects to get funding for the project but it hasn't come in yet.

Staples house prices level off

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Prices for home sales in Staples reached a record level last year, but that spike is leveling out with home prices lower so far this year.

Todd County Assessor Chris Odden gave a presentation about how homes are assessed and how property taxes are applied at the Staples City Council meeting on Sept. 12.

"I've been with county 18 years, last year was the highest increase I have ever seen," said Odden.

There were 53 houses sold in Staples last year, which Odden said is enough to get a good idea of what other homes are worth. All the homes were on the open market and "People knew what they were buying and the people selling were not falsely motivated," said Odden.

Those sales are then compared to homes in similar neighborhoods. "If your neighbor's house sells for \$200,000 and yours is similar, yours is probably worth

\$200,000," said Odden. "It's not apples to apples, but we try to get it close."

The assessor then compares the sale price to what previous assessments had the homes valued. The assessor's office also takes into account if there are any major renovations or improvements made to the home.

State law requires the assessed values to be between 90 and 110 percent of the actual sales. Odden said Staples had been around 93 percent, but the high prices last year put assessed values at around 64 percent of the actual sales. According to Minnesota law, the county had to raise valuations by about 35 percent.

With home sale prices down slightly this year, Odden said the sales are now around 107 percent of the valuation. If it gets above 110 percent, the county will be required to reduce valuations on many homes.

Taxes

Just because home val-

uations were up, does not mean that property taxes went up on those homes, because most homes had their valuation rise at a similar rate. If every home had a similar rise in valuation, taxes wouldn't go up at all because it is still spread out in the same proportion. If one category of home rises more than another category, that one could see a slight tax increase.

Odden explained how the county auditor takes the tax levy from the city, school and county, then applies it to each property according to their valuation and classification.

Property tax increases mainly come from cities, schools or the county when they set their tax levy. If one category of home or business sees a higher valuation while other homes do not go up, then those specific homes could see a rise in taxes.

Staples City Council member Doug Case asked why homeowners who make improvements are the ones that pay more taxes because

their valuations rise more and they pay a higher percentage of the property tax. "People are rewarded for allowing their property to get blighted," said Case.

Odden agreed that it is an issue that they are aware of under Minnesota's value based system. He said there are other benefits to having a home fixed up, such as quality of life and pride of ownership.

Staples City Administrator Jerel Nelsen also pointed out that people who keep up their buildings have better resale value.

Commercial property

Odden said commercial property is much harder to value because there are fewer sales. "If we get half a dozen that would be amazing," he said.

Even if they do get a good sampling of sales, each one is extremely different because the sales often include things that are not associated with the building. For example, if a bar

See **ASSESSOR** on page 3a

Weather

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Sept. 20	82	59	M. Cloudy
Sept. 21	78	58	Showers, 40%
Sept. 22	76	59	Showers, 50%
Sept. 23	69	56	T-Storms, 60%
Sept. 24	68	53	Showers, 60%
Sept. 25	67	50	M. Cloudy
Sept. 26	68	49	M. Sunny

Last Year, 2022

	High	Low	Cond.
Sept. 20	81°	54	Sunny
Sept. 21	60	48	M. Cloudy
Sept. 22	62	42	Sunny
Sept. 23	60	51	Rain
Sept. 24	59	48	Cloudy
Sept. 25	64	50	M. Cloudy
Sept. 26	63	45	Sunny

Average Temps:

H = 65° Low = 46°

Very much a wet forecast!

Compiled by

Dale Hausmann,

WCCO's Staples area

Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Evergreen Hill Cemetery

9A

Todd Cty Planning Commission

9A

Todd Cty 2024 Fee Schedule

9A

Obituaries

Richrd Bartella

Dolores Eppelsheimer

Ann Loose

Helen Johnson-Riggs

Paula Swecker

Motley hires interim police chief, accepts more resignations

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Al Yoder has accepted the offer to be Motley's interim police chief, ensuring the city's police department will remain open and continue its service to the community.

That leaves four more positions within the City of Motley to fill, due to recent resignations at the police department and at city hall. Postings will soon be in place for police chief, police officer, city clerk/treasurer and administrative assistant. In addition, there will be a hole in the council as of Sept. 30, with the resignation of Mayor Mike Schmidt.

Regarding the interim police chief position, the decision to offer it to Yoder was made by the Motley City Council at their regular meeting Sept. 11. Per their offer, Yoder will receive \$37/hr. and be allowed to work up to 20 hours per week.

The council had previously been tasked with hiring an interim prior to Chief Jason Borash's final work day Sept. 22, or risk having their police department office vacated. Chief Borash's resignation, along with that of Motley Police Officer Cody Holtz, had been accepted at a special council meeting Sept. 5.

A hiring committee had been set for the interim police position which included council member and police liaison Pat O'Regan, council member Brenda Borash; and department heads Darci Odden, Clerk/Treasurer; Public Works Director Bruce Brotherton; Police Chief Jason Borash; and Fire Chief Brad Olson.

At the Sept. 11 meeting, council member Borash said that the committee had offered the interim chief position to someone, but that he'd withdrawn his name earlier that day. They had a few other choices on their list and hoped to meet again soon and make a second offer.

Council member Steve Johnson asked if the person who had withdrawn their name was Al Yoder. He was told, 'no.'

Johnson said he was confused, since most of the council had previously been in agreement that Yoder, a Morrison County Deputy and former Motley Mayor, should be contacted about the interim chief position. Plus, as pointed out by council member Nikki Bjerga, Yoder lived on the edge of town and could respond to emergencies in a timely manner.

Odden, who was on the search committee, said she felt they needed to first look at the other names that were on their list.

Fellow search committee member O'Regan said he was concerned about

the time line and needing to have someone in place by Sept. 22. Scheduling another meeting would put them further behind, with no guarantees that anyone else on the list would say 'yes.' He'd go with the committee's suggested plan if they had more time, O'Regan said.

O'Regan proceeded to make a motion that they appoint Al Yoder to the interim police position, pending background checks and negotiations. The motion, seconded by Bjerga, was amended to include a pay rate of \$37/hr., up to 20 hours per week.

The motion passed, with all voting 'aye' except for council member Borash who abstained. In a later conversation, Odden confirmed that Yoder had accepted the interim chief position. She noted that the hours offered to him were more than what the committee had agreed upon (30 hours every two weeks).

With the interim chief position covered, the hiring committee (most likely joined by Yoder) will turn its attention to securing a full-time chief.

The task of filling the soon-to-be-vacated administrative positions is also a priority.

At their Sept. 11 meeting, the council accepted resignations from both it's City Clerk/Treasurer Darci Odden, and it's Administrative Assistant, Sarah Lenzen. Both have set their last day as being Oct. 5. Odden will continue on full-time, and Lenzen two days per week until that time.

In her letter to the council, Lenzen stated, "I want to thank my coworkers and the residents of Motley, as I have enjoyed having the opportunity to work with this past year. I wish the City of Motley the very best going forward."

Odden's resignation letter noted that she "has met some truly amazing people during my time with the city," adding that she's spent the past seven years (on and off) in a variety of positions, the most recent being clerk/treasurer. "There is a reason I kept coming back, and I'll miss my fellow employees and the residents of Motley. I wish the city nothing but the best going forward and hope the city can find dedicated employees to fill the current vacancies like the amazing ones I have worked with over the years."

Mayor Schmidt expressed gratitude to both women for their service to the city. He noted Lenzen's smile that always greets people entering city hall. The mayor thanked Odden for her patience, eye for detail, and helping educate him on city business. "You'll be missed," Schmidt said.

In a later conversa-



City hall exodus

The City of Motley will soon say goodbye to City Clerk/Treasurer Darci Odden (left) and Administrative Assistant Sarah Lenzen. Both employees recently resigned, with their last day scheduled for Oct. 5. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

tion, Odden and Lenzen were asked why they had resigned. Both said it had nothing to do with wages. Lenzen noted she would soon be opening her business, 'Crazy Plant Company,' outside of Motley.

Another resignation accepted at the Sept. 11 meeting was that of Mayor

Schmidt. In his letter, the mayor shared, "I have both appreciated and enjoyed the role of mayor and serving the residents, guests and staff of the City of Motley. I wish I could stay on, longer. I'm unable to serve at this time, due to personal reasons, of which my colleagues are aware of and we knew this day would eventually become my reality. I'll help in any way I can regarding transitions and future support in the weeks and months to come."

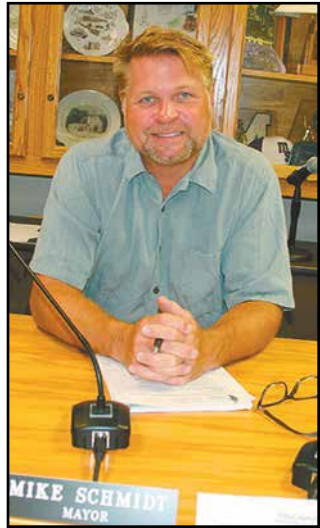
Schmidt went on to voice his appreciation for the community that he'd been a part of for several years, first in leadership roles at the Staples-Motley School

District, and then as Motley's mayor. He shared that after his wife died this past March, he's had to make some changes, including selling his house, which will put him outside of city limits...a criteria for being mayor.

After the resignation was accepted, both council members Bjerga and Borash thanked Mayor Schmidt for his leadership on the council.

So, what is the next step? Acting Mayor Pat O'Regan will lead the council upon Schmidt's final day, and until they are able to appoint a new mayor. Odden will be posting this open seat, along with the other vacancies.

With so many positions to fill, Odden had suggested the council might look into a hiring company. It can be pricey, but worth it, Odden thought, rather than "juggling" four search committees. In the meantime, the hiring committee for the Clerk/Treasurer and Administrative Assistant positions has been set to include council members Bjerga and Steve John-



Mayor resigns

Motley Mayor Mike Schmidt presided over the regular city council meeting Sept. 11, at which time he tendered his resignation, effective Sept. 30.

son; Public Works Director Bruce Brotherton; and Fire Chief Brad Olson. Bjerga See **MOTLEY COUNCIL** on page 3a



Celebrating Leader's centenarians, Ruth and Harry

Dozens of people stopped by the Bear's Den in Leader Sept. 16, to wish longtime residents Ruth Boldan and Harry McCoy a 'Happy 100th birthday.' In addition to the salutations of family and friends, the centenarians were treated to a musical performance from trumpeters Jerry and Phyllis Miller of Moline, Ill., and tuba player Jon Hodkin of Thurso, Scotland. The trio had played at a concert in Bemidji the day before and were heading to the airport, via Hwy 64. They initially stopped by the gas station in Leader, and wondered about all of the cars parked outside of the Bear's Den. Upon learning about the special party, they decided to stop in, meet the centenarians, and offer a musical gift. In addition to playing 'Happy Birthday' to Ruth and Harry, they performed, 'It's a Wonderful World.' (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



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Looking back

75 YEARS Ago - 1948

Sept. 16, 1948 - ‘An Unusual Fish Story’ from the Motley News: While fishing in Leaf River a few days ago, Gerald Hazuka, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hazuka, caught TWO fish at one time. He hooked a northern pike and then the second fish became entangled in the line when it wound about its gills, and both were pulled to shore. Can you top that?

Compiled by Dawn Timbs

Sept. 16, 1948 - The Motley fire department was called to Pillager Thursday morning of last week when the Evensta Cafe was completely destroyed by fire of unknown origin. The Brainerd fire department was also there and helped keep the blaze from spreading to nearby buildings.

The cafe was operated by Mrs. Gus Parson and located on the main street in Pillager.

Sept. 16, 1948 - Of unusual interest among music lovers is the announcement issued the first of this week by Erling I. Lian, director of band music at the Staples high school, of the scheduled appearance of Bohumir Kryl and his all girl symphony orchestra which has been engaged to present a concert on Nov. 10, at the Staples auditorium under the sponsorship of the high school band.

Sept. 16, 1948 - Word comes from Rev. John Goodrich, pastor of the Evangelical Free Church at Lincoln that there will be a series of special services at the church starting on Wednesday, Sept. 22, and continuing through Sunday, Sept. 26.

Services will be held each evening at 8 o'clock and the Rev. Joy Cummings of Annandale will be the speaker.



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from 1973. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photo? Do you have a memory to share? Email your answers and where

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

Rev. Cummings is a pastor of repute and will show talking motion pictures each evening during the time he is there.

Sept. 16, 1948 - For the third consecutive month Staples merchants are holding their ‘Opportunity Days’ Sept. 18 and 20. Splendid bargains will be in all of the stores in Staples during these two days.

50 YEARS Ago - 1973

Sept. 20, 1973 - A young Minneapolis man, whose parents reside on Route 2, Staples, in Thomastown Township, of Wadena County, died of apparent gunshot wounds in Minneapolis early Saturday morning.

Dead is Richard J. Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Brown. He was 28 years of age. Brown, who is employed in Minneapolis, resided at 3558 Second Street N. E. in that city.

Sept. 20, 1973 - Two athletes

from staples will be playing football with the Brainerd Community College Red Raiders this fall.

Athletic Director Terry Larson said that Mark Scioli and Mike Hajek were among the 27 young men turning out for the practice sessions to start the 1973 season.

Mark Scioli, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Scioli, and Mike Hajek, son of Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Hajek, are both freshmen at the college. They are 1973 graduates of Staples High school.

Sept. 20, 1973 - Mrs. Elmer Collison received a telephone call from her daughter, Kathy Jenkins, who arrived in Caracas, Venezuela, on Sunday, where she will be spending three months. The name of her new family is Mr. and Mrs. Pedro Vicente Felce Cottin, and they have four daughters. Kathy was overjoyed to learn that all the family speak English. Kathy said the scenery and mountains were just beautiful.

Sept. 20, 1973 - The students at the Staples Elementary school were happy last week to have a visitor from Japan at their school.

Kuniaki Shinomiya spoke to the classrooms about the customs of the Japanese people. It was reported that of special interest to the children was the Japanese money, the yen.

Kuniaki has been living with the Warren Noetzelman family during his stay in Staples.

Sept. 20, 1973 - Pat Wilhelmson captured the championship of the annual club tournament at the Terrace Golf Course Sept. 16. A total of 55 local golfers participated in the event.

Wilhelmson shot a 27-hole total of 109. Placing second in the tourney, two strokes back, was Robert Wiltout. The champion of the event one year ago, Glen Hasselberg, came in third with a score of 116, whereas Rollie Penfield shot a 118 to finish fourth.

25 YEARS Ago - 1998

Sept. 17, 1998 - A 50-year-old Villard man was killed in a traffic accident about four miles west of Browerville Sept. 9.

The Todd County Sheriff's Department reported Neal Allen Kruger, 50, of Rt. 1, Villard, was pronounced dead on arrival at the Long Prairie Hospital following the 8:45 p.m. accident.

Sept. 17, 1998 - Roy DiGiovanni, chair of the University of Minnesota Central Regional Agri-

cultural and Natural Resources Sustainable Development Partnership, has announced that Lee Raeth has accepted the position of executive director to the Regional Partnership.

Lee comes to the area from Buffalo, where he was serving as a University of Minnesota Extension Educator.

Sept. 17, 1998 - A Wadena-Deer Creek school bus driver died at the wheel, but teenage students on board, members of the Staples-Motley, Wadena-Deer Creek, Verndale girls swimming team, stopped the bus before it hit anything.

Eugene Dickey, 66, suffered a fatal heart attack Thursday evening in Verndale, as the bus rolled down Brown Street while dropping off two swim team members about 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 17, 1998 - Unleashing a potent aerial attack, the Cardinal football squad cruised to a 33-13 win Friday night over Warroad, for the second victory of the year for the young Cardinal squad.

Four different players scored, on 87 yard, 99 yard and 16 yard pass plays in the first half and on 45 and 44 yard scoring runs in the second.

Sept. 17, 1998 - The newly constructed Harmony House in Motley will open for public inspection on Sept. 22, with an open house from 1 - 5:30 p.m.

Sept. 17, 1998 - The Staples Motley girls volleyball team slapped New York Mills 3-2 Sept. 8, winning the first, third and fifth games to take the match.

10 YEARS Ago - 2013

Sept. 19, 2013 - The First Congregational United Church of Aldrich will host a 100 year celebration Sunday, Sept. 22, with worship service at 10 a.m. After the worship, lunch will be shared at Ted & Gen's Restaurant in Aldrich.

Sept. 19, 2013 - ‘Things aren't always as straightforward a they seem,’ said Amy Hunter about the free Lamplighter Theatre production ‘Poverty: What's Your Baggage?’

In the self-made production, the Lamplighter actors show how labels are applied to people and how it becomes impossible for them to escape their situation. In addition to Hunter, other players in the production are Sandy Porter, Kevin Olsen, Jim Vollegraaf, Pam Collins, Judy Richer and Jean Hayenga.

MOTLEY COUNCIL continued from page 2a

Motley Police Chief Borash rates high in yearly job performance review

mentioned that she didn't feel it would be a good idea to have resigning employees on the committee, especially if they'd been unhappy in their position.

In other matters the council:

HEARD a summary of a closed meeting held regarding the performance review for Jason Borash, Police Chief. Chief Borash received 46.25 out of 56 points, determined to be highly satisfactory. Mayor Schmidt thanked the chief for his work.

APPROVED a special event permit for the Motley Community Events Organization's Fall Fest Oct. 14. In addition, the council approved waiving fees for this event, and discussed possible ways to provide security.

HEARD from council member Steve Johnson that in regard to a second squad vehicle for the city's police department, he would like them to consider purchasing a used vehicle.

APPROVED the preliminary 2023 levy for both Cass and Morrison counties, collectible in 2024. The proposed total certified levy is \$470,706, a 10.97 percent increase from last year's final levy.

HEARD from former police officer Cody Holtz during the public forum. Holtz, who is now working as

a Morrison County Deputy, said that he'd enjoyed serving the people of Motley as a police officer, and would continue to serve the people of Morrison County in his new role. He wanted to clarify that the reason he left Motley was due to being underpaid. He also stressed that he had never had any 'special talks' with any of the council members about this.

HEARD from Motley resident Erv Bjerga during the public forum. Bjerga said he had two points to make. His first was that a new police officer should be full-time and be given a higher rate of pay. Secondly, Bjerga wanted to clarify that he sent out letters to residents regarding the salaries/benefits of city employees after his daughter Kristen saw it on Facebook. They had assumed that would be okay, as it was already public information. He also wanted to clarify that his daughter Nikki had nothing to do with the letter. Erv Bjerga was told that the information had been on the city's website, not Facebook. Chief Borash also noted that Erv's letter contained an addition to what was posted. Bjerga said he had added one statement, that he felt Maintenance Asst. Bryan Stevens deserved a raise.



Staples Host Lions donate

The Staples Host Lions recently donated \$1,000 to the Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame. Pictured above, Lion Rick Adamietz with Kevin Swecker, SM Hall of Fame board member. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

ASSESSOR continued from page 1a

Commercial property in Staples mostly in line with valuations; apartments, railroad property in different classifications

gets sold, it includes tables, chairs, inventory and pool tables, but that amount isn't always reflected in the sale, said Odden. The sale of a business could also be based on future sales prospects.

Despite those difficulties, Odden said the valuations in Staples have been around 93 to 100 percent of actual sale prices.

The commercial tax rate is about double of the home- stead tax rate, Odden said, but they don't have to pay for school levies because

they don't have the opportunity to vote for them.

Taxes on apartments are a little higher than residential but lower than commercial. Odden said Minnesota has around 50 classifications of properties that are all taxed differently.

Nelsen asked about railroad property. Odden said the state assesses the railroad separately. Todd County does assess bare ground property owned by railroads at \$500,000 per acre.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the Sept. 10, 1998 edition of the Staples World featured Staples World employees Gary Mueller and Brenda Halvorson, who were celebrating birthdays in September.

Gary Mueller, Michelle Lundquist and Judy Wolak, all of Staples correctly identified both, as did Michelle Jeziorski of Cushing. Wolak mentioned that Mueller and Halvorson are now both retired, and that Halvorson is still involved in several community organizations, including 'Friends of the Library,' which Wolak is a part of. Tom Crawford of Staples said they looked familiar...he's pretty sure it's Gary and his girlfriend. Thanks for participating in our mystery photo.

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Early teal season may be a mixed blessing

Perhaps it was a message from Providence, those sweltering temperatures that rose into the upper 90’s and even 100 degrees in some northern locations, during the recent Labor Day weekend. That weekend, coincidentally, marked the start of Minnesota’s early teal hunting season. Providence’s message, perhaps, was about the wisdom of starting a duck season so early—in totally un-duck-like weather—in order to boost hunters’ harvest of blue-winged teal, a duck that is one of the earliest-to-migrate of our state’s waterfowl.

The five-day special hunt is now “in the books,” as they say. It began on Saturday September 2nd and ended on Wednesday, September 6th. The “regular” waterfowl hunting season, when other ducks become fair game, does not begin until September 23rd. This is the third of a three-year experiment that was authorized by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), at the request—depending on your sources—of either the state’s wildlife managers, or our top politicians. Depending on a post-experiment analysis by the USFWS, and decisions to be made within the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), an early teal hunting season could become a regular part of our fall hunting landscape.

Other states in our Mississippi Flyway have early teal seasons before their general duck seasons. This is due to the habit of blue-winged teal to migrate to their wintering destinations without tarrying as long as other ducks in those states. Their wintering destinations include the gulf coast states of Florida, Texas, and Louisiana, the Caribbean islands, Mexico, and Central and South America.

The closely related green-wing teal is, oddly enough, a notably later migrant, sometimes much later. But due to their similarity in plumage at this point in the year, Minnesota’s the early teal season permits the hunting both blue-wings and green-wings, as well as the cinnamon teal, a bird that is rarely encountered in Minnesota.

One major difference between Minnesota and most of the other states in our Mississippi Flyway is that many blue-winged teal are

born and raised here. In states farther south, the teal they are shooting are primarily not local ducks, but migrants. That being the case, and if maximizing harvest opportunities for hunters is the goal, there may be logic in an early teal season in those states.

Enhancing hunter harvest is also the goal behind Minnesota’s early teal season. But unlike most of the other 13 states in the Mississippi Flyway, a high proportion of the teal we shoot were born on wetlands within our borders. Because this is so, there is a genuine risk that by over-shooting we will diminish the number of birds that could return and raise broods here the following spring.

For the record, the increase in Minnesota’s blue-winged teal harvest has been dramatic. Reported harvest numbers jumped from about 81,000 in 2021, to 126,000 last year, the second year of the three-year early teal season experiment. Minneapolis Star-Tribune columnist Dennis Anderson reports that roughly 48,000 of the 126,000 blue-winged teal harvested during the 2022 season were taken during the five-day early season.

This 2022 total catapulted the blue-winged teal to being the #1 most-harvested duck in Minnesota for the very first time. Admittedly, mallard harvest in 2022 dropped by 25% from 2021. But even had mallard numbers remained constant, the blue-winged teal harvest would still have beat the mallard total by roughly 50%. Such harvest fluctuations are wildly uncommon under stable hunting regulations.

A disturbing contrast to Minnesota’s blue-winged teal harvest explosion in 2022 is the report released last week by the USFWS, and its estimate of the continental abundance of waterfowl generally, and individual ducks in particular. The USFWS data comes from a cooperative effort between that agency, the Canadian Wildlife Service, and state, provincial and tribal conservation agencies. In this latest report, the overall continental waterfowl population was estimated to be 7% below 2022, and 9% below the long-term average. The blue-winged teal population nationwide was estimated to have declined 19% from 2022. Minnesota’s Waterfowl Breeding Population Survey, conducted in May of this year, estimated the overall duck numbers in our state to be 15% below 2022, 20% below the 10-year average, and 22% below the long-term average.

Given the general down-

ward trend in duck numbers, with some notable exceptions, the logic of establishing an early teal season to increase our state’s hunter harvest is not viewed as sound by everyone. For multiple years, DNR wildlife managers rejected the option of an early teal season when offered by USFWS. Rumor and media reporting have it that wildlife managers opposed it again in 2021, but were jointly overruled by Governor Tim Walz and DNR Commissioner Sarah Strommen, who was appointed to that post by the Governor. Whether—if true—the decision was made to please political constituents, or because more hunting licenses sold here means more federal Pittman-Robertson dollars flow back to Minnesota for the DNR’s Game & Fish Fund, neither is a reason good enough to trump sound, resource-based waterfowl management policy.

Apart from concerns that Minnesota may be unjustifiably liberalizing its waterfowl harvest rules, there is also the issue of user-group conflict. That conflict is the coinciding timing of the early teal hunting season and wild rice harvest. Again this year, several Native American tribes declared that some prime wild rice waters were to be of-limits to hunters during the five-day early teal season, a declaration seconded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which restricted hunting during that time on some National Wildlife Refuge waters where wild rice harvest take place. The reasons given were both the risk of bodily harm with ricers harvesting in close proximity to hunters with shotguns, and damage to the rice crop from hunting boats flattening the rice stalks, making the rice un-harvestable.

This is not exclusively a hunters-versus-tribes issue, as many non-Native Americans harvest wild rice, including some DNR employees. One, a friend and now-retired DNR Wildlife Section manager, argued vociferously—to no avail—that this conflict between hunters and ricers was sure to arise if the teal season was held so early. Most of the other Mississippi Flyway states do not have significant wild rice harvest—if any—and therefore do not have this potential conflict.

Given the direction that Minnesota duck numbers seem to be going, and what seems to be a perennial conflict between wild rice and duck hunting, perhaps Minnesota’s early teal season needs to be reconsidered, both in timing, and whether it is held at all.

Railroad Days energy is back

I have been attending Railroad Days since 2006, and over that span of time, I have seen the event have many different looks and levels of success. Maybe I had one too many root beer floats at the SPARKS stand, but Railroad Days seemed different this year. There was a noticeable energy in the air that carried through the week, and our little town rose to the occasion.

I wasn’t able to attend every event, but those I could participate in seemed like smashing successes. Some

of my pre-Saturday favorites were the Little Red Caboose Variety Show, Historic Staples Barn Quilt Tour, Beck’s Car & Bike Show, and the impressive fireworks show. The success of the Saturday activities can make or break our Railroad Days Celebration, and I think this year’s festivities knocked it out of the park! The parade was HUGE, and the hometown pride on display was contagious. Downtown businesses brought their A-game, and there was no shortage of vendors, games, and activities. At the conclusion of the big day, I noticed our Mayor helping sort out the trash, which I appreciated as there is no

job too big or small for any of us.

It’s obvious that Railroad Days does not just happen each year. From where I was sitting, it was apparent that the main reason our town shined during our big week was due to the efforts of Renee Kroll and Jordan Goodwater. This dynamic duo worked on the event for months and attended to every detail as they led the Staples Events Committee under the Chamber to perhaps the best Railroad Days this town has seen in many years.

Erich Heppner
Staples, Minn

Heart for kids in the village

Kids, volunteers, books, smiles, laughter, positive hallway energy all signs that there are SPARKS at Staples-Motley Elementary and Sacred Heart School! SPARKS (Special People Are mentoRing Kids in School) is entering its second year here in our community.

During the 2022-23 school year 29 heroes from the community volunteered over 335 hours supporting and mentoring 50 students in 1st and 2nd grade as Reading Buddies. These Buddies met with students to listen to them read and to listen to them talk about self-awareness topics.

During end of the year evaluations of the fledgling program students made these observations: “The best part of SPARKS is talking and laughing!”, “I liked getting to know you.”, “You are so funny and you make my day.”, “The SPARKS are helping me read. They are kind.”, “I get to read hard books and I get to talk to them!”, “Thank you for lifting me up when I was down.”

As the program coordinator it has been an honor to work with these heroes who give an hour (or in some cases several hours) of their week to sit with a student and listen. It takes no extraordinary skill to do

this, just a heart for kids. This year Reading Buddies will continue in 1st and 2nd grade and SPARKS will implement its planned programming for Lunchtime Buddies in 3rd and 4th grades. These buddies will “lunch” with students and participate in conversations and activities focused on friendship, conflict resolution, empathy, kindness, gratitude, and social skills. Again, this takes no extraordinary skill, just a heart for kids.

Most of us have heard the proverb “It takes a village to raise a child.” Our “village” is the Staples-Motley community and the students served by Staples-Motley schools. It is interesting to note that some of the volunteers currently participating as SPARKS Mentor come from outside our village. We appreciate them and our local villagers who have been mentoring students.

Mentoring matters

One in three children will grow up without this critical asset. Mentoring, at its core, guarantees young people:

- that there is someone who cares about them,
- assures them they are not alone in dealing with day-to-day challenges, and
- makes them feel like they matter.

Research confirms that quality mentoring relationships have powerful positive effects on young peo-

ple in a variety of personal, academic, and professional situations. Ultimately, mentoring connects a young person to personal growth and development, and social and economic opportunity (*from mentoring.org*).

It takes a village of volunteers to give an hour a week to be Reading Buddy, two hours a month to be a Lunchtime Buddy. These volunteers receive training and support throughout the process. Flexibility is built into the program, so if a volunteer needs special scheduling that is available. No one is tied down just tied into connections with kids.

The SPARKS Board and this program coordinator have big audacious dreams. If I had a magic wand, this year I would wave it and 60 villagers would volunteer to be Buddy Readers with students 1st through 4 grade and we would have 20 Lunchtime Buddy volunteers. I don’t think I need a magic wand. I just need the 80-100 (or more) villagers, I know are ready to mentor, to contact me by sending an email to sparksmentoring@gmail.com

The villagers that volunteered last year will tell you that is a rewarding experience. We can’t wait to help you feel the satisfaction of being the SPARK in a kid’s life.

Julie Mertens
SPARKS Program
Coordinator

SWCD can help manage invasive species

Submitted by Todd County SWCD

Whether you are riding out on a boat on Lake Osakis or driving out in the country you may have unfortunately come across invasive species such as zebra mussels or buckthorn. What are invasive species you may ask? Invasive species are plants or animals that are not native to a particular area that can cause great environmental harm to the new

area. Often times these species are a major problem in both terrestrial and aquatic environments as they have no natural predators here to control the population and are rapidly reproducing. In lakes and rivers, they can be a major problem as they can greatly reduce recreational opportunity and alter the ecosystem. In terrestrial environments, invasive plants can overcrowd natives and make it more difficult for them to compete.

A few examples of invasive species you may see in Todd County include Common Carp, Buckthorn, Zebra Mussels, Leafy spurge, Wild Parsnip, Curly Leaf Pondweed, and Purple Loosestrife. While we may not be able to completely stop the spread of these species everyone can do their part to help slow the spread. For lakes and rivers, be sure to clean your boat, drain all water, and dispose of unused bait before leaving a public access. Additional steps may need to be taken such as using a decontamination unit that has hot water or high pressure if AIS is seen on boat.

For controlling the spread of terrestrial invasive species, many things can be done to help slow spread. These include cleaning your boots or shoes when walking in a new area, making sure camping gear is free of seeds and soil, and before buying plants for a garden check to see if plant species is listed as invasive. In addition, reestablishing native vegetation in areas can make it more difficult for invasive to become established due to competition.

If you do happen to have an invasive species infestation on your property many control options exist to help manage or control the infestation. For invasive plants, common control methods include frequent mowing and burning, grazing with animals such as goats, cut stump herbicide treatment, leaf application, and basal bark spray. If you have any questions or concerns regarding invasive species feel free to reach out to the Todd County Soil and Water office at 320-732-2644, or stop by the office.

Quote of the week

“It’s amazing that the amount of news that happens in the world every day always just exactly fits the newspaper.” — Jerry Seinfeld

StaplesWorld

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The deadline is 12 noon, Friday. Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily represent the views of this newspaper.



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Fairness: The Staples World tries conscientiously to report fairly and accurately. If you feel we fall short of this objective at any time, please direct your complaint to the manager whose name appears on this page.
Note to Advertisers: Advertisers should check their ad following first publication. This newspaper shall not be liable for failure to publish an ad or for the typographic error or errors in publication except to the extent of the cost of the ad for the first day’s insertion. Adjustment for errors is limited to the cost of that portion of the ad wherein the error occurred. The publisher reserves the right to cancel any advertisement at any time.

Member: Minnesota Newspaper Association, MCAN Advertising

Quote of the week

“A good newspaper is never nearly good enough but a lousy newspaper is a joy forever.”
— Garrison Keillor



Staples Area Men’s Chorus starting new season of singing

The Staples Area Men’s Chorus (SAMC) is underway for another season of male chorus singing and the group invites any men in the area who have an interest in singing to come join.

The SAMC has a long tradition of bringing the male chorus sound to the Staples Motley area and beyond, from hosting a male chorus festival in October each year which includes junior and senior high school and college age young men, to a community Christmas concert and a variety of other singing events throughout our season. The mission of the SAMC is to provide high quality and diverse choral experiences for singers and audiences of all ages in Central Minnesota.

The chorus season goes from late August through the middle of May each year, with group rehearsals held on Wednesday evenings from 8:30-10:00 p.m. in the Staples

Motley Choir room. The rehearsal/concert schedule is flexible enough that allows for attending as often as your life schedule permits.

The rehearsals and concerts offer the opportunity for a creative outlet and pursuing the enjoyment which comes from making music in the fellowship of song as well as enhancing the lives of your audience through your singing. Men, if you’ve ever found yourself singing in the shower, you more than likely qualify to sing with the group.

This is a great time to join and the Staples Area Men’s Chorus would encourage you to come, check out the group on any of the upcoming Wednesday evenings. Any questions or wanting more information, call the current chorus President Kevin Olsen; 218-296-2430 or check out their website at staplesmen.org.



1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

Lincoln Goff, above left, with Kathy Perish and Emerson Douts, above right, with Judy Wolak, recently completed the “1,000 Books Before Kindergarten” program at the Staples Library, receiving their certificates, free books and stuffed animal.

To sign up for the program, stop by the library and receive a free book bag and record book. The program is designed to increase awareness, the importance of early literacy as well as encouraging parents to embrace their role as their child’s first teacher. The program is sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library. The Staples Library is located at 122 6th St. NE.

Right: September is Library Card Sign Up Month. Stop by during hours and sign up for a free library card. Pictured: The Hanson family, Jackie, Everett, Alida, Grace and Archie. (Submitted photos)



Mark Your Calendar

September 21

‘WALK WITH A DOC’ Thursdays at 5:15 p.m., at Lakewood Health System’s main campus in Staples. Meet at the main entrance. For more information about this free program, visit <https://walkwithadoc.org/join-a-walk/locations/staples-minnesota>

September 22

WOMEN’S OPEN AA RECOVERY MEETING Every Friday in person, 10:30 a.m., Motley Free Methodist Church (lower level), 33 Wellwood St. E. Motley. All women welcome.

September 25

AA GROUP MTGS IN MOTLEY are held at the United Methodist Church, 847 3rd Ave. S.,

on Mondays at 8 p.m.

September 26

CARE MINISTRY FREE MEAL Tuesday, Sept. 26, 4:30 - 6 p.m., at Faith Lutheran Church, 430 12th St. NE, Staples. The free meals are held on a monthly basis to promote fellowship, connection and nourishment.

LIVING LEGACY GARDENS, STAPLES, WELCOMES VOLUNTEERS Tuesdays, from 9 - 11 a.m. Located at 26505 Co. Rd. 2.

EXPERIENCE STRENGTH AND HOPE AA GROUP MTGS IN STAPLES are held at the Staples Congregational Church, 204 5th St. NE, Tuesdays at 7 p.m. For info., call Dan at 218-640-7228.

‘GRIEF SHARE’ GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP is held on Tuesdays from 6 - 8 p.m., at Motley Free Methodist Church,

through Dec. 12. For more information, call 218-352-6888.

WADENA COUNTY REPUBLICANS MTGS are held on the 4th Tuesday of the month at the Wadena VFW at 7 p.m. If you wish to eat early you may order from the menu prior to meeting.

LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM’S GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP MTGS will be held Tuesdays, 3 - 4:30 p.m., through Oct. 24, at Sourcewell, 202 12th St. NE, Staples. Anyone grieving the loss of a loved one, child or any other loss is welcome. For more info., call 218-894-8093 or email pauljohnson@lakewoodhealthsystem.com.

STARTING ON SEPTEMBER 13TH
AT STAPLES ALLIANCE CHURCH
1512 8th St NE, Staples, MN

fun and games!
preschool - 6th grade
every Wednesday 6-7:30 p.m.

ONLINE REGISTRATION OPEN NOW
www.staplesalliance.org

BINGO BEGINS:
Sunday, Oct. 1
1 p.m.
TEN HI, MOTLEY
Blackout starts at
\$1,000 pots or less.
Come, join the fun, Oct.-April.
-Hosted by
Ten Hi and the Motley Lions

DON'T FORGET!!!!

The deadline for classified ads, display ads, garage sale ads, letters to the editor and news items for the Staples World is:

Friday, noon

Staples Residents: Save yourself \$10

•NOTICE•
Parking Restriction
(odd/even parking reminder)

Effective Oct. 1, 2023

THE CITY OF STAPLES
odd/even Parking Ordinance is in effect Oct. 1 and implements a calendar - or odd/even type - parking. The Ordinance is based on Street and Avenue house numbers. **Even numbers** are on the East side of Streets and the South side of Avenues. **Odd numbered houses** are on the West side of Streets and the North side of Avenues.

Vehicles may only park on the even side of Streets and Avenues on even days of the calendar, and may only park on the odd side of Streets and Avenues on odd days of the calendar. This Ordinance is in effect from Oct. 1 to May 1 and from 12:00 midnight to 7:00 a.m.

You must remember to park according to the calendar date as of midnight. Vehicles violating this Ordinance will be ticketed nightly, regardless of the weather. During snow removal periods, vehicles may be ticketed and towed at the owner's expense. This does not affect the downtown 2:00 a.m. - 6 a.m. zones.

FOR EXAMPLE: If you live at 450 7th Street NE and arrive home at 8:00 p.m. on Oct. 1, you must park your car on the even side of the Street or Avenue by midnight because that will be Oct. 2, an even day of the calendar.

For questions, call city hall or 800-794-5733.
Staples Police Department

TIMBERS RESTAURANT

NOW OPEN FOR LUNCH

TUESDAY - SATURDAY
11AM - 9PM

Meals for Mentors

Area Restaurants Support
SPARKS Mentoring at Staples-Motley and Sacred Heart Elementary Schools through Meals for Mentors. \$5 or more from each ticket sold is donated to Special People Are mentoRing Kids in School

\$15.00 Meals

- Tues., Oct. 3, 11 a.m.-2 p.m...Spot Café, Staples Serving Spot's Special Meatballs
- Weds., Oct. 4, all day...Tower Pizza, Staples Serving Spaghetti and Meatballs
- Fri., Oct. 6, 11 a.m.-5 p.m....Monte Azul Restaurant, Staples. Serving Chimichanga Meal
- Fri., Oct. 6, all day...BRICK'S Restaurant, Motley Serving Meatballs in the Buffet
- Mon., Oct. 9, all day...BECK's Burger Co., Staples. Serving Burger Meals: Crispy Chicken or Cheeseburger

\$20.00 Meals

- Weds., Oct. 4, all day...Anchor North, Lake Alex., Cushing. Serving Smoked Meatballs w/Pasta
- Thurs., Oct. 5, 5-7 p.m....Central Lakes College Diner, Staples Campus. Serving Steak Sample Meal
- Fri., Oct. 13, 11 a.m.-3 p.m...BBQ Smokehouse, Motley Serving Smoked Meatball Meal
- Sat., Oct. 14, all day...2 Tall Tavern, Cushing Serving Italian Meatball Sub Meal

Rate your meal as the restaurants are vying for the "2023 Meals for Mentors" Award!

HELLO WORLD

ONLINE BIRTHS REMOVED
AT THE REQUEST OF LAKEWOOD
HEALTH SYSTEM

Obituaries

Ann Loose

Ann Marie Loose, 67, of Pillager, passed away September 11, 2023.

A Memorial Service was held Sept. 17, at the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel in Baxter with Pastor Matt Sundquist officiating.

Ann Marie was born June 9, 1956 to Michael and Katherine (Floren) Gilronan, in Montevideo. She was baptized and confirmed in the St. Mary's Catholic Church of Alexandria. She graduated from Jefferson High School in Alexandria with the class of 1974.

In September of 1974, she was united in marriage to David Ahlbrecht. They were blessed with a son, Jerry. They later divorced. She resided in Mountain Lake for 18 years where she worked various jobs and was most proud of being a volunteer EMT for the Mountain Lake Ambulance.

On September 10, 1993 she was united in marriage to Eric Loose. Upon marriage they moved to Le Sueur, and later to Wishek, ND, Wadena and most recently to their dream house in rural Pillager. She and her husband enjoyed spending time gardening, canning, hunting, fishing, bird watching and riding in his tractor. Her favorite hobby was sewing. Every year at Christmas she would make new pajamas for every great-grandchild, while also making and donating pajamas to the women's shelter. She enjoyed making clothing, bedding and anything else you can think of for the people she loved. She will always be remembered



for her amazing spirit, big heart, dedication to her family and her faith.

Ann is survived by one son, Jerry Ahlbrecht; four step-children, Lisa (James) Buboltz and her children, Joshua (Malia), Elizabeth (Julian), Jessica (Kyle) and Hannah (Alex); Michelle (David) Kozlowski and her children, Krista (Chris), Cody (Brittani), Tyler and Matthew; Matthew Loose and Erin (Jeremy) Behnke and her children, Kaleb, Kyle, Kaden and Kole; 14 great-grandchildren, with the newest being born the day of her passing; one brother, John Gilronan; Eric's siblings, Gail Macconkey, Beth (Jay) Barr, Lynn Rydberg, Kent (Pam) Loose, Mary (Duane) Tiegs and Kirk (Jean) Loose and Linda Loose.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Eric; parents; mother-in-law, Carol Kluntz; one grandson, Nicholas and many cousins and other relatives.

Arrangements were by the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Baxter.

w39c A00006B2023SP20

Paula Swecker

Paula Jean Swecker ("Putzie"), 70, of Motley, passed away September 11, 2023, at her home surrounded by family.

Funeral services were held Sept. 16, at the Motley Free Methodist Church with Pastor Jim Johnson officiating.

Interment was at the Motley Public Cemetery.

Paula was born May 23, 1953, to Joseph Bremer and Alvera (Hurlbut) in Staples, the youngest of seven children. At 12 years of age, she met Kenneth Swecker and it was love at first sight. They were married on August 26, 1972 and continued to serve as an example of love over their 51 years of marriage.

Putzie enjoyed life tremendously and most would agree that she was indeed larger than life, especially for her diminutive stature. She was often silly and made everything fun, whether it was a holiday, or a last-minute weekend campfire. Visitors were always greeted with an offer of food and she was known for her cooking, especially family recipes which were handed down through the generations. She enjoyed animals and they adored her in return (especially "grand-dog, Bonnie"), and the house was never without a pet or three. The tresses of many women and men were cut, colored, groomed and styled by her skillful hands during her 30+ year career as a hairdresser. She was fiercely competitive, espe-



cially at agate hunting, softball and various card games. She had a contagious laugh and a smile that would, for lack of a better phrase, light up a room. She was also fiercely protective of those she loved and she reveled in being a wife, mom, grandma, aunt and friend.

She will be deeply missed by her husband, Ken; two daughters, Gretta (Joe) Trantina and Sarah, both of Motley and one son, Ken, Jr. of White Bear Lake; three beloved grandchildren, Michael, Owen and Caleb; one sister, Ramona Blahosky of Pequot Lakes; one brother, Rodger Bremer of Motley and many special nieces, nephews and in-laws.

Putzie was preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Joe Bremer and three sisters Sylvia Erbe, Judy Stevenson and Mary Kampa.

Arrangements were by Taylor Funeral Home, Staples.

w39c A00006B2023SP20

Delores Eppelsheimer

Delores Jeane Eppelsheimer, 81, of Motley passed away September 14, 2023, at Lakewood Health system Care Center in Staples.

A memorial service will be held Thurs., Sept. 21 at 11 a.m. at Casino Assembly of God Church (10387 49th Avenue, Pillager. Visitation will be one hour prior to services at the church.

Delores was born April 25, 1942, in Ramsey County to Merle and Virginia (Nelson) Waldron. She married the love of her life, Duane Eppelsheimer, on March 31, 1963 and together they raised three children.

Delores was always happy, optimistic and she saw only the good in people. She struggled with MS for many years and was a strong example of faith and never gave up. Delores loved her family, was compassionate, giving and had a great laugh. She enjoyed the Twins, football, the Hallmark Channel and farming with Duane, especially the haying season.

Delores will be forever



missed by one daughter, Terri (Paul) Wickham; two sons, Scott (Rhonda) and Mark (Louann); nine grandchildren, Brandon, Gavin (Brooke), Claire, Darian, Abbi, Garret (Rosie), Shontel, Quinton and Olivia; one brother, Jack (Arvonna Busch) Waldron and one sister, Marlene Danielson.

She is preceded in death by her parents; beloved husband, Duane; and one sister, Betty.

Arrangements are by Taylor Funeral Home, Staples.

w39c A00006B2023SP20

Helen Johnson-Riggs

Helen Allene Johnson-Riggs, 87, passed away peacefully on September 6, 2023.

A celebration of life service will be held September 23, at the Staples Church of Christ at 11 a.m. Visitation will be held at 9:00 a.m. until time of services at the church.

Helen was born in 1936 to Evan and Ada Allen in Poweshiek County, Iowa. Her early years in Iowa were followed by her grade school years in rural South Dakota, then moving to Minnesota with her parents and siblings as a young teen to the Eagle Bend area. There she met and married Doran (Slim) Johnson in 1952. Together, they raised six children in the Staples area. After Doran's passing, Helen found a second chance at love and married John Floyd Riggs in 1995. She and John were blessed with 17 happy years together until his death in 2012.

Helen was a longtime resident of Staples, working over the years at Reed and Carlson grocery, Carter-Ringer Company and many years for Oakridge Group Homes in Staples. She was a member of the Staples Church of Christ and active with the ladies group, sewing quilts for their mission projects.

She is survived by four daughters, Judy (David)



Babbitt of Sumter, SC, Alice Majerus of Elk River, Vicki Jenson of Hudson, WI, Debra (Hank) Bailey of Long Prairie; two sons, James (Jeanne) Johnson of Bloomington and Jeffrey (Lori) Johnson of Pequot Lakes; 10 grandchildren, Michelle Sjobeck, Clinton Bailey, Jeremiah Bailey, Jason Bailey, Julia Starnes, Sylvia Davis, Aaron Johnson, Jessica Johnson, Thomas Johnson and Megan Johnson; 12 great-grandchildren; one brother, Richard Allen of Staples; one sister, Charlotte Guse of Eagle Bend, along with many nieces and nephews.

Helen is preceded in death by her parents; two sisters, Eva Heller and Elsie Riggs; husbands, Doran Johnson and John Riggs.

Arrangements are by the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

w39c A00006B2023SP20

DEADLINE

for all classified
ads and copy is
12 noon Friday

For the
Staples World



Richard Bartella

A Celebration of Life for Richard "Rick" Bartella will be held Saturday, September 30, 2023 at Ten-Hi in Motley at 2 p.m.

Rick, 64, of Motley passed away September 1, 2023 at Lakewood Health System Hospital, Staples.

w39c A00006B2023SP20

STAPLES, MN AREA

Arent Family Revokable Living Trust

--Online Only Real Estate Auction--

Location: 10048 243rd Ave., Staples, MN

Directions: West of Staples 2.8 miles on U.S. Hwy 10 then North on 243rd Ave. for ¼ mile to the property.

Preview: Tues. Sept. 26, 4-6 p.m.

Auction Opens Sept. 29 and Closes Oct. 4 at 12 p.m.

- Tract 1: 89.89 +/- acres of hunting/wooded land, mobile home, and other buildings.
- Tract 2: 40.02 +/- acres of mostly farmland with some low land and trees.
- Tract 3: 4.31 acres of mostly open land used as a Tower site.

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Bachmann Auctioneers, LLC & Bachmann Carow Real Estate Inc. Lic.#03-23.

Happy Birthday

Longtime Staples resident
Beatrice Olson
turned **105** on
September 16!
She currently resides at the Roseau Manor in Roseau near her family and is doing very well.

Thank you
for reading the
Staples World
newspaper.

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FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT



In for the score

Blake Neelan splits two defenders to reach the end zone for the first touchdown against Walker-Hackensack-Akley.

Blocking on the play were Steven Petrich (left), Luke Bjerga (56) and Drake Dukowitz (66)

Cardinals roll to third straight football win

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples-Motley football team remained undefeated at 3-0 with a 53-14 win against Walker-Hackensack-Akley on Sept. 15. The Cardinals had everything working for them as they scored on offense, special teams and defense.

“We really came to play again,” said Coach Drew Potter. “Overall we played hard and executed on offense, defense and special teams. We made a lot of big plays in the run and pass game.”

Staples-Motley scored seven touchdowns in the first half, as they rolled to a 46-7 lead.

Colbe Tappe scored three touchdowns, one on a run, one on a catch and one on an 84 yard kickoff return on the last play of the first half.

“The long kick return touchdown was the highlight of the special teams this game,” said Potter.

The special teams also showed a good kicking game, as Peyton Mithun kicked four extra points and Alex Schultz kicked one.

Blake Neelan had two rushing touchdowns. Andrew Salcido scored a rushing touchdown and Ben Tyrrell had a touchdown catch from quarterback Eli Rutten.

In the second half, Staples-Motley did not score an offensive touchdown, but Rutten intercepted a pass and ran it back for a score. It was his second interception of the game.

The defense was strong throughout the game, forcing five turnovers while the offense did not have any of their own.

Luke Bjerga was the leading tackler, including two tackles each for a loss. Grant Bestland also had two tackles each for a loss.

W-H-A had one scoring drive in the first half and another in the second half, but were limited the rest of the game.

Josiah Critten stopped a drive at the five yard line with an interception of a tipped ball.

“Defensively we have some things we need to improve on, especially being more aggressive and physical against the run,” said Potter. “Our pass coverage was really good. We hardly allowed them anything in the pass game and forced three interceptions.”

The Cardinal offense spread the ball around, with seven players catching passes, four players throwing passes and ten players running the ball. They gained 157 yards rushing and 211 passing.

Eli Blue was the leading rusher with three carries for 47 yards. Ben Tyrrell gained 38 yards on five carries, Blake Neelan had 33 yards and Colbe Tappe 20. Other players who had runs were Elijah Claussen, Eli Rutten, Peyton Mithun, Turner Beachy, Chase Blue and Andrew Salcido.

Eli Rutten completed 10 passes on 11 attempts for 154 yards and two touchdowns. Elijah Claussen completed



Amazing extension

Alex Schultz, above, and Colbe Tappe, below, reach to make catches.



three passes and Peyton Mithun one.

Tappe caught four passes for 67 yards and Schultz had three catches for 60 yards. Other receivers included Tyrrel 31 yards, Critten 30 yards, Eli Blue nine yards,

Neelan seven yards and Turner Beachy seven yards.

“I’m proud of where we are,” said Potter. “I’m excited for our team to play a big and physical Pillager team.” They play at Pillager on Friday, Sept. 22, at 7 p.m.



Offense and defense

Eli Rutten passed for 154 yards and two touchdowns and also scored on an interception return.

Burton wins Lucky Lindy Invite in record time

Kyanna Burton set a meet record at the Little Falls Lucky Lindy cross country race, kicking past the number two ranked runner in Class AA for the win.

Issiah Tabatt was the top runner for the boys team, finishing in 20th place in a race with some of the top runners in Class AA and Class A.

In the girls race, Staples-Motley’s Audrey Brownell was unable to run because of illness, leaving Burton on her own in the lead pack. The second ranked runner in Class AA took off early in the first half mile, then Burton and another runner emerged to lead a chase pack. With one mile to go, Burton surged into second and slowly gained on the leader.

“I just had a lot of confidence,” Burton said.

With 200 meters to go, Burton finally reached the leader and pulled even with 100 meters to go. The two of them sprinted side by side with Burton reaching the finish line less than a second ahead.

In both the boys and girls races, the Cardinals started narrowing the gap between the top runners and the next four scorers. The top five scorers started getting their times down towards the range they will need at the end of the season to get to the state meet.

The Cardinals also ran a partial team at the Long Prairie-Grey Eagle invitational on Sept. 11.

Team results
Little Falls Lucky Lindy
Girls varsity - Staples-Motley 16th out of 23 teams
1. Kyanna Burton 18:27, 75. Bella Hines 22:03, 97. Naila Mikhaeil 22:53, 103. Aleea Holst 23:08, 107. Suhaila Mikhaeil 23:18, 136. Leah Greenwaldt 24:45, 163. Madelyn Kist 28:45
Boys varsity - Staples-Motley 14th out of 25 teams



Suhaila Mikhaeil



Tackles for loss

Noah Larson, above, and Luke Bjerga, below, make stops in the backfield.



Thrilling finish

With 100 meters to go, Kyanna Burton, right, comes up on the shoulder of Isabel Mahoney of Monticello, who is ranked second in Class AA. The two raced side by side before Burton won by less than a second. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

20. Issiah Tabatt 16:56, 82. Logan Robben 18:23, 86. Dillan Robben 18:27, 103. Odin Trif 18:46, 107. Elijah Greenwaldt 18:52, 112 Gage Bjerga 19:04, 146. Ivan Lozano 20:36
Boys JV - 50. Blaine Plattner 20:14, 60. Gabe Kroll 20:33, 70. Garrett Bjerga 20:46, 135. Jackson Odden 23:23, 137. Israel Ritter 23:29
Boys Jr. High (3,200 meters) 94. Alex Leach 14:16
Long Prairie Invitational
Boys varsity - 30. O. Trif 19:25, 34. Gage Bjerga 19:34, 36. E. Greenwaldt 19:35, 41. D. Robben 20:04, 47. I. Lozano 20:10, 57. B. Plattner 20:38, 70. Garrett Bjerga 21:06, 89. G. Kroll 22:04, 103. I. Ritter 23:02, 106. J. Odden 23:11
Jr. High boys - (2,500 meters) 36. Alex Leach 13:58
Girls JV (2,500 meters) - 1. A. Holst 12:48, 2. N. Mikhaeil 12:49, 3. S. Mikhaeil 13:19, 5. L. Greenwaldt 14:01, 14. M.Kist 15:14
Jr. High girls - 21. Elise Trif 15:43



Racing by the big river

Eli Greenwaldt, Odin Trif and Gage Bjerga race past the Mississippi River during the Little Falls Lucky Lindy race.



Peyton Mithun kicks an extra point



Josiah Critten leaps to make an interception.



NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORCLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

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

DATE OF MORTGAGE: July 19, 2019

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$171,830.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Matthew Suomi and Charity Rud-Suomi, husband and wife

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Cardinal Financial Company

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on July 22, 2019 as Document Number A515250 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC by assignment recorded on January 11, 2023 as Document Number A534985 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: All of Lots 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, and 15, Block 1, Odden Heights, according to the plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the Todd County Recorder, EXPECT the South 52 feet of Lots 8 and 15 previously conveyed by deed with Instrument No. 273649, and EXCEPT those parts of Lots 10, 11, 13, 14, and 15 previously conveyed to the State of Minnesota by deed with Instrument No. 266602;

AND That part of Lots 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15, Block 1, Odden Heights, according to the plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Todd County, Minnesota, described as follows: Beginning at the Northeast corner of said Block 1;

thence Southerly on an azimuth of 00 degrees 15 minutes 45 seconds along the East line thereof for 238.66 feet; thence Northwesterly on a non-tangential curve, concave to the Southwest, having a radius of 2436.48 feet, a delta angle of 09 degrees 10 minutes 43 seconds, and a chord azimuth of 50 degrees 30 minutes 00 seconds for 390.32 feet to the west line of said Block 1; thence Northerly along said west line for 2.30 feet to the Northwest corner of said Block 1; thence Easterly along the North line thereof for 300.00 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning.

Todd County, Minnesota. Abstract property. STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 1010 8TH STREET NE, STAPLES, MN 56479

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Todd County, Minnesota.

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$174,397.83

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Cardinal Financial Company

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Flagstar Bank, N.A.

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 38-0113700

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1000922-1400318832-7

THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.

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

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: October 19, 2023 at 10:00 AM.

PLACE OF SALE: Todd County Sheriff's Office,

County Detention Center, 115 Third Street South, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on April 19, 2024.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: August 23, 2023

LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C. N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq. Samuel R. Coleman, Esq. *Sung Woo Hong, Esq.* Attorneys for Mortgagee 25 Dale Street North St. Paul, MN 55102 (651) 209-9760 (23-0627-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

36-41pnc

NOTICE EVERGREEN HILL CEMETERY GROUNDS CLEANING

Evergreen Hill Cemetery, Staples, will be cleaning up the grounds from October 1 - 15, 2023. If you wish to save your decorations, please remove them by Oct. 1.

Remember, two flower arrangements allowed on shepherd's hooks, pedestal pots or monument topper. Flowers must be maintained in an attractive manner or will be removed. No other items allowed.

Evergreen Hill Board 39-40pnc

TODD COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING 2024 COUNTY FEE SCHEDULE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of County Commissioners (the "Board") of Todd County, Minnesota (the "County"), will hold a public hearing of the Board beginning at 9:15 a.m., on October 3, 2023, to be held at the Todd County Historic Courthouse, 215 1st Ave. South, Long Prairie, Minnesota, to solicit public input in order to determine the 2024 County Fee Schedules for the County Departments including but not limited to: Administration, Attorney, Assessor, Auditor-Treasurer, Environmental Health, GIS/MIS, Health & Human Services, Planning & Zoning, Public Works, Recorder, Sheriff and Solid Waste (Transfer Station).

The proposed 2024 County Fee Schedule is available on the Todd County website at <https://www.co.todd.mn.us/> and at the Todd County Auditor-Treasurer's Office, located at 215 1st Avenue South, Suite 201 Long Prairie, MN during regular business hours.

All interested persons are invited to attend the hearing in-person or submit written testimony prior to the hearing date. Written testimony should be submitted to the County Auditor-Treasurer's Office, 215 1st Avenue South, Suite 201 Long Prairie, MN 56347 or

by email to clerk@co.todd.mn.us. Individuals requiring accommodations should contact the County Auditor-Treasurer's Office prior to the date of the public hearing by calling 320-732-4414.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF TODD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor/Treasurer Clerk to the County Board 39-40pnc

TODD COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

215 1st Ave. South, Suite 103 Long Prairie, MN 56347 320-732-4420 toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Todd County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, October 5, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Commissioners meeting room, Historic Courthouse, 215 1st Ave. South, Long Prairie, MN to consider the following applications.

NOTE: This meeting is again being held in-person and the public is encouraged to attend, but Zoom and phone options are still available for those who are unable to attend in person. If you wish to join via Zoom, please contact our office for the call-in information. Those who do attend in person can find parking atop the hill on the west side of the Historic Courthouse and enter through the north doors, near the American Flag and monument.

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

AGENDA

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

applicant, staff, and public

- Approval of agenda.
- Approval of the September 7, 2023 Planning Commission meeting minutes.

1. **Elim Lutheran Church Cemetery:** Section 28, Gordon Township Site Address: 16307 and 16287 141st Ave, Osakis, MN 56360 PID: 10-4001600

1. Request for a Conditional Use Permit to expand the existing Cemetery by one acre to the South in AF-2 Zoning.

2. **All Energy Solar INC:** Section 2, Leslie Township

Site Address: 15125 County 38, Long Prairie, MN 56347 PID: 15-0001900

1. Request for a Conditional Use Permit for the installation of a ground mounted solar PV array in AF-2 Zoning.

3. **Lindsay and Jason Bergmann:** Section 18, Little Sauk Township Site Address: NA XXX Echo Drive, Long Prairie, MN 56347 PID: 17-0016801

1. Request to rezone property from Recreational Development Shoreland to AF-2.

4. **Hinnenkamp Auto Salvage:** Section 07, Round Prairie Township

Site Address: 19622 US 71 South, Long Prairie, MN 56347 PID: 21-0008601

1. Review of existing Conditional Use Permit #C-20130910858.

5. **Proposed Amendment to Todd County Planning & Zoning Ordinance:**

Adjournment
Next meeting: November 2nd, 2023

Adjournment.
Next Meeting:
November 2, 2023

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

Todd County Planning Commission
Jim Pratt, Chair

39pnc

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*Thomas Sellnow is a Real Property Law Specialist certified by Real Property Section of Minnesota State Bar Association.
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Staples Police report

Aug. 28, Staples Police responded to the 1000 block of 8th St. NE for a report of a restraining order violation. Police later arrested Matthew Suomi, 41, for a gross misdemeanor HRO violation.

Aug. 29, Staples Police responded to assist Minnesota State Patrol with a vehicle fire on Highway 10, west of County Rd. 83. Staples Fire Department responded and extinguished the fire that appeared to be caused by the wheel of the vehicle's trailer after its tire went flat.

Aug. 29, Staples Police received report of four suspicious individuals at the Dower Lake campground. Officers arrived and discovered there was a language barrier and the individuals

als were trying to pay for a campsite. Officers assisted the individuals and showed them how to sign up for a campsite.

Aug. 30, Staples Police received a call from a male party stating he got shot by a BB gun around the 1200 block of Highway 10 while he was sitting on the sidewalk. Male party stated he has been shot several times in the past and stated the past events did not happen in Minnesota. There was no evidence of being shot by BB gun and unknown who a suspect would be. Male party declined medical attention. Male party was passing through town.

Aug. 30, Staples Police responded to a report of vandalism that occurred at

the Sacred Heart Church Playground. The tables at the playground have been vandalized and also a swing was missing.

Aug. 31, Staples Police were requested to assist ASAP Secure Transport Inc. in providing a secure location for an individual on a hold to go to the restroom.

Sept. 1, Staples Police received a report that juveniles dumped gas into a cigarette disposal and trash can. A juvenile admitted to dumping the item because the bottle of gas he was carrying had started to leak. Police determined there was no criminal intent, and advised the juvenile about the dangers of the activity, and also notified the juvenile's parents.

Court report September 6

Long Prairie Police Department
Hope Jasmine Coyer, Long Prairie. Careless driving. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Edgar Noel Nieves Ramos, Long Prairie. Driving after cancellation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.
Kevin Charles Odenbreit, Sauk Centre. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Rocio Ruiz Gomez, Long Prairie. Wireless Communication Device—engage in cellular phone or video call. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Griff James Springer, Maple Grove. WMA—operate ATV, hang glider, air boat, hover craft, or personal watercraft. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Minnesota State Patrol—Detroit Lakes
Cynthia Louise Hewitt, Stacy. Speed 75/65. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Paul Bjorn Hunt, Perham. Speed

70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Andrew Steven Tchida, Farmington. Speed 75/65. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Jenna Lyn Watson, Dayton. Speed 75/65. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Minnesota State Patrol—St. Cloud
Mahmed Bashir Abdulle, St. Paul. Speed 93/70. Fine \$70. Fee \$155.
Joseph Richard Bathel, Prior Lake. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Michael David Bilden, Minnetonka. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Mauricio Cruz Botello, Browerville. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Chelsey Lynn Bunyer, Hartford, Conn. Speed 85/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Jorge Chairez Zavala, Port Arthur, Tex. No Minnesota Driver's License. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.
Hope Francis Duffert, South St. Paul. Speed 89/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Brady Robert Dukart, Prosper, N. Dak. Speed 86/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Ronald Robert Engelking, West Fargo, N.Dak. Speed 85/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Sergio Fernando Gomez Rueda, Tamarac, Flor. Speed 86/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Erduan Huseini, Moose Jaw, Sask. Speed 83/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Benjamin Louis Kildaw, Chertemere, Alb. Speed 88/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Ava Grace Novacek, Greenbush. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Marijo Ann Pavelka, Bloomington. Speed 83/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Joeph Mongbe Senyon, Fargo, N.Dak. Speed 99/70. Fine \$100. Fee \$185.

Joshual Allen Skramstad, Long Prairie. Hands-Free Law—engage in cellular phone or video call. Amended disposition. Dismissed, conditions met or expired.

Tristan Andrew Walton, Glenwood. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Staples Police Department
Isaac Douglas Lang, Princeton. Fifth degree—possess Schedule I, II, III, IV—not small amount marijuana. Amended court decision. Sentenced. Local confinement 60 days. Credit for time served: five days.

Aaron Anthony Lenk, Staples. Second degree driving while impaired—blood alcohol content greater than .08 within two hours. Amended court decision. Sentenced. Local confinement 365 days, stay 320 days for four years. Credit for time served: two years.

Todd County Sheriff's Office
Alexis Emily Fellegay, Randall. Speed 86/60. Fine \$100. Fee \$185.

Scott Anthony Johnson, Swanville. Second degree—sale 10 grams or more. Amended court decision August 31, 2023. Stay of imposition pursuant to Minn. Statute 609.135. Unlawful possession explosive device. Stay of impositions pursuant to Minn. Statute 609.135. Local confinement 90 days. Credit for time served: three days. Supervised probation, five years.

Thomas Allan Kircher, Browerville. Speed 84/55. Fine \$100. Fee \$185.
Gary Paul Loxterkamp, Swanville. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Holly Rae Middendorf. Speed 80/55. Fine \$70. Fee \$155.
Jose Javier Morales, Long Prairie. Speed 79/60. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Donald Eugene Mudick, Jr., Motley. Driver must carry proof of insurance. Dismissed.
Tyler James Slagerman, Roseville. Second degree manslaughter, unintentional. Dismissed, conditions met or expired.

Fiza Zahir, Staples. Driving without a valid license for vehicle class type. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

The following cases were heard before Judge Timothy M. Churchwell in Seventh District Court in Todd County Aug. 31, 2023.

Corey Bradley Johnson, Grey Eagle. Second degree DWI—refuse to submit to chemical test; breath or test refusal or failure. Amended court decision. Sentenced. Local confinement (45 days, stay 0. Credit for time served: four days).

Kevin Vernon Phelps, Minneapolis. Domestic abuse—violate order for protection. Dismissed. Domestic assault—gross misdemeanor—subsequent violation. Sentenced. Fine \$50. Fee totals \$250. Local confinement 364 days. Credit for time served: 245 days. Criminal damage to property in the fourth degree. Dismissed.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County Sept. 1, 2023.

Anthony Michael Paskewitz, Staples. Wildfire Arson. Amended court decision. Continued.

Dylan Scott Candall, Brainerd. DWI 4—operate motor vehicle—alco-

hol concentration 0.08 within two hours. Amended court decision. Sentenced. 90 days, stay 90 days for two years.

Yvonne Adell Howell, Staples. Second degree driving while impaired—blood alcohol content greater than .08 within two hours of driving. Amended court decision. Sentenced. Local confinement 365 days, stay 245 days for four years. Credit for time served: five days.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County Sept. 5, 2023.

Kristin Marie Erickson, West Fargo, N.Dak. Driving after revocation. Continued. Probation—adult (unsupervised monitoring without conviction, six months).

Skyler Rose Selle, Burnsville. Speed 84/70. Amended court decision. Dismissed. Conditions met or expired.

Sierra Marie Doble, Clearwater. Disorderly conduct—offensive, abusive, boisterous, noisy, obscene. Sentenced. Fine \$200. Fee \$75. Local confinement 90 days, stay 90 days for one year. Probation one year.

Ronald Steven Garbe, Watkins. Second degree driving while impaired—blood alcohol content greater than .08 within two hours of driving. Amended court decision. Sentenced. Local confinement 365 days, stay 320 days for four years. Credit for time served: five days.

Diana May Clarke, Clarissa. DWI. Dismissed. Operate motor vehicle—alcohol concentration .08 within two hours. Sentenced. Fine \$400. Local confinement 90 days, stay 88 days for two years. Credit for time served: two years.

Crystal Ann Honzay, Brainerd. Careless driving—operate any vehicle carelessly on street or highway. Dismissed. Traffic collision—injury, death, or vehicle damage—driver fails to give information. Sentenced. Fine \$100. Fee totals \$175. Unsupervised probation, one year. Traffic collision—collision with unattended vehicle—notify victim or police. Fine \$100. Unsupervised probation, one year.

Jillian Kateri Kern, Wadena. Domestic assault—misdemeanor—intentionally inflicts/attempts to inflict bodily harm on another. Amended court decision. Continued.

Casse Lee Riedel, Long Prairie. Domestic assault. Dismissed. Disorderly conduct. Sentenced. Fine \$325. Fee totals \$475. Local confinement 90 days, stay 87 days for one year. Credit for time served: three days. Unsupervised probation, one year.

The following cases were heard before Judge Leonard A. Weiler in Seventh District Court in Todd County Sept. 5, 2023.

Jorge Luis Garcia, Springtown, Tex. Speed 72/60. Amended Disposition. Dismissed, conditions met or expired.

The following cases were heard before Judge Douglas P. Anderson in Seventh District Court in Todd County Sept. 5, 2023.

Josefina Estupinan-De Anima, Long Prairie. Wrongfully obtaining assistance—thrift—by false statements, concealment, impersonation. Dismissed, conditions met or expired.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County Sept. 6, 2023.

Michael Anderw Brastad, Aldrich. Fifth degree of a controlled substance. Amended court decision. Continued. Probation—adult (supervised probation, five years).

Cameron Jacob Line, Sauk Centre. Second degree—refuse to submit to chemical test; breath or test refusal or failure. Sentenced. Fine \$50. Fee \$75. Driving after cancellation. Sentenced. Fine \$50. Local confinement 364 days. Credit for time served: eight days. Fleeing a peace officer in a motor vehicle. Sentenced. Fine \$50. Commit to Commissioner of Corrections—adult (Minnesota Correctional Facility—St. Cloud, 19 months). DWI—refuse to submit to chemical test. Sentenced. Fine \$50. Commit to Commissioner of Corrections—adult (Minnesota Correctional Facility—St. Cloud, 72 months).

Ashley Lauren May, Cold Spring. Fifth degree possession of a controlled substance. Sentenced. Commit to Commissioner of Corrections—adult (Minnesota Correctional Facility—Shakopee, 12 months, one day. Stay for five years). Local confinement 200 days. Credit for time served: 200 days. Fine \$50. Fee totals \$200. Supervised probation, five years. Community work service for indeterminate.

Joseph James Vearrier, West Union. Violate order for protection—violates two or more within 10 years of previous conviction. Stay of adjudication. Continued. Supervised probation, one year. Community work service for indeterminate.

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

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

Assembly of God
914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples.....218-894-1081
Pastor Roy Miles
Small Groups (Bible classes for all ages).....9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship Service.....10:30 a.m.
Children's Church (Kids start in main worship service).....11 a.m.
Prayer Meeting.....5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Aldrich

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

Cushing

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

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

Cushing Baptist

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

Leader

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

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

Motley

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

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

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

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

Oylen

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

Pillager

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

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

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

Hewitt

Church of the Nazarene
114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146 Hewitt, MN
18-924-2028
Jim and Linda McGaffey, Pastor
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....10:45 a.m.
WEDNESDAY PRAYER.....7:00 p.m.

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

Hewitt Community Church
Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Kenneth Uhren
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.

Verndale

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

“Let’s Consider Forgiveness...Again”

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

Over all the history of our Staples World devotions, likely the matter of forgiveness has been addressed many times. Like breathing, forgiveness is of the utmost importance. It bears being considered regularly both for its need and humanity's deep struggle with it.

The last thing we can afford to do with forgiveness is to keep it theoretical and/or to postpone it. The lack of forgiveness eats people and relationships alive. It devours both the unforgiving and the one needing forgiveness.

Ironically, there's often an undercurrent with the one who withholds forgiveness in hoping it WILL devour the one of whom we withhold forgiveness from. In reality, the one who doesn't forgive is the one who gets devoured the most, although the connection is too often missed between action and consequence. The symptoms of unforgiveness are either rationalized as "the person not DESERVING to be forgiven" or is explained away in the search for another cause for being eaten up alive inside. (Note: no one "deserves" forgiveness).

Jesus minces no words about the magnitude of our need to forgive another person. After one of Christianity's most beloved prayers in the "Our Father" of Matthew 6:9-13, Jesus chooses one element out of the entire prayer to comment on. It is the matter of forgiveness when we pray in the prayer, "forgive us our trespasses (debts/sins) AS we forgive others..." To make sure we don't miss the tidal wave of what we just prayed, Jesus says in Matthew 6:14-15 (NIV, 2011), "For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins." I'm going to read that over again right now as I'm typing this. Will you also do the same?

This calls for some huge inner inventory right now. This requires the utter most honesty and humbleness in order to process the truth of what Jesus is saying. Here it is: Am I willing to

admit my propensity to view the expression of forgiveness (or the lack of it) from only a human plane? It's so easy to slip into a person-to-person comparison when faced with a wrong and sugar coat my tainted view in lacking a need to be forgiven while having a magnifying glass on other people's sins, shortcomings and faults. If we have "heart eyes and ears" to see and hear, there are two wake up calls that blow up the mirage of my warped perception of not seeing my great and deep need to be forgiven. They are shared in ascending importance.

First of all, please read Jesus' eye-opening parable in Matthew 18:21-35. It will be most helpful. In short, the first guy, in the midst of an unpayable debt, pleads for time (which there will never be enough of) and receives a full pardon from his master. Then the forgiven guy goes out to find a guy, who in comparison, owes him a few bucks. The second guy also pleads for time, but the first guy will have nothing to do with that and has him thrown into prison. People around this whole situation are outraged and as it gets back to the master, the master WITHDRAWS the original forgiveness. This is exactly what Jesus is saying, in the "Our Father" follow up. This may be a "hard saying" but it is true and it needs to be taken seriously. It involves our own need to do some Matthew 7:5 "log in our eye" personal inspection of our own lives.

The second, even greater reality, launches us beyond human-to-human encounters. It catapults us to the large chasm that we all have in being a sinner with God being sinless. There isn't a telescope in the universe that can span that distance. Between people, we have the log and speck of sawdust contrast. Between us and God, we have a mammoth Redwood (Giant Sequoia) in our "life eyes." BUT, God graciously addressed our dilemma before Him by sending His own Son, Jesus, to pay the cross-price for our sin and close the gap between us and Him. What is our Source and Hope to forgive (release) another person? Draw from God's forgiveness of us.

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

Staples True Value
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Staples, MN 218-894-3263

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

Staples World
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218-894-1112

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Staples, MN 218-894-3299

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

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



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HEALTHY MOUTHS.... One smile at a time



Tennis team overcomes challenges to win two

The Staples-Motley girls tennis team won competitive matches against two section opponents, 5-2 against Wadena-Deer Creek on Sept. 12 and 7-0 against Perham on Sept. 15.

Wadena-Deer Creek had two excellent doubles teams to produce their wins, but the Cardinals cruised in the rest of the matchups.

Against Perham, Staples-Motley didn't drop a single match, but it wasn't easy. After the first sets of play, the Cardinals were behind in four of them. Two singles players and two doubles teams made excellent comebacks to win their last two sets, with all of them closing it out by playing their best tennis in the final games.

The doubles team of Amy Rollins and Corinne Olson were playing well but their opponents were returning just as well. The back-and-forth match came down to a third set tiebreaker up to seven points. Rollins and Olson took control, hitting deep corner shots and finishing volleys to go up 5-1 in the tiebreaker before winning 7-4.

Madison Perius and Natalie Hanson fell behind early in their third set but



Ronnie Noska

stormed back to win 6-3.

In singles, Jaida Holst was steady against a quality opponent and pushed her way into a third set. She started hitting more winners and had some ace serves to go up 5-2 in the third set before winning 6-4.

Kaylee Perius outlasted her opponent after many long rallies where neither player made mistakes.

Team results

Staples-Motley 5, Wadena-Deer Creek 2

Singles: Lauren Rutten W 6-0, 6-0; Ronnie Noska W 6-1, 6-0; Jaida Holst W 6-2, 6-0; Kaylee Perius W 6-3, 6-0

Doubles: Amy Rollins/Corinne Olson L 3-6, 2-6; Kenzie Erickson/Heidi Zimmerman L 4-6, 6-3, 4-6; Madison Perius / Natalie Hanson W 6-2, 6-4

Staples-Motley 7, Perham 0

Singles: Rutten W 6-1, 6-0; Noska W 6-3, 6-0; Holst W 4-6, 6-4, 6-4; K. Perius W 4-6, 6-3, 6-4

Doubles: Rollins/Olson W 3-6, 6-4, 7-6 (7-4); Erickson/Zimmerman W 6-3, 6-1; M. Perius/Hanson W 4-6, 6-1, 6-3

Cardinal volleyball wins three in busy week

The Staples-Motley volleyball team won in a five set match, a four set match, and then played in a 12 team tournament in a span of five days. The Cardinals won at Frazee 3-2 on Sept. 12, winning the final set 15-9. They outscored Park Rapids 3-1 on Sept. 14. They won one of three matches at the Hawley tournament on Sept. 16.

Against Frazee, Livi Lorber was the top hitter with 18 kills. Miranda Schotzko had five blocks in the win.

Against Park Rapids, Jade Storry and Lorber each had 10 kills, with Annie Schlosser setting 21 assists.

In the Hawley tournament, the Cardinals split their first two sets with the host team, but lost the third set tiebreaker 15-9. They lost to East Grand Forks but came back to win over Lake of the Woods in two straight sets. In the placing round, they faced East Grand Forks again, where they lost two close sets.

Team results

SM 3, Frazee 2; 15-25, 25-17, 27-25, 13-25, 15-9

Steffany Sullivan: Ace-1, digs-11

Ellie Moulton: Ace-1, kills-4, digs-7
Jade Storry: assist-1, kills-8, block-1, digs-7

Miranda Schotzko: assists-6, kills-6, blocks-5

Livi Lorber: aces-2, assists-6, kills-18, blocks-3, digs-4

Lilly Tyrrell: aces-1, assists-1, digs-8

Annie Schlosser: assists-13, kills-6, blocks-2, digs-2

Tamara Strel: assists-2, kills-3, blocks-3

SM 3, Park Rapids 1; 26-24, 25-18, 13-25, 26-24

Sullivan: Digs-1

Moulton: kills-6, digs-7

Storry: aces-2, assists-4, kills-10, blocks-1, digs-9

Lorber: aces-2, assists-5, kills-10, blocks-3, digs-5

Schotzko: kills-4, blocks-3

Tyrrell: digs-5, aces-1

Schlosser: assists-21, kills-4, blocks-2

Strel: aces-1, assists-3, kills-6, blocks-2, digs-7

Hawley Tournament SM 1, Hawley 2; 17-25, 25-17, 9-15

Tyrrell: kill-1, digs-7

Schlosser: assists-11, kill-1, block-1, digs-5

Sullivan: aces-1, digs-3

Storry: aces-1, assists-1, kills-2, digs-8

Lorber: assists-3, kills-2, digs-5

Moulton: aces-1, kill-1, digs-11

Strel: aces-2, kills-8, digs-11

Schotzko: assists-1, kill-1,

blocks-2, digs-1

SM 0, East Grand Forks 2; 23-25, 18-25

Tyrrell: digs-8

Schlosser: aces-2, assists-15, kills-2, digs-6

Sullivan: digs-5

Storry: kills-4, digs-12

Lorber: kills-4, digs-3

Moulton: kills-3, digs-2

Strel: kills-4, digs-11

Miranda Schotzko: assists-1, kills-4

SM 2, Lake of the Woods 0; 25-20, 25-21

Tyrrell: digs-3

Schlosser: aces-1, assists-14, digs-3

Sullivan: aces-2, digs-2

Storry: kills-4, blocks-1, digs-4

Lorber: kills-3, blocks-2, digs-4

Moulton: aces-1, kills-1, digs-1

Strel: aces-1, assists-2, kills-7, digs-6

Schotzko: kills-1, blocks-1

SM 0, East Grand Forks 2; 21-25, 23-25

Tyrrell: digs-7

Schlosser: assists-5, kills-1, blocks-1, digs-1

Sullivan: digs-8

Storry: assists-1, kills-4, digs-5

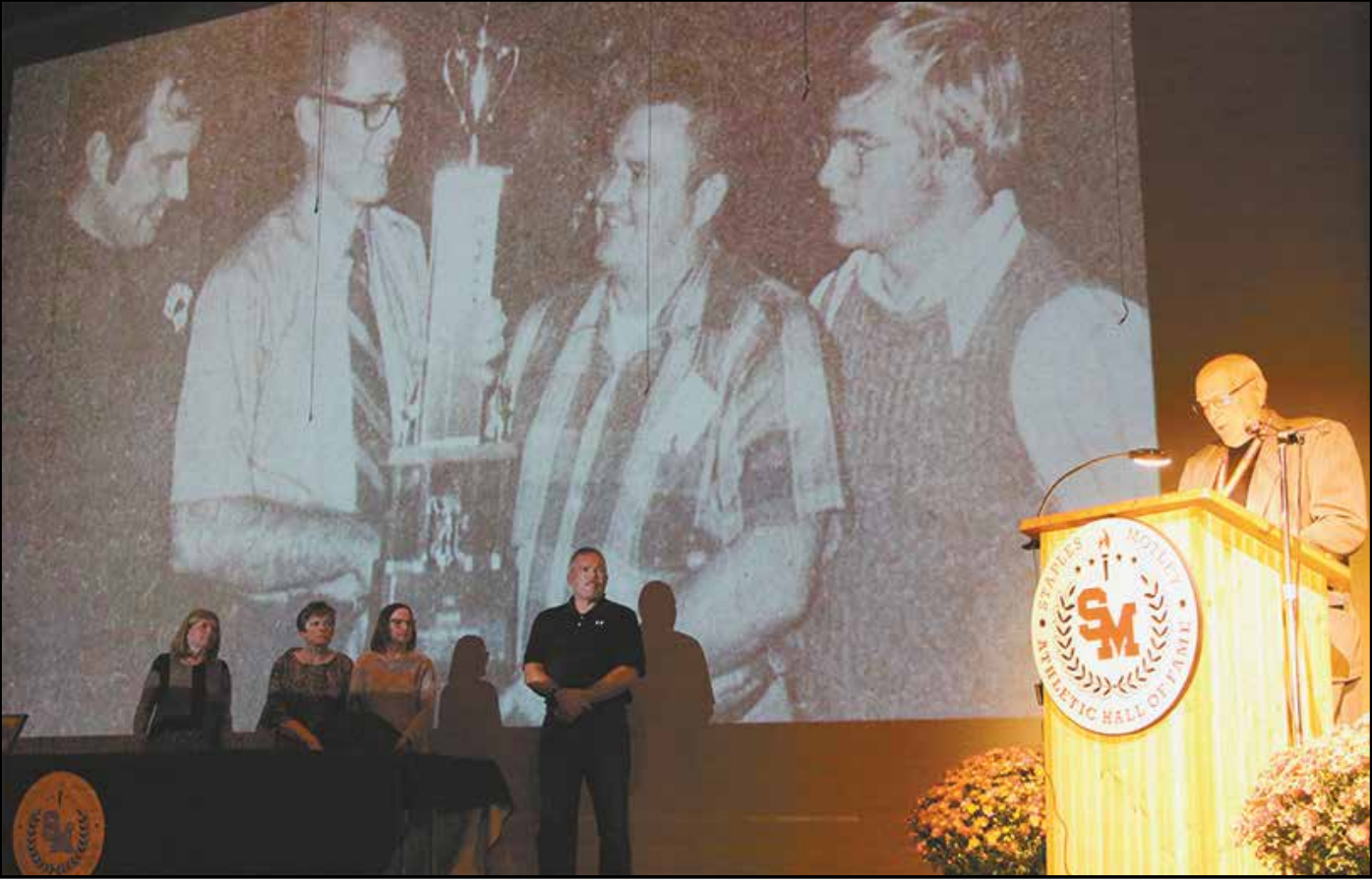
Lorber: kills-3, blocks-3, digs-9

Moulton: kills-4, digs-9

Strel: aces-2, assists-7, kills-1, digs-5

Schotzko: kills-2

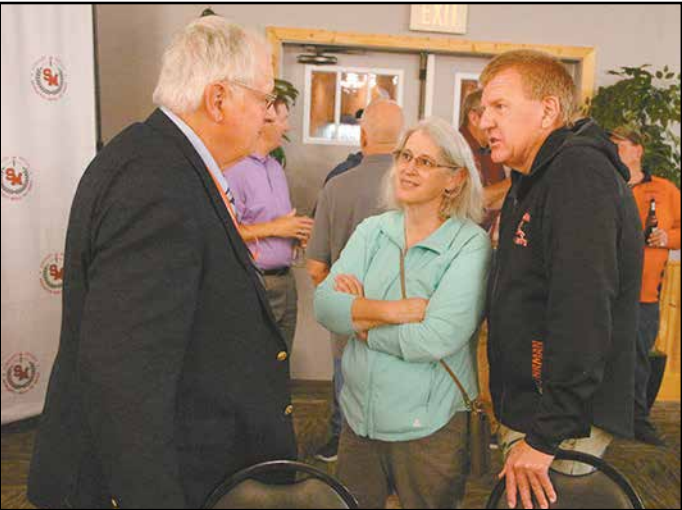
Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony 2023



Motley coach Bill Finn, larger than life

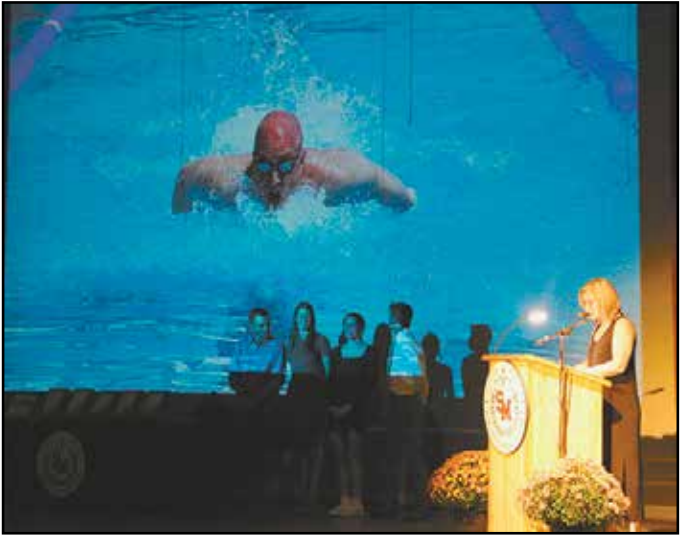
While Bob Torgrimson read about the accomplishments of the 1972 Motley football team, the family of Head Coach Bill Finn waited to present the award to the team. Above them, the slide show projected a giant

photo of the Hall of Fame coach, who has passed away, as if he was watching over the ceremony. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Coaching memories

Hall of Fame inductee Joe Joerger talks with Becky and Bruce Fuhrman at the reception following the ceremony. Fuhrman told the Staples World that he lived with Joerger when he first moved to Staples.



Aquatic family

As Curtis Jenkins' wife Roxanne read his induction resumé, his three children and a friend were the presenters, posing under a photo of him in the pool

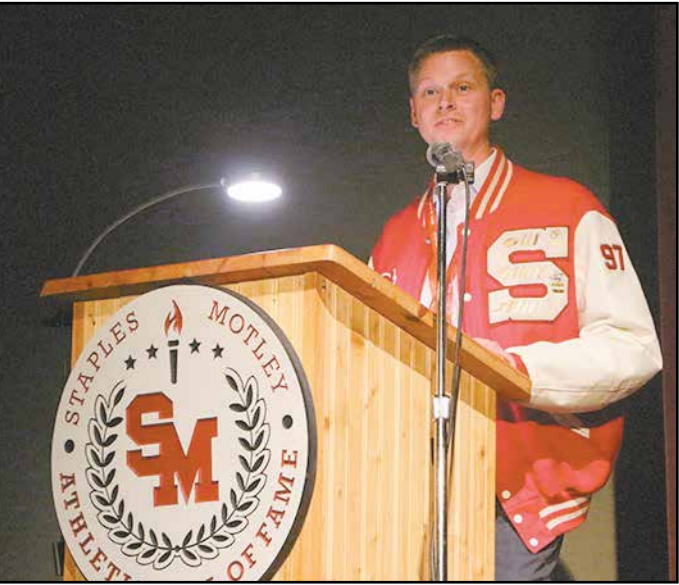
Celebrity security

Blaine Joerger came to his Hall of Fame induction with his a security team, below, Kiersti, Karis and Bryce Joerger, his own children. The ceremony has a time limit for speeches, but security kept the time referee, Aleea Holst, right, from tapping him out. In the background, presenters were teammate Cy Bestland and his brother David Joerger.



Community contributor

Pamela Sachs reads her Hall of Fame acceptance speech with the help of Shawna Sachs.



Looking like high school

Erik Kelly wore his letter jacket to his Hall of Fame induction.



Looking like high school

Jody (Wilson) Hagenson gives her Hall of Fame speech, the first female individual athlete in the hall.



Wadena County Attorney Ladd reappointed to MN Sentencing Guidelines Commission

Wadena County Attorney, Kyra Ladd, has been reappointed to the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission by Minnesota Governor Tim Walz. Ladd previously was appointed by Governor Walz in September 2022 to replace and finish the term of Washington County Attorney Peter Orput, who had resigned August 1, 2020.

The Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission (MSGC) embodies the goals of the criminal justice system as determined by the citizens of Minnesota through their elected representatives. The MSGC establishes and modifies the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines, which promote uniform and proportional sentences for convicted felons and help to ensure that sentencing decisions are not influenced by factors such as race, gender, or the exercise of constitutional rights by the defendant. The Guidelines serve as a model for the criminal justice system as a whole to aspire to, as well as provide a standard to measure how well the system is working. The purpose of the Guidelines is to establish rational and consistent sentencing standards that promote public safety, reduce sentencing disparity, ensure that the sanctions imposed for felony convictions are proportional to the severity of the offense and the offender's criminal history. The Guidelines also support the appropriate use of finite correctional resources.

Facts About the Commission:

- In 1978, Minnesota created the nation's first sentencing guidelines commission.
- In 1980, Minnesota became the first state to implement a sentencing guidelines structure.
- The Commission is now a 13-member body, created by the Legislature to develop and maintain the Guidelines, a set of rules that judges must apply in felony sentencing.
- The Commission employs a full-time staff of six to maintain the Guidelines, train criminal justice professionals, collect and analyze data, and respond to questions about the Guidelines.
- In 1981, when the Guidelines went into effect, 5,500 felons were sentenced.



Kyra Ladd

In 2018, 18,284 felons were sentenced.

- In addition to more felons being sentenced over the years, sentencing lengths have increased, and the Guidelines have become far more complex, due, in part, to statutory enhancements and mandatory minimums.

After this last legislative session, the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission is now comprised of 13 members. As stated in Minn. Stat. §244.09, Subd. 2, these members must include the following:

- the Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court or a designee
 - a Judge from the Minnesota Court of Appeals
 - a District Court Judge
 - a Public Defender
 - a County Attorney
 - Commissioner of Corrections or a designee
 - a Peace Officer
 - a Probation or Supervised Release Officer
 - a person who works for an organization that provides treatment or rehabilitative services for individuals convicted of felony offenses
 - a person who is an academic with a background in criminal justice or corrections
 - three public members appointed by the governor, one of whom has been a victim of a felony crime or a victims' advocate and one of who shall be a person who has formerly been convicted of and discharged from a felony level sentence.
- The three Commission members from the Judiciary are appointed to four-year terms by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and the Judicial Council, respectively. The remaining members are appointed by the Governor to four-year

terms. The Governor is also responsible for designating a Commission member as the Chair of the Commission.

Background

County Attorney Ladd serves on the Board of the Minnesota County Attorneys' Association (MCAA), which is an independent, voluntary organization of County Attorneys dedicated to improving the quality of justice in the State of Minnesota. The Association is a not-for-profit corporation governed by a Board of Directors, comprised of 29 County Attorneys, elected annually by the membership. The members of the Association are dedicated to the accomplishment of this Mission by developing consensus on legal and public policy issues of statewide significance to County Attorneys. The Mission will be implemented competently and professionally while adhering to the highest ethical standards of the legal profession. It is the mission of the Minnesota County Attorneys Association to improve the quality of justice in the State of Minnesota.

Earlier this year, the MCAA Board of Directors recommended to Gov. Walz that he re-appoint County Attorney Ladd to the MSGC to represent the 87 county attorney offices in the state. Ladd submitted a series of documents over several months for the Governor's consideration to make the re-appointment. On September 1, 2023, County Attorney Ladd was contacted by the Governor's Office indicating that Governor Walz was re-appointing her to MSGC.

County Attorney Ladd stated that she "continues to be humbled that my colleagues at MCAA trust me and the voice I bring to the MSGC to represent all 87 counties in executing the important and difficult work of the commission." Ladd went on to say that she is honored to be selected for this important role by Gov. Walz and recognizes that there is much hard work ahead for the MSGC. Ladd said she is grateful for the opportunity to continue this work on the MSGC and strives to uphold the excellent work of past County Attorneys that have served in this role on the commission.



SHS Class of 1958 holds 65th reunion



The Staples High School (SHS) Class of 1958 celebrated their 65th reunion Aug. 18, during Railroad Days in Staples.

Pictured in top photo, from left, row 1, are: Darlene (Bjelde) Judd, Minneapolis; Lyle Fleisher, Staples; John Knosalla, Minneapolis; Janice (Dvorak) Benson, Cold Spring. Row 2: Jack Herman, Minneapolis; Ramona (Klimek) Johnson, Prior Lake; Martha (Mooers) Peterson, Motley; Evelyn (Johnson)

Schmidt, Montevideo; Jeanie (Spencer) Huebner, Staples. Row 3: Mary Sperley, Staples; Glenn Williams, Staples; Jim Crosby, Anoka; Joe Marte, Browerville; Larry Sanger, Canton, Ga.; Curt Hirschey, Pillager.

Lower photo: Sperley looks at an old yearbook with Harriet (Haugen) Halverson, Minneapolis. Harriet's family left Staples when she was in the seventh grade, but she has kept in touch with her classmates over the years and enjoyed catching up. In the background is a poster board Sperley put together with photos of classmates who have since passed away. Sperley noted that the SHS Class of '58 was referred to as the 'Centennial Class' as the State of Minnesota celebrated its 100th birthday that year. In addition, there were 100 students in that class. The reunion was held at the home of Carmen Schimpp, wife of the late Gary Schimpp, who was a member of the Class of 1958. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



'The Boyz' at work in downtown Staples

Owen Roline (left) of Verndale and Caleb Kopp of Staples, both 12, have kept busy since mid-August washing windows for businesses in Staples. They started 'The Boyz Window Washing Service' the week of Railroad Days, sharing that they needed to make some money

to buy lunch at the start of the medallion hunt. Since that time they've earned about \$600. Both Roline and Kopp are seventh graders this year at Staples-Motley Middle School. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



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