



Wednesday, February 26, 2020

Staples, Minnesota

\$1

“Her Voice, Her Song” in Staples

Singers took to the stands to turn the annual event upside down (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Weather

This Week's Forecast

High Low Cond.

Feb. 26 19° 1° P. Cloudy

Feb. 27 18 -4 P. Cloudy

Feb. 28 19 2 Sunny

Feb. 29 30 12 P. Cloudy

Mar. 1 35 20 P. Cloudy

Mar. 2 31 15 M. Cloudy

Mar. 3 33 20 M. Cloudy

Last Year, 2019

High Low Cond.

Feb. 26 5° -8° Cloudy

Feb. 27 8 -2 Sunny

Feb. 28 17 8 Sunny

Mar. 1 3 -10 Snow

Mar. 2 18 10 Cloudy

Mar. 3 -10 -22 Sunny

Average Temp.:
H = 30° Low = 5°

Total snow: 53"

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Villard
Presidential: **8A**

Obituaries

Florence Avery
Carolyn Germann
Ralph Kriesel
Maurice Lenk
Kenneth Truesdell



Thank you for subscribing!

Grabe likes teamwork of Staples public works dept.

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

After a couple of months on his new job, Staples Public Works Director Scott Grabe is pleased to be a part of a system that is functioning well.

“I like the team, the work and the people,” said Grabe (pronounced gray-bee).

He said that is the result of the good work that the city crews have done in the past. “We prepare for the future. The long term planning is really good here. Staples is in a good position to not make big changes,” he said.

Grabe grew up in Barnesville, but didn’t get

into the public works business until one day it just hit him. He was driving a delivery truck on winter roads in South Dakota when he came to an intersection at 10 p.m., and a crew of electricians was working on a light.

“I looked up and said ‘that’s what I should do,’” said Grabe.

So he enrolled in tech school at Wadena, and was soon an electrician. He started working as a contractor, a job that took him around the country, but he decided to get off the road and took a job with the Henning public works

See **GRABE** on page 3a



New administrator

Staples Public Works Director Scott Grabe.

Focus on wet fields

By Todd County SWCD

Farmers, got your corn combined yet? The Todd County SWCD 2020 Feedlot Meeting and Farmer Appreciation Buffet is betting on the fact that many of you do not. The theme for the 2020 meeting is “Too Wet Behind the Ears!” (Corn ears, of course.) It may seem that rules and regulations for feedlots, farms and livestock owners are a little wet behind the ears.

This year’s meeting will be held at Central Lakes College in Staples on March 18, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Find out a little more about why and how these rules are established. We will run a live MinnFARM with farmer participation to see first hand the tools used to determine the compliance rating at your farm. Is it all wet? You decide. Hear from the Senior Climatologists, Kenny Blumenfeld, if corn is predicted to be “too” wet in years to come and other precipitation trends. Hear from Kent Solberg how to best operate a beef farm with the soil and precipitation factors in mind, his recommendations and research for those who are starting up

See **SWCD** on page 3a



2020 Staples-Motley FFA Chapter officers

Front left to right: Lexi Tweeter (Reporter), Drew Berg (Sentinel), Abbie DiGiovanni (Vice President, Chapter Committee), Kai Gelle (Secretary). Back: Colton Converse (Treasurer), Owen Hageman (Officer at Large), Ben Olander (President), Olivia Leslie (Vice President, Student Committee). Submitted photo.

Staples-Motley FFA Week events Feb. 22-29

The Staples-Motley FFA Chapter is celebrating National FFA Week February 22-29, 2020.

“Our chapter theme this year is ‘Embrace the Journey,’” said SM FFA Chapter President Ben Olander.

“All of our members have many opportunities to embrace their FFA journey,” he said. Their journey may be through service projects, fun activities, Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAEs), Career Development Event (CDEs) and/or Leadership

Development Event (LDEs).

The Staples-Motley FFA chapter celebrates National FFA week by hosting many community events and activities, as well as creating contests and games for students throughout the school to participate in.

Events include:

- Mon., Feb. 24: Trivia Question of the Day, Chapter meeting
- Tues., Feb. 25: Trivia Question of the Day
- Weds., Feb. 26: Trivia Question of the Day, Staff

Appreciation/Ice Cream Social SM high school cafeteria

• Thurs., Feb. 27: Trivia Question of the Day, Stakeholders Breakfast

• Fri., Feb. 28: Trivia Question of the Day

Anyone interested in joining FFA may contact any current members and attend the meetings.

FFA Advisor is Joe Ramstad, Agricultural Education Instructor and FFA Advisor, Staples Motley Area schools.



Performing at ‘Her Voice, Her Song’ in Staples

The Staples Area Women’s Chorus (SAWC), under the direction of Nathan Thelen (above) presented their annual ‘Her Voice, Her Song’ program Feb. 22, at Staples-Motley High School. Other performers included Colla Voce Girl’s Choir, directed by Mary Moen (below); Little Falls High School Women’s Choir, directed by Camilla Larson; and the Minnesota State University-Moorhead Treble Choir, directed by Dr. Erynn Millard. Closing the show was the 400-voice Her Voice, Her Song Festival Chorus, directed by Dr. Millard. Ac-

companists for the evening included Suzanne Moe, Vicki Spofford and Kim Prestridge. Other instrumentation was provided by John Lund, who played bass on SAWC’s rendition of “Bring me Little Water Sylvie”; and percussion for the closing Festival Chorus numbers by Dan Spandl, Kristina Haataja and Nathan Thelen (pictured in photo at the top of page). Gary Schimpp of Staples served as emcee for the event; and Kevin Olsen was in charge of sound. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)





Taking down the old sign

Orton's BP station in Motley is soon to be home to Holiday. The former sign was taken down Feb. 18, by Ross Lewis Sign Co., Inc. in Bemidji, with the new sign put in place later that day. Major renovations have taken place on the inside of the store as well. The site will continue to be owned and operated by Orton Oil Company of Walker. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



And the new sign's up

The former Orton's BP is now home to a Holiday gas station. Crews took down the old sign on Feb. 18 and later installed the new one announcing its transition from the BP brand to a Holiday Station store. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Morey's Seafood Int'l acquired by Rich Products

Leading seafood industry player Morey's Seafood International announced that it has been acquired by Rich Products, based in Buffalo, N.Y. Rich's, a family-owned food company, brings 75 years of expertise in the food industry, with customers across foodservice, retail, in-store bakery, deli and prepared foods, among others. It is an industry-leader in value-added seafood, driven primarily by its SeaPak brand, America's No. 1 frozen shrimp brand and leader in specialty seafood products. Company officials indicated that Morey's would continue operating business-as-usual, with

no short-term changes to its business or staffing. Company chief executive officer Jim Walstrom will continue leading Morey's business, as the two companies' teams integrate. "As a family-owned seafood company founded in 1937 focused on the highest quality seafood products, Rich's was a natural fit to help take our business to the next level," said Jim Walstrom, CEO, Morey's Seafood International. "In Rich's, we have a partner with a 75-year track record of success, one that's dedicated to ongoing innovation and growth in seafood, and a company that values its people and family-owned culture. We're

excited for our company's next chapter as we move forward with Rich's." Morey's employs approximately 200 associates in Minnesota, with one leading-edge manufacturing facility in Motley and a seafood processing and distribution center in Plymouth. "Bringing Morey's into the Rich's portfolio of consumer brands brings new product offerings, greater distribution and a stronger presence in the value-added seafood category," said Jim Motos, senior vice president of Rich's Consumer Brands Division. "We look forward to working with Morey's to deliver even more to our custom-

ers as a full-service, value-added seafood partner - further enabling them to meet and exceed consumer demand." The acquisition was effective January 30, 2020. **Morey's Seafood International** Morey's Seafood International LLC specializes in the manufacturing, marketing and distribution of restaurant-inspired, great tasting fish and seafood products. Morey's commitment to quality, taste, convenience and healthy products is consistent with consumer feedback when sharing what they look for in today's marketplace. Since 1937, Morey's

has grown to be a leading seafood manufacturer and distributor. Today, Morey's manufactures and distributes multiple products under the Morey's label including Morey's marinated seafood and Morey's smoked fish products. Morey's is an active member of the National Fisheries Institute and a member of the Global Aquaculture Association. For more information, go to www.moreys.com. **Rich's** Rich's, also known as Rich Products Corporation, is a family-owned food company dedicated to inspiring possibilities. From cakes and icings to pizza, appetiz-

ers and specialty toppings, Rich's products are used in homes, restaurants and bakeries around the world. Beyond great food, our customers also gain insights to help them stay competitive, no matter their size. Our portfolio includes creative solutions geared at helping food industry professionals compete in foodservice, retail, in-store bakery, deli, and prepared foods, among others. Working in 100 locations globally, with annual sales exceeding \$4 billion, Rich's is a global leader with a focus on everything that family makes possible. Rich's®—Infinite Possibilities. One Family.

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Motley Area Food Shelf to 'Pack the Pews'

The Motley Area Food Shelf is adding to their Annual March Campaign by asking the churches in the Motley area to 'Pack the Pews.' This is a great way to come together as a faith organization during the March Campaign and collect food for those facing food insecurity. With the help of Samantha Barron, Morrison County Extension Office, we have created categories and a 'Needs List' of the following areas:

- Cooking/baking
- Spices,
- Condiments
- Paper/Hygiene

The Needs List includes food or other items that can't be purchased

at Second Harvest. For example, cooking/baking needs include baking powder, baking soda, cooking oil, muffin mixes, frosting, brownie mix, vanilla. Other items that are always needed at the food shelf include: soups, oatmeal, canned fruit, canned vegetables, canned meats, granola bars, cereals, sugar, spaghetti sauce, noodles. **The food shelf is not able to accept food items that are out of date.** Each of the churches will be given a category with a list of items we would like to offer our clients. It is also another way to help meet the

needs of those needing our services. Monetary donations will be accepted as well. These allow us to purchase food at a discounted rate through our food bank. The Motley Area Food Shelf is a nonprofit whose goal is to feed the hungry in our area through an efficient system of collecting and distribution of food to individuals, striving to preserve dignity and extending respect to all clients. The Motley Area Food Shelf is located at 697 3rd Ave. S., Motley. For more information call 218-352-6344 or email sherrymillerfrisk@gmail.com.

Law enforcement reports, Motley area

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

Feb. 19 - The MPD received a report of a stolen gun at an apartment at the 400 block of Pine Ave. S., Motley.

Feb. 18 - The MPD assisted with a warrant

check at the 33000 block of Birch Ln., Motley.

Feb. 17 - The MCSO responded to a report of an out of control subject at an apartment at the 400 block of Pine Ave. S., Motley. Prior to the MCSO's arrival, a Todd County deputy and a Staples PD officer had made contact with the subject. When the MCSO deputy arrived, he

spoke with the subject who admitted to using methamphetamine that day. The subject is on probation in Todd County with no use conditions. Contact was made with his probation agent, who advised that subject could be placed under arrest for admitting to using that day. The subject was transported to the Todd County Jail.

Feb. 18 - The MCSO responded to a report of an altercation on the lake over a fishing spot with another angler. The incident took place near the 34000 block of Aztec Rd., Motley. The complainant reported damage to the door of his truck. The suspect denies touching the complainant's truck.

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Republican operative to speak in Staples

Isaac Schultz will speak in Staples on Thursday, March 5, 5:30 p.m. at the Timbers Event Center in Staples. His topic is, “What it’s like to work in the belly of beast.” The event is sponsored by Crossroads Conservatives.

Born and raised in Upsala, Schultz is one of the foremost Minnesota Republican operatives with extensive political experience especially across Northern Minnesota. While still in his twenties, he has advised congressional and legislative campaigns throughout the state to elect Republicans at all levels of government. Currently Schultz serves as the District Director for 8th District Congressman Pete Stauber. Previously he worked on behalf of Fox News Co-Host Pete Hegseth, Stewart Mills, Senate Majority Leader Paul Gazelka and most recently as legislative assistant and senior adviser to then Speaker of the House Kurt Daudt.

Schultz will share many of the battle stories, internal dynamics and long-lasting tensions which have defined the last decade in Minnesota politics. From elections to policy, the political play-



Isaac Schultz

ers making these decisions determine the future of our state and he has personally witnessed these pivotal moments and relationships develop. As the 2020 election year moves forward, he will take a look into the future to predict which opportunities look promising.

To help with planning, reservations would be appreciated. RSVPs may be directed to Diane Carlson at 218-296-1348, or respond by email to: dcarlson1899@charter.net. Special menu options are available The program will begin following dinner.

Timbers Event Center is located at 1212 2nd Ave. NE in Staples. Lodging information is also available at timberlakehotel.com.

GRABE continued from page 1a

City departments work together

department.

At a small public works department like Henning, Grabe said everyone helps with all the departments. Before long he was driving snowplows and doing other work in different departments. That continued when he became the public works superintendent 10 years later.

Through common training sessions, Grabe said he got to know Staples City Administrator Jerel Nelsen and Public Works Director Doug Bendorf, so he was familiar with Staples when he applied for the public works position.

Even though there are three people in each department (street, electric, water/wastewater), Grabe said they do a lot of cross over jobs, especially in a winter with a lot of snow like this year.

“The electric crew plows parking lots and alleys, the water guys pitch in when needed,” said Grabe.

It’s not just public works, all the city departments pitch in. Staples has an advantage of having 24 hour police patrols, said Grabe, so they become the street department’s eyes at night. “If the snow starts getting too deep, they call Clyde and he can judge by his experience when to send the plows out,” he said.

The result is that Staples has clean streets compared to some other cities.

City departments work together on a lot of other projects, including the skating rink and Dower Lake Recreation Area.

Most importantly, Grabe said the departments get along. They have a meeting once a week to see what is going on and who might need extra help that week.

SWCD

continued from page 1a

Animal disease presentation

or who are transitioning from dairy to beef operations, a trend itself right here in Todd County. Mike Starkey, MDA, will speak on a trend we don’t want which is the spread of foreign animal disease. In a presentation titled, “It is Not If, It is When”, Mike will discuss the realities behind Foot and Mouth Disease in bovines and the Asian Swine Flu.

Extension will be present to discuss the Secure Supply programs in animal production. The ribs will be catered by Ted and Gen’s Bar-Be-Que of Aldrich. Other topics, door prizes and more are in store for the 2020 Feedlot Meeting. Call 320-732-2644 to reserve a seat.

75 YEARS Ago - 1945

• March 1, 1945 - Miss Lucille Geiger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Geiger, of Staples, has accepted a position with the navy department in Washington D.C. and left Thursday of last week for that city where she started her work the first of this week.

Miss Geiger is a graduate of the Staples high school and for the past year and a half had been employed by the Brainerd Daily Dispatch as a writer. She was prominent in journalistic circles of the

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Compiled by
Dawn Timbs

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Staples high school while attending school here.

• March 1, 1945 - Rollance Gode, a farmer living north of Aldrich, was gored by an angry bull at his farm Saturday evening of last week, and is confined to the Staples Municipal hospital suffering with a crushed left chest, a puncture wound in the left lung, and an injured arm.

When the animal attacked Mr. Gode, he was pushed against a tree in the yard. Grabbing the ring in the nose of the animal he was able to keep from being fatally injured, as he partially held the raging animal off until help came and drove the bull away.

Mr. Gode is 42 years of age. He will be confined to the hospital for several weeks, according to the attending physician.

50 YEARS Ago - 1970

• Feb. 26, 1970 - The Cardinal Wrestlers, coached by Don Dravis, captured the Region Six Championship trophy last Saturday in the meet held at Brainerd. The title was the first for the Staples Grapplers, who will be sending five men into the state tourney this weekend at Williams Arena, Minneapolis. The five state entrants from the Cardinal squad are Tom Goeden, Gordy Thompson, John Rubel, Gary Wert and Mike Roberts.

• Feb. 26, 1970 - Under the sponsorship of the Staples Jaycees, the second annual Heartland Snowmobile races will be staged Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 28 and March 1. Hundreds of snowmobilers and fans from throughout the entire area are expected to converge on the Dower Lake Recreation area, just west of Staples, to participate in the event.

The races will be run on Minnesota’s only race track built exclusively for snowmobile racing. The track, bowl shaped with earth base, was constructed last summer by the heavy equipment students of the Staples Area Vocational-



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week’s archive photo is from our Feb. 15, 1990 edition. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photo? Email your answers and where you are from

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

Technical School. The 3/8 - mile track has 30 degree banked corners.

• Feb. 26, 1970 - ‘Home Ec for Boys at Motley.’ Earl Allee, 11th grade; and Richard Swanson, Ron Headly, and Dennis Kippers, seniors at Motley High School were enrolled in a home economics class for boys at the school. Mrs. Jessie Nelson, their instructor, states that a hammer really isn’t needed on their cakes. In fact, cakes they recently baked and frosted were appreciated by the Motley faculty. The boys can sew, too! They sewed their green chef caps and the aprons with large pockets.

Boys home economic classes have become quite prevalent throughout the state this school term. Motley has had a boy’s class for four years.

25 YEARS Ago - 1995

• March 2, 1995 - A Cushing man was killed Feb. 22, in a two-car collision in Scandia Valley Township. Steven A. Burtyk, Jr., 52, Rt. 1, Cushing, was killed when his car collided with another vehicle at the intersection of Morrison County Roads 2 and 203, about four miles east of Highway 10 and one mile north of the Castaway Supper Club on Lake Alexander. According to the report, Burtyk was southbound on County Road 2, when a second vehicle, headed west on County Road 203, failed to stop for a stop sign.

• March 2, 1995 - The Cardinal girls will be playing this Friday night for the (basketball) Sub Section 4 title, after a 64-30 win over the Sebekia Trojans Tuesday night in the semi-final bracket.

• March 2, 1995 - A jury in Painesville, Ohio, has recommended the death

penalty for a man convicted of killing a store guard during a five state crime spree last August.

The same man is suspected of being one of two men involved in the holdup of the Mid Central Federal Savings Bank in Staples on Tuesday, Aug. 16, during the crime spree. Sentencing for Frederick Treesh, 30, Waterloo, Ind., is scheduled for March 2. A second man, Benjamin Brooks, 27, also of Indiana, faces trial on similar charges. Both are suspects in carjackings and robberies in Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, including bank robberies in Delavan, Wisconsin and Staples.

10 YEARS Ago - 2010

• March 4, 2010 - City and library officials cut the ribbon officially opening the new Staples City Hall and Staples Public Library on Feb. 25. Participants in the ribbon cutting include Kirsty Smith, director of the Great River Regional Library; State Librarian Suzanne Miller, Minnesota Dept. of Education; Friends of the staples Public Library president Gloria Palmer; Staples Mayor Chris Etzler; Todd County Commissioner Gerry Ruda; City Administrator Nate Mathews; and photographer Pat Miller.

• March 4, 2010 - Letter to the Editor: Thank you, Lamplighter Community Theatre, for your performance of Drinking Habits, giving us two hours of laughter. Did anyone besides me notice the absence of profanity? I found that very refreshing and truly hope we find more such wholesome entertainment in our community in the future. Lorrie Toedter, Staples, Minn.

• March 4, 2010 - The cedar shake awnings that

have been a trademark of Staples for nearly 40 years are coming down. Workers for the Mike Lovelace Construction Co. of Vernadale were tearing off the awnings at First International Bank and Trust Tuesday. All awnings on a two block stretch of Fourth Street will be gone when they are finished. This is to make room for heavy equipment coming in this summer, tearing up the streets and installing new utility lines underground, part of the Highway 10 turnback project.



Mystery solved

Last week’s mystery photo, published in the Feb. 19, 1970 edition of the Staples World, featured Pfc. Ronald Hanson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herb Hanson of Motley, who was serving under the 199th Inf. Division of the U.S. Army near Long Bien, Vietnam. The article noted that Hanson, a 1968 graduate of Motley high school, entered the Army July 28 and received his basic training at Fort Bragg, N.C. He was stationed at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, prior to receiving his overseas assignment Jan. 10.

Bill Skeesick Jr. and Greg Frisk, both of Motley; Peggy Sirucek of Leader; Curt Martin of Pillager (1979 MHS grad); and Kelly Boldan of Willmar (1975 MHS grad) correctly identified Hanson. Skeesick mentioned that he and Ronald, ‘Ron, aka Ronnie’ were good friends in high school, both graduating from MHS in 1968. He recalled that when Ron began his tour of duty in Vietnam, they would write each other letters. “I still have several of his letters he sent to me, and have shared these with Ron and his family,” Bill said. Ron’s sister, Diane (Hanson) Johnson of Staples, spotted her brother in the photo and recalled that he was in the Army and was about to go to Vietnam. Ron’s cousin, Craig Nanik of rural Staples also phoned in with the correct information. Thanks for participating in our Mystery Photo.



First place trophy for SM Speech Team at Bemidji

The Staples-Motley Cardinals again took home the first place trophy February 2, at the 15th Annual Bemidji Lumberjack Invitational. Twenty seven teams and approximately 500 speakers were in competition. Second place went to Dilworth-Glyndon Felton and third was Pequot Lakes.

Placing first in their respective categories were: Ari Brings, Original Oratory; Jaydon Friedel, Prose; Jonah Johnson and Ethan Gilbertson, Duo and Caden Mrazek, Humor. Second place winners: Lilly Niemi, Informative; Jaydon Friedel and Connor Judd, Duo and Caden Mrazek, Storytelling. Third place: Brooke Ferdon, Discussion; Cy Johnson and Iain Sams, Duo and Luke Bates, Humor. A pair of fourth place medals went to: Keegan Harvey and Keegan Bestland, Duo. Placing fifth in the finals: Alex Brings, Great Speeches; Torii Nienow, Informative and Samantha Mrazek, Prose. Sixth: Storytelling was Keegan Bestland and seventh, Poetry: Luke Bates. Ribbons for Excellence were: Jack Tyrell, Discussion; Ari Brings, Drama; Samantha Mrazek, Ex. Reading; AJ Nieinow, Humor; Grace Allen, Original Oratory. The special Outstanding Novice Award was given to: Bel Birkholtz for the highest rated novice speaker in her category.

Right: Ari Brings and Samantha Mrazek hold the Lumberjack Invite trophy.

The next varsity competition will be Feb. 29, at the Walker-Hackensack-Akeley Invitational. (Submitted photo)



School legacy revived in improvement plan

By Shane Tappe
Superintendent, Staples-Motley Public Schools

The Staples and Motley communities have enjoyed a rich and shared history. We support our local businesses, embrace our outdoors, volunteer to help local causes, welcome newcomers and carry a deep respect for our elders. You can feel the connections across our neighborhoods.

For the Staples-Motley School District, success has always started with these values. It has been a pleasure to observe these values in action as a newer member of the community and the district's superintendent. For decades, our teachers and staff have been deeply devoted to preparing our students for life after graduation, whether they continue their education or immediately pursue a career.

We take great pride in this legacy. We should celebrate our hard work, accomplishments and the deep commitment to our children that we share.

Recently, community feedback revealed a restlessness among our students, parents and residents about our school system. We're facing some tough questions: Do we still feel the same energy and spirit of years gone by? Is the commitment to our children still unwavering?

There is a growing sense that we must take bold actions and make new investments to ensure that our students continue to get the support and education that they need.

That's why the school board has approved the district's new Continuous Improvement Plan, an ongoing improvement plan aimed at ensuring all students receive the support and services they need to thrive. As part of this plan, we will be placing renewed emphasis on enhancing the experiences of our students and staff through diverse programming in a safe and inviting learning environment.

I am ready to get started on this new journey with you.

We began this continuous improvement plan by inviting community members, business owners, parents, district

employees and students to help us shape the priorities of the district going forward. As always, the mission is to provide the support for our children to grow and rise to new challenges through an ambitious and modern curriculum, arts, athletics and community spirit.

The plan that emerged has been shaped by this guidance from our communities. We will focus on our core Cardinal Commitments:

- Student experience – diverse opportunities and support for success
- Climate and culture – optimal teaching and learning environment
- Value – guided management of district assets
- Operations – service, collaboration and facilities maintenance

While this plan is newly launched, we're grateful for the hard work and passion that have already gone into it. I can't begin to express my appreciation for our students, parents, staff, community members and the school board. So many of you have been instrumental in leading this conversation and providing key feedback that will help us determine how best to educate Cardinals for years to come.

I also would like to thank the district's curriculum and staff development director Debbie Ferdon and Loren Walz, the district's marketing and communications director, for the great work facilitating the process thus far.

By working together, I'm confident we can embrace the principles and legacy of the Staples-Motley School District as we prepare our students for successful futures.

As the school board moves ahead with developing a road map for improving our schools, your feedback will be critical. This process is continual, and it's important this plan mirrors the priorities of our students, staff and community.

I welcome any and all questions and ideas about the direction of our public schools. Please reach out to me directly at shane.tappe@isd2170.k12.mn.us or 218-894-5400.



The great kale debate

The kale is coming. We must be prepared.

Ever since the announcement of the 'Sota Grown experimental food container now in Staples, locals have been talking and joking about kale.

A few years ago, kale was recognized as a "superfood," packed with nutrients, antioxidants and other

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The country became traumatized by kale.

Kale jokes skyrocketed. Meat eaters haughtily waved their high-hats and labeled kale as out of touch elitist food. Now any time the word kale is mentioned, people giggle and snort.

Kale has been marginalized by the publicity and is the go-to joke for food



By Mark Anderson
Editor

comedians.

But for those who didn't adhere to the negative campaign, kale has indeed grown into a superfood and many excellent recipes now revolve around kale.

It is used in salads and soups, or blended into smoothies. It is used as flavoring for pesto, tacos, or stir-fry. It is baked into kale chips or sautéed and steamed to make it more tender.

So while kale still has its stigma, it is time for a community forgiveness, because the kale is coming, and we need to embrace it, not joke about it.

Central Lakes College, Lakewood Health System and Todd-Wadena Electric Co-op are part of the new experiment that will grow kale, and only kale, in a food container at the college farm. Lakewood will distribute the kale through their many food programs and TVEC will monitor the electricity conservation for the project.

In local meetings where the project is discussed, after the requisite kale jokes there are always suggestions to start developing a kale culture and promoting the benefits of kale.

They ask if we will print kale recipes in the newspaper. My first response was "Are we doing that to sell newspapers or drive away readers?" (I promise that will be my last kale

joke.)

Also I learned that the CLC kale will be harvested while it is still young and tender; it will not grow into the huge stringy bunches used in some kale production, so there will be more options to use it like lettuce.

Now count the number of times the word "kale" has been used in this story and realize my real purpose is desensitization therapy for our readers. The more we hear about kale, the less the trauma and confusion when we are confronted by it (sorry, that's another kale joke) and that will be soon with the first crop coming in a couple of months.

So let's embrace kale and become leaders in healthy eating. Whoever uses kale in the Chili Cook-off at Railroad Days will get my vote. Whoever develops the best kale recipe should be featured in our newspaper. We could become known for kale, local restaurants could feature kale dishes and we could develop a kale tourism division...

Before I get carried away (the kale jokes just write themselves at this point), I'm not sure the pod will grow that much kale. But kale will become one of the many threads that make up the fabric of our community, and that is something we can be proud of.

'Safety in our Cities' bill introduced

Legislative update from Representative Ron Kresha, District 9B

We've finished our first full week of session, and a lot has happened.

House Republicans rolled out a "Safety in our Cities" package of five bills to improve public safety in communities across the state. The proposed bills include:

- A bill that would require cities with regional or statewide sports and entertainment facilities to have adequate law enforcement, or risk losing Local Government Aid (LGA) from the state.
- A bill to boost penalties for gang members who use firearms in commission of a crime. Currently, prosecutors are not pursuing gun charges against criminals who commit crimes using guns because the penalty level is not high enough.
- A bill to boost funding for the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) for gang and drug

trafficking efforts.

- A bill that would increase enforcement of fare evasion, increase sworn officers for Metro Transit police, and install interactive cameras on light rail platforms.
- A bill that would prohibit cities from disarming officers in good standing.

On Wednesday during session, House Republicans moved to suspend the House Rules so we could pass a bill that would allow the Rural Finance Authority (RFA) to continue providing loans to struggling farmers, as they will run out of funding for loans today. Unfortunately the Democrats voted down our motion, and farmers will have to wait until Democrats decide to schedule the bill before the RFA can continue providing loans.

In the Commerce committee this week, we heard several bills relating to pharmacies and prescription drugs, and in Ways and Means Democrats passed several bills that infringe on Second Amendment

rights. The gun bills are ones we heard a lot about last year, that expand background checks and take guns from people accused of being a danger to themselves or others without a court hearing.

Constituent Visits

Thank you to all of my constituents who made the trip to the Capitol to discuss issues that are important to them and to our community.

By Jim Smoger
Wheaton Gazette

This past weekend, I went to my dad's house to collect a few items. The house is for sale and I thought going there would be emotionally difficult. Fortunately, that wasn't the case.

The realtor had told my sister that she might have to reduce the asking price. One consistent comment from prospective buyers was that the house "looked old." My reaction could be summed up in one phrase.

Duh.

The same man had lived in the house literally since the Eisenhower Adminis-

tration. He never saw the need for new cabinets or an open kitchen or replacing the patio in the backyard with a deck.

But there was one part of the house that will be great for the right buyer just the way it is.

Before I left the house, I went down in the basement and clicked on the light. This was the ultimate man cave.

The term "man cave" grew into vogue a few years ago. It is meant to be a place where men can gather to watch sports, display their hunting gear, play card games or renew their childhood hobbies, like collecting baseball

cards or building model cars, all away from the scrutiny of their wives and daughters.

The cave could also be a place for video games, which was true of our man cave as well, although the only video game we had was the black and white TV tennis.

The development of our man cave was gradual. My earliest memories have an unfinished basement with a ping-pong table and a model train set on plywood underneath. There was a television and a beat up couch near the staircase.

The most significant development came when I was in the 6th grade and my parents added a big black Franklin stove and a cheap foosball table. The stove not only helped to keep the basement warm in the winter, but it made the whole atmosphere manlier.

From that point on, the additions were rapid. My older brother finished the walls with plywood a couple of years later. His work included the addition of a wallpaper mural, which is still in pristine condition, featuring deer, pheasants and ducks.

I made several important additions. The first was putting up items from old time Native American dancers, such as feathered bustles and breastplates. I later acquired a bison skull and deer antlers. When I was in high school, it seemed that a pair of snowshoes and coyote hide were good additions.

The ultimate display was a Schmidt beer can collection. I was too young to drink legally, but developed the collection simply by driving around on my bicycle and finding the

cans on the streets.

For those who don't remember, Schmidt beer featured outdoor scenes on their cans that were works of art. They would show people hunting, fishing and snowmobiling. Some of the cans featured bears swatting fish out of a stream. I had enough of the cans that they could be stacked like a pyramid against the back wall.

Finally, in about 1979, mother bought a stereo with two large speakers. Pretty soon we were acquiring vinyl records and jamming to AC/DC's Back in Black. We had a party the evening I brought home Pink Floyd's album The Wall.

Mom made one addition to the basement shortly before she passed away. That was creating a shrine to the Minnesota Twins World Series champions of 1987 and 1991. Her display included commemorative Wheaties boxes, Homer Hankies and the front pages of the newspapers from the mornings after they won.

My dad left everything in place. He replaced the Franklin stove at one point and did some cleaning out of junk, which included the coyote hides. We got rid of the ping-pong table when we started clearing out the house for the sale. Now, I think that was a mistake.

My suggestion would be for the realtor to bring over a used gun cabinet and some posters of old North Star hockey players. That would generate interest for certain.

And if she could find a few Schmidt beer cans, well, that would be the clincher. We'd probably get the asking price.

Quote of the week

"Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events; small minds discuss people."

— Eleanor Roosevelt

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.

Publisher RMM Publications LLC
Rick Gail, Mike Kremer, Mark Anderson

Managing Editor.....Mark Anderson editor@staplesworld.com

Advertising Rep...... editor@staplesworld.com

Photo Tech/production.....Janice Winter jwinter@staplesworld.com

Bookkeeping/Circulation/
Front Office.....Kathy Odden kodden@staplesworld.com

Reporter.....Dawn Timbs dtimbs@staplesworld.com

Front Office..... office@staplesworld.com

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

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.

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Rehearsing the opening scene

Mike Kincaid (above, kneeling), one of the directors for the upcoming middle school play "Hollywood Hillbillies" reads through the opening scene with cast members at a recent rehearsal. Pictured, from left, are Philip Rapp, Kincaid, Bella Hines, Ceci Moe, Zachary McIlravy, Olivia Opheim. Kincaid is an alumnus of Staples-Motley High School, where he was active in music and theatre. He

is co-directing the middle school play with Kevin Olsen, also an alumnus and long-time director of plays at Staples-Motley Schools and Lamplighter Community Theatre in Staples. Performances for "Hollywood Hillbillies" will be held at Centennial Auditorium in Staples Friday, March 13, 7 p.m.; and Saturday, March 14, 2 p.m. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Staples-Motley Middle School presents 'Hollywood Hillbillies'

Performances March 13, 14, at Centennial

Staples-Motley Middle School will present Hollywood Hillbillies Friday, March 13, 7 p.m.; and Saturday, March 14, 2 p.m., at Centennial Auditorium in Staples.

Kevin Olsen and Mike Kincaid are co-directing the show, described as a "laugh-provoking mixture of spoofing and non-stop action."

According to the play's synopsis, Gram Hawley and her granddaughter Cindy Lou run the general store and post office in Happy Hollow located somewhere in the Ozark Mountains way off the beaten track where there are plenty of eccentric characters to keep things lively. Add some show biz types from Hollywood trying to make a film about hill people, some terribly snobby distant relatives who are stuck visiting; and a couple of clever crooks bent on stealing Gram's property which sits on top of a large deposit of natural gas, and you've got all the ingredients for a comedy explosion. Eventually, in a hilarious fashion,

things work out okay.

Cast list

- Gram Hawley - Ceci Moe
- Cousin Clem - Zachary McIlravy
- Matilda Quail - Lilliana DuBois
- Henrietta Paxwax - Olivia Opheim
- Cindy Lou - Walker Johnson
- Charles Seabury - Philip Rapp
- Alice - Bella Hines
- Josephine Seabury - Isabel Birkholtz
- Charlotte - Isabelle Dobson
- Bubba - Laken Hines
- Larry Houston - Kristofer Taylor
- Isabelle Phelps - Catherine Dodge
- Sheriff Tom Applegate - A.J. Nienow
- Rhonda Cavett - Anna Brown
- Opal Edwards - Emma Lamke
- Miss Lennox - Ruby Thoe
- Jim Foxhall - Gabriel Ritter
- Lucy Valentine - Estella Bock
- Finlandia - Adelaide Toepper

- Vera - Sophie Schlosser
- Miss Kearns - Giselle Polkow
- Townspeople - Wyatt Radueg, Adrian Caldwell, Lily Davis, Lilith Tester, Jasmine Isley, Brooke Bendson, Brooke Hansen.

Tickets

Tickets for the show are available in advance at Ace Hardware and True Value Hardware, both in Staples; First International Bank, Motley; Staples-Motley High School Office; and at the door.

Cardinal Calendar

SM school events

February

- NATIONAL FFA WEEK Feb. 22 - 29
- SUB-SECTION INSTRUMENTAL LARGE GROUP CONTEST Feb. 26, at SM

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

Mark Your Calendar

Weekly events

ONGOING EVENTS POSTED LAST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH:

AA MTGS AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL MAIN CAMPUS, STAPLES, CLASSROOM A: Tuesdays, 8 p.m.; Thursdays, 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 7 p.m.. For info., 218-371-0573.

AA MTGS AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, PILLAGER: Tuesdays, 8 p.m. For info., 218-839-1804.

AA MTGS AT MOTLEY FREE METHODIST CHURCH: Wednesdays, noon; Fridays, noon. For more info., 218-296-1512.

AA MTG AT MOTLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: Mondays, 8 p.m. For info., 218-639-9743.

AA MTGS IN VERDALE: Tuesdays, 9:30 p.m.; Fridays, 8 p.m., 106 S. Thompson. For info., 218-640-1365 and 218-640-6644.

CHRISTIANS IN RECOVERY MTG Thursdays, 7 p.m., Staples Alliance Church. For info., 720-308-8700.

DUAL RECOVERY ANONYMOUS MEETING Fridays, 4 p.m., Northern Pines, 11 2nd St. SW, Wadena. For info., 218-631-1714.

TOPS (TAKING OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY) CHAPTER #1077 OF STAPLES Tuesdays, Faith Lutheran Church, 430 12th St. NE, Staples. Weigh-in, 5 p.m., meeting follows. For info., 218-639-0544.

WEIGHT WATCHERS MTG Mondays, Lakewood Health System main campus, Staples. Weigh-in, 5 p.m.; Mtg., 5:30 p.m. For info., 218-352-4888.

Monthly events

'ADULT SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE LOSS' SUPPORT GROUP MTG third Tuesday, 6:30 - 8 p.m., Wesley Conference Rm. at Tri-County Health Care, Wadena. For info., 218-631-5228.

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOC. CARE-GIVER SUPPORT GROUP MTG first and third Thursday, 3 - 4 p.m., Reflections Inten-

sive Outpatient (IOP) rm., Lakewood Health System's senior campus, Staples. For info, 218-894-8288 or 218-894-8195.

FOOT CARE CLINICS sponsored by Lakewood Health System, first Tuesday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., LHS, Staples clinic; third Tuesday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Scandia Valley Town Hall. For appt. and price information, 218-894-8080.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP MTG first Tuesday, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m., Wesley Conference Rm. at Tri-County Health Care, Wadena. For info., 218-631-5228.

LAKE COUNTRY ATV RIDERS MEET fourth Saturday, 11 a.m., Bear's Den in Leader. For info., 218-640-5679. Find them on Facebook.

MEMORY LOSS SUPPORT GROUP FOR CAREGIVERS MTG second Thursday, 2:30 p.m., Wesley Conference Rm. at Tri-County Health Care, Wadena. For info., 218-631-5228.

MOTLEY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MTG second Tuesday, 1 p.m., Motley City Hall (except Jan. and Feb.). For more info., 218-352-6137 or 218-352-6699.

'PARENTS WHO HAVE LOST A CHILD' SUPPORT GROUP MTG second Monday, 5:30 p.m., Wesley Conference Rm. at Tri-County Health Care, Wadena. For info., 218-631-5228.

PARKINSON'S DISEASE SUPPORT GROUP MTG first Monday, 1:30 p.m., Edgewood Vista dining room, 14211 Firewood Dr., Baxter. For info., 218-829-4017.

SENIOR HEALTH CLINIC sponsored by Wadena County Public Health, second Wednesday, 8:30 - 11:30 a.m., at Wadena County Public Health, 22 Dayton Ave. SE, Wadena. Health screenings include blood pressure, foot care, health info. and referrals. For info., 218-631-7629.

TODD COUNTY REPUBLICANS MTG second Thursday, 7 p.m., St. Matthew's Church, Clarissa. For info., Facebook at Todd County Minnesota Republicans, or call 320-533-1119.

WADENA COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY COMMITTEE MTG third Monday, 6:30 p.m., The Hub 71 in Sebeka. Anyone interested in joining, welcome. For info., email DFLWadenaCoChair@yahoo.com.

WAHOO VALLEY AREA MN DEER HUNTER'S ASSOCIATION MTG second Tuesday, 7 p.m., Wahoo Valley (except Nov. and Jan.). For info., 218-640-5423.

WOMEN OF TODAY MTG first Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Landmark Inn, Staples.

February 26

FREE TAX-AIDE Wednesdays, 1 - 4 p.m., through April 15, Staples Community Center. No appt. needed. For low to moderate income taxpayers. For info., 218-894-5772.

February 27

WADENA WHIRLAWAYS SQUARE DANCE CLUB MTG Thurs., Feb. 27, 7:30 - 10 p.m., Wadena VFW. Abe Maier, caller. For info., 320-760-6043.

February 29

FREE COMMUNITY BREAKFAST Saturday, Feb. 29, 8 - 10 a.m., Motley United Methodist Church, 847 3rd Ave. South.

March 5

STAPLES AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY #70 MTG Thursday, March 5, 1 p.m., at the Staples Lions Bldg. Regular mtg. Must approve budget and will have memorial service for lost members. Bring a non-perishable food item or monetary donation for food shelf. For info., 218-894-2254.

R Salon and Spa
in Staples takes great pleasure in ANNOUNCING: Kristina Reese as the new owner February 2020.

"Ribbons & Bows Salon and Spa"
will continue to offer the same quality services as it always has.

"I appreciate the great support I have received in the past 14 years. As our roles reverse, I am excited to still be a part of the Salon's services and look forward to supporting Kristina in her new venture. ~Darcy"

Kristina, Heather and myself, would also like to welcome our newest stylist, Shelby Brusewitz!

Stop by and congratulate Kristina and welcome Shelby!
For an appointment call: 218-895-5454

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Wadena County

DEADLINES

for all classified ads is
12 noon Friday
to be published in
the Staples World.

For publication in Saturday's
Staples Square Shooter
the deadline is
5 p.m. Wed.

COZY THEATRE
WADENA, MN

Screen **"THE CALL OF THE WILD"**
Held Over 2nd Week!
Fri. thru Thurs. Feb. 28 - March 12
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:00 & 9:15
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:00

Mattinues Sat. & Sun. Feb. 29 & March 1 at 1:15 pm

Screen **"THE CALL OF THE WILD"**

Screen **"THE LAST FULL MEASURE"**
Fri. thru Thurs. Feb. 28 - March 5
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:10 & 9:25
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:10

Mattinues Sat. & Sun. Feb. 29 & March 1 at 1:25 pm

Screen **"SONIC THE HEDGEHOG"**
Held Over 3rd Week!
Fri. thru Thurs. Feb. 28 - March 5
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:15 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:15

Mattinues Sat. & Sun. Feb. 29 & March 1 at 1:30 pm

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Matinee Admission All Seats \$6.00
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Hello World

Obituaries

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:

Born to Allisa Bontjes and Jacob Lahr of Randall, a baby girl Gracelynn Rose weighing eight pounds on February 17, 2020.

Born to Candice and Zachary Boutin of Motley, a baby girl, Amelia Jo weighing eight pounds, nine ounces on February 19, 2020.

Born to Kara and Josh Kern of Verndale, a baby boy, Westyn Tyler weighing seven pounds, two ounces on February 20, 2020.

Born to Amy and Lucas Schmidt of Menahga, a baby girl, Lana Sue weighing seven pounds, seven ounces on February 21, 2020.

Born to Amanda and Reza Mikhaeil of Staples, a baby girl, Ellianna Marie weighing five pounds, 14 ounces on February 7, 2020.

Born to Ashley and Noah Bowe of Staples, a baby girl, Emilee Rose weighing seven pounds, one ounces on February 9, 2020.

Born to Brittni Davis and Erik Titus of Brainerd, a baby girl, Lynnkin Sarah weighing eight pounds, six ounces on February 10, 2020.

Born to Ashley and Isaac Ohman of Motley, twin boys, Charles Roland weighing five pounds, 14 ounces and Harrison Jones weighing six pounds, nine ounces on February 11, 2020.

Born to Vanessa and Dale Haverinen of Menahga, a baby boy, Jack Walter weighing eight pounds, three ounces on February 12, 2020.

Born to Sarah and Kyle Glass of Brainerd, a baby boy, Jackson David weighing six pounds, five ounces on February 13, 2020.

Carolyn Germann

Carolyn "Cari" R. Germann, 79, of Fargo, ND passed away February 9, 2020 at Sanford Hospital in Fargo.

At Cari's request, no funeral or prayer services will be held by the family. Carolyn donated her remains to the University of Minnesota and will be cremated and interred in a common grave provided.

Cari was born March 26, 1941 to Oscar and Laura (Wold) Engdahl. Cari graduated from Staples High School in 1959. She married Norman Hagelstrom and they lived in California. After their divorce, Cari moved back to Staples with her two children. She worked at the Carter-Ringer plant until it closed, then in the business office for Staples Public Schools.

She married Roger Germann and they lived in Staples until retiring. Following their divorce, Cari

moved to One Oak Place in Fargo where she made many friends and memories.

She is survived by one son, Brian (Suzanne) Hagelstrom and one daughter Karen (Jeff) Harne; one brother, Richard "Dick" Engdahl of Lady Lake, FL and five grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Gerald "Pete" (Lucy) Engdahl; one sister, Doris (Will) Guimont; sister-in-law, Margaret Engdahl, late wife of Richard and one nephew, Brad Kruse, Sr.

Memorials may be made by visiting the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital donation webpage.

Cards may be sent to Brian Hagelstrom, 1433 Spruce Drive, Wahpeton, ND 58075, or Karen Harne, 705 5th St. SE, Barnesville, MN 56514.

w9p A00006B2020FB26



Florence Avery

Florence Avery, 86, of Staples, passed away February 20, 2020 at the Lakewood Health System Care Center, Staples.

Funeral services were held Feb. 25, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Staples with Fr. Gabriel Walz officiating.

Burial was at Evergreen Hill Cemetery, Staples.

Florence was born August 15, 1933, on the family farm in Fawn Lake Township to Matthew and Christine (Gett) Kasper. She married Richard ("Butch") Avery at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Staples May 21, 1955. Florence worked as a CNA in Richfield for many years. They moved to Staples in 1983, where Florence continued working as a CNA for several years at the Staples Nursing Home until her retirement.

Florence was preceded in death by her parents, husband, Richard and 15 siblings. She is survived by many nieces and nephews.

Arrangements were with the Iten Funeral Home - itenfuneralhome.com.

w9c A00006B2020FB26



Maurice Lenk

Maurice "Maury" Lenk, 84, of Motley, passed away February 16, 2020 at Lakewood Health System, Staples.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Feb. 20 at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Motley.

Maury was born in Staples on October 25, 1935 to Peter and Ann (Ziegler) Lenk. He married Rita Grechula at St. Peters Catholic Church in Browerville on July 2, 1958. Maury taught machine trades at Staples Vocational School, now Central Lakes College, for 32 years. He enjoyed golf, fishing, square dancing, camping and playing cards. Maury was a member of the Knights of Columbus and St. Michael's Catholic Church.

Maury is survived by his wife of 62 years; three sons, James, Michael (Kathy) and Jeffrey (Debra); one daughter, Lisa (George) Carlson; 14 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; one brother, Wayne and two sisters, Jackie and Jeanie.

He is preceded in death by his parents and great-grandson, Jack.

Arrangements are by Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

w9c A00006B2020FB26

Ralph Kriesel

Ralph Wallace Kriesel, 51, of Motley, lost his two year battle to colon cancer on February 15, 2020.

A celebration of Ralph's life will be held from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 29, at the Pillager Community Center.

Ralph was the son of Dale and Marlys Kriesel. He worked at many different jobs including firefighter, truck driver and mechanic. Ralph graduated from Cambridge High School and Anoka Tech. He lived in Isanti most of his life and moved up north about 10 years ago.

Ralph is survived by his fiancé, Candace; children, Amanda, Andrew, Zeva and Mia; his fiancé's son, Brandon; parents; two brothers, Jeff and Gary; one sister, Kim; nine nieces and nephews; 15 great-nieces and nephews; aunts and uncles.

He is preceded in death by his grandparents, aunts, uncles and one nephew.

Arrangements are with Kline Funeral Home, Pine River.

w9c A00006B2020FB26

Student Achievements

MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MANKATO recently announced its 2019 Fall Semester High Honor and Honor Lists (Dean's List). To qualify for the High Honor List, students must achieve a 4.0 grade point average; and to qualify for the Honors List, students must achieve a 3.5 - 3.99 grade point average. Local students named include:

- Jessica Klima, Pillager, Honor List
- Julia Fink, Staples, Honor List
- Ryan Gerard, Staples, Honor List
- Brooke Jackson, Staples, Honor List
- Kaitlin Spar, Staples, Honor List.

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance

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

WEDNESDAY

AWANA 6:00 p.m.

Assembly of God

914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples 218-894-1081
Pastor Roy Miles
Discipleship Classes 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Evening Prayer 6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Wednesday times are for Sept. - May

Sonlight (Kids Program) 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Youth Group 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Church of Christ

27343 490th St., Staples 218-894-2609
Pastor Barry Klein
Website: www.stapleschurchofchrist.org
Bible School (youth and adult) 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY:

Teen Youth/Adults Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

First Congregational Church, UCC

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

Faith Lutheran

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

Sacred Heart Church

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

Seventh Day Adventist

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

Thomastown Covenant

15940 251st Ave., Staples 218-894-3923
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY 7:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran

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

United Methodist

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

Aldrich

Balsamlund Lutheran

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

Cushing

Bethany Lutheran

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

Lincoln Evangelical Free

1354 320th St., Cushing 218-575-2449
www.lincolnefree.org Facebook Lincoln E Free
Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Senior Pastor: Donald Reigstad
Pastor: Jim Brown
Youth Coordinator: Joe Reigstad
SUNDAY
Sunday School for all ages 9:00 a.m.
Worship Gathering 10:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Praise & Prayer 4:30 p.m.
Kids' Club 6:00 p.m.
Jr./Sr. Forge Youth Group 6:00 p.m.

Cushing Baptist

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

Leader

Swan Valley Lutheran

Leader 218-397-2470
Sandy Knight, Synodically Authorized Minister
of Word and Sacrament
Sunday Worship 11:00 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.

Leaf River Township

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

Motley

Motley Free Methodist

33 Wellwood St. E
Motley 56466 218-352-6888
Pastor Jim Johnson
Sunday Worship 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Kids Club 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Youth Group 5:30-7:30 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran

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

St. Michael

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

United Methodist

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

Oylen

Oylen Alliance

Cty. Rds. 7 and 9, Oylen
218-472-3440 or 218-472-3316
Pastor Neal Makore
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.
(serving coffee and donuts)

Hewitt

Church of the Nazarene

114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146 Hewitt, MN
218-924-2028
Pastor Wayne Hoffer
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m./6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Prayer 7:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS)

524 Front Street, PO Box 116, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Robin Fish
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

United Methodist Church

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

Verndale

Verndale Alliance

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

Family Life Church

402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale 218-445-5568
VerndaleFLC@gmail.com
Pastor Amos Self 218-371-7189
Children's Pastor Kenneth Kjeldergaard
SUNDAY
Discipleship Classes 9:00 a.m.
Prayer 9:20 a.m.
Coffee / Fellowship 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Celebrate Recovery 6-8 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
6:00 p.m. Meal 6:30 p.m. Groups

Hope Chapel Alliance

18126 County Road 7, Verndale
218-445-5643 or 218-472-3316
Pastor Neal Makore
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 Iar)
Pastor Chuck Horsager, 218-639-4225
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

"About Lent"

Pastor Greg Leslie, Motley United Methodist Church and Staples United Methodist Church

Lent began in the early Christian church as a time of preparation for Easter. In the early years of the church it was a time for people who were seeking to become Christians. Most were adults who spent years studying and preparing, because under the authority of the Roman Empire and the chance of being persecuted, becoming a follower was very serious. So, the process was intensive. If they made it through this process of enlightenment and purification, they were Baptized on Easter. In all, the early church began to see

the season of Lent as an opportunity to renew and recall the commitment they made at their own Baptism.

As most of us know, the start of the Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday which is six and a half weeks before Easter. Now some of you may say well, that is more than 40 days and you're correct because Sundays are excluded. The reasoning behind the 40 days is an imitation of Christ's fasting in the Wilderness before He began His public ministry.

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:

Longbella Drug Store

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

Ernie's Food Market

Groceries - Gas - Convenience - more
Staples, MN 218-894-1072

Staples Veterinary Clinic

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

Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank

Fully Insured to \$250,000
Staples, MN 218-894-3900

Central Building Supply

Hwy. 10 West, Staples, MN
218-894-3794

Staples World

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

Tower Pizza

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

Staples True Value

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

Thank you...
for reading the Staples World

wk9c

Organization Spotlight

Todd Area Trails Association - Snowmobile Club

Are you interested in getting involved in a community organization? Perhaps you've thought about it, but haven't been sure where to start.

Over the next several months, the Staples World will feature information on a variety of organizations in the Staples-Motley area that are always looking for new members. There's bound to be at least one that's a good fit for you.

Be a part of your community! In addition to helping others, most likely you will reap benefits personally. As author Dan Buettner notes in his book, "The Blue Zones," being a part of a community is one element that can lead to people living longer, healthier, happier lives.

1. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

Todd Area Trails Association - Snowmobile Club.

2. WHEN AND WHERE DO YOU MEET?

We meet the first Sunday of the month at the VFW

Club in Browerville at 7:30 p.m.

3. DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION/MAJOR PROJECTS ACCOMPLISHED/FOCUS OF GROUP

We maintain and groom the snowmobile trails in Todd County which cover about 389 miles. Most groomers will put on about 80 - 90 miles a day. The equipment used is owned by the Todd Area Trails Association.

We currently have about 36 members in our group. Those who join receive USA Magazine.

4. EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERS

Help maintain the trails.

5. MEMBERSHIP FEES?

\$20 per year.

6. EXPERIENCE NEEDED?

There is no experience needed. If you enjoy snowmobiling, this is a good way to be involved.

7. CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information, call Berny Mumm, Trails Coordinator, at 218-894-1835.



Trails coordinator

Bernard (Berny) Mumm of Staples is the trails coordinator for the Todd Area Trail Association - Snowmobile Club. He's been a part of the organization for 40 years and enjoys the camaraderie with other club members, as well as the opportunity to be outdoors, helping to maintain snowmobile trails. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Equipment

The trail groomers are used on the trails throughout the county. (Submitted photos)



Lined up ready to spell

Let the words begin... 2020 Spelling Bee contestants were lined up on stage ready to begin the competition. Five fifth graders, five sixth graders, four seventh graders and three eighth graders participated

C-a-n-n-o-n-a-d-e wins 2020 spelling bee for 8th grader

By Janice Winter

Bella Birkholtz was named the first place winner of the Staples-Motley District #2170 Spelling Bee held Feb. 20 at Centennial Auditorium in Staples. Heidi Zimmerman placed second.

Seventeen students, grades fifth through eighth qualified among their classmates to compete. In the first round, one student fell short of a correct spelling; rounds two and three each lost one. Round three was followed by a first-ever bathroom break. Students remaining on stage were

able to also have a stretch break.

Competition heated up in the fifth round with three eliminations and six and seven found one each misspelling, tripping on words like shingles, refrain, museum and parcel. Three girls and three boys continued through round 10. Of the five fifth graders, one representative remained until round 11. Round 14 began at 2:25 p.m. with two students still in the running.

In round 16 Birkholtz correctly spelled "cannonade" and was announced the winner with Zimmerman in second place. Both

will represent Staples-Motley at the regional Spelling Bee to be held at Sourcewell in Staples on March 25.

Kevin Olsen was the pronouncer; judges were Cindy Klein, Angela Johnson and Debbie Ferdon.

Alternate spelling bee participants were Macy Knudson, Jessica Lundquist, Mariah Sullivan, Gavin Cowles, Isabel Cole and Gavin Stevens.



Top two

Bella Birkholtz and Heidi Zimmerman.

Right: The 2020 Staples-Motley Spelling Bee participants received their medals following competition held Feb. 20 at Centennial Auditorium.

Front row, left to right: Kiya Pope, Chloe Trantina, Heidi Zimmerman (second), Bella Birkholtz (first), Emalee Dobson, Katelyn Schotzko, Tristan Harvey, Emmet Djuren. Back: Ceci Moe, Richard Page, James Hite, Ruby Thoe, Eli Rutten, Logan Robben, Bradyn Smith, Skylar Self, Carter Sarbaum.

Medals for all spelling bee participants



Benefits of conservation planning

From Todd County NRCS

A good conservation plan is like a road map. It will tell you where you are at, where you would like to be, and how to get there in an economically and ecologically sound manner.

A conservation plan identifies concerns and objectives for your land by inventorying and analyzing resources on it. Alternatives are discussed, and you decide what plan best fits your land and goals. From this plan you decide when, how, and what to implement.

The best part about a conservation plan is it is provided, free of charge, by technical staff from your local Todd SWCD and USDA-NRCS offices knowledgeable about resources such as soil, water, air, plants, and animals. In addition, financial assistance is available through USDA Farm Bill programs and local, state, and federal grants available to help you improve your land.

If you own or manage

land in Todd County you may be wondering if managing for profitability or conservation are mutually exclusive; they are not. The synergistic effects of conservation on your land will usually spill over to improved productivity and profitability along with benefits to your surrounding neighbors, community, and society. An overall benefit to implementing your conservation plan is increased soil health that stems from these synergistic effects related but not limited to reduced soil erosion, improved water

infiltration, less runoff of sediment, nutrients, and chemicals, lower air quality concerns, increased organic matter, and improved crop production and livestock performance and health.

To get a conservation plan or to update a current one for your land or farm stop into the Todd SWCD or NRCS office. You can also call our office at 320-732-2644 or 320-732-6618 for additional information.

EXPERIENCE THE RAM ADVANTAGE
A one stop shop for all your project needs

STAR metal sales
RAM BUILDINGS INC.

(320) 485-2844
rambuildings.com

Call Now To Get
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WE'RE HIRING!

Citizens Alliance Bank is seeking applicants for the following positions:

- Loan Officer - Lake Lillian
- Operations Lead II - Howard Lake
- Teller I - Howard Lake
- Loan Admin Clerk I - Granite Falls
- Teller/Personal Banker I - Clara City

To view our job posting or [Apply Online](#) please visit:
citizensalliancebank.com/careers

Citizens Alliance Bank is an EEOC of Protected Veterans & Individuals with Disabilities

CITIZENS ALLIANCE BANK
Customer Driven. Community Focused.®

Help Us Build Strong Communities.

As a family owned company, Duinick, Inc. understands that people come first. We hire the best in the field and we are committed to providing our employees with opportunities to grow in their jobs. We believe in supporting the communities we serve, investing in people, and living our values every day.

If you're ready to help us build stronger communities and join a world-class company that feels like family, apply today.

JUST SOME OF THE CURRENT OPENINGS AT DUINICK, INC.

ASPHALT / PAVING:

- Superintendent
- Crew Lead
- Plant Oiler
- Plant Technician
- Loader / Dozer Operator
- Screed Operator
- Utility Operator
- Laborer

UNDERGROUND:

- Crew Lead
- Pipelayer
- Topman

GRADING:

- Crew Lead
- Excavator Operator
- Utility Operator

BRIDGE:

- Crew Lead
- Carpenter/Laborer/Welder

TRUCKING:

- Semi/Tri-Dump/Tandem/Lowboy & Side Dump Drivers

These jobs and many more await you! Check out all of our positions at duinick.com

Contact us to learn more about opportunities to join our team

phone **320-978-6011** web duinick.com

DUINICK

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NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE 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: April 12, 2017

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$122,550.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Jacob Meyer, a single man

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for United Wholesale Mortgage

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on April 13, 2017 as Document Number 503546 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper by assignment recorded on December 17, 2019 as Document Number A517474 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The North Half of the South Half of the Northwest Quarter (N1/2 S1/2 NW1/4) of Section Twenty-three (23), Township One Hundred Thirty-one (131) North, Range Thirty-four (34) West of the Fifth P.M., according to the United States Government Survey thereof, Todd County, Minnesota.

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 35614 205TH AVE, CLARISSA, MN 56440

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

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$121,773.47

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: United Wholesale Mortgage

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 07-0027201

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 100032412170200270

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: April 16, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

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 twelve (12) 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 16, 2021.

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: February 24, 2020

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC D/B/A MR. COOPER Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Michael Van Muelken, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(19-1521-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

MOOSE LAKE TOWNSHIP 2020 ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

Moose Lake Township will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at the Leader Community Hall.

The township is now accepting bids for road maintenance and cemetery maintenance. Please send bids to:

Moose Lake Township Clerk, 5335 51st Ave. SW, Pine River, MN 56474.

In case of inclement weather, the alternate meeting date will be Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at the Leader Community Hall.

Karen Roubal, Clerk

NOTICE MAY TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING

May Township will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the May Township Hall.

In case of bad weather, the annual meeting will be held the following Tuesday, March 17, 2020, same time and place.

Bianca Wyffels, Clerk
May Township

NOTICE FAWN LAKE TOWNSHIP ELECTION AND ANNUAL MEETING

The Fawn Lake Township will hold an election for the following Township offices:

One (1) Supervisor for a two (2) year term

One (1) Supervisor for a (3) year term

One (1) Clerk for a two (2) year term

The election will be held at the Town Hall on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m.

The annual meeting will follow the Board of Canvass.

In case of inclement weather, all events will take place on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at the same given times as above.

Questions please call the clerk at 218-531-0287.

Kelly Miller, Clerk
Fawn Lake Township

PUBLIC NOTICE TODD COUNTY AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS) 2020 RFP

Todd County is the recipient of County Program Aid grant funds for Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) prevention from the state of Minnesota as a result of 2014 Session Law Chapter 308. It is anticipated this will be an ongoing aid program, dependent on decisions by the Legislature. The purpose of these funds is to "prevent the introduction or limit the spread of aquatic invasive species at all the access sites within the county" (MN Statutes 477A.19).

The purpose of this RFP is to facilitate the disbursement of these funds to parties interested in conducting work to facilitate this purpose.

Todd County is soliciting Local Government Units (LGU) and/or private businesses for proposals for the Todd County AIS Program in 2020. The details of this RFP can be found on the Todd County website:

<https://www.co.todd.mn.us/divisions/soil-water-conservation-and-development/aquatic-invasive-species/>

or, contact the Todd County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) at 320-732-2644. Applications are due March 27, 2020.

NOTICE MORAN TOWNSHIP MEETING AND ANNUAL ELECTION

The March monthly meeting will be moved to Monday March 2, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The regular agenda will be followed.

NOTICE: is hereby given to the qualified voters of Moran Township, County of Todd, that the Annual Election of Town Officers and Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at the town hall. The meeting will commence at 3:00 p.m. to conduct all necessary business prescribed by law.

In case of inclement weather, the meeting and election may be postponed to March 17, 2020.

The election polls will be open from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at which time the voters will elect:

One (1) Supervisor for a three (3) year term and

One (1) Clerk for a two (2) year term.

The Board of Canvass will be held at 8:00 p.m.

Teresa Wagner, Clerk
Moran Township

NOTICE BARTLETT TOWNSHIP ELECTIONS AND ANNUAL MEETING

Notice of change of March 2020 meeting date

The Bartlett Township election and annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at the Town Hall. The polling hours are from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Officers to be voted on are:

One (1) Supervisor

One (1) Clerk

Board of Canvass will meet after polls close.

The Annual Meeting will be held following the election at 8:15 p.m.

Inclement weather alternate date will be Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at the same location and time.

NOTICE is hereby given that the regular scheduled Bartlett Township meeting for March has been changed to Thursday, March 19, 2020 at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Jan Jares, Clerk
Bartlett Township

NOTICE STAPLES TOWNSHIP ELECTION AND ANNUAL MEETING

The Staples Township Election and Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at the Staples Town Hall. The Polling Hours are 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Positions to be filled are:

One (1) supervisor; three (3) year term;

One (1) Clerk, two (2) year term.

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

In case of inclement weather, the election and Annual meeting will be held one week later on Tuesday, March 17, 2020.

Bonnie Thoele, Clerk
Staples Township

NOTICE TODD-WADENA COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Notice to the Public: on Wednesday, March 11, 2020 from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., Todd-Wadena Community Corrections will hold an informational meeting at Lakewood Health System, 49725 County 83, Staples, MN. The purpose of the meeting is to provide information about the services and programming provided by Todd-Wadena Community Corrections.

Curtis Bryniarski
Administrative Assistant

NOTICE OF PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION PRIMARY ELECTION

To the Electors of the Township of Villard, in the County of Todd, State of Minnesota:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That a Presidential Nomination Primary Election will be held in the Election Precinct of Villard Township at: Township Hall 31337 County 28 on Tuesday, the Third (3rd) day of March, 2020, at which time the polls will be open from the hours of 7:00 o'clock a.m. to the hour of eight (8) o'clock p.m. for the purpose of nominating candidates for the following offices specified below, to wit:

FEDERAL OFFICES
United States President (4 year term).

Dated January 29, 2020

Mary Trantina Koenig, Clerk
Villard Township

NOTICE TODD COUNTY SEPTIC SYSTEM REPLACEMENT INITIATIVE PROGRAM

The purpose of this notice is to advise the public that the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency staff has reviewed the proposed Todd County Septic System Replacement Initiative Program project and has determined that the preparation of an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) is not mandatory. A preliminary determination has been made that no significant environmental impacts are anticipated.

The Todd County Septic System Replacement Initiative project has been awarded a loan under the Minnesota Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund and is, therefore, subject to the State environmental review process. Subsurface sewage treatment system upgrades or replacements within this project will be in accordance with Minn. R. ch. 7080, which provides the minimum standards and criteria for design, location, installation, use, and maintenance of subsurface sewage treatment systems.

If you have questions, comments, or desire additional information about the project, please contact MPCA Project Manager Anna Bosch at Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 7678 College Rd., Ste. 105 Baxter, MN 56425. Anna Bosch can also be reached by phone 218-316-3929. Comments must be received within two weeks of publication of this notice in order to be accepted. Use your preferred relay service.

Your interest in Minnesota's environment is appreciated.

Brian McCann
Todd County Planning and Zoning

NOTICE POPLAR TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING

The Poplar Town Board will hold its Annual Meeting on Tuesday, March 20, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. in the Leader Community Hall. The regular meeting is to follow the annual meeting and the regular agenda will be followed.

Sue Peet, Clerk
Poplar Township

NOTICE ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS PROJECT: TODD COUNTY EXPO BUILDING 2ND AVENUE NE and 9TH STREET NE, LONG PRAIRIE, MN 56347

Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting: February 18, 2020 2:00 p.m. local time at the project site

Bids Close: March 10, 2020, 1:00 p.m. local time

Bid Location: Todd County
215 1st Avenue South Suite 300
Long Prairie, MN 56347
Phone: 320-732-6447

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS - Contractor's sealed proposals for furnishing work and materials for the remodeling of the Todd County Expo Building Long Prairie, Minnesota, a project including General, Mechanical and Electrical Construction will be received by the Architect, at the above-mentioned time and place in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by Ringdahl Architects, Inc.

Prime Bidders Bids will be received as follows: Combined bid including general, mechanical and electrical work.

Bids received after deadline will be returned unopened.

Bids will be opened publicly immediately after time of receiving bids.

Envelopes containing bids must be sealed, marked in the lower left-hand corner "Todd County Expo Building" and with the name and address of the bidder and the date and hour of the opening and addressed to:

Todd County
215 1st Avenue South Suite 300
Long Prairie, MN 56347

Faxed bids are not acceptable. Each bidder must accompany his proposal with a cash deposit, bid bond or certified check (on a responsible bank in the State of Minnesota) equal to five percent (5%) of the amount of the proposal payable without conditions to the owner as guarantee of prompt execution of the contract in accordance with the proposal and contract documents, and that he will furnish bond acceptable to the owner covering performance of the contract.

Copies of the plans, specifications and other contract documents are on file in the following offices and are available for public inspection: Ringdahl Architects, Inc.; the Builders Exchanges of Alexandria, Minneapolis, St. Paul, St. Cloud, Willmar and Fargo-Moorhead.

Project documents will be available at <http://www.questcdn.com>. You may download the complete set of digital bidding documents, for \$25 by entering eBidDoc TM #6695781 on the "Search Projects" page. Please contact QuestCDN.com at 952-233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in downloading and working with this digital project information. Bids may not be withdrawn for thirty (30) days after the scheduled closing time for receiving bids. The owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any irregularities in bids without explanation.

Todd County
Chris Pelzer,
County Coordinator
Long Prairie, Minnesota

CASS COUNTY NOTICE OF PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION PRIMARY

Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 207A.11, a Presidential Nomination Primary will be held on March 3, 2020, in the State of Minnesota, the County of Cass.

Nomination primary voters must request the ballot of the major political party for whose candidate the individual wishes to vote. Polling place election judges must record in the polling place roster the name of the major political party whose ballot the voter requested. The county auditor must include the name of the major political party whose ballot the voter requested with the voting history of the nomination primary election.

The major political party ballot selected by a nomination primary voter is private data, except that it will be shared with the chairs of the major political parties in the State of Minnesota.

Polling place locations and hours of voting are as follows:

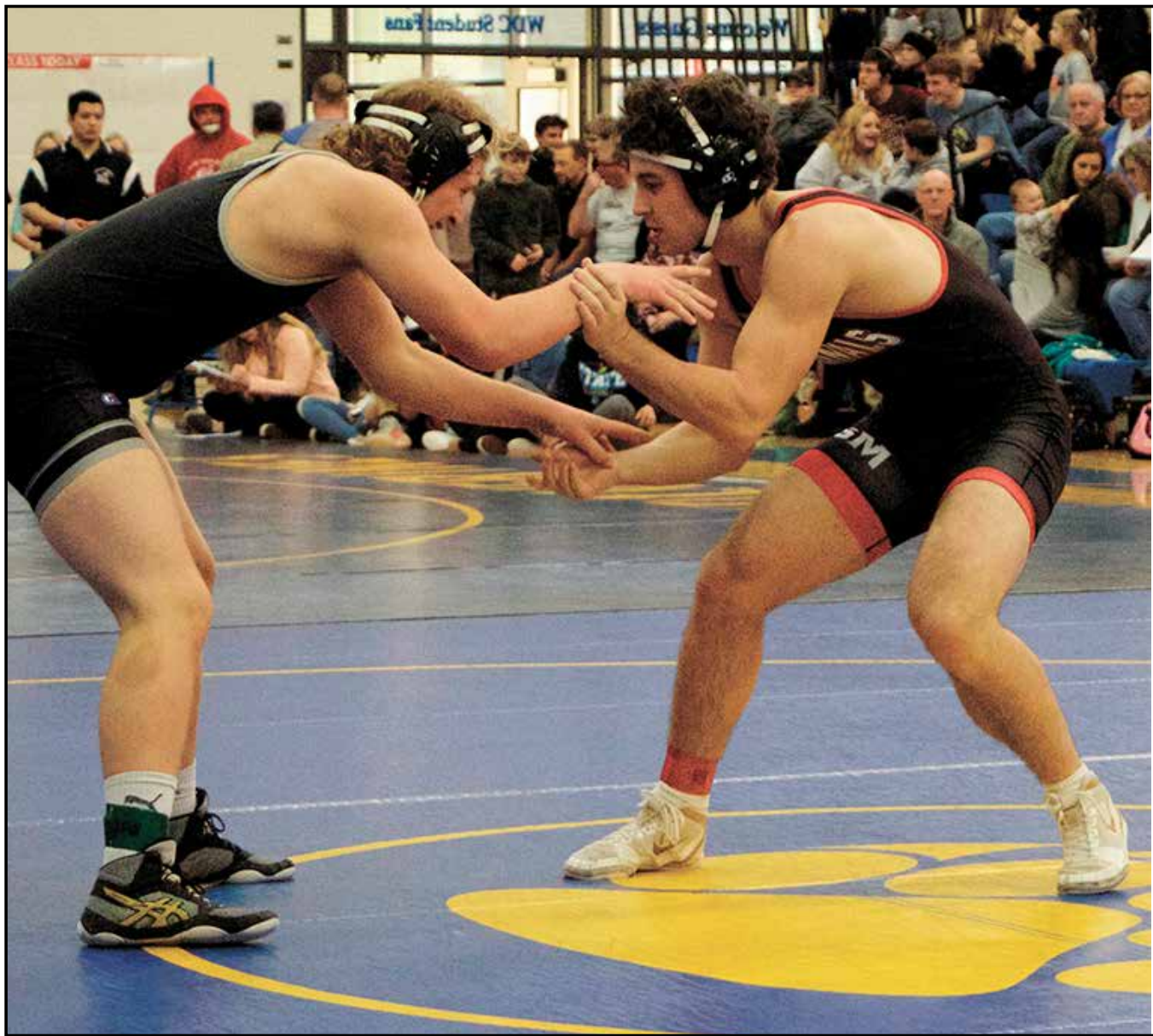
PRECINCT	POLLING PLACE	HOURS	PRECINCT	POLLING PLACE	HOURS
Townships			Shingobee Precinct 2	Turtle Lake Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Bungo	Town Hall	10 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Sylvan	Sylvan Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Crooked Lake	Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Trelpie	Town Hall	10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Fairview	Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Turtle Lake	Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Hiram	Hackensack Community Ctr	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Wabedo	Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Kego	Longville Fire Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Wilkinson	Town Hall	10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Leech Lake	Town Hall	10 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Woodrow	Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Maple	Town Hall	8 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Cities		
May	Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Cass Lake	City Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.
McKinley	Town Hall	10 a.m. – 8 p.m.	East Gull Lake	City Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Pike Bay	Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Hackensack	Hackensack Community Ctr	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Pine River	Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Lake Shore	City Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Ponto Lake	Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Pillager	City Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Powers	Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Pine River	City Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Shingobee Precinct 1	Town Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Walker	Walker Fire Hall	7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

MAIL BALLOT PRECINCTS			
Ansel Township	Bull Moose Township	Loon Lake Township	Salem Township
Backus	Byron Township	Meadow Brook Township	Slater Township
Barclay Township	Chickamaw Beach	Moose Lake Township	Smoky Hollow Township
Becker Township	Deerfield Township	Motley-part in Cass County only	Sucker Lakes Unorg.
Bena	Federal Dam	Ottertail Peninsula Township	Torrey Township
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Birch Lake Township	Hardwood South Unorg.	Poplar Township	Wahnena Unorg.
Blind Lake Township	Homebrook Township	Remer	Walden Township
Boy Lake Township	Ingudona Township	Remer Township	Willow River Unorg.
Boy River	Lima Township	Rogers Point Unorg.	Wilson Township
Boy River Township	Longville	Rogers Township	Winnie Portage Unorg.

At which places all qualified electors residing in their respective townships or cities may cast their ballots. All pre-registered voters in mail ballot precincts will receive ballots by mail. The polling place on election day for mail ballot precincts for voters not pre-registered is the office of the Cass County Auditor-Treasurer, Courthouse, Walker, Minnesota, and other designated locations from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Non-registered voters in mail ballot precincts may register and apply for an absentee ballot in advance. Sample ballots are available online at mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us, and are posted at each poll on election day. For more information, visit www.co.cass.mn.us, or call 218-547-7295.



See NOTICES on page 9a



Section wrestling action

Emmitt Winkels, right, lines up his opponent in the section meet. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Another win as hoops season winds down

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team won their third out of four games by beating Bagley 63-47 on Feb. 18, but then finished the week with losses at Parkers Prairie, 66-41, and Aitkin, 66-37.

Against Bagley, a low scoring first half found Staples-Motley ahead 19-15. "We knew 19 points in the second half was probably not going to cut it," said Coach Nick Doll. "We were able to turn them over and hit a few shots in the second half."

The Cardinals shot 18-26 from the line, as Bagley fouled to try and get back in the game. The 44 second-half points was the most in a half this season. "It was a really great team effort with eight different players scoring," said Doll. "It was our second win over a section opponent, which is nice to see." It was the fifth win of the season.

Against Parkers Prairie, Staples-Motley fell behind early. "We shot poorly from the field and the foul line," said Doll. "It was not our night."

Parkers Prairie has 20 wins this season, but Doll said the team felt they could have played with them.

The next night against Aitkin, the Cardinals were within two early at 14-12, but an Aitkin run created a gap that they never recovered from. The defense allowed two Aitkin players to score 20 points each.

The Cardinals finish the regular season this week with a game at St. John's Prep on Feb. 24 and a home game with Long Prairie-Grey Eagle on Thursday, Feb. 27. Playoffs will start Monday, March 2.

Team results

Staples-Motley 63, Bagley 47
Scoring: Isaiah Schultz 14, Sivert Klefsaas 14, Issac Kronenberg 10, Ben Olander 8, Max Strickland 5, Adam Oberlander 5, Izaiah DeMars 5, Ryan Wick 2

Staples-Motley 41, Parkers Prairie 66
Scoring: Klefsaas 11, Strickland 7, Schultz 6, DeMars 4, Tanner Robben 3, Olander 2, Dom Gomez 2, Chandler Braith 2

Staples-Motley 37, Aitkin 66
Scoring: Klefsaas 9, Olander 5, Strickland 4, Wick 4, Oberlander 4, Kronenberg 2, Braith 2

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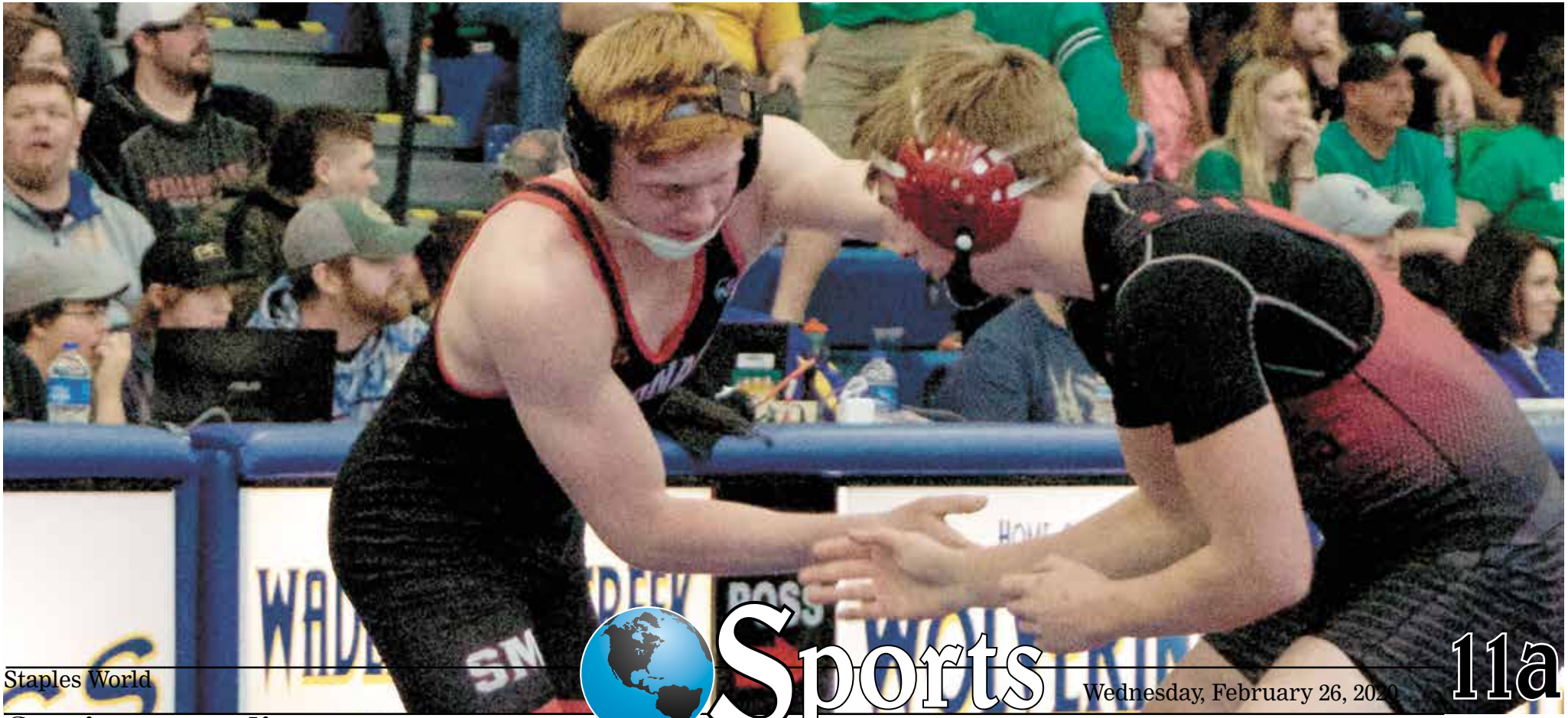
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Staples World

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

Section wrestling (Photo by Mark Anderson)

Owen Bjerga stalks an opponent at the section tournament.

Bjerga pins out section, four more Cardinals place

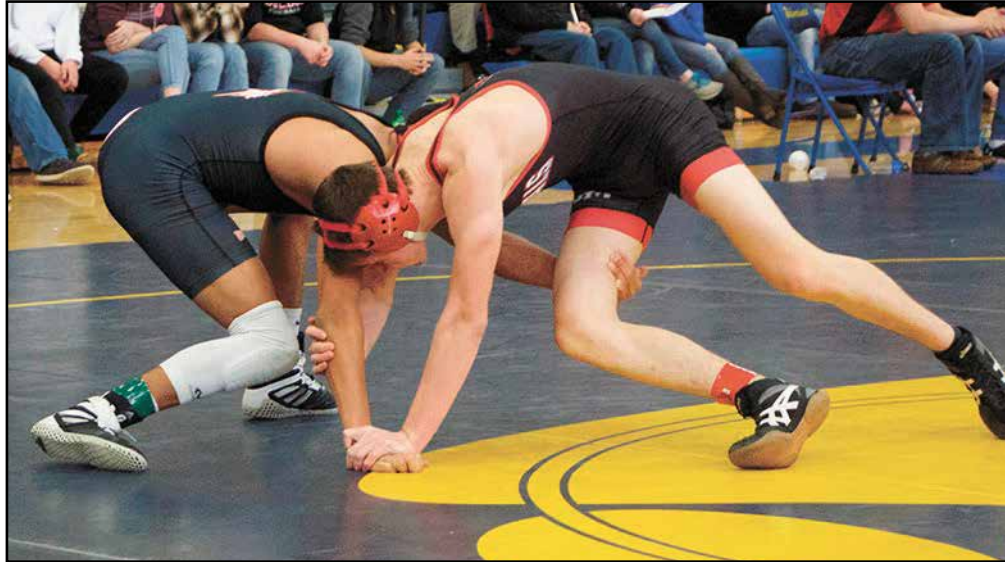
By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Owen Bjerga breezed through the Section 6A wrestling tournament Feb. 22, scoring three first period pins to earn a trip to the state tournament. Four other Staples-Motley wrestlers brought home medals, Logen Weite and Cole Winkels in 4th place, Will Danilyuk fifth, and Emmitt Winkels 6th. Bjerga will wrestle in the state 160 pound weight class starting Friday, Feb. 28, at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul. Although state brackets are not out yet, he will likely be the top seed after finishing second at the same weight last year. “It just shows that he has put in the extra work, effort, and that he is determined and resilient to take it to the next level this weekend,” said Coach Mark Carlson. “I want to thank Owen for his leadership and being a role model to these young guys by demonstrating a tremendous work ethic, and the fact that it pays off to put in the extra time and effort.

Owen has had a positive outlook and attitude, and he comes ready to compete and practice every day.” Bjerga is one of three seniors on the team. “I also want to thank seniors Emmitt Winkels and Gilberto Terrones for their contributions,” said Carlson. “Emmitt joined wrestling just this year. He has been a pleasure to have in the wrestling room and has had a great impact. I hope wrestling made an impact on him as well. Gilberto had some tough luck with battling a knee injury and not being able to compete as much as we desired, but Gilberto has been a solid teammate and has elevated the efforts in the practice room with his energy level when he was healthy.” “We have eight guys who are returning next year and gained valuable experience at the section meet,” said Carlson. “We have quite a few guys right there, close to advancing to state, and with some off-season dedication to strength training and improving technique, they will have that chance in the future.

Our motto is to improve and get one percent better every day in all that we do.” The returners will form the core of next year’s team and will be joined by several young wrestlers ready to move up and fill some of the lower weights. “The rebuild is in full swing as far as numbers and talent, and it’s exciting to see what the future will bring, next year and in the long term,” said Carlson. The Staples-Motley wrestling team was recognized by the Minnesota Wrestling Coaches Association with Academic Team All-State Silver Award.

Team results
Section 6A individual tournament
106 Aidan Winter 1-2
113 Jason Trantina 0-2
120 Rafael Caudillo 0-2
126 Dalton Wells 1-2
138 Will Danilyuk 2-2, 5th place
145 Logen Weite 2-2, 4th place
160 Owen Bjerga 3-0, 1st place
170 Alex Giza 0-2
195 Emmitt Winkels 0-3, 6th place
HWT Cole Winkels 2-2, 4th place



Locking horns

Will Danilyuk enters a scramble with an opponent in the section meet.



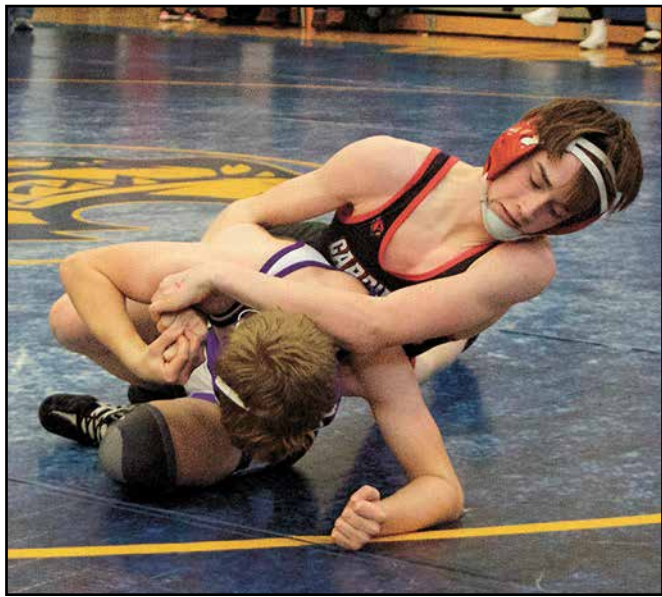
Logen Weite reaches out to trip his opponent.



Owen Bjerga uses the cradle



Aidan Winter holds on for back points.



Dalton Wells gains leverage to turn his man.



Battling in the playoff game

Pictured above left, Kaitlyn Smith takes the contact as she scores under the basket. Right, Alix Peterson scram-

bles after a loose ball. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Cardinals fall in first round of playoffs

The Staples-Motley girls basketball team lost 63-45 at Wadena-Deer Creek in the first round of the Section 8AA playoffs on Feb. 21. The Cardinals also lost to Sauk Rapids-Rice 69-42 on Feb. 17. The Cardinals fell behind 8-0 early, and traded baskets for most of the first half, until W-DC made some three pointers late in the half to stretch the lead to 18. Elizabeth Danilyuk kept the Cardinals in the game by scoring three baskets in the first half. Alix Peterson set the tone early in the second half with a driving basket, which was followed by Kaitlyn Smith and Kaila Erbe scoring on drives. That opened room for Smith to

make a three pointer, the team’s first three of the game. The second half run sparked the Cardinal offense to put up more points, but the scoring margin stayed the same as W-DC countered every run. Staples-Motley shot well from the free throw line, making 12 of 16, but they only had two of those free throws in the first half when the score was still close.

Team results
Section 8AA playoffs
Staples-Motley 45,
Wadena-Deer Creek 63
Scoring: Kaitlyn Smith 11, Elizabeth Danilyuk 11, Lauren Ruttan 6, Alix Peterson 5, Haley Cichos 4, Kaila Erbe 4, Tabetha Allen 4



Haley Cichos



Creating space

Elizabeth Danilyuk looks to pass to a teammate.

My day at Ski Gull



Elliot Allen and Owen Carlson

By Skyla Tepley, grade 6

When my bus got to Ski Gull there were hills hovering over me. I went inside and got my stuff on. My group and I went outside and waited for an instructor. He taught us how to get our skis on and we moved around. The hard part was getting up a tiny hill. My group and I worked on stopping and turning in our wedge. When they said we were good at stopping and turning we would move

on and go to the big hills. We went on the ski lift, and when I went by the poles that hold the ski lift up it squeaked and it was scary. When the person that ran it would stop the ski lift the seat that we sat on would shake, but the cool part about it is that people could ski under the ski lift. When we went to eat lunch in the chalet the taste of the food and the drinks warmed me up. We went back out and skied some more. It was a great day!



Jorja Kobliska and Maddie Bartle

A day of cold and fun at Ski Gull

By Audrey Brownell, grade 6

One Friday it was like no other, it was a Friday at Ski Gull! I've never been skiing before so I was a little nervous. I was walking out of the chalet when the sun hit me like light two bulbs straight in my eyes. When I got to the top of the first hill, all I could see was snow falling from the cold, gray sky. The wind was cold on my cheeks. Every time I would get snow in my mouth it would melt like chocolate. I was going down the last hill of the day when I kept picking up speed and I couldn't stop. I quickly thought about all I learned that day, and my instincts kicked in... I stopped!

SM speech team blazing trail to another great season

By Laken Hines, grade 7

The Staples-Motley speech team is on a roll this season. After placing second in the early bird Pequot Lakes meet and second in the Little Falls meet, they went on to place first in the Minnewaska meet as first time participants, and first at their home meet! As the team keeps pursuing their chosen categories, they are hopeful that their fellow members would make it to the state competition. The team already has a state champion from last

year: Jonah Johnson, the winner in the category "Creative Expressions."

The speech team has a few more meets to go until the subsections and sections competitions, which determine who goes to state. But none of this could have been possible without the amazing coaches Brian and Heather Sams. They are always giving tips and trying to fine tune everybody's speeches so they can be the best that they can be. The Staples-Motley speech team's next tournament is in Brainerd. Let's hope they CRUSH IT!

Opinion

Pledge of Allegiance

By Bel Birkholtz, grade 8

The Staples Motley Middle/High School does not say the Pledge of Allegiance. The last time I remember saying it together as a school was the 2011-2012 school year (kindergarten). After that it was at the discretion of the individual teacher.

I have been informed that the school board recites it before each meeting. So why does our school board, the head of our school, the ones that make most of our decisions, say it when they gather but not us students?

I think we should still say it as a school for many reasons. "It's important to honor our country, how you do it is up to debate," says Middle School Principal John Regan. The Pledge of Allegiance is a very great way to honor our country. The elementary students still say it together each morning which leads me to believe it is a time issue. It only takes one minute to recite. We could do it for one minute at the beginning of first hour each day. We have 170 school days. It could be said, that's about 3 hours of learn-



ing lost. Although - are we really learning anything in that one minute at the beginning of class each day anyway? On the opposite end of the spectrum, that is 3 hours spent honoring our country and paying our respects to those who lost their lives keeping us free. Those who lost their lives allowing us to be here learning each day.

There have been many debates about reciting the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools around the country, but I believe if a student or staff member does not agree with it they can simply not take part. They don't have to stand, and they certainly don't have to recite it. It is their choice. I have asked numerous students and staff about this matter and many of them believe it would be a good addition to our school day. It brings us together as

a school. Even with the high school and middle school in the same building we are still very separated. Reciting the Pledge over the loudspeaker in the morning would be a great way to come together as one.

The reason people say the Pledge of Allegiance is because it is a way to honor our country and those who lost their lives fighting for us. While the Pledge is not directly addressing those who fought, it does however stand for freedom, which would not be possible without the people who fought for our country. Honoring our veterans is very important to many students and staff in our building for they have loved ones or people they know who have served our country in the military. I also believe it is a great way to ease into the school day. What better way to start your day than with the Pledge of Allegiance? The Pledge of Allegiance is very much related to the birth of our great country. So one would have to wonder, does pulling away from our roots and history really benefit us as a nation?

Be Yourself

By Zianaa Longie, grade 8

To be a remarkable person, you need to face your fears, be open, and be yourself. I believe that facing your fears would be something everybody should do. If you don't face your fears, you won't get anything done or accomplished. People often say, "Oh, I wish I could have done that" or "I wish I wasn't so afraid to do it." Instead of saying those things, face your fears and do it! Being open is another key to happiness. If you aren't open, you're going to have a lot of regrets. You're also not going to have as many friends. You won't be able to express your opinions because you are too afraid of what people might say to you. Maybe you're shy and being open is hard for you; remember to take baby steps until you feel ready and comfortable. Being yourself is what everybody should do. It makes you feel confident and makes you a happier person than trying to be someone you're not. What are you going to do with life when you are too caught up on being someone you're not? The time is going to fly right past you and you won't even realize it until it's gone. Being someone you're not is very stressful and could impact your life dramatically. What I find remarkable about myself is that I am bold about certain things, and I am really bold with others. I want people to remember my sense of humor. I want to be remembered as being a funny but sarcastic person, and I also want people to remember me by always being a shoulder to lean on.

Student art



From left, Paper Mache Mask - Plague, by Logan Samborski, 7th; Lively Les Paul, AJ Nienow, 8th; Calming Waters, by Ashlyn Vogel, 8th

Editorial

5 reasons why middle school students shouldn't "date"

By Cami Anderson, grade 8

Most all relationships in middle school end badly. I am going to list off a couple reasons why you shouldn't "date" in middle school.

Reason 1: "It distracts you from your academics," says Mrs. Vangsness. Mrs. Vangsness is a 7th grade social studies teacher at Staples-Motley Middle School. She must notice a difference in her students' work ethics when they are in a relationship. If you're involved in a relationship it's pretty much all you think about. You focus so much on keeping your relationship going and keeping the other person happy, you fall behind in your school-work. It is important to get good grades and do well in school, so you can get a good job and be successful in life. Then once that happens you can focus on finding someone and maintaining a good solid relationship that could possibly end in marriage.

Reason 2: You "date" to get married. If you are in middle school and dating someone are you really telling me you want to get married in a couple years? If you want to date for a while then get married just wait. It's not bad if you wait, you don't have to have someone all the time. You still have your friends and let me tell you, you need them.

Reason 3: It's okay to be friends and it's okay to wait. Being friends before starting a relationship is a great idea. If you're friends before you know each other better and you will know if you could possibly be good together. I challenge you to get to know the other person before starting a relationship. If the relationship doesn't work out or you can tell it won't work out in the end then just be friends. If you are dating someone or like someone it's okay to wait until you're both ready and you both know each other pretty well before you start something. If you're dating someone now and it's going too fast or you're uncomfortable with



something just slow down, just be friends. If you get friend zoned or someone doesn't like you back, just suck it up. Be friends and if you see in a couple years that you like each other and are ready, then try.

Reason 4: Dating in middle school is not dating at all. Dating is taking someone somewhere, getting to know them, spending time with them, talking to them, and the end goal is marriage. In middle school it's basically walking with each other in the hall, hugging before going to class, giving the other person your scrunchie or sweatshirt, texting 24-7, having your parents take you to Burger King while they sit in a booth, and you are in your own booth with your girlfriend/boyfriend on a "date." That's not dating if you ask me. Just hang out as friends, just go somewhere with your other friends and have a good time.

Reason 5. What happens when you break up? If you break up, you feel like you are not good enough. Then you get to watch as they find someone new then start dating them. You feel terrible and you don't want to do anything. You sit around listening to sad songs, watching sad movies, and eating. If you were just friends in the first place this wouldn't have happened. Not to mention middle schoolers act like if they liked someone and it didn't work out in the end they act like they can't even talk to them. If something goes wrong just try to forgive them and try to be friends.

Think about it, would you rather be so stuck on one person that is obviously not the one for you, that treats you badly and doesn't want you for who you are. Or do you want to wait for the perfect person to come along and actually love you for who you are, who will care for you, and treats you like you deserve to be treated. You just have to be patient and that special someone will come.

Picture found at <http://texannews.net/student-faculty-relationships-now-prohibited-at-tarleton/>

Student art



From left, Monarch by Brooke Hansen, 8th; Lily the Cow by Gabe Koval, 8th.

Poetry

"Unexpected Goodbye"

By Addisyn Cichos, grade 8

Sometimes life can flip like a switch
That's when I realize
I'm lying in a ditch
It took me by surprise
I couldn't even think
I'm lying here not able to move or blink
As my soul ascended into the sky
It was hard to say my last goodbye
I felt very alone but very free
The pain is no longer here with me
I can see my parents from way above
While I'm getting guidance from a dove
Goodbye to my family and friends
I'm sorry this is the way it ends



MARCH 2020 District Happenings

Day	Event	Location
1	Swing Kings Baseball Clinic	HS Gym South
3	High School Blood Drive	HS Main Gym
	Elementary Spring Pictures	Elementary School
4	Senior Signing Day	HS Main Gym
	Knowledge Bowl: Varsity Meet	CLC Staples
5	Knowledge Bowl: MS Meet	CLC Staples
6	Polar Plunge	Breezy Point
8	Swing Kings Baseball Clinic	HS Gym South
11	Cardinal Chat	Elementary Office
11-14	State Girls Basketball Tournament	Target Center/Williams Arena
13	NO SCHOOL	
	ECFE Jumpin' in the Gym	S-M Early Education Center
	MS Play 7:00pm	HS Centennial Auditorium
14	MS Play 2:00pm	HS Centennial Auditorium
15	FFA Chapter Banquet	High School
	Swing Kings Baseball Clinic	HS Gym South
16	HS Choir Concert	HS Centennial Auditorium
18	Realty Store	HS Gym South
18-21	State Boys Basketball Tournament	Target Center/Williams Arena
24	ACT Testing for juniors & seniors	Sourcewell
	NCRC Testing for Seniors	HS Centennial Auditorium
25	Region Spelling Bee	Sourcewell
	Subsection Vocal Large Group Contest	New York Mills
26	Early Childhood Enrollment Night	S-M Early Education Center
27	2 HR EARLY DISMISSAL	
30	MCA Reading Testing grades 5-8, 10	High School

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