

Affordability a roadblock to new school

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

Most residents of the Staples-Motley school district want to build a new school, and they strongly support public education, but a majority of them feel they can't afford the amount required to build a one site K-12 building.

Those were some of the results of the school survey released at a special meeting of the Staples-Motley School Board on Dec. 20.

As a result, facility planning company Nexus Solutions is recommending that the board return to a two school solution that can be built for a price that is acceptable and affordable to the public.

The meeting started

with surveyor Peter Levin telling about the telephone survey of more than 600 people in the school district, which he described as a four percent margin of error for this size of a school district. The calls were dispersed geographically according to the population in the district, but Levin said the geography didn't factor into the final results, as percentages on most questions were consistent throughout the district.

The public responded favorably to questions about quality of education in the district and whether the schools currently spend money effectively and efficiently. Levin said one concern was although 82 percent of the district felt the quality of the schools was good or excellent, the 15 percent of "excellent" responses was lower than the state norm.

"A shift of enthusiasm would help with how people feel about the district," said Levin.

Ratings for the school board, superintendent, principals and teachers were overall positive and near the state norm. Another question confirmed that a majority of residents believe the quality of the school is improving or is the same. "Compared to the rest of the state, it is fairly strong that the school is moving in the right direction," said Levin.

Without mentioning a specific school building project, 63 percent of the public agreed that the schools are a good investment and they would support a tax increase for the school. Around 29 percent disagreed with that statement, which Levin said is slightly below the state norm, so there is less

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"Miracle on Bethlehem Street" presented by SHAS

Students at Sacred Heart Area School presented the Christmas Musical "Miracle on Bethlehem Street" Dec. 19. The opening featured all students singing "Bethlehem is Busy" with musical direction by Michael Rohr.

Below: Innkeepers, including Benjamin (Eli Rutten), want to capitalize on the incoming crowds by making the inn a luxury inn that may be too expensive.

Below: Renaming the inn to something fancier was not in the cards... B-B-B-B.

Right: With all rooms taken at the inn, a servant

(Avery Japke) showed a young couple where they could rest. The baby is finally revealed as shepherds, kings, angels and the innkeeper welcome the newborn king. The program was directed by RoAnn Trout. (Staples World photos by Janice Winter)



Hello, Readers,

The history of blood donation goes back further than you might expect, reaching as far back as the 17th century. The medical specialists of the time knew that blood was a vital element in the body and losing too much of it was bound to have tragic consequences on the patient. So it was that experimentation began, and a whole new breed of heroes was born who contribute their blood so that others may live. Blood Donors save lives every day by giving of themselves so those accident victims and those in need of transfusions for surgeries can live. Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. But for the past four years, new Red Cross donors have declined by about 80,000 each year. This is not just a Red Cross trend, but a challenge blood collection organizations face across the country and around the world. To find out how you can help see redcrossblood.org.

Public Notices

Re-organizing: **3B**

Obituaries

Gloria Norton
Dayton Rosevink
Darlene Sadusky



Thank you for subscribing!

Year in review - 2018 was a year of major school decisions in the Staples World

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

At the final Staples-Motley School Board meeting of 2018, survey results showed that 38 percent of the public said their principal source of information on the school building project was the local newspaper, the top response by 18 percentage points. The public also rated the newspaper as the most effective source of information. Compared to the same survey question asked around the state, the surveyor said very few districts show that much support for the local newspaper.

Reading through the dozens of school board and school building stories from 2018, Staples World readers have been following the biggest local story of 2018.

Coverage started with the Jan. 11 issue, when the Staples World covered the school board decision to narrow facility options to either one or two buildings. The one school option was announced in the Feb. 15 issue, the first drawings were printed in May, and the decision to close the Motley building printed in September. The newspaper covered the survey and community input process, and is ending the year with one more story about the school survey and the recommendations by the consultants.

Mixed in were stories on the involvement of the



Lakewood Clinic addition opens

Jan. 11, 2018 - Lakewood Health System is ready to move into their new clinic expansion. They hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony on Jan. 5 to celebrate the end of major construction. Pictured from left are Teresa Fisher, Chief Operating Officer/Chief Nursing Officer; Loren Morey, System Board Chair; Mary Theurer, District Board Chair; and Dr. Christine Albrecht, representing Lakewood providers; cutting the ribbon to open the clinic. The clinic expansion has added 23,335 additional square feet to the building and will increase the number of patient exam rooms from 52 to 89. The addition includes new offices for doctors, going from 18 to 27 double occupancy provider offices. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

City of Staples, changing the date of the proposed referendum, and starting the search for a new school superintendent.

While the school project may have been the top story of the year, many other memorable stories appeared in the Staples World in 2018, including:

January

January 4 - NJPA Procurement Manager Chris Robinson was honored for his extraordinary support of Staff Sergeant and NJPA Procurement Lead, James Voelker. Robinson was presented with the Patriot Award, which recognizes individual supervisors and bosses for their

support to the nominating service member and his/her family.

Jan. 11 - For more than 30 years, the wilderness around Staples was Jeff Halverson's office. "I would wake up and decide what to do each day," said Halverson, who is retiring from the Minnesota DNR after 31 years of service. "I

never felt like I was going to work, it never was a job, just a lifestyle."

Jan. 18 - About four or five years ago, while doing mission work in the Copper Canyon area of Mexico, Ben Bestland of Staples was introduced to the indigenous Tarahumara people, known for their long-distance running. Inspired by the book, Ben decided to add running ultramarathons to his schedule.

Jan. 25 - The resignation of Dave Hoemberg, Staples-Motley School Board member, was accepted at the board's meeting Jan. 22.

Jan. 25 - Representatives of the City of Staples, Staples-Motley School District and Lakewood Health System agreed to work together to come up with a solution for the Staples Community Center, which will be in need of major renovation in order to continue functioning as a community center. Two other entities were willing to help out with support: National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) and Central Lakes College.

February

Feb. 1 - When New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady takes the field at the Super Bowl on Feb. 4, quite a few Minnesotans will be rooting for him because of his local roots. Bruce Hayenga of Staples is a first cousin of Brady's mother. Bruce's wife Jean

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Third grade donates to Staples Food Shelf

Instead of a Christmas party, third grade students in Jody Johnson's class at Staples-Motley Elementary school collected items to donate to the food shelf. Some of the students donated wrapped gifts. Class representatives Gage Bjerga

and Bryn Dummprope helped deliver the 121 pounds of items to the Staples Food Shelf Dec. 21, pictured above with Frank Leidenfrost. (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)



SHAS collects for food shelf

Students at Sacred Heart Area School collected items for the Staples Food Shelf, delivering them on Dec. 21. Helpers Claire Dolezal and Anthony Di-Giovanni delivered the 284 pounds of food items with second grade teacher

Abbie Detloff. In back are Dawn Adamietz, Amy Leidenfrost, Gary Knosalla and Rick Adamietz with the Staples Food Shelf. (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)

Stone accepted into FFA Alumni President's Circle

Matthew Stone was selected to participate in an FFA personal development program. The Minnesota FFA Alumni Association has created a systematic, sustainable leadership enhancement program for FFA Alumni in Minnesota. This new leadership program involves enhancing and building alumni member leadership skills which, in turn, will sustain and improve agriculture education in Minnesota.

Over the past three years, 50 FFA Alumni members have participated in the "President's Circle" leadership training program delivered by Welchlin Communication Strategies. Core training included a focus on teamwork, conflict resolution, mentor leadership and strategic planning.

Training is delivered by Kit Welchlin, who is often described as "high energy" and "entertaining." Welchlin weaves his light-hearted sense of humor and practical stories and



Leadership team

Matthew Stone, center, with leadership specialist Kit Welchlin and Minnesota FFA Alumni President Jim Burns. (Submitted photo)

strategies into his keynote presentations and seminars, whether he's speaking about how to improve customer service, stress management in the workplace, intergenerational communication or how to handle difficult people.

Stone began training in early December and will

wrap up the leadership development activities in early March. He will be recognized for commitment to personal development and interest in improving agriculture during the Minnesota FFA Alumni State Conference on Saturday, March 2, at Anoka County Technical College.

School levy increase goes back four years, budget audit clean

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

The Staples-Motley School Board approved the maximum tax levy at their Dec. 18 meeting, an increase of about 24 percent over last year.

Business Manager Chuck Herdegen of Bergen KDV said the main reason for the levy increase was that the levy was tied to bonds that were predicted to be sold but didn't get sold.

Herdegen said in his opinion the bonds should have been sold last year.

He said adjustments from the last four fiscal years are all put into this levy, one of the reasons for the large increase.

The school's budget did not have major changes, and expenses were actually under budget for last year. Superintendent Ron Bratlie said they purposely put off more than \$500,000 of building upgrades, so that money will be available for needs when the school reduces from three buildings to two next year.

Bratlie said the school started with projection of \$1 million deficit, and now has "basically a balanced budget," he said.

The board unanimously approved the new tax levy.

That vote followed a review of the annual audit, presented by Mary Reedy of Clifton Larson Allen accounting.

Reedy said the school had a "clean opinion," the highest level for the audit. There were a few minor deficiencies, which she said are corrected or being

corrected.

Reedy said the school is spending their money in the classrooms at a higher rate than state averages for schools this size, which she said is a good sign for the school.

The audit also showed that open enrollment out of the district increased this year. Bratlie said much of that is from kindergarten to first grade. The board requested more information on the reasons students are enrolling in other districts.

Technology changes

The school board approved a plan to purchase new phones and internet service. Technology Director Craig Waldvogel said the district has been having outages and other issues with the phone system, and their current internet system comes from Freshwater Education District. He proposed purchasing a new phone and internet system for \$94,000, negotiated down from a \$146,580 proposal from CTC.

Waldvogel also showed the board a plan to upgrade technology services next year when the schools move from three buildings to two. The total cost would be \$102,000, but some of the equipment can be reused if the school passes a building bond.

Foreign trips

The school board tabled two requests from staff to participated in foreign trips, a Spanish trip to Dominican Republic and a science trip to Costa Rica.

The board wanted more

information about whether the trips are available to every student or if fundraising is a barrier to some students.

The board also wanted to know the responsibility of the school when students travel abroad. High School Principal Mike Schmidt said other schools in the state are struggling with foreign trip issues as far as health, safety, student conduct and accountability. "They are great opportunities for kids, but what is there for us if something goes wrong?" said Schmidt.

In other news, the board

- Approved polling places at Motley City Hall and Staples Community Center in case there is a May 14 referendum.

- Approved new public forum guidelines that in order to get on the agenda to speak at a board meeting, members of the public must contact the school by the close of the business day on Friday before the Monday meeting. Members of the public must also sign an agreement that they will not compromise data privacy issues or use personal insults.

- Approved paraprofessional contracts for Rebecca Rapaway and Alexis Jordan.

- Approved resignation of Nick Reed, IT support.

- Approved resignation of Kristi Johnson as assistant track coach.

- Approved hire of Lyndsey Tyni as ticket gate manager.

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Researchers predict one school proposal won't pass referendum

opposition to school tax increases than in other districts.

For any non-specific tax increase, Levin said the state norm is four percentage points against it, but the Staples-Motley district scored one percent in favor.

While residents felt the school portion of their taxes was not too high, a majority of them felt overall property taxes were too high. Levin said the residents appear to blame the city or county, but it still amounts to "a borderline hostile tax environment."

School proposal

When school district residents were given the specifics of the proposed bond referendum, 48 percent either supported or strongly supported the project. The most important reasons for the support were that education is important, they have children in the district, it is a needed project and the cost is reasonable.

Those opposing the project cited the cost is too high as the top reason, followed by poor spending, no children in the district and the project is not needed, or they don't want to combine the schools into one.

People were more likely to be in favor of the project when they were given more information, such as closing the Motley school is being done to reduce expenses, and the City of Staples may be willing to contribute funds if the project includes a community center type of setup. One bit of information that did not influence opinions as much was the fact that other nearby districts have been investing in new schools. "In Minnesota keeping up with the neighbors is not important," said Levin.

"The messages resonate with people," said Levin, "After the arguments, support grows and opposition drops."

While the public supports the project, the key is the cost, not the project.

New proposal

The survey results showed that the public is

willing to support a school levy increase of around 18 to 22 dollars per month for the average home value. The school's original plan was to ask the public to vote on a \$65 to \$75 million project that will create one school site. That would result in a tax increase of \$30 to \$35 per month for the average home value. Levin said that proposal would not pass, with the main reason being people feel they can't afford it.

Rob Brown of Nexus Solutions said they took the data from the survey and developed a proposal that they feel will work. For the price that the public will support, Brown said they can add gym space and other space to the Staples-Motley Elementary site and remodel Staples High School into a modern school that meets modern educational needs.

Besides the cost, Brown said the public will appreciate using the high school instead of having to find a way to re-purpose the building. It also accomplishes the educational goals of the plan.

"Taxpayers will see we're moving into the 21st century, helping students, and allowing them to become global and lifelong learners," said Brown.

As far as the negatives, such as still having two buildings, Brown said the schools will still be fairly close to each other.

Brown said the school should take advantage of the good will the community showed in the survey.

"For a community of your size, being willing to support \$22 (per month) is very good. People are very supportive of the school. You have a lot of great support, it is really a compliment."

Timeline

One other pressing issue is the ability to get the project ready for a May 14 referendum date. To do that, Brown said the board would have to meet every week in January, have a public input meeting in early February, and keep meeting frequently to

develop the project.

Levin also told the board that May referendums are hard to get passed, but they can be done if a get out the vote campaign is extraordinary.

The Staples-Motley School Board will have to decide their path soon and will discuss it at their Jan. 7 organizational meeting.

Board member Bruce Lund said at that meeting they will have to decide "go or no go" on approving a project for a May 14 referendum. If they decide not to go for the May 14 referendum, the next possible dates for a vote are in August or November.

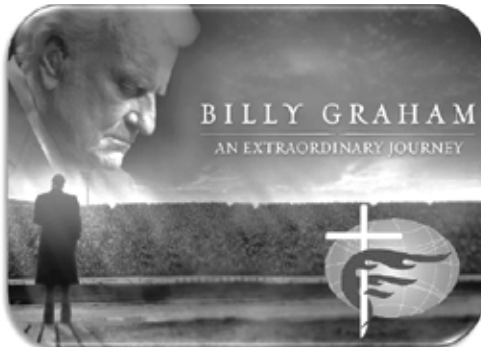
Despite the data showing a higher levy is very unlikely to pass, the board still discussed ways to get the public to vote on the one school project. Board member Greg Frisk wondered if there was harm in going for the big project even if it was likely to fail.

Levin warned that it comes down to spending taxpayer money efficiently and effectively. He said a failed referendum burns political capital, and the percentage of yes votes goes eight points lower on a second attempt.

Board member Bryan Winkels asked if there was a point where the cost savings of a one building solution would overcome the extra \$20 million to get it built and end up saving taxpayer money, but Brent Jones of Nexus Solutions said it might be around 40 years, too far out to be an effective argument.

Board member Mary Freeman asked about multi-question ballots in which they ask taxpayers to approve the basic needs project on the first question, and more expensive versions on the next questions. If the first one passes but not the others, they will still have a successful project.

Jones said that will be a possibility, but it would also bring back unresolved issues of whether to build a swimming pool and other amenities that have been discussed for a one school site project.



Watch Night Service

Tuesday, Dec. 31

8 PM-12 AM

Motley Free Methodist

33 Wellwood St. E., Motley

Join us to "Pray In The New Year".

Starting at 8 pm for food, games and fellowship. We will show the movie "Billy Graham - An Extraordinary Journey".

At 10:30 pm followed with a Communion (Eucharist) service as we PRAY INTO 2019!

For more information call the Church 218-352-6022 or www.motleyfreemethodistchurch.com

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Year in review - 2018 story and photo highlights of the year

said the family remains close. Another area relative is Derek “Worm” Johnson and his wife Kim, the owners of Ted & Gen’s restaurant in Aldrich.

Feb. 8 - Brad Anderson was selected from five applicants to fill the open seat on the Staples-Motley School Board at their special meeting Feb. 5.

Feb. 8 - Tricia Jasmer has been a quick learner in her process of becoming Director of the Staples Parks and Recreation Department and the Staples Community Center. “Last year I took everything on myself, it was sink or swim,” she said. She didn’t sink and has been implementing new programming and new ideas into the parks department.

Feb. 15 - Approximately 45 people attended the annual meeting of the Staples Historical Society held Feb. 11 at the historic Northern Pacific Depot. “John Donaldson walked through these doors here at the depot,” Peter Gorton, a Staples High School grad who has formed the Donaldson Network, said. Gorton made his presentation on Donaldson, the black baseball player who played for the Bertha town baseball team for three summers, 1923 to 1925.

Feb. 15 - Molly Lindgren from the Staples Motley FFA Chapter took home top honors from the Region 2 FFA Discussion Meet.

Feb. 22 - With the first meeting of the Discover Staples Tourism Board, there is now a city approved marketing plan being funded by the lodging tax implemented last year.

Feb. 22 - “T-Bears Baby Burps” is now the name of the baby burp pads made by the Piecemakers Quilt Club in Staples. Teresa Crews, daughter of Charlie Crews of Staples, passed away very suddenly on Nov. 22, 2017. She was an avid quilter and had a stash of fabric when she died. The family donated large containers of flannel fabric (about 120 yards) to be used for the baby burp pads.

March

March 1 - Scout Strickland is one of 36 juniors in the state of Minnesota who will receive the Minnesota State High School League ExCEL Award this winter. The award is based on extra-curricular activities such as sports and fine arts, leadership positions in the school and volunteering in the community. “It’s good to be recognized, but like my parents told me, bringing joy to others is a reward on its own,” said Strickland. “But it is good to know people are looking for that stuff.”

March 15 - As Colton Rau walks past a thicket of bushes, a rabbit is stirred up and starts running. Out of the trees above him, his red-tailed hawk comes streaking down and clamps down on the rabbit. “It’s the most exhilarating thing ever,” said Rau, who recently finished his first year as an apprentice falconer, in which he was named the top rated apprentice in Minnesota.

March 22 - Staples-Motley students want to be able to go to school without the fear of gun violence. That was one of the messages conveyed by some of the 65 students who walked out of class March 14, joining a national protest.



Falconer checks his bird

March 15 - Colton Rau inspects his hawk to see how much he has eaten. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



Feelin’ frisky

March 8 - Penny the paint tosses her head and gallops through at least eight inches of fresh fallen snow at the end of the day March 5. (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)



‘Swing into Spring’ with ... Lumberjacks?

March 8 - The “Swing into Spring” dinner show by the Staples Area Men’s Chorus Feb. 24. Pictured, Rob Free-love tells about his life as a lumberjack

backed by his tough lumberjack friends, that is, until he reveals a few too many details. (Staples World photo by Brenda Halvorson)

March 22 - It’s fitting that the showcase for Alyssa Vanderhoof’s artwork and self-published book would be held in the spring... the season representing new life, rejuvenation and hope. These are words the 18-year-old Staples girl has come to embrace in recent years, but not before first shedding layers of darkness and despair that had threatened to consume her.

March 29 - At the 40th anniversary celebration of National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) in Staples, Executive Director Chad Coauette said the organization is “offering service like never before.” At the end of the event, NJPA announced they will change their name to reflect their services, and will be called Sourcewell, starting in June, 2018.

April

April 12 - “How welcoming is my community?” That’s the question Ben Winchester told people they need to ask about their communities at the Todd County Development Corporation Annual Dinner on April 9 at the Browerville Community Center.

April 19 - Artists, along with nonprofit organizations focused on arts and culture, generated \$10,514,000 in economic activity in the Five Wings Arts Council (FWAC) region in 2017.

April 19 - At the annual meeting of the Old Wadena Society, held April 8 at the

Staples Depot, Don Wedll, former Commissioner of Education and Natural Resources for the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, gave some history of how Old Wadena fit into the lives of Native Americans at the time of the settlers.

April 19 - Centennial Auditorium in Staples was THE place to be last weekend, according to the hundreds of people who attended the high school musical, “Okla-homa!” sometime during its three-day run, and were still singing its praises long after the final curtain closed April 15.

April 19 - The Staples-Motley Speech Team won the Section 6A tournament held April 14, in Pillager.

April 26 - Since 1912, 2.48

million scouts have earned the Eagle Scout award, the highest level for a Boy Scout. But only 367 scouts had earned every single badge in scouting, until the Carlson brothers of Motley increased that number by three.

Garrett, Jordon and Zachary Carlson have earned all 137 badges available, and Zachary actually has more at 142, as some were discontinued after he earned them.

May

May 3 - A proposal to build income-based housing in Staples will move forward as the Staples City Council approved the sale of city land along Michigan Ave. and 12th Street NE to Central Minnesota Hous-



Setting the butterflies free

July 5 - Staples Library Coordinator Cathy Perish releases the first painted lady butterfly raised in the library with the help of 20 children who attended the release on June 27. The children also participated in making butterfly artwork. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

ing Partnership (CMHP), for the purpose of building townhome rental buildings. Several citizens voiced opposition to the project, with concerns about extra burdens on the city, the tax increment financing (TIF) district, and the possibility of rising crime.

May 10 - Staples doctor Ted Lelwica was inducted into the Minnesota Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame with an honors banquet on April 21 at Austin. Lelwica was given a Lifetime Service Honoree award. He was nominated by former Staples wrestling coach Don Dravis, who is also a hall of fame member.

May 17 - Linda Bartylla remembers when her husband Dave was honored as the Snowmobile Instructor of the Year by the Minnesota DNR in 2013. “He was so proud, he was shaking, he had tears in his eyes,” she said.

“He would have loved getting this award,” said retired DNR Officer Jeff Halverson, as he presented Linda with a 40 year award from the DNR for being a volunteer snowmobile safety instructor for hundreds of kids who took the classes. “I can’t say how much we appreciated him,” said Halverson, “he did a lot for this community.”

May 17 - Claire Wol-howe and Alexandra (Alex) Davis have been named valedictorian and salutatorian of the Staples-Motley High School Class of 2018.

May 24 - As Robert Cole walks his daily route around the south end of Motley, he carries with him the memories of spanning the globe, first with the U.S. Army in World War II and then with the U.S. Navy during the Korean War.

June

June 7 - Britney Bursch is excited to have been hired as Executive Direc-

tor of the Staples Motley Area Chamber of Commerce.

June 7 - There was standing room only at Lefty’s Bar in Staples June 2, as dozens of people stopped by throughout the day to show their support for Kim Riewer, who has been battling cancer for a year.

June 21 - A housing study in Staples confirmed that there’s a need for the proposed income based apartment complex, according to Deanna Hemmesch, Executive Director of Central Minnesota Housing Partnership.

July

July 5 - Charles (Charlie) Funk never imagined he would finish high school, let alone go on to become the Minnesota Teacher of the Year in 1979. Now retired, the beloved long-time instructor at Motley High School credits the FFA program for helping steer him toward what has been his life’s calling... teaching Agriculture and advising young people in FFA.

July 12 - In the first year of seasonal camping at Dower Lake Recreational Area, the 14 sites have been filled with a variety of campers. There are young families and older couples, people from Arizona, people from Wadena, Motley, and a couple of Central Lakes College students. One person sold their home and is staying the summer before buying or renting a new home.

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Have You HEARD?

Presented by Steve Trebil, BC-HIS



YOU ARE NOT ALONE

It is estimated that one-third of individuals over the age of 65 and more than half of those age 75 and over have some degree of hearing loss. While these statistics probably do not raise any eyebrows, it may come as a surprise that people as young as 20 to 29 may also have noise-induced hearing damage. It may also be unexpected news that about one-quarter of people between the ages of 20 and 69 who report that they have excellent hearing actually have measurable hearing damage. The point is that hearing loss may be more invasive and insidious than most people think. It seems you may be more likely to have hearing loss than not. We can’t emphasize it enough-protect your hearing! When irreversible damage has been done, however, come see us for a free hearing test. You’ll be amazed at the variety of hearing instruments available today and how they can enhance your hearing, and we’ll advise you which one would be of the most benefit to your individual needs. We will also be glad to show you different kinds of hearing protection devices. Located at 17474 STATE HWY 371, BRAINERD, you can reach us at 1-800-458-0005. PREFERRED HEARING provides this information as a public service. If we become aware of any unusual condition during a hearing consultation that warrants additional professional attention, we can provide an expert referral. P.S. According to estimates by the World Health Organization (WHO), 360 million people worldwide have disabling hearing loss.

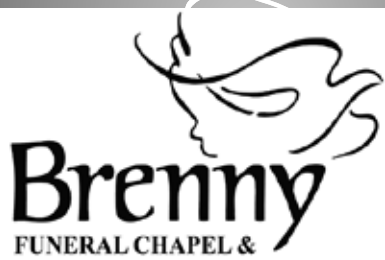
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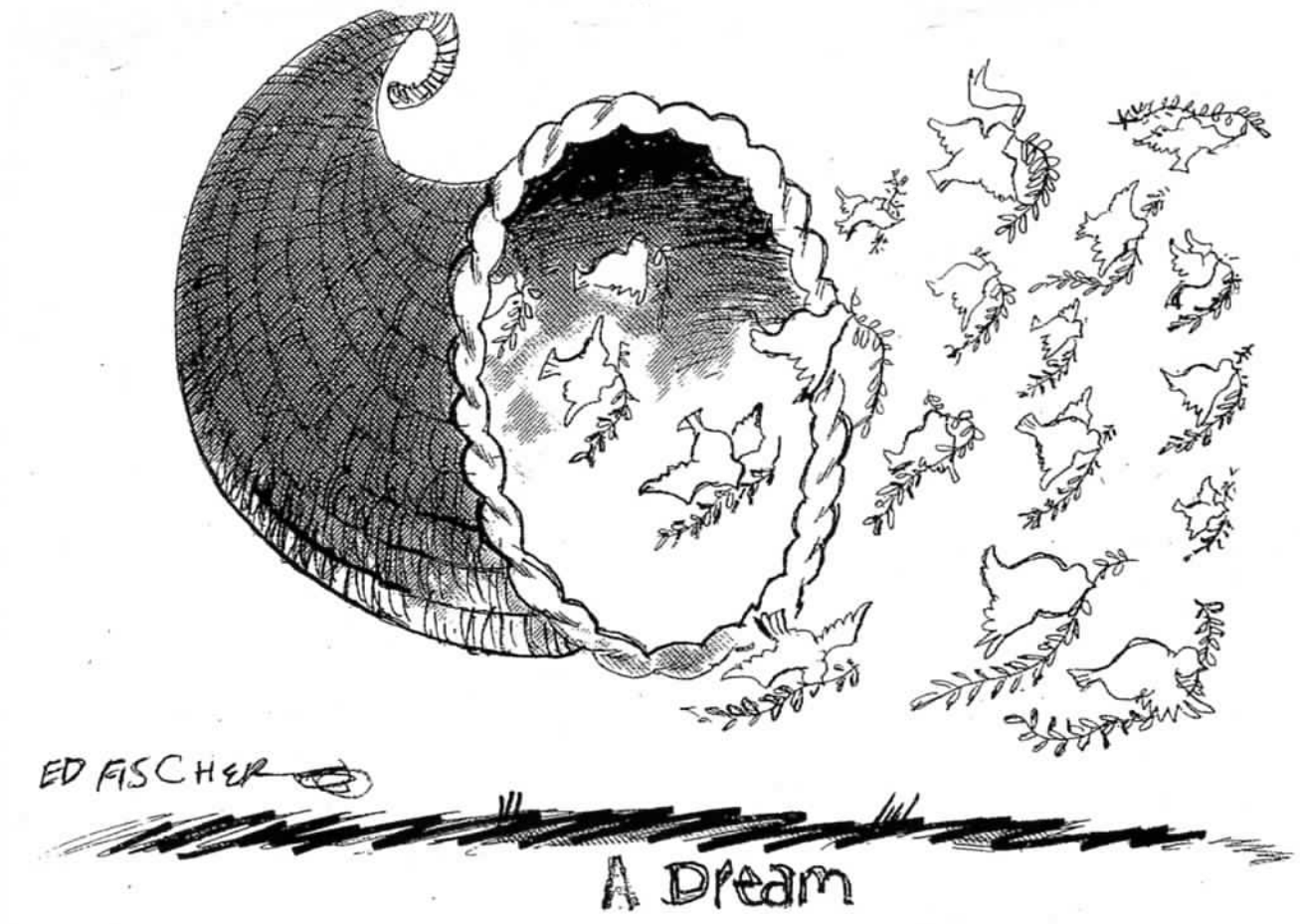
The big stage: Plotting a state title

June 14 - Staples-Motley pole vaulter Max Giza gets some advice from coach Tony Spandl as he waits his turn. A large crowd was on hand for the Minnesota State Track and Field meet held June 8-9 at Hamline University in St. Paul. Giza cleared 14 feet, 6 inches to win the championship title after no other competitor cleared 14 feet. Giza also placed second in the 110 meter hurdles and fourth in the 300 meter hurdles. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



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The story of Apollo 8, 50 years

By Dr. Glenn A. Marsch

Fifty years ago today, Apollo 8, the second manned spaceflight mission in the United States Apollo space mission, lifted off from Cape Canaveral. Apollo 8 was the first manned spacecraft to orbit the moon and return safely. In this article, Dr. Glenn Marsch recounts this historic mission and details the heroes who made it happen. Marsch writes, “The decision to launch Apollo 8 may well have been the most ambitious and dangerous of the entire lunar program. It had broader cultural significance because humans would never see their own world in the same way; our delicate planet was but a tiny azure-and-white life-bearing drop in the expanse of space.”

When We First Broke the Bonds of Earth
On Christmas Eve, 1968, three humans in the cramped Apollo 8 command module slingshot around the moon. They were the first human beings ever to be in the gravitational sphere of influence of another celestial body. While in lunar orbit, the astronauts recited the first 10 verses of Genesis 1, and Commander Frank F. Borman II ended the message to earth by saying, “And from the crew of Apollo 8, we close with good night, good luck, a Merry Christmas and God bless all of you, all of you on the good earth.” The tragic Apollo 1 cabin fire during a test in January 1967 led to the deaths of three astronauts. They were training in the command module and an electrical fire, abetted by an oxygen-rich capsule atmosphere, quickly burned and asphyxiated the astro-

nauts. Their deaths threatened to delay the lunar landing to beyond 1970, the deadline set by President John F. Kennedy several years before. The command module, which the astronauts would live in during their flight to and from the moon, and in which the pilot would live in orbit while the astronauts were walking on the moon, had to be extensively redesigned and rebuilt for safety by North American Aviation. In the meantime, Grumman Aircraft was designing the lunar lander, a tricky prospect. In space flight the important issues are mass, mass, and mass, how to reduce it. The lunar module had an angular appearance because so much was cut from it in order to reduce the mass. Seats and most windows were gone. In some places the skin of the lunar lander was just 0.015 inches thick, about the thickness of a soda can. Construction of the lunar lander was behind schedule, but the redesigned command module was completed and ready for flight. The manager for the Apollo Spaceflight Program Office was George Low, an immigrant from Austria. Low was an engineer as much as an administrator, and in many ways Apollo 8 is his story, though it is not well known today. The astronauts trusted his judgment explicitly. It was his tireless effort that made the Apollo 8 circumlunar mission possible. Originally the Apollo 8 mission was to test the docking of the lunar lander to the command module in earth orbit. But the lander wasn't ready. Few were thinking about a flight to the moon.

But George Low was. In August 1968, Low pressed NASA for an ambitious mission all the way to the moon to test the command module, but without the lunar lander. In one shot we went from low-earth orbit all the way to the moon. As Commander Frank Borman, James Lovell, and William Anders lifted off from Cape Canaveral December 21, 1968, they knew they were on a dangerous mission. Two and a half hours into the mission, they heard from Michael Collins, the CAPCOM: “Apollo 8: You are GO for TLI” (trans-lunar injection). The third-stage engine-burn commenced on time, accelerated the command and service modules to over 23,000 mph, and over two days later the astronauts reached the gravitational sphere of influence of the moon. They had truly left earth. Fifty years have gone by and most of the Apollo astronauts are dead. But they accomplished what their country had tasked them to do. At that point we knew we would put boots on the moon before the Soviets did. Their visionary rocket genius Sergei Korolev was dead; their massive five-stage N-1 rocket had blown up four times. Some of those who worked for NASA saw Apollo as providing an impetus for space exploration. But many didn't. William Anders saw his duty to beat the Russians to the moon. In the end, that mission is what supplied the funding for the Apollo program. Apollo had political aims and was not primarily about space exploration. It was a non-violent battlefield in the Cold War, a test of geopolitical will that the United States ultimately won. Though public

approval of the ambitious program generally didn't exceed 50 percent, the Apollo program was briefly popular after Apollo 11, when Armstrong and Aldrin landed on the moon. It was a magnificent achievement you'd have to be dour and sour not to be in awe of it. But NASA consumed 4.4 percent of GDP and it grated on a lot of people, conservatives and liberals alike, to spend that much. Now NASA spends just 0.5 percent of the national budget. Many who saw Apollo as ushering in a new era of human space exploration have been disappointed. This writer is one of them. As a seven-year-old, I considered the live broadcasts of the Apollo 8 mission one of the best Christmas presents I ever got, and I remember it vividly. But there is a new class of entrepreneur, like Elon Musk and Jeff Bezos, committed to sending humans into space. Each has a different vision. But it's their vision, and they don't care too much about public opinion. In January 2019, SpaceX will conduct a demonstration flight of its new capsule, Dragon 2, which will loft from Cape Canaveral atop a Falcon 9 Block 5 booster. Dragon 2 is human-rated and soon it will ferry astronauts to the International Space Station. It has been over seven years since America could launch a human being into space. Perhaps the drought will be over soon.

Dr. Glenn A. Marsch is a professor of physics at Grove City College where he teaches physics and an innovative course, Studies in Science, Faith and Technology. He is a contributing scholar with The Center for Vision & Values.

Farm Bill from a rural perspective

Congress released its compromise farm bill Dec. 10, securing several victories for conservation, beginning farmers, and rural communities, while failing to cap payments to the largest farms or secure long-term funding for working lands conservation, according to Center for Rural Affairs Policy Manager Anna Johnson. “Bottom line, farmers and rural America have waited too long for this bill,” Johnson said. “We are encouraged to see meaningful investment in beginning farmers, conservation, and programs that support rural vitality. At the same time, we are deeply disappointed that Congress disregarded bipartisan reforms to cap payments to the largest farms and address consolidation in agriculture.”

Conservation
Farm bill conservation programs provide support and pathways for farmers and ranchers to improve their stewardship of soil and water resources on their land. “We are pleased that Congress has maintained the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) in the final bill, and included many policy changes to strengthen the program,” Johnson said. Policy changes include increased support for key practices such as cover crops, resource-conserving crop rotations, and advanced grazing management.

“While we also appreciate that overall conservation title funding was maintained, we are concerned that the funding for CSP is structured such that it and other conservation programs will enter the next farm bill debate at a funding disadvantage,” Johnson said. “Future funding for conservation will remain a top priority for the Center.”

Payment rules will further farm consolidation
“We are deeply disappointed that Congress did not step up to fix provisions that drive farm consolidation and funnel taxpayer dollars to the largest operations,” Johnson said. “Sadly missing from the final bill are Sen. Chuck Grassley’s (R-IA) bipartisan proposals to strengthen ‘actively engaged’ provisions, which would have closed loopholes in farm programs that allow many (loosely defined) ‘managers’ to receive payments of taxpayer dollars every year.”

Johnson said Congress chose instead to take a step in the opposite direction and expand these loopholes. The existing payment limitation of \$125,000 can now be multiplied not only via spouse and immediate family members, but also by adding nephews,

nieces, and first cousins. “This will effectively allow mega farms to continue to collect unlimited payments and perpetuate misuse of taxpayer dollars,” she said. “We will continue our decades-long campaign to rein in these unlimited payments.” **Beginning farmers and rural vitality**
Johnson praised the bill’s provisions for programs that support new farmers and rural vitality. Several valuable programs for beginning, socially-disadvantaged, and veteran farmers; value-added agriculture; and local foods are combined into two new programs that will permanently preserve their functions. These are the Farming Opportunities Training and Outreach Program, and the Local Agricultural Marketing Program.

In addition, Congress increased funding for the Conservation Reserve Program - Transition Incentive Program to \$50 million. Johnson said this change will do important work to facilitate beginning, socially-disadvantaged, and veteran farmers working with retiring farmers to access land. “We deeply appreciate that Congress has chosen to invest beginning farmers and rural communities through these programs,” she said.

Another program that stimulates rural small businesses development, the Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program (RMAP), was reauthorized but, unfortunately, not funded in the final bill. “RMAP’s support for loan funding and technical assistance to rural entrepreneurs will not continue unless Congress takes separate action to restore its funding, which we encourage them to do,” Johnson said. She said a final bright note in the bill is the restoration of the position of Undersecretary of Rural Development at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

“Maintaining Rural Development as a Mission Area within USDA keeps rural programs on equal footing with the other functions of USDA,” Johnson said. **Overall**
“Congressional action on this bill is long overdue,” Johnson said. “This compromise bill secures important victories for beginning farmers, programs that support rural vitality, and conservation. But, over the next five years, Congress will have a responsibility to keep funding strong for conservation and rural microenterprise development, and boldly address the policies and incentives that reward only the largest farms and drive farm consolidation.”

Peterson on final Farm Bill signed into law

Following President Donald Trump’s signing of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, House Agriculture Committee Ranking Member Collin Peterson released the following statement: “I am happy to see President Trump sign the farm bill into law today, especially considering the challenges our farmers, ranchers and rural communities face. The law contains programs that will help provide much-needed certainty to producers. The law now provides expanded, affordable risk management options for dairy farmers, as well as permanent, mandatory funding for priori-

ties like the Local Food & Farmers Market Promotion Program, Value-Added Producer Grants, the BFRDP Program, Organic Research, and the Section 2501 Outreach Program. I look forward to working with USDA in the coming Congress to ensure these programs are implemented as quickly as possible and to their full effectiveness.” Collin Peterson is the U.S. Representative from Minnesota’s 8th District. At the Central Lakes College Field Day in August, he spoke about his work on the Farm Bill and the efforts he was making to get it passed.

StaplesWorld

Established in 1890. USPS 518-760
©2018 Devlin Newspapers, Inc.
Published Thursdays by Devlin Newspapers, Inc.
Office located at 224 4th Street NE
Periodicals postage paid at Staples, Minnesota 56479.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100
Telephone: (218) 894-1112 - Fax: (218) 894-3570
Toll Free: 1-888-894-1112
www.staplesworld.com - E Mail: info@staplesworld.com

Official Newspaper for:
City of Staples
Staples-Motley School District,
Freshwater Education District and Todd County.

MINNESOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION
FREE PRESS
1867



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Subscription Rates:
Local: (Todd, Wadena, Morrison, Cass Counties) \$40 per year
Website: \$37 per year
Minnesota: \$45 per year - Out of State: \$50 per year
Foreign: \$60 per year Student Rate: (Sept. through Apr./in-state) \$29
There is a \$5 charge for address change from local to out of state.

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The deadline is 5 p.m. Monday. Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily represent the views of this newspaper.

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Cookie time at the library

Reading Roundhouse Storytime at the Staples Public Library was filled with fun winter stories and cookie decorating. Above: Mavis Johnson of Staples and granddaughter, Josie, share some decorating ideas. Join the Staples Public Library next month for "Warm Up With Storytime" to be held Jan. 9 at 10:30 a.m. Call the library at 218-894-1401 to make a reservation. Check us out at www.griver.org.

ATV Club now forming

A new ATV club is forming now in the Staples area. Local riders are invited to attend the first meeting on Sat., Jan. 19, at 11 a.m., at Brick's in Motley.

Those attending the meeting will help the club choose a name and elect officers, discuss riding opportunities and discuss building and extending trail systems.

Over a dozen people have already agreed to attend, but there is room for many more. For more information, contact Paul DeBoer at pdeboer24@gmail.com or 320-428-2639. MN ATV Riders Facebook page also has details.



Grand Dairy winner

The Todd County American Dairy Association completed their four week holiday promotion at Todd County grocery stores. When shopping for dairy products, shoppers could register for a \$25 gift certificate at each store. Each store had two \$25 winners who were then entered into another drawing. Rosemary Petrich of Staples was the \$250 cash winner at Jon's Family Foods in Staples. Presenting the check were Kraig Kruse, Todd ADA, Rachel Paskewitz, Dairy Princess and Deb Miller, Jon's Family Foods. (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)



Singing songs of the season

Staples-Motley High School choir director Nathan Thelen directs the combined choirs in singing "The Holly and the Ivy" Dec. 17, at Centennial Auditorium. The annual Cardinal Christmas Concert featured music by Cantemus, Bel Canto, A cappella Choir and Chamber Choir, directed by Thelen; Bell Choir, directed by Cindy Koopmann; Symphonic Band, directed by Jon Crust; and Chamber Orchestra, directed by John Koopmann. Accompanists included Sandy Paskewitz and Cindy Koopmann. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

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., 218-639-4888.

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. CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP MTG first and third Thursday, 3 - 4 p.m., Reflections Intensive 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.

MEMORY LOSS SUPPORT GROUP FOR CAREGIVERS MTG second Thursday, 2:30 p.m., Wesley Conference Rm. at Tri-County Health Care, Wadena. For info., 218-631-5288.

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 third Thursday, 7 p.m., St. Matthew's Church, Clarissa. For info., 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.

Ring in the NEW YEARS Here!

Monday Dec. 31 New Years Eve

Free Juke Box 9 pm - Midnight

- Drink Specials
- Free Munchies
- Party Favors

894-9979 Staples

Lefty's

STAPLES

Monday, Dec. 31 New Years Eve

- Pork Prime Rib
- Cowboy Steak

YOUR CHOICE

Choice of potato, vegetables, soup or salad, dinner roll and a special dessert

\$13.99

Happy New Year From All Of Us!!

Countryside Restaurant

Hwy 10 S. Motley
218-352-6777

COZY THEATRE

WADENA, MN

HELD OVER 2ND WEEK!

"MARY POPPINS RETURNS" PG

Fri. thru Thurs. Dec. 28 - Jan. 3
Fri. Sat. Sun. Mon. 2 Shows at 7:00 & 9:30
Tues. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:00
Matinees Sat. Sun. & Tues. Dec. 29, 30, Jan. 1 at 1:15 pm

HELD OVER 2ND WEEK!

"BUMBLEBEE" PG-13

Fri. thru Thurs. Dec. 28 - Jan. 3
Fri. Sat. Sun. Mon. 2 Shows at 6:45 & 9:30
Tues. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:15
Matinees Sat. Sun. & Tues. Dec. 29, 30, Jan. 1 at 1:15 pm

HELD OVER 2ND WEEK!

"AQUAMAN" PG-13

Fri. thru Thurs. Dec. 28 - Jan. 3
Fri. Sat. Sun. Mon. 2 Shows at 6:45 & 9:30
Tues. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:00
Matinees Sat. Sun. & Tues. Dec. 29, 30, Jan. 1 at 1:30 pm

Matinee Admission
All Seats \$6.00
www.cozytheatre.com

Join Us Monday Dec. 31 for our New Years Eve Party

- *Free Juke Box
- Snacks
- * Party Favors

Open 10am New Years Eve
10 am New Years Day

Meat Raffle Fri. Dec. 28, 5:30

B & B'S Sports Bar & Grill

Staples 894-2661

New Year's Eve •SPECIAL•

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With Soup & Salad Bar

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- 2 (5 oz.) Top Sirloins
- 2 (4 oz.) Boneless Pork Chops
- 4 Boneless Chicken Breasts (1 lb. pkg.)
- 4 (3 oz.) Kielbasa Sausages
- 4 (4 oz.) Omaha Steaks Burgers
- 4 (3 oz.) Potatoes au Gratin
- 4 (4 oz.) Caramel Apple Tarts
- OS Seasoning Packet

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Combo Price \$49.99

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www.OmahaSteaks.com/love17

Obituaries

Gloria Norton

Gloria Norton, 93 of Staples, passed away Dec. 20, 2018, at Lakewood Health System Care Center in Staples.

Services will be held Thur., Dec. 27, 10:30 a.m. at the Staples Alliance Church. Visitation is one hour prior to the service at the church.

Arrangements were by Brenny Funeral Chapel, Staples.

Gloria was born October 25, 1925 in Minneapolis to Sivert and Agnes (Svenson) Olson. She graduated from Edison High School and attended Bethel College. Following the end of WWII, Don Norton returned from the Pacific Campaign and was introduced to Gloria by his cousin, and her best friend, Ailene Norton. The couple were married Feb. 14, 1947. Gloria enjoyed sewing, embroidery and crossword puzzles.

She is survived by her husband of 71 years; two daughters, Kathy Jean Norton and Colleen (Murrey) Anderson; five sons, Timo-



thy (Dottie), Mike (Kathy), Dennis (Daninne Egizio), Kevin (Darcie) and Shawn (Nancy); 20 grandchildren; many great grandchildren and counting.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one sister, Kathrine Olson; three brothers, Everett Olson, Burtram Olson, Woodrow Olson and one granddaughter, Kerri Ann Norton.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the "Great Commission Fund" of the Staples Alliance Church.

w52c A00006B2018DEC27

Dayton Rosevink

Dayton (Dick) Eugene Rosevink, 79, died December 16, 2018 at his home in Hemet, California.

Interment was held at Riverside National Cemetery, Riverside, CA.

Dick was born August 14, 1939 in Todd County to Martha Arndt and Herman Rosevink.

Dick served in the Navy from 1958 to 1976. He attended San Bernadino Valley College earning a degree in aviation mechanics. He married Patricia Shelton Cooper on Oct. 28, 1987 in San Bernadino, CA. He worked for Sky West Air-

lines from 1978 until retiring in 2000.

He is survived by one stepdaughter, Clenda (Gene) Lockhart, Beaumont, CA; seven step-grandchildren; four step great-grandchildren; one sister, Myrna Thorson (William) Wenatchee, WA and one aunt, Marcella Arndt, Staples.

He was preceded in death by his parents; five brothers, Melvin, Rudy, Donald, Gordon, David; stepson, Gary Cooper and stepdaughter, Gina Barnes.

w52p A00006B2018DEC27

Care Center January birthdays

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Betty Tepley, Jan. 1; Donald Norton, Jan. 06; Daniel Anderson, Jan. 22

JANUARY SPECIAL ACTIVITIES AT THE LAKEWOOD HEALTH Sys-

TEM CARE CENTER:

Wed., Jan. 2 - 2 p.m. Bingo/Marge

Thurs., Jan. 3 - 10 a.m. Bible Study, Pastor Brown, 2 p.m. Birthday Party hosted by Activities Dept.

Darlene Sadusky

Darlene Marie (Skinner) Sadusky, 93, passed away Dec. 13, 2018 at her home in Madison, WI.

Darlene was born March 31, 1925 in Staples to Essie (Dobbs) and George Skinner, the seventh of eight children. She attended Staples High School and graduated from St. Cloud School of Nursing in 1947. Her RN career spanned 40 years. She married the love of her life, William Sadusky, in 1950 and they were together until his death in 1988. She enjoyed her 20 acres near Genesee Depot for many years before moving to Madison. Darlene (Dar) was a mother, grandmother, surrogate to many, aunt and friend.

She is survived by one sister, Merle Skinner; two daughters Jane Sadusky (Kim Bean) and Judy Davis (Wayne); two grandsons, Max Kellerman and



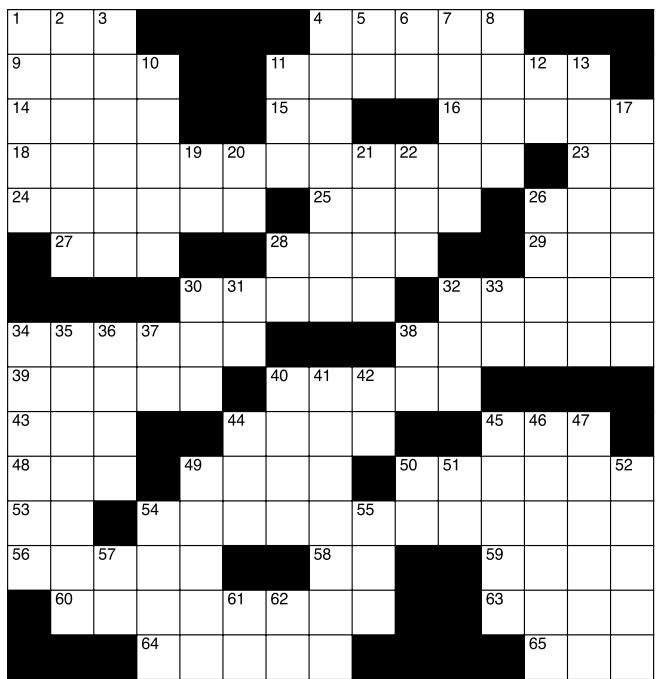
Sam Kellerman (Bornali Kundu) and their father (Jim); granddaughter, Katy Zuidema (Tim); great-grandson, J.R. Pickard; many nieces and nephews and many family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, Darlene requested donations to Agrace Hospice (<https://www.agrace.org/>) or any organization that adds kindness to the world.

w51p A00006B2018DEC27

Crossword Puzzle

Week 52



CLUES ACROSS

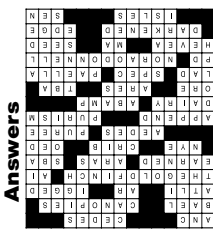
- Mandela's party
- Gives up territory
- Yellow edible Indian fruit
- Storefront coverings
- King of Huns
- Atomic #18
- Jive talk for ignored
- D. Tarr's third novel
- Three-toed sloth
- Gained through effort
- Macaw's genus
- Helps little firms
- A large group of pheasants
- Baby bed
- English dictionary (abbr.)
- Yellow-fever mosquitoes
- Liquify
- Add a supplement
- Insistence on traditional correctness
- Milk, butter & cheese
- = to 10 amperes

CLUES DOWN

- Subside in intensity
- Hale, Am. revolutionary
- Leafstalk herbaceous plant
- Price of a ride
- 1/2 an em
- Execute or perform
- Narrative poems
- Breathe deeply and heavily
- 1/40 inch button measure
- Morally reprehensible person
- For instance
- Members of U.S. Navy
- Crown

CLUES ACROSS

- Mined mineral
- Greek god of war
- Don't know when yet
- Fellow
- Detailed criteria for a piece of work
- Special Spanish dish
- All without specification
- denotes past
- A young canine
- Biblical Sumerian city
- Hitler
- Marched in a procession
- Patchy in color
- Trauma center
- Time after midday
- The expanse of a surface
- Develops into
- Equally
- 4th month (abbr.)
- Nervous & taut
- Emits blood
- Assert without proof
- Saturates in liquid
- Italian river
- Article
- Mayflower cooper John
- Filippo __, Saint
- Begetter
- Old Dominion state
- Raised railroad track
- Point midway between N and E
- CW151210



Thank you...for reading the Staples World

Hello World

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:

Born to Samantha and Shawn Gruidl of Little Falls, a baby girl, Greslyn Lorelee weighing seven pounds, one ounce on December 14, 2018.

Born to Vianna and Tom Garry of Baxter, a baby girl, Cora Marie weighing eight pounds on December 15, 2018.

Born to Brittany Janke and Tyler Bertram of Pillager, a baby boy, Hudson Alan weighing five pounds, six ounces on December 15, 2018.

Born to Leslea and Tyler Kutschied of Longville, a baby boy, Sawyer Adam weighing seven pounds, 12 ounces on December 17, 2018.

Born to Natasha and Brandon Myers of Verndale, a baby boy, Kendrick Lee weighing seven pounds, three ounces on December 18, 2018.

Born to Nicole and Jesse Theiler of Browerville, a baby boy, Brock Joseph

weighing seven pounds, nine ounces on December 18, 2018.

Born to Jenna and Taylor Chamberlin of Brainerd, a baby girl, Vera Lynn weighing three pounds, five ounces on December 19, 2018.

In Memory of Mitchell Koppes

12-27-1984 --- 7-12, 2008

Pretend long enough
and it will become reality
Tell the world you're happy,
and eventually
you will convince yourself.
False contentment and joy can be
Pulled into the world's delusion.
Life - it is just a mirage
Do we create continuous illusions
For the people in our lives?
Do we allude that the glistening of tears
Are not of pain but of joy?
Should we not calm our pain and anger
and battle that within ourselves?
Cast a shadow of light, Even if it be
artificial, to the ones we love?
They are the shimmers of light
That keep the darkness from engulfing us.
So empower the shell of happiness,
No matter how draining,
and you will be personified.
I bury the pain of losing you
Deep in my soul.
Bringing it to light
Shatters my shell

Love and miss you, Mom

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance
1512 8th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2891
Pastor Bob Hepokoski
Mark Shea, Pastor of Student Ministries
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 11:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
AWANA 6:15 p.m.

Assembly of God
914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples 218-894-1081
Pastor Roy Miles
Discipleship Class 9:15 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 5:30 - 7:00 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.

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

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

Thomastown Covenant
15940 251st Ave., Staples 218-894-3923
Pastor Nathan Hillman
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
1354 320th St., Cushing 218-575-2449
25430 Bison Rd. Cushing, MN
320-749-2140
www.bethanylutherancushing.com.
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.

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: Kelly Gelle
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
www.cushingbaptistchurch.org
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.org
Sunday Worship Service 9:00 a.m.
Monday AA meeting 8:00 p.m.

Oylen

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

Pillager

First Lutheran Church
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
(serving coffee and donuts)
..... 9:30 a.m.

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.
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 Malcore
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Family Night 5:30 p.m.

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

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

Central United Methodist
5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar)
Pastor Chuck Horsager, 218-639-4225
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

"Share in Giving Glory and Honor..."

Pastor Carl Larson, Faith Lutheran Church, Staples

Psalm 29:1-2

¹ Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

² Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy splendor.

During our church's Christmas Candlelight Service, I watched as the Faith Lutheran choir members assemble in front of the congregation while our music director checked with the pianist and numerous other accompanist to see if all were ready. The instruments began, and the singers launched into a well-known song that started with these words: "Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man" Although I expected to hear a version of one of the time-honored Christmas carols, I nodded with approval at the appropriate choice of music for the Christmas worship.

Earlier that week I had been reading Luke's account of Jesus' birth, and I noticed that the first Christmas lacked our modern-day parties, presents, and partaking in the Christmas feasts - but it did include worship. For after the angel announced

Jesus' birth to some wide-eyed shepherds, a chorus of angels began "praising God - singing: 'Glory to God in the highest!'" The shepherds responded by running to Bethlehem where they found the newborn King lying in a barnyard feeding trough. Then, after the holy experience, they returned to their fields "glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen". It was the angelic choir, the holy night, and the visit with the Beautiful Savior that inspired the shepherds to worship the Father.

As we move beyond the Christmas festivities, consider your response to Jesus' arrival on earth. consider joining with others in the community to share in giving glory and honor, praise, and adoration in a time of worship of the Beautiful Savior.

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:

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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
Bob Reeck, Manager
Hwy. 10 West, Staples, MN

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

Tower Pizza
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Staples, MN 218-894-3263

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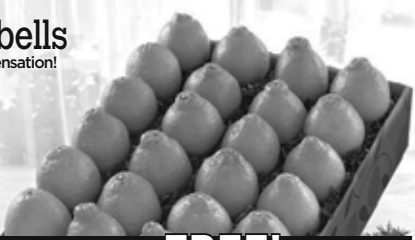
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Student Achievements



Motley-Staples Middle School

Students of the Month at Motley-Staples Middle School were, front row, left to right: Axel Mertens, Chloe Trantina, Maria Halvorson, Mason Albertson, Thomas Johnson, Tiana Gonzalez. Back: Camren Jordan, Grant Bestland, Steven Petrich, Adam Nienow, Brayden Salcido, Sadye Anderson, Heidi Zimmerman, Kristofer Taylor



Staples-Motley Elementary School

Bucket List winners at SMES were, front row, left to right: Emma Peterson, Wyatt Greenwood, Noah Czechowicz, Harmony Davis, Braxton Cherry Back: Harrison Grunewald, Maggie Grunewald, Emma Borash, Aubrey Vogel, Jayci Borash



Sacred Heart Area School

Students of the Month at SHAS were, front row, left to right: Emily Beard, Lane Laney, Ian Tappe Row 2: Taylee Reese, Leah Greenwaldt, Isabelle Becker Back: Andrew Paklonsky

These area businesses offer their support and congratulations to the overall excellence exemplified by the Student Achievements awards

Albie Electric LLC, Staples
Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank, Staples
BRICKS Travel Center, Motley
Lake Country Insurance, Inc. Motley
Staples Precision Metalcraft
PHB Excavating, Motley
Nelson Insurance Agency of Staples, Inc.
Motley Dairy Queen Insurance Advisors, Scott Veronen
Homestead Veterinary Clinic, Aldrich
Staples Eye Clinic
Orth Insurance Agency, Staples
Sylvan Shores, Browerville

Staples True Value
Long Prairie Sanitation, Inc.
Ron's Auto Repair, Staples
R. Bjerga Construction/Friendly Inn, Joan and Rudy
Trident Seafoods Corp.
Unity Bank, Staples
Wilhelmson Associates, LLC
Estate Planning & Life Insurance, Motley
Sacred Heart Area School, Staples
Shear Contact, Staples
Burrows Auto Body, Staples
Central Building Supply, Staples
Busker Concrete, Staples
Precision Polishing and Plating, Inc., Staples
Sourcewell, Staples

R Salon & Spa, Staples
Daniel Douts Insurance
Agency State Farm, Staples
Ernie's, Staples
Mid Minnesota Federal Credit Union, Staples
James Soule Auto Sales, Staples
Longbella Drug, Staples
Mayer, Porter & Nelson, Ltd., CPA's, Staples
Staples Ace Hardware
Stern Rubber Company, Staples
3M, Staples
Thrivent Financial/Bob Mueller, Staples
Tower Pizza, Staples
Staples World

2018 continued from page 3a

Year in review - memorable stories of 2018 in the Staples World

July 26 - “What can we say about Frannie?” was the theme of an appreciation dinner to honor Fran Mertens, who is stepping down as Staples Area Food Shelf Director after 31 years.

August

Aug. 2 - Not a day goes by that Delaine Achermann of Leader doesn't think about her husband, Peter, who disappeared July 24, 2009. Nine agonizing years of wondering what happened to the man who stole her heart when she was just 16.

Aug. 16 - The Staples Motley Area Community Foundation (SMACF) has chosen to focus on beach improvements at the Dower Lake Recreation Area as their “Big Idea.”

Aug. 23 - As the new Staples-Motley Activities Director, Mark Jacobs has jumped right in and is getting to know the teams and is promoting unity among all the sports and activities. He hosted the football team at his home for a hot dog grill-out, and has plans to host other teams.

Aug. 30 - Being named ‘Princess Kay of the Milky Way’ is something Rebekka



Royalty for the state of Minnesota

Aug. 30 - Rebekka Paskewitz was crowned the Minnesota State Fair's 65th Princess Kay of the Milky Way on Aug. 22. The 20-year-old is a student at South Dakota State University in Brookings, majoring in agricultural education, communication and leadership. (Submitted photo)

(Bekka) Paskewitz of Browerville has dreamed about ever since she was a young girl. Now 20, that dream came true for the Todd County dairy princess on Aug. 22, when she was crowned the 65th Princess Kay of the Milky Way at the Minnesota State Fair in St. Paul. In fact, getting her likeness carved in a 90-pound block of butter by sculptor Linda Christensen (a long-standing tradition at the fair) was Bekka's first official duty as Princess Kay of the Milky Way. The entire

experience so far has been “everything I've expected and more,” Bekka said in a recent interview during a break at the fair.

September

Sept. 6 - When people ask him how he's doing, Ty Peterson's response is usually, “An airplane didn't hit the building today, so it's a good day.” He speaks from experience. Now retired from the United States Air Force and living in rural Motley, Lt. Col. (Ret.) Peterson was working at the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001, the day four airplanes were hijacked by Islamic extremists who proceeded to carry out suicide attacks against targets in the United States.

Sept. 6 - Nearly every program at Central Lakes College in Staples is filled to the limit with students, and the college even expanded their nursing program to fit the number of applications.

Sept. 6 - Water is the common thread that runs through the history of the Central Lakes College Ag and Energy Center. At the Ag and Energy Center's 50th anniversary event on Aug. 23, former directors talked about the changes they have seen. Then, the next day at the Field Day, many demonstrations showed the college is still on the forefront of water and crop research. The 50 year history of the center was revealed with Del Lecy's book, “The Farm ... They Had a Dream For Agriculture.” His book is the result of years of research, plus interviews of nearly 50 people who have been involved with the center.

Sept. 27 - “We have great kids and great staff,” Charles Durham said about his first two weeks of school as Sacred Heart Area School Principal. His first experience in education was with a Catholic school, and he is encouraged to be back at one.

October

Oct. 4 - Six Staples firefighters recently participated in the 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb at Lambeau Field in Green Bay, Wisc. The annual event is a tribute to the 343 firefighters who gave their lives on Sept. 11, 2001, during the tragic events at the World Trade Center in New York City that day. “It was very moving,” Staples Fire Chief Scott Braith said of the experience which entailed climbing the equivalent of 110 stories - the height of the fallen World Trade Center towers - on the steps of Lambeau Field. Fellow firefighters who joined him at the Stair Climb included Darren Holst, Donald Brusewitz, Brandon Brusewitz, Austin Redemske and Cameron Larson.

Oct. 25 - Four high school students and their parents toured Central Lakes College in Staples, as

14 other students had done earlier in the week. CLC recruiter Ryan Wright told students that wages are up in many trades and manufacturing is expanding with an increasing need for people who know how to build things and operate machines.

November

Nov. 1 - Cheryl Christensen of Staples was selected to participate in the NFL's “Crucial Catch Initiative” celebrating 100 individuals affected by cancer.

Nov. 1 - The Card family's annual pilgrimage to their hunting shack north of Staples has begun. The shack is the official headquarters for the group that calls themselves the Ora Card Hunting Club.

Nov. 8 - Elizabeth (Bess) Weidenbach, 85, remembers well the day she walked to the train depot in Staples to say ‘goodbye’ to her brothers, John and George. The two young men had just enlisted in the United States Army, ready to serve their country in Korea. “They told me they would be home in time for my graduation,” Bess said. That never happened.

Nov. 8 - “As a kid on the farm, I'm not sure I knew there was such a thing as a submarine,” said Wendel Toedter of Staples. But in the 1960s and ‘70s, a booming need for submarines in the U.S. Navy brought Toedter around the world, gave him an education and allowed him to teach what he had learned to others.

Nov. 8 - Recently, Sgt. Bruce Tomlinson was awarded a number of medals posthumously, including the Purple Heart for injuries sustained during the Vietnam War. His wife, Vicki, received these awards in his place from her caseworker Teresa Sorenson, Todd County Assistant Veteran Services Officer.

Nov. 8 - Four members of the Staples-Motley Future Farmers of America received the highest honor awarded to FFA members. Mikayla Sauber, Dominic Nistler, Katie Benson and Zach Stickland received their American FFA Degree at the National FFA Convention and Expo.

Nov. 22 - With a smaller labor pool and more jobs that require technical skills, employers around the country are struggling to find qualified workers for open jobs. Sourcewell showed some of the things that are going on in the five county region to combat this issue at the Building the 21st Century Workforce Conference on Nov. 16. The event was attended by educators and industry leaders.

Nov. 29 - For over a decade, John Koopmann has been known to the community as the Staples-Motley School District's orchestra director and music instructor. However,



Eyes on the flag

July 19 - After raising the flag at the Minnesota Twins game, Huck Holst stands at attention as the camera sends his image to the Target Field screen.

there is another title he holds that few in the area are probably aware of... that of principal trumpet of the Minnesota Opera Orchestra, a position he has held since 1998. Most recently, John was part of the opera's revival of Kevin Puts' Pulitzer Prize-Winning “Silent Night,” performed at the Ordway Theatre in St. Paul this November.

Nov. 29 - Students using cell phones can be the source of many crimes. Even common uses such as posting photos or forwarding messages can lead to police investigations and

students getting suspended from school. Staples-Motley High School students got a presentation about these pitfalls of social media from Kristi Hastings and Joshua Heggem of Pemberton Law in Fergus Falls. Around 50 parents attended another presentation from the lawyers on Nov. 26.

December

Dec. 13 - Longtime friends and neighbors Wayne Vaverek, 68, and Leonard Sanoski, 71, both of Cushing, died as the result of their vehicle going through the ice

while ice fishing on Fish Trap Lake Dec. 9.

Dec. 20 - The Staples-Motley High School Hall of Fame has been announced and a committee is in place. “We feel it is time and perhaps overdue to honor some of our schools coaches and athletes,” said a press release from the school.

Dec. 20 - Jayme Carlson of Staples has been named one of JCI Minnesota's 2018 Ten Outstanding Young Minnesotans...a select group of young leaders from across the state.



Planting in the purple

Sept. 27 - Olivia Opheim, Alex Schultz, and Grace Koskiniemi are among the students learning about planting trees in ultraviolet light, one of the stations at the Todd County Envirofest on Sept. 20. This station was in the Central Lakes College horticulture and landscape trailer, staffed by CLC personnel (left). Other stations included wildlife, soils, electricity, topography, invasive species, watersheds, erosion, forestry, bees, furs, birds, water, hydroponics, trees and farm tours. Envirofest is held at the Katterhagen Farm south of Staples and is sponsored by the Todd County Soil and Water Conservation District. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Fire poster winners “treated”



When the big red ladder truck pulled up to Staples-Motley Elementary School Dec. 20 it was for a good thing. Second grader Elena Elfstrum and third grader Gage Bjerga were the winners of the Staples Fire Department poster contest. They were picked up by firefighters Jef Cichos and Jeremy Reeck and rode in the fire truck to the Staples Dairy Queen for lunch.

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A look back on 2018 in Motley, Pillager areas

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

A number of stories were collected throughout Motley, Pillager, Cushing and the surrounding area during 2018. A few highlights of the past year are included below.

January

- After nearly 43 years of service with the Pillager Fire Department (PFD), Randy Lee retired and resigned as chief. During his 42 1/2 years career with the department he served as Asst. Chief for 10 years and Chief for 28 years. He retired earlier than he expected, due to unforeseen health issues of his wife, Kathy.

- In just 37 minutes and 28 seconds, the 'Pillager Puzzlers' finished a 500-piece puzzle at the St. Paul Winter Carnival Jan. 27, taking first place at what is the largest puzzle tournament in the nation.

The team was made up of Betty Doss of Pillager, her daughter Emily (Doss) Kutzler of Annandale; son Joshua Doss, a senior at Pillager High School; and family friend Nicole Marcy of Brainerd.

February

- Dick Swartz of rural

Motley shared stories and photos of a 200-pound meteorite he had discovered in one of his fields at least 15 years ago. Two weeks later, the Staples World was at the Swartz home again, after hearing a report of a barn fire at their address. In addition to losing the barn, tragically, all 17 head of dairy cows with calf could not be saved.

- The Staples World met up with Grandma Helen Bartle at Motley-Staples Middle School. Bartle, 88, has worked as a foster grandparent at the school for nearly 21 years. She plans on continuing her role there "as long as I can keep up my driver's license," Grandma Helen said.

- Over 245 people participated at the 12th Annual Snow Golf Tournament on Lake Alexander Feb. 17. Golfers hailed from all across Minnesota, as well as Colorado, New York and Germany. The event, their largest to date, was sponsored by the Lincoln Scandia Valley Lions.

March

- Zachary Todd Anderson was sentenced to life imprisonment without the possibility of parole in regard to the 2016 abduction,

sexual assault and murder of five-year old Alayna Jeanne Ertl, found dead in the Wilderness Park area north of Motley on Aug. 20 of that year.

- A number of awards were given to members of the Motley Lions Club recently, in recognition of their work with the organization. Two local businesses were also recognized for their financial contributions to the Motley Lions.

- Snow and ice were factors in a two-vehicle crash March 26 that claimed the life of Sandra Lee Leyde, 73, of Cushing. The incident took place just after 5 p.m. at Hwy 210 and 11th Ave. SW in Sylvan Township, Cass County.

April

- Jamie Hauge was named the 2018 Pillager Citizen of the Year at the annual fiddler's contest April 7.

- Sixth and seventh grade students at Motley-Staples Middle School (MSMS) were inspired to make a difference in the world after attending the WE Day event in St. Paul the previous November. Subsequently, they packed 31,536 meals for 'Feed My Starving Children.'

May

- Loren Morey of Motley received a Master Pilot award at a special recognition ceremony hosted by the Minnesota Pilots Association at the Anoka County-Blaine Airport.

- Jason Borash was hired as a temporary Interim Police Chief for the Motley Police Department, replacing Ron Smith, who retired as Chief at the end of May. Borash had previously served as an officer with the MPD since 2015. He was promoted from interim, to Motley Police Chief in August.

June

- Staff at Countryside Restaurant in Motley committed to wearing special T-shirts on Fridays in support of waitress Lorree Shreck who is battling cancer once again. The backs of the shirts say, "In our family, no one fights alone."

- The third annual June Fest was held in Motley June 16, in conjunction with the Motley Fair.

July

- Charles Mallory was hired to serve as the Associate Pastor at Motley Free Methodist Church, a position he assumed on July 1. He is assisting Sr. Pastor Jim Johnson. A retired U.S. Army Chaplain, Pastor Mallory and his family moved to the area from Ft. Riley, Kansas.

August

- Dozens of people stopped by the Dairy Queen (DQ) in Motley Aug. 14, to show their support for The Repairer of Breaches School located in Cazale, Haiti. Motley DQ owners Nick and Staci Schultz of Staples organized the benefit and the funds raised (\$4,450) will go towards the building of the school.

September

- The eighth annual Pillager Hall of Fame Induction Banquet was held Sept. 29, in the Pillager High School commons. The four new inductees added to the roster included Iduna (Bertel) Field, Trish (Reimer) Kealy, Cora Jean (Gaalswyk) Leehneer and Dave Vieths.

October

- At their regular meeting Oct. 8, the Motley City Council approved appointing Brad Olson and Jim Uhlman as the Motley Fire Department's Fire Chief and 1st Asst. Chief respectively for the remainder of 2018. In addition, the council accepted the resignations of Fire Chief Kyle Frisk and firefighter Ben Vogt. Jace Carlson will continue on as 2nd Asst. Chief with the MFD.

- The family of the late Ernie Converse, along with representatives of the City of Motley and others, gathered recently at the Motley park named in his honor



Walking the halls

During a walk-through of the Motley-Staples Middle School Dec. 3, members of the Motley City Council and city staff took a close look at the various rooms in the building to determine whether the city should consider taking over ownership of the space as well as repurposing it. The middle school will close at the end of this school year. Above: Mayor Al Yoder leads the group down the hall of the east wing of the school. Also pictured, from left, are Principal John Regan (hidden), Interim Superintendent Ron Bratlie, Fire Chief Brad Olson, council members Jace Carlson, Steve Johnson, Pat O'Regan; and Building and Grounds Supervisor LeRoy Peterson. (Staples World file photo)



New sign, benches, at Converse Park

A new granite sign and three new park benches were installed this past September at Converse Park in Motley. Brichacek Stone in Motley donated the stone slab, Tad Carlson with River Rock Blasting did the engraving; and the project was made possible thanks to a grant from the Staples Motley Area Community Foundation. Pictured in top photo, from left, are Eric Brichacek of Brichacek Masonry, Russ Collison from Motley; Dustin Lemke with Worms Readi Mix in Long Prairie; and Eric's sons Asher and Owen, ages seven and 11 respectively. In lower photo, Bryan Stevens (right) Maintenance Assistant; and Bruce Brotherton, Public Works Director for the City of Motley put cement down at the base of the new permanent park benches. (Staples World file photos)



to celebrate the completion of the newly constructed granite sign. Throughout the 1950s and '60s, Motley had a little league baseball team, thanks to Converse, a longtime Motley resident who founded the team and served as their coach.

- A number of costumed children collected bags of candy at the Trunk or Treat event in Motley Oct. 27. It was organized by volunteers representing local churches, the Staples Motley Area Chamber of Commerce, individuals and the City of Motley.

November

- Over a three-year period, artist David Geister painted a World War One (WWI) mural which was unveiled Nov. 8, at the Camp Ripley Education Center in Little Falls. The Military Museum and Library opened its doors in May.

December

- Members of the Motley City Council and city staff took a walk-through of the Motley-Staples Middle School Dec. 3, to determine whether the city should consider taking over ownership of the space as well as repurposing it. At their meeting Nov. 19, the school board voted to close the

Motley school building in the fall of 2019, relocating all of the middle school students to either the elementary or high school in Staples.

- The Staples World met with Stephanie Jordahl,

the owner of Jordahl Hardware in Motley, a business previously owned by her dad, Tad Hoefs. She took over the business (formerly known as Motley Hardware) last February.



Motley Rockets on parade

Members of the Motley High School Class of 1963 had a float in Motley's June Fest parade last summer. Later in the day, several class members were present at a special tribute was given in honor of Barb Cline, who passed away in June of 2018 after a courageous battle with cancer. Cline was a member of the MHS Class of 1963 and the former Executive Director of the Staples Motley Area Chamber of Commerce, which sponsors June Fest. A moment of silence was held at the start of the downtown stage activities, after which a recording of Barb singing "What a Wonderful World" was played. Barb Cline was instrumental in the planning of June Fest the past three years.



Heading home

Loren and Kathy Morey of Motley are pictured in front of the A-36 Bonanza airplane that is owned by a group of four, including the Moreys. The aircraft was purchased in 1979. Loren Morey is holding the Master Pilot award he received April 28 at the Anoka County-Blaine Airport. (Submitted photo)



City logo contest winner

Chris Mayhew (center) was named the winner of the City of Motley's new logo contest during last summer's June Fest. His design, featuring pine trees and two rivers, is entitled, 'Motley, Gateway to the North.' Also pictured are Motley Mayor Al Yoder (left) and council member Amy Hutchison. Mayhew hails from Staples and his family has a cabin on Lake Shamineau. He works in sales, but said he had always wanted to be a graphic designer. His daughter is the one who told him about the contest and he decided to give it a shot. After learning he won, Mayhew said he planned to share part of the money with her. (Staples World file photo)



Reminiscing

John and Avis Lee of Pillager, ages 91 and soon-to-be 90, respectively, enjoyed reading up on historical memorabilia of their hometown that was on display during the Pillager Fair in July. Historical information included news and photos from the school, churches, businesses and longtime residents like the Lees. (Staples World file photo)



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Staples World

Holiday Deadlines

For news, classified ads and other advertising, the deadline for the

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The deadline for the

Jan. 3 Staples World

is 5 p.m., Thurs., Dec. 27.

For the Dec. 29 and Jan. 5

Square Shooter shoppers

the deadline remains the

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Public Notices

NOTICE MAY TOWNSHIP RE-ORGANIZATIONAL/ AUDIT MEETING

May Township (Cass County) will hold their Re-organizational/ Audit meeting Monday, January 7, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the town hall.
The regular board meeting will be held Monday, January 14, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the town hall.

Bianca Wyffels, Clerk
52-1pnc

NOTICE OF FILING FAWN LAKE TOWNSHIP

Fawn lake Township is accepting filing(s) for:
Supervisor for a three (3) year term
Treasurer for a two (2) year term.
The filing period for these offices opens at the home of the clerk on January 1, 2019 and closes at 5:00 p.m. on January 15, 2019, by appointment.
Filing fee is \$2.
Please contact Kelly Miller at 218-531-0287 for an appointment to file for office.

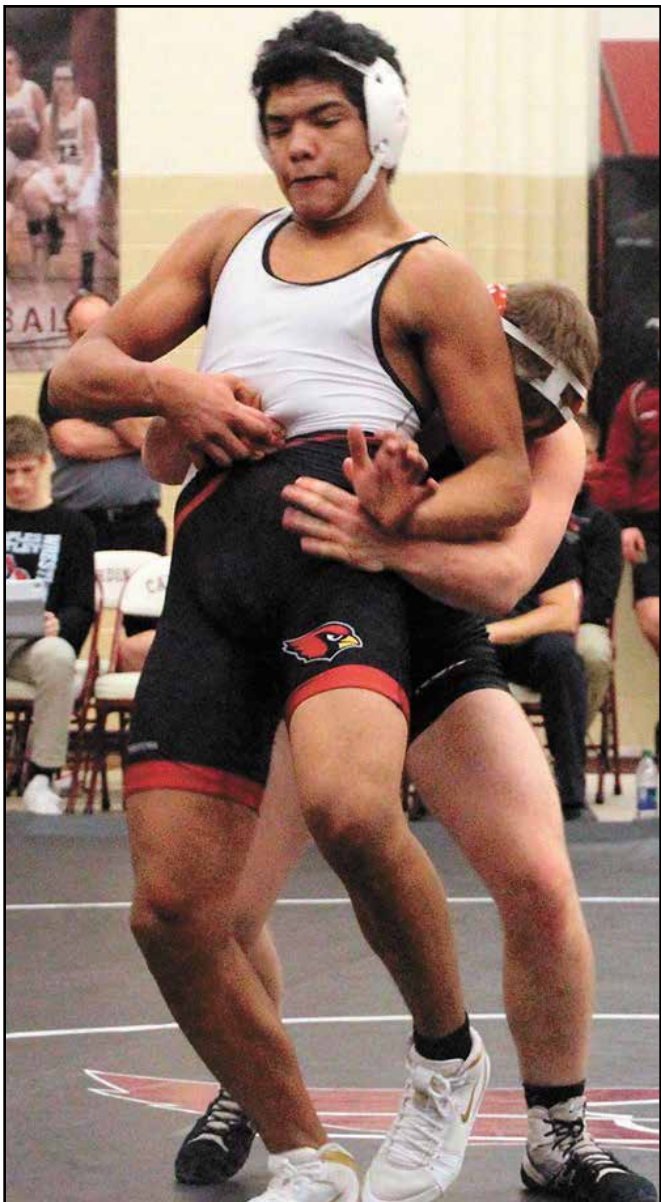
Kelly Miller, Clerk
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Getting around the defense

Bella Martin, left, and Haley Cichos dribble past their opponents. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Breaking the clasp

Gordon Enyart breaks away from the grasp of his opponent to score an escape. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

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Miller gets win 150

Spencer Miller picked up his 150th career wrestling win with a pin against Ottertail Central during a triangular meet that included Barnesville Dec. 20. The Cardinals lost 45-24 to OTC and 39-30 to Barnesville.

Miller started the match patiently in the first period, practicing his defense before scoring a couple of takedowns. In the second period he used an upper body throw and converted it into a pin for his 150th.

Also getting wins against OTC were Owen Winter at 106 pounds, Payton Bjerga at 126, Owen Bjerga at 170 and Shaine Guggenberger at 195.

Against Barnesville, Blayne Dumpprope and Logen Weite got big wins.

On Dec. 21, Cardinal wrestlers defeated Roseau 31-18. Jason Trantina and



Controlling the action

Shaine Guggenberger gets leverage as he scores back points against OTC. Below, Logen Weite gets ready to turn his opponent. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Owen Bjerga won by fall, while Weite won 12-1 and Dumpprope won 11-5.



DNR invites input on Huntersville, Lyons trails

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources invites anyone with an interest in recreational trail systems and motorized use in the Huntersville and Lyons state forests in Wadena County to attend a public meeting from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20, to review proposals that include changes to trail systems in the state forests. The meeting will be held at the Menahga Public School building, 216 Aspen Ave. SE, Menahga.

Proposed changes include adding 14.3 miles of off-highway motorcycle, .9 miles of all-terrain vehicle/off-highway motorcycle and 4.3 miles of horse trail, as well as redesignating 5.1 miles of unsustainable trail. The draft proposals reflect feedback gathered during an open house in October 2017.

The forests are classified as “limited” with re-

spect to motor vehicle use. That means that OHVs may only use forest roads and trails that are posted open. The DNR does not propose changing the “limited” classification.

At the meeting the DNR invites the public to review maps of existing and proposed trails, discuss the DNR proposals, submit comments and suggest changes to the recommendations. The DNR will also accept written comments through 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 13.

Comments received at the meeting and during the public comment period will be used to develop a final recommendation that will be submitted to the DNR commissioner for approval. Changes to state forest trail designations must be made by a commissioner’s order and published in the State Register.

Written comments may

be submitted:

By fax to: 651-297-1157.

By email to: forest-trailplanning.dnr@state.mn.us.

By U.S. mail to: Joe Unger, DNR Parks and Trails, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4039.

For more information, call the DNR Parks and Trails Division central office, 651-259-5279, or the DNR Division of Parks and Trails regional office, 218-308-2372. Information is also available online at mndnr.gov.

All about perch fishing

By Steve Carney

Lures

Perch fishing is one of the most exciting and rewarding winter sports we have in the Midwest. The issue is that we have plenty of waterways with smaller fish and just a handful of excellent lakes to choose from. Here is a primer on lake choices and techniques I use during the midwinter perch fishing peak.

Waterways

When I hit the water for perch, I want the jumbo’s not the run-of-the-mill, smaller males. Many anglers prefer small jigs with larvae or waxworms but I find these smaller baits attract too many smaller, throw-backs. My strategy revolves around full-sized walleye spoons with a piece of minnow head on the treble. The bites will be less, but the average perch will be worth the wait. Big perch have no problem smacking a full sized walleye bait. These bigger perch can be very selective and will go out of their way to hit a larger bait.

Anglers tend to be overly aggressive when jigging for perch. I like to jig a time or two and let the spoon rest for 60 seconds. The hit almost always comes after the spoon has settled and remains still.

Big perch have a tendency to stare at larger baits and need a little time to determine if they want to hit or stare. Perch are the most neurotic species in fresh water and patience and jigging skills are critical in success.

Solstice bonfires bring hopeful light to the winter darkness

It seems a great irony that the first day of winter—December 21st —marks the point when the amount of sunlight each day will actually begin to increase with the passing of every day. Irony, because the things that make winter most troublesome to some people lie just ahead. Things like the coldest days of the year, which—if history is any predictor—are likely to arrive during the last week of January. There will be days in February, too, when our furnaces will work overtime, and many a car or truck will need a jump-start from a generous neighbor or a kindly stranger on a cold morning; or, if our luck is bad, a tow to a repair shop for installation of a new battery.

Also ahead, almost certainly, will be days when an Alberta Clipper—or a weather system without a fancy name—will bring us a blizzard, and youngsters will cross their fingers in the hope that its ferocity and duration will put their school on the “closed” list for the next day. Snow plows and snow blowers and snow shovels will be enlisted to deal with it, and someone with a few miles on him is sure to remark

Inside the Outdoors



Mike Rahn



Making their shots count

Staples-Motley basketball players looking to shoot during their game against Aitkin, above left Alix Peterson, top right is Kaitlyn Smith at the three

point line and below right is Tabetha Allen in traffic. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Cardinals close in loss

The Staples-Motley girls basketball team lost to Aitkin 54-38 on Dec. 21.

The Cardinals started out the game with a 4-0 lead and stayed close for much of the first half, but they began missing short

shots and free throws to fall behind.

The Cardinals next play at the Little Falls Tournament at 3:45 on Thursday, Dec. 27 and a second game on Friday, Dec. 28.

Staples-Motley 38,

Aitkin 54

Scoring: Kaitlyn Smith 9, Haley Cichos 8, Jenna Dvorak 7, Tabetha Allen 6, Alix Peterson 5, Addison Lorber 3

Boys hoops looks to rebound

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team was undermanned against Detroit Lakes on Dec. 18 and ended up losing 82-39.

Sivert Klefsaas was the only player in double figures with 24 points.

The Cardinals next play at the Little Falls Tournament on Thursday, Dec. 27, at 6 p.m., with another tournament game on Friday, Dec. 28.

regular weekend visitors to their parents’ lake home during the summer months, and bonfires “out back” are a regular event. So at first, I was merely impressed by their hardness. Only later did it occur to me that this was a solstice bonfire, something quite a few moderns kindle as a symbol of the season. One of the major nature centers in the Twin Cities, Belwin, holds a celebration on this shortest day of the year, with music, trail hikes, hot refreshments, “a roaring bonfire,” and a performance by local musical theater troupe.

The celebration of the winter solstice pre-dates our celebration of Christmas, which—when you think about it—stands to reason, since these seasonal changes have been occurring from time immemorial, pre-dating the rise of Christendom. Some may be troubled by the proximity of what they consider a “pagan” celebration with the celebration of the birth of Christ. But they celebrate two different things, one said to bring moral light to a dark world, the other bringing temporal freelight to the darkest day of the year.

I find the arrival of that longest night and shortest day reassuring and a cause for optimism. The landscape here on the “frozen tundra” of a Minnesota winter may be stark in appearance, depleted in its complement of wild creatures after the biologically programmed ones have migrated to warmer lati-

tudes, and to survive and even enjoy it we must take extreme measures in insulating ourselves against its bitterness.

But to anyone who has been through the cycle of the seasons even a few times, the knowledge that with each passing day there will be more daylight is—indeed—a cause for optimism. Optimism that the things we enjoy in more hospitable times are getting closer with every sunrise. Things like casting bass lures to shoreline bulrushes, or trolling baits for waiting walleyes from a boat rhythmically bobbing on the swells. Or hunting for morels; or watching the return of favorite songbirds, or lacing on hiking boots or mounting a mountain bike.

In the meantime, there are a lot of ways to make the frigid season enjoyable, and to be reminded that “time flies when you’re having a good time.” The ice fishing shelters, the anglers pulling their portables across the ice on sleds, and the skaters on the frozen lake beyond our windows are re-discovering that firsthand. The first snowmobiles are being seen circling the lake’s perimeter. When more snow arrives there will be cross-country skiing. Or, not too many miles away, man-made snow is enabling thrilling downhill ski runs.

Why shouldn’t there be optimism, even as we plunge into the heart of a Minnesota winter?