

School board likes two building option, May vote still possible

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Nexus Solutions gave the Staples-Motley School Board a clear message of which project they think will pass a voter referendum and which one won't. At the Jan. 9 board meeting, Rob Brown of Nexus said their survey indicated that a 50 million dollar referendum would pass in the community, while a 75 million dollar referendum would not pass.

"For every board that has followed the guide of the survey, we have not failed a referendum," said Brown. The one school that decided to go over the amount recommended by the survey did not pass

their referendum.

The 50 million dollar amount would be used for the two school option, which would add gyms and classrooms to the Staples-Motley Elementary site, and fix up the Staples-Motley High School site. The 70 million dollar amount would be needed for the one school option, which would put everything at the elementary site, with more new gyms, classrooms and an auditorium.

Board member Bryan Winkels asked about the value of building new compared to the value of fixing up the old school building.

Brent Jones of Nexus said the Minnesota Department of Education will start to question schools why they are not simply building new when they get close to a 60 percent refurbishing rate. He said in this case, the answer is to save the taxpayers money, and they could cite the survey showing that building new isn't likely to pass on a referendum.

Winkels suggested they could inform the public of the advantages of the one building option, including more long term savings for the school and the taxpayers. He asked if educating the public first and then redoing the survey would

get closer to the one building option.

Brown said it isn't a matter of getting a better value. "The numbers don't change, even if you convince a lot of people it is a better deal," said Brown. "Many of them get to the point that they can't afford it."

Brown and Jones gave more reasons why they felt the two building option was the direction to go.

They cited past election results, including the 2013 operating levy that passed with 69 percent in favor of the first question and 62 percent in favor of the second question.

"That's fantastic," said Brown. "Based on history, there is a very good chance the two building option will pass."

They felt the two building option would show the public the school is responsible for their old buildings.

The two building options calls for demolishing two sections of the high school building, which includes the 1935 section with the varsity gymnasium, the wrestling room, weight room and classrooms. Jones said the 1950 section was built with a wooden frame and would not be a good value

See **OPTION** on page 12a



New concept for school hallways

School surveys indicated the interior hallways of Staples-Motley High School to be a concern, with no natural light and tight, uninspiring spaces. Architect Mike Angland showed the Staples-Motley School Board a possible solution to the issue.

"We are creating modern space, collaborative and open," said Angland. "What is a problem now could be the most beautiful spaces in the building."

The idea raises the roof over the hallway to allow natural light to come in. This is not yet part of the building plan, but is an example of how to turn the old school into a modern educational space. Right, a photo of the current hallway and an example of a modern school library. (Submitted photos)



Hello, Readers,

If you want to put something in next week's Staples World, get it in this week.

That's the mantra we will start repeating in coming weeks, as the Staples World deadlines for ads and stories will be moved up a day, starting Jan. 25. In order to get used to that change, it's never too early start the mantra: if you want to put something in next week's newspaper, get it in this week.

Starting Jan. 30, the newspaper will be published on Wednesdays instead of Thursdays. This change is being made to accommodate a new work week progression that will hopefully help us do a better job in telling your stories.

Although it doesn't start until the following week, we still want you to get used to the new schedule. If you want something in next week's newspaper, get it in this week.

Public Notices

Todd Public Outreach: **7A**

Obituaries

Robert Cory
Edna Dahlvang
Delores Pipek
Beverly Shinabarger



Thank you for subscribing!



New kid on the block

A photo outline in the Staples World from 1963, names Gary Mueller (front left) as one of four transfer students at Staples High School that year. Also pictured are Ralph Dokken, guidance director; and the other transfer students Alan Soder (front right) and back row, from left, Jon Soder and LaVern Dahlvang.

Mueller's family moved to Staples from Randall when Gary's dad, Whitey Mueller and his uncle, Bob Mueller, bought the Mueller Motor Ford Company, which became a longtime fixture in the Staples community. Except for his time in the military, Gary Mueller has called Staples 'home' since he was a teenager.

Thanks for 45 years and more, Gary Mueller

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

After 45 years at the Staples World, Gary Mueller's trading in his ad sales paraphernalia for a fishing pole and hunting license.

Neither hobby requires the use of a computer, which suits him just fine.

"Brenda and Jan used to call me 'Danny Dinosaur,'" Mueller laughed in regard to his computer skills 'back in the day,' mentioning longtime co-workers Brenda Halvorson, former general manager at the newspaper; and Janice (Jan) Winter, who has worked alongside Mueller as a graphic artist for many years. "Everything I learned on the computer was from Jan and Brenda," he added.

Yes, he's going to miss his co-workers, as well as the many customers he's met while making ad calls.

"I enjoy ad sales," Mueller

said recently, adding that there is satisfaction in seeing an ad come together from start to finish. "Hopefully they (customer) get a return on their investment," he added.

Working at a newspaper isn't something he set out to do when he graduated from Staples High School in 1965.

Mueller went on to join the United States Navy and served during the Vietnam War. He was stationed in Vietnam for one year, Morocco for two; and nearly one year in Norfolk, Va.

Upon his return to Minnesota, Mueller earned a degree in nursery landscaping from Brainerd Vocational School (now Central Lakes College). Although he did not go on to pursue a career in this field, Mueller has always loved working with flowers and plants as an avocation; and has been the go-to

person among his family, friends and co-workers when it comes to questions pertaining to vegetation.

The path leading to a career with the newspaper was one Mueller stumbled upon quite by accident.

He had been working at Ernie's Grocery Store in Staples for awhile and during his break, would often get a pop across the street at Harv's Bakery. One day, he struck up a conversation with Chuck Mayer, the publisher of the Staples World at that time.

Mayer asked him if he'd be interested in working at the newspaper as an ad salesman and it didn't take Mueller long to say, 'yes.' "Heck, anything to get out of bagging groceries," he laughed.

Since it was a new position at the paper, Mueller basically "started from scratch," he shared.

See **MUELLER** on page 12a

After hitting rock bottom, Abis found a way to the top

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Todd Abis has a tattoo on his right forearm that reads, "If I quit now, I will soon be back to where I started."

It's there to remind him of the person he was three years ago and of all the hard work he's done since that time to get healthy.

He looks at that tattoo every day to let the message sink in, especially on those occasions "that I don't feel like going to the gym." Abis said recently at Timbers Restaurant and Event Center in Staples,

where he is the manager.

At 44, Abis is fit, in good health and at peace with his life. If you'd have met him three years ago, however, that would not have been the case.

He shares a photo of himself at that time... a young man who was overweight, on medicine for "ridiculously high blood pressure" and pre-diabetes; and who was drunk more often than he cares to remember.

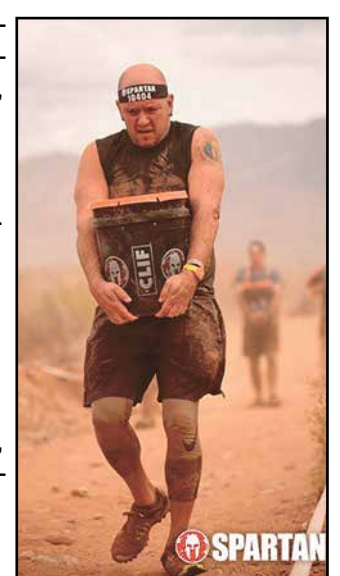
There was a lot of stress in his life, Abis recalled of those dark days in Grand Rapids, the town he'd

See **ABIS** on page 3a



Another tattoo earned

Above: After completing the Spartan race at Fenway Park in Boston, Mass., Todd Abis of Staples holds up the medal he earned in one hand while exhibiting a tattoo on his other arm. The tattoo, which he got following a former obstacle race, reads, "If I quit now I will soon be back to where I started." At right, Abis participates at the Spartan obstacle race in Las Vegas, Nev. He now sports 14 tattoos for the 14 races he's been a part of. (Submitted photos)



Pillager High School students nominated for ExCEL and AAA awards

Looking Back



Jordyn VanVickle



Eric Peterson



Julia Johnson



Sam Jensen

Four Pillager High School (PHS) students were nominated for the ExCEL (Excellence in Community, Education and Leadership Award, and the AAA (Arts, Athletics and Academics Award) which are sponsored by the MSHSL.

Jordyn VanVickle and Erik Peterson, juniors at PHS, were nominated for the ExCEL Award. Sponsored by the Minnesota State High School League, ExCEL is a recognition program designed for Min-

nesota high school juniors. Students who are active in fine arts and/or athletics, who show leadership qualities, and who are model citizens in their community are eligible for the award.

VanVickle, the daughter of Travis and Jamie VanVickle, participates in volleyball, basketball, track, Unified Special Olympics and is a member of National Honor Society.

Peterson, the son of Paul and Nancy Peterson, participates in football,

basketball, baseball, Unified Special Olympics, high school musical, band, choir, knowledge bowl and student council.

Julia Johnson and Sam Jensen, seniors at PHS, were nominated for the AAA Award. Sponsored by the MSHSL, AAA is a recognition program designed for Minnesota high school seniors. Students who are active in fine arts, athletics, who show leadership qualities, who are model citizens in their commu-

nity, and excel with their academics are eligible for the award.

Johnson, the daughter of Dan and Karin Johnson, participates in band, volleyball, track, high school musical, Unified Special Olympics, student council, yearbook and is a member of National Honor Society.

Jensen, the son of Lori and Jason Jensen, participates in basketball, baseball, Unified Special Olympics, high school musical and band.

75 YEARS Ago - 1944

• Movies advertised at the Staples Theatre the week of Jan. 13, included 'Hostages,' with Louise Rainer; 'Riding High,' starring Dorothy Lemour and Dick Powell; and 'Murder on the Water Front,' with John Loder and Ruth Ford. In addition, on Friday - Saturday, two \$25 war bonds were given away at the theatre.

Compiled by Dawn Timbs

• According to a report issued by city health officer Dr. Jay M. Cook, the first of this week, the birth rate in Staples for the 1943 year, was five less than for the preceding year.

During 1942 a total of 117 births were recorded in the city, and for the year just past, 112 births are recorded.

As a matter of comparison, during 1942, 89 births were reported in the Municipal hospital, and 28 were reported in homes. For the 1943 year a total of 101 births were reported from the hospital, and only 11 in homes, showing that the hospital has come to the front for the past year.

50 YEARS Ago - 1969

• The 1968 Distinguished Service Award of the Staples Jaycee Chapter was awarded to Edwin B. Perry, manager of Perry's Ben Franklin Store, at last Monday evening's banquet and program held in the cafeteria of the Staples High School. Making the presentation of the award to Mr. Perry was Richard Donat, last year's DSA recipient.

• Army Sergeant Terry L. Farber, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Farber of Motley, received the Silver Star Medal and the Air Medal on December 6, while a patient in Japan.

Sgt. Farber received the Silver Star Medal for heroism in action while engaged in ground operations against a hostile force in Vietnam. The Air Medal was awarded for meritorious service while participating in aerial combat in support of group operations in Vietnam. At the time of action, Sgt. Farber was a squad leader in Company A, 1st battalion, 12th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Div. (Airmobile) in Vietnam.

• The first in a series of Jalopy races which have provided thrills and entertainment to hundreds of persons the past several years, will again get underway at the Staples Airport on Sunday, Jan. 19. The

races are under the sponsorship of the Staples Jaycees and will get underway each Sunday afternoon at 1:30. Admission will be \$1.00 per car.

25 YEARS Ago - 1994

• The top headline of Jan. 20, read, "Area Fights off coldest spell of year." News Editor Tom Crawford reported that this week the lows dropped to 34 below on Saturday, Jan. 15 and to 37 below on Tuesday, according to temperatures recorded by Grace and Ken LeVasseur just south of Staples. In between, they recorded a 33 below on Monday morning. These lows were the lowest so far this year, but the lowest temp that the LeVasseurs have seen in the past 26 years was a -45 on Jan. 15, 1972.

The weather stimulated some business activity and curtailed others. Car dealers were busy with vehicles that need starting. Bob Mueller Jr. at Mueller Motors reported their staff very busy Monday and Tuesday. "We pulled 10 to 15 vehicles in on Monday. We could have had more but did not have enough stalls in the garage," he said.

Tom's Plumbing and Heating and Giza Plumbing and Heating reported they have been busy with service calls since the first cold spell hit at Christmas time. Thawing frozen pipes has been keeping all of the service personnel at both shops very busy, they reported.

• Three council members and a new mayor took the oath of office at the beginning of the Jan. 11 Staples City Council meeting. Art Manning, Doyle Yoder and Glenda Kotula were sworn in as council members, while Frank Williams took the mayor's oath. Williams moved from a council spot to the mayor's seat, creating a vacancy on the council that is expected to be filled by council appointment.

10 YEARS Ago - 2009

• It took at least 15 rounds, with the last four rounds finding the top two spellers - Macray Rodeman and Sarah Marte - locked in a sudden death tie. Three times Macray misspelled his word, but then Sarah also missed hers, keeping the Staples Elementary School's spelling bee going on Jan. 9. Finally Macray celebrated after he spelled both 'abdominal' and 'apparent' correctly to win the school's title. Both top contestants and third place Devin Brown advance to the district wide spelling bee. Sarah was tripped up by the word 'vaulted.'

• Candidates for the annual Sno Daze king and queen honors at Staples Motley High School were announced Jan. 12, at a school pepfest. The senior queen candidates include Liz Willgoths, Emily Soukoup, Brooke Simonson, Kirstin Iverson, Megan Mertens and Hailey Roberts. The king candidates are Trevor Ness, Jordan Odden, Ethan Fleisher, Ryan Staley, Taylor Ehresman and Joey Blessing.

Students, community invited to Martin Luther King program

Students and the community are invited to a program in honor of the late Dr. Martin Luther King at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, January 29 in the Chalberg Theatre, Central Lakes College Brainerd campus. The event is free and open to the public.

Speaker Dr. Jesse Grant, Vice President of Student Life and Success at Bemidji State University and Northwest Technical College, will present 'A Reflection on Dr. King: Civil Rights and Moving Forward in a Country Divided'.



Taking the oath of office

Motley Clerk/Treasurer Lacey Smieja (foreground) led newly elected city officers (all incumbents) in reciting the oath of office at their first regular council meeting of 2019 held Jan. 14. Pictured, from left, are coun-

cil members Jace Carlson and Pat O'Regan; Mayor Al Yoder; and council member Amy Hutchison. Seated is council member Steve Johnson. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Law enforcement reports, Motley area

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

Jan. 2 - The MPD issued speeding citations to Jonathan Werner, 35; Lourdes Anderson, 20.

Jan. 3 - The MPD issued citations to Sandy Granados, 29, for driving without a valid license and not stopping at a stop sign.

Jan. 9 - The MCSO issued a citation to Paul Etzler, 63, for not having

proof of insurance.

Jan. 9 - The MCSO responded to a call of a vehicle off the road in the ditch near Bison Rd. and 215th St., Cushing. Vehicle was occupied by a male driver who was asleep. Law enforcement made contact with the driver. There was no odor of alcohol and a PBT test confirmed the driver had not been drinking. The deputy helped the driver dig his vehicle out of the ditch and released him.

Jan. 7 - The MCSO responded to

a report of one vehicle stuck on a curve near Dove Rd., just south of 340th St. Upon arriving on scene, the deputy observed multiple other vehicles stuck. According to the report, the roads were extremely slippery due to freezing rain. Multiple tow trucks were called.

Jan. 5 - The MCSO arrested Brian Sheldon, 33, for a probation violation.

Game Day at Motley United Methodist Church

Game Day will be held at Motley United Methodist Church on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month from 1 - 3 p.m.

Bring your favorite card game or board game and spend the afternoon with others who like to play games.

Refreshments will be served. All are welcome and the event is free.

Motley UMC is located at 847 3rd Ave. South. For more information about this, call 218-352-6466.

THANK YOU

for making a difference!

Congratulations to these 5-Star employees

Left to right: Helen Miller, Libby Peterson, Missy Lindow, Keisha Otterstetter, Jennifer Hjelmsstad

Helen Miller LPN, Education/Employee & Occupational Health
Nominated by Gloria Drayna, RN Supervisor, Education/Employee & Occupational Health, "Helen looks for ways to improve the health and safety of our employees and residents. She completes fit testing to ensure we are in compliance with our policies; bringing concerns and accurate reporting forward to our Infection Control Committee. Helen works collaboratively with our work comp carrier and staff to provide excellent care. She works diligently with HR and new hires to make sure immunizations are in compliance with MDH regulations. Helen does a wonderful job."

Libby Peterson RN, Education/Employee & Occupational Health
Nominated by Gloria Drayna, RN Supervisor, Education/Employee & Occupational Health, "Libby looks for opportunities to serve our employees and the community. She provides monthly Lift Training class for the care center to ensure safe work practices. Libby works with our CNA students and instructors to ensure all requirements are met. She offers kinesio taping to injured workers. She participates in LHS sponsored events, health fairs, and wellness initiatives. Libby treats everyone with a servant attitude and is appreciated for all she does."

Missy Lindow Director of Clinic Operations/Access
Nominated by a former employee, "Missy has become a great inspiration because of her compassion for the people she works with and her willingness to help them become better employees. I can't say thank you enough. Missy is an amazing person and our team and Lakewood are lucky to have her."

Keisha Otterstetter HME Coordinator, Medical Marketplace
Nominated by Cara Spilman HME Coordinator, Medical Marketplace, "Keisha is always willing to help out when staffing is tight or our other locations need to be covered. She even backs up our delivery tech and goes out often to help get patients what they need with same day service. Recently, a patient called because he felt his concentrator wasn't working. Our delivery tech was out-of-town. Keisha took it upon herself to bring a replacement concentrator to the patient's home and put him at ease. Keisha is an excellent example of a true team player who will do anything to help a coworker or patient."

Jennifer Hjelmsstad Access Team Supervisor, Clinic
Nominated by a former employee, "Since Jennifer has become the Access Team Supervisor things have changed for the better. She keeps us update on all the changes and if we have questions she is ready with answers. If we are unsure of how to do something she is always willing to train us. I cannot thank you enough for all you have done for Lakewood; you are an amazing person and friend."

Staples & Motley

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AUCTION & spaghetti dinner

Monday, January 21, 2019

Staples Motley High School Cafeteria - Doors open at 4:30 p.m.
Spaghetti dinner is served from 5 to 6:15 p.m. - free will donation
Auction begins at 6 p.m.

Every year, the Staples & Motley Dollars for Scholars Auction and Dinner raises money for scholarships which are awarded to Staples Motley High School graduates.

<p>Automotive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 - 10 pack of super car wash tokens - North Fourth Laundromat, Staples 4 - gift certificates for car or truck wash - Big Boyz Truck & Tire, Motley Large pizza a month for a year and car wash once a month for a year - Auger's Motley Express 5 deluxe car washes - Super America, Staples Full car detailing - Nyhus Chevrolet, Staples <p>Excursions & Recreation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sleigh ride, hot chocolate and bonfire for 14 - Wegscheids, Staples 2 night 3 day stay at Raspberry Ridge Scrapbooking Retreat - Raspberry Ridge, Motley 2 passes to Lakes Jam 2019 - Mike Schmidt 2 tickets to the 1/27/19 Timberwolves v. Jazz, S138, Row 5 - Leighton Broadcasting Pontoon for 1/2 day and \$50 gift certificate - Campfire Bay Dinner for 8 at 'The Barn' - Kris and Matt Adamietz Round House Experience Package - Round House Brewery, Brainerd 1 hour plane ride in a Bonanza A36 - Arden Beachy Golf outing on scooters with lunch with Bill Israelson 4 rounds of golf with cart - The Vintage 2 night electrical campsite stay at Dover Lake Recreational Area - Staples Community Center <p>Hair Care and Tanning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Custom cut, color, wax - West Salon, Pillager 2 - hair cut gift certificates - Kurt's Barbering, Staples \$50 gift basket - Simplicity Salons, Staples \$25 gift certificate and hair products - Jemma's Salon, Staples Product basket - R Salon, Staples Spray tanning package - Markus Hair Design, Motley \$50 gift certificate - Family Hair Care, Staples 	<p>Homemade Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quilt - Barb Benson Cribbage board - Mike Ficher 40"x40" quilt - Piecemakers Quilt Club, Staples Quilted table runner - Mary Theurer Bean bag toss game - Derek Holst Wooden cutting board - Don Dravis Quilt - Trinity Lutheran Church Knitted items - Heather Erholtz Bird feeder, bird feed and bird house - Mark Daniels <p>Miscellaneous</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishing items valued at \$150 - Ray Gildow 1/2 cord split and dried oak and elm wood - Roger Houzelog Tent rental (218-894-1498 to reserve) - Staples Lions \$200 toward Music General costume fees - Jeff and Karina Kobalska \$50 gift cards - First International Bank, Staples 2 fire extinguishers - Staples Fire Department Cooler box for deck, dock or firepit - Mike Schmidt <p>Restaurants & Food</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 - dinners - Ted & Gen's, Aldrich Pizza party for 12 - Tower Pizza, Staples Gift certificates - The Spot Cafe, Staples 4 - gift certificates for 10" DQ cake - Dairy Queen, Staples and Motley Gift certificates - Burger King, Staples 2 - \$20 gift certificates - Country Side, Motley 4 - buy 1, get 1 free buffet certificates - Bricks, Motley 1 dozen donuts a month for 1 year - Staples Bakery and Convenience/Clark 10-15 lbs. beef sirloin roast - Tri-County Livestock 2 - \$50 gift certificates - Ernie's, Staples \$100 gift certificate - Zorbaz, Gull Lake 20 lbs. ground beef - Bruce and Becky Fuhrman Toboggan and gift certificate - Liquor Depot, Staples Goodie basket - Delfoff Custom Catering, Bertha 	<p>Retail</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$75 gift certificate - Japke Decorating, Staples 3 - \$25 gift certificates - Costco, Brainerd Cardinal gear - LMH Embroidery, Staples \$50 gift card - Casey's General Store, Staples Yeti cooler - Ace Hardware, Staples Porter Cable air compressor - True Value, Staples 2 - \$50 gift certificates - Moresy's Retail Store, Motley Fruit tree certificates - Williams Floral, Staples Home decor item - Longbella Drug, Staples 2 gift certificates - Central Building Supply, Staples Massage gift certificate - Lakewood Health System, Staples Fire pit ring - Staples Precision Metalcraft Sunglasses - Seth Dakken, OD, Staples Custom vacuum fit athletic mouth guard - Pete Bremny, DDS, Staples \$450 gift certificate towards dance class fees - Music General, Brainerd 50 lbs. bag of sunflower seeds - Bjerga Feeds, Motley 10 yards black dirt, delivered in 10 mile radius - Ideal Construction, Staples Pet boarding - Four-Legged Lodge, Motley 3 - \$250 certificates toward queen or king mattress - Custom Comfort Beds, Waite Park Apples - Oasis Orchard \$300 cash - PHB Excavating, Motley 20 punch card for lap swim or aquacise - Staples Community Center <p>School Spirit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 reserved seats of your choice for boys basketball; names on seat - SMHS 2 reserved seats of your choice for girls basketball; names on seat - SMHS 2 reserved seats of your choice for volleyball; names on seat - SMHS 2 reserved seats for your choice for wrestling; names on seat - SMHS
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Don't miss these items!

Dinner for 8 at 'The Barn' - Kris and Matt Adamietz
2 night, 3 day stay at Raspberry Ridge - Raspberry Ridge, Motley
1 hour plane ride in a Bonanza A36 - Arden Beachy
Round House Experience - Round House Brewery, Brainerd
\$300 cash - PHB Excavating, Motley

Auctioneer: Wendel Bernstrom, Lic. #602
McGregor, MN - 320-868-3676

Spaghetti dinner food/beverages donated by:
Northwinds Grocery, Motley; Bruce and Becky Fuhrman

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Staples City Council takes the oath of office

Staples City Council members who were elected in the last election were sworn in at the Jan. 8 council meeting, while the two whose seats were not up for election remained seated. From left, Ron Murray, Roy

Miles, Chris Etzler (mayor), Mary Theurer, Doug Case and Thomas Toepper. The first three were re-elected to their seats, while this was the first meeting for Toepper. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Staples considers vaping law

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Todd County is looking at a county-wide vaping policy for public spaces in buildings, and would like to know if cities within the county want to be included in the plan.

At the Jan. 8 Staples City Council meeting, David Determan of Todd County Health and Human Services said the county board is planning a policy that aligns with the Freedom to Breathe Act, which restricts the act of smoking tobacco products in public places and includes e-cigarettes and other vaping mechanisms.

“From a public health perspective, we would like to get ahead of it before it becomes an issue,” said Determan.

He added that more than fifty percent of the counties in the state have passed a similar policy.

Rental code

The council was informed of the city’s Planning and Zoning Commission’s work on a rental housing code. They have scheduled their next meeting for Monday, Jan. 28, to provide landlords and property owners with information about the proposed code. The meeting starts at 5 p.m. at Staples City Hall.

In other news, the council

- Recognized the passing of former city employee Ron Selvey, who died in December. Selvey was with the city for 40 years as utility supervisor. “Ron was one of the most dedicated employees the city has ever had,” said Mayor Chris Etzler. He said the Selvey family is looking at giving something back to the city in Ron’s honor.
- Approved council member Thomas Toepper and citizen Terry Guelker for the Planning and Zoning Commission.
- Approved Staples World as official newspaper.
- Approved official depositions:

First International Bank & Trust, Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank, Mid-Minnesota Federal Credit Union, Unity Bank, U.S. Bank, PMA Financial Network, PMA Securities, and investment banks of United Bankers’ Bank, U.S. National Association, Bank of North Dakota and United Bank

• Heard from City Administrator Jerel Nelsen about the new wastewater building project. Nelsen said a portion of the funding is to be approved in July, and if the city is approved, construction could begin in September.

Area News Brief

Park Rapids - A Lake George woman was sentenced to 74 months in state prison for slitting the throat of an acquaintance at his Laporte home in July. Janelle Nicole Rex, 33, appeared in Hubbard County District Court Jan. 7. According to the criminal complaint, on the afternoon of July 21, 2018, Larry Holm was sitting in a recliner talking on the phone, when he felt Rex approach behind him. She said nothing and then cut his throat with a folding knife. She then attempted to stab Holm in the abdomen. Holm knocked the knife out of Rex’s hand, and she grabbed the knife fleeing the house. She was arrested along a nearby road. Holm was treated, requiring 20 stitches to the cut which ran from ear to ear, narrowly missing his carotid artery.



Piecemakers holiday

Members of the Piecemakers Quilt Club of Staples made 110 “Holiday Mug Rugs” for residents at the Senior Campus of the Lakewood Health System. The club also donated \$100 to each of the food shelves in Staples and Motley. Meetings are the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm at the United Methodist Church in Staples. New members are always welcome. For more information contact Lisa Kajer at 218-894-2906. Pictured, Beth Fabian and Mary Theurer, club members. (Submitted photo)

Abis changes life choices

called ‘home’ since childhood.

Around 2015, he had lost his corporate job at a resort due to budget cuts, left an eight-year relationship and moved in with his mother. Things went downhill from there, Abis said.

“I sat around and felt sorry for myself,” he shared, adding that, “I did nothing but drink.” After a particularly rough night spent drinking at a bar that he didn’t even remember being at, Abis said he woke up the next morning and decided to quit drinking on his own. Cold turkey. “That was rough,” he said. The date was Nov. 6, 2015.

Alcohol was not the only issue Abis struggled with.

“I’d dealt with anxiety and panic attacks since I was 21,” he said. When he started working again at the Timberlake Lodge in Grand Rapids, these issues resurfaced.

He recalled going to the emergency room at the hospital because his fingers were locking up at work. It had to do with his sugar levels, Abis said, and he was told that he needed to see his primary doctor,

Dr. Jeremy Carlson, to get tested.

Abis was in bad shape. He’d ignored Dr. Carlson’s advice in the past to deal with his high blood pressure as well as to quit drinking. This time, when ‘Dr. Jeremy,’ who never used strong language, told him to ‘get your (expletive) together or you’ll be in rough shape,’ “It really hit me,” Abis said.

When he got home, Abis dumped out everything Dr. Jeremy had given him on the kitchen table (medicines, needles, etc.) and fell apart.

He proceeded to contact his friend Karissa, a dietician, for advice and spent two weeks researching everything he could about high blood pressure and pre-diabetes. “It was so overwhelming,” Abis said, noting that some researchers said, “eat this” and others would say, “don’t eat this.”

In time, Abis changed his eating habits. He cut out sugar, white bread, potatoes and caffeine, for starters, replacing them with things like mashed cauliflower, quinoa, and

ABIS continued from page 1a

whole grain breads. Once a week he’d put together a meal plan, which included cutting up fresh fruits and vegetables, as well as pre-making and freezing meals. Exercise also became a part of his routine. “I started walking three miles a day and never missed a day in close to seven months,” he said.

One day he saw a video on Facebook about something called the Rugged Maniac, which is an OCR (obstacle course race). “I had never heard of these and thought they looked like fun but way out of my ability and comfort zone,” Abis shared. The more he watched the video, the more he wanted to do something like that. “I now had an end of summer goal,” he went on. “By September, I was going to lose 50 pounds, run this Rugged Maniac race and get my first tattoo of the Rugged Maniac logo.”

Sure enough, by the time September arrived, Abis had lost 70 pounds, finished the race and got his first tattoo.

After that race, Abis said he was hooked. In addition to the exhilaration he felt during these OCRs, Abis said he was enjoying the camaraderie and sense of community he’d found. “It was something I’d never felt before.” He explained that some of these obstacle races, such as the Tough Mudder Competition, require teamwork along the way. There are military style obstacles involved that can only be accomplished with the help of others. These races “totally restored my faith in humanity,” Abis said.

He now has a total of 14 tattoos on his body, each representing a successful finish from one of the obstacle course races. These include logos and even some quotes. One of his favorites reads, “Rock Bottom, the solid foundation on which I rebuilt my life.”

Three years ago he didn’t have one tattoo, nor had he done much traveling. “I travel a lot now,” Abis said, mentioning Dallas, Las Vegas and Boston, some of the cities where OCRs are held. His next race takes place Feb. 2, at Devils Head Resort in Merrimac, Wis. “It’s the Abominable Snow Race. My first winter OCR,” he said, adding that he hates winter and hates being cold. “This should be interesting.”

Although it’s not his favorite time of the year to go hiking, Abis said he still makes a point to get outside every day. In addition to getting exercise, breathing fresh air is important to a person’s well-being,

he notes. Abis also works out on a regular basis and plays pickleball with a group of guys at the community center.

He continues to be strict with what he eats, but says his diet is very well-rounded. On the days he works out, a typical breakfast might include eggs, ham, avocado, whole grain bread and a banana. If he doesn’t work out, he tends to skip breakfast and eat an early lunch, Abis said. He’ll have protein for dinner, such as steak or hamburger; and he’s learned to eat good carbohydrates like whole grain pasta.

This is what’s worked for him, Abis says, noting that not everyone is the same. When people ask him how he lost weight, however, he’s quick to point out that “there’s no magic pill.” Everyone wants that quick fix, but in reality, it’s a lot of hard work, Abis says. “You have to stick with it, every day.”

Abis has been free and clear of medicine for two

years now. At his last physical appointment, “Dr. Jeremy could not believe it,” Abis said. His cholesterol was spot-on and the doctor was amazed at how healthy his patient had become.

In addition to the positive effects diet and exercise have had on his body, Abis said he’s experienced mental health changes as well. “I don’t let things bother me like they used to,” he said, mentioning that anxiety and panic attacks have not been a part of his life in recent years.

He keeps a picture of himself from Feb. 2, 2016, as a reminder of where he came from. “I look at that and remember how miserable of a person I was and how miserable I made everyone around me,” he shared.

Abis is grateful for the support of his family and friends over the years. He’s particularly thankful for his mom, Sandra (she was a single parent and he an only child) and his son,



At bottom

Three years ago, Todd Abis was nearing 260 pounds and suffered health issues. (Submitted photo)

Chase, both of whom he is close to.

He’s determined to stay on the healthy path he’s been following these past three years. Abis looks again at the tattoo on his arm. “If I quit now I will soon be back to where I started,” it says.

Quitting is not on the agenda for Todd Abis. He’s got too many races yet to run.



Endurance test

After losing 70 pounds, Todd Abis signed up for his first obstacle course race, the Rugged Maniac, held in September of 2016 at Wild Mountain in Taylors Falls. The annual 5K course includes a variety of obstacles including muddy water slides, crawling through tunnels and jumping over logs set on fire. Abis finished the course, his goal, and upon his return home received his first tattoo to commemorate the event. (Submitted photo)

THANK YOU

To all who helped make the first year of the ACE HARDWARE “FIX-IT-FORWARD” campaign a HUGE SUCCESS!

We were able through the generosity of others to help several families right here in our own communities.

There was a wide variety of DIY projects that otherwise would not have been completed without the help many of you supplied. From simple painting projects to necessary plumbing fixes it was a Christmas wish come true for many of the families that were nominated.

The “Fix-it-Forward” campaign was designed to be completely anonymous so there were no names attached to the ornaments on the tree. I had the pleasure of being the facilitator so had the opportunity to see both ends of the program. I’m not sure which was better, listening to the heartfelt thank you’s from those receiving or the equally heartfelt generosity of those giving.

As I said this was the first year and plan to make it BIGGER-BETTER and more impactful next year! I have a few new ideas I’d like to implement, so next time you’re in the store, ask me about how you can help.

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Pub notes

The room turned to complete silence, followed by a few, "Oh, My Gods". My wife and I were playing cards with a group of friends Thursday when someone's phone sounded an alert. News flashed on the location of Jayme Closs.

As most know, a 13-year-old from Barron, Wisc. was reported missing Oct. 15, 2018. Authorities responded to a 911 call finding Jayme's parents both killed, including James, 56, and Denise, 46. The investigation and search for Jayme began. Three months later, a woman walking a dog came upon the child, who had escaped from the accused, near Gordon, Wisc.

I never thought her disappearance would end this way. Most don't.

I share a story. Back in November, 1981, five girls were born at the Kittson Memorial Hospital in Hallock, MN. Quite newsworthy for a small town to have this occur. One of the girls was my daughter, Michelle. Another was Julie Holmquist.

My family lived in Hallock for over ten years, moving from the furthest northwest Minnesota county in 1988. Michelle would begin school in Hallock, becoming friends with Julie. Moving to another school was not easy, but Michelle would never forget classmates from long ago.

Time moved forward to 1998. Our family continued living in Madison, while Julie's family remained in Hallock. On July 29, 1998, Julie was working at the place of her birth, and on that evening, after returning home and conversing with her mom, she did something routine - in-line skating. A county road traveled north of Hallock, and on this tragic night, she would not return.

A search ensued, and two weeks later, her headphones were located along that county road, along with two shell casings. On Aug. 20, 1998, a hunter located her very decomposed body in a gravel pit. Identity was attributed to the roller blades.

A very sad time this was. We located birthday party and other photos when the girls were together. Michelle would

attend the funeral and reunite with classmates from long ago.

While managing the Pelican Rapids Press, in January of 2003, a news conference was televised on a Fargo, ND station. Details were released about Curtiss Cedergren, 38, of Lancaster. Only months before this news conference, the Kittson County sheriff drove to Cedergren's home, and upon arrival, Cedergren ran out the back door and killed himself. The sheriff scheduled Cedergren for a lie detector test, following evidence Cedergren was responsible for Julie's death.

Details indicated Cedergren was traveling that Kittson County road on the same night Julie went missing. Cedergren had just finished a phone call with a female in Cavalier, ND, who had ended the couple's relationship. It was believed Cedergren came upon Julie five miles north of Hallock and threatened her with a gun, forcing her into his car and driving to a gravel pit near Lancaster.

Over the span of the next few years, Cedergren would be identified by young females as a stalker. He was also identified by another teen girl after being approached while in-line skating on the same county road.

As I write this piece, a televised news conference shares few details on Jayme Closs, with the exception she is now safe. For three months, she was held hostage (from what we know), and on a sadder note, she lost her mom and dad.

The good news is this abduction ended on a positive note. Jacob Wetterling, Julie Holmquist and many others did not. More recently, a young girl from Alexandria escaped from her abductors and three are now serving time in prison.

Fifteen-year-old Jasmine Block, after being abducted for a month by three men, was able to escape and swim to safety from a residence in Grant County. She is now back in school, but her days will be challenged by the frightful abduction and abuse.

There are too many incidents of this nature, whether being abduction or school tragedy, which brings to the question "why". When breaking news, such as last Thursday night, end on a positive, there is that brief period of something good. Unfortunately, this is a short period for victims who face a long road to recovery. Although there is life, what was before will never be the same - and so very sad.

By Rick Gail



Staples World Publisher

Minnesota needs safer transportation

More Minnesotans were killed and injured in traffic crashes in 2018 than in 2017, with an estimated 380 people losing their lives on our roadways. Distracted and impaired driving is a big factor, to be sure. But, with safer roads human error doesn't have to be a death sentence. The majority of fatalities and injuries occur on two-lane, undivided roadways in rural areas - the exact types of roadways that are persistently underfunded by the state. You read that right - even with a budget surplus - highway money will be underfunded unless the Legislature and Governor act.

Funding for roads and bridges is receiving more attention as a new Legislature convenes and a new Governor is sworn into office. While debates continue about the best way to pay for infrastructure investments, both political parties actually agree that we are underfunding our transportation system and that additional funding should be found during the 2019 Session.

Minnesota is projected to have a surplus in the state's general fund, but highway funding relies on Minnesota's Highway Trust Fund which faces a chronic deficit. Minnesota voters have decided that user fees like the fuel tax and license tab fees should be constitutionally dedicated - ensuring that those dollars can only be used to fix roads and bridges. These state highway trust fund dollars are not and cannot be used for transit or any other government services - they are used to fix our roads.

Unfortunately, we don't have enough money in the Highway Trust Fund and therefore many important corridors wait years - even decades - for needed safety and efficiency improvements.

Why do roads and bridges need more funding? Construction costs are rising, demand on the system is increasing with more and heavier trucks, the population is growing with increasing congestion and our infrastructure is aging.

Maintaining our state's infrastructure in good repair is clearly a core government function. The Legislature and Governor should make funding for all modes of transportation a top priority for the 2019 Session - especially since they already agree on the basic premise. Our state can't afford to wait, arguing over funding, while the infrastructure deteriorates, businesses move elsewhere, people remain stranded from jobs and services, and the fatality and injury rates from roadway crashes remain in the thousands every year.

As county commissioners, we see firsthand the impact on the local property tax burden when state and federal funds are inadequate. This is the year to build on the work done last biennium and provide increased, dedicated funding that makes a difference for our state and all of its residents.

Tarryl Clark, Stearns County
Vance Stuehrenberg, Blue Earth County

Michael Potter, Wright County

Letters to the Editor

Pillager Food Shelf thankful

Another Holiday season is in the books and the kindness of people never ceases to amaze me. On behalf of the Pillager Family Center and Food Shelf, I want to thank the Pillager Lions for donating turkeys at Thanksgiving and hams for Christmas. Because of your generosity over 64 families enjoyed holiday meals.

Thank you to all who have donated to the Pillager Food Shelf this past year. Whether it's a monetary or food donation, every gift is truly appreciated. We have wonderfully generous benefactors to the Pillager Food Shelf. I wish I could name them all... but if they are reading this, they know who they are.

Finally, I would like to thank our volunteers. You

are the heart and soul of our mission. Thank you so much for your time.

Sincerely,
Michelle Spar
Pillager Family Center
Coordinator

Found hound grounded

Thank you to the three women and the policeman in Motley who helped my husband, Wally Smith, catch our dog. Bull Dozer is an adult Catahoula Leopard hound that we recently adopted last month who does not mind, knows no commands, but loves to be chased. Wally could never have gotten Bull Dozer back into the car, himself. Kudos to all you who helped. By the way, Bull Dozer is grounded. Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Lillian Smith
Cushing, Minn

Two schools the best option

We all know that we are already committed to two schools versus three for next year. This is a big move. I think it is a given that more has to be done to handle future needs. Refurbishing the two remaining schools to like new condition is the best way to go and is the best value for the taxpayer for many years to come. It's similar to buying a new car. We might like to have a Cadillac or a Suburban, but in the end we settle for a nice Chevy sedan, because that's what

we can afford. It's about being reasonable.

The Nexus group was hired to survey and recommend the best course of action. They recommended the two school solution and stated that the one school option would not pass because of the cost to taxpayers. Seems to me that it would be pretty risky to bet against professional advice. Why hire Nexus if you weren't willing to listen to their advice?

We don't often hear the school board talking about what one school with all the bells and whistles would get us. Although board member Freeman has said that "staff and students make the school, not the building." What we want for our students is better outcomes. Our goal should be producing graduates that are responsible, motivated and well rounded.

They must also be conscientious in their quest to achieve goals which will ultimately result in success within their chosen vocation. So, how does a new building do this?

Is there a cost/benefit analysis of one school versus two? Also, what would happen to the old high school, Centennial Auditorium and other existing functioning features? Seems like the Auditorium (Big Gym) could become a good secondary gym. Does the whole thing come down? If so, who pays for that? Can you save certain parts and heat those areas? What about the Staples Community Center? I'm pretty sure the city would be willing to make a deal for the school to have it if taxpayers could use it. Why build a pool, when we already have a nice one? The community building could

be connected to the school.

The school's stated vision is "becoming the region's school of choice". Clearly this isn't happening. Many students opt out to attend schools in neighboring districts. Do we know why? Are other schools doing something better? Why do other schools have better ratings? Are we growing? How many do we do graduate per year and what is the trajectory? We need to work on things that are considered objectionable. Stop being defensive and make some positive changes. I know there are some good things happening and we can build on that. To be the school of choice, we will need to compete to attract students and market what we do well.

Kevin Jenkins
Staples, Minn.

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

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

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JOURNALISM MATTERS
NOW MORE THAN EVER



Staples-Motley students to compete at one-act play contest

Public performance Jan. 17, at Centennial

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Students at Staples-Motley High School will perform their one-act play, "Property Rites," at Centennial Auditorium in Staples Thursday, Jan. 17, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door.

The play is directed by Lyn Vavreck, a special education teacher at SMHS, and features the talents of several high school actors. It will also be performed as part of the Minnesota State High School League's (MSHSL) One-Act Play Competition. Subsections will take place Saturday, Jan. 26, at Wadena-Deer Creek High School.

A summary of the play, written by Alan Haehnel, is as follows: "Kyle Macmanus has invested millions in a high-tech work of art - human-figure sculptures programmed to perform thousands of movements, monologues, dialogues and more. But just when Kyle is about to sell the sculpture, it malfunctions; the figures are alive. As they struggle to achieve autonomy, they begin a fatal race against their desperate owner's destructive plan."

Although new to the Staples-Motley School District, Vavreck has had a lot of experience with the one act play contest. "I've directed One-Act plays for 10 years in St. Peter and was thrilled that the (SM) school was in support of starting up the One-Act Competition again," she shared. Vavreck also thanked SM Community Education for their support of the program.

Vavreck said that this particular show is one that she's done in the past and really enjoyed. "It has something to say about breaking out of stereotype roles and being yourself. At least that's the way I see it. The beauty about theater is that each viewer interprets things their own way. That's what I love about it."

The One-Act is a play that is 35 minutes or less, with a cast of 20 or less students, Vavreck explained of the competition. Plays are judged similar to speech meets. There are six - eight teams in a subsection and the top two will move on to the section competition Feb. 2, at West Central Area High School in Barrett. From there, one team would go on to the state exhibition Feb. 7, at St. Catherine's University in St. Paul.



Rehearsals in full swing

Students in the one-act play, "Property Rites" have been busy rehearsing for the upcoming competition. A public performance will be held Thursday, Jan. 17, 7:30 p.m. in Staples. Pictured above, from left, are Amber Deegan, Amy Michel, Elizabeth Dukowitz, Keegan Bestland, William Dolezal, Jady Vogel. In lower photo, from left, are Jayden Friedel, Scout Strickland, Torii Nienow. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Mitten decorating Storytime at library

It was a snowy Storytime in January at the Staples Public Library. Participants read stories about snowmen and winter creatures and concluded by decorating paper mittens for their craft.

Above, left to right: Josie Hendershot, Madison Hendershot with grandma; Everett and Grace Hanson, Ava

Moore, Tamber and Esther Eden, Owen Denning with Sharon Thew.

The next Storytime will be held Feb. 13 at 10:30 a.m. Call the library at 218-894-1401 to register or visit the webpage at www.griver.org. (Submitted photo)

Irrigation Clinic to be held in Wadena

The Central Minnesota Irrigator's Corporation (CMIC) will hold an Irrigation Clinic on Thursday, Jan. 24 at the Maslowski Wellness & Research Center in Wadena.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. The event runs from 9:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. It will be followed by the CMIC annual meeting. Exhibitors will have booths for viewing.

New members are welcome to join the CMIC at the clinic. Membership includes the lunch, newsletters to keep you up to date on the issues and the opportunity to be part of a unified irrigator voice.

The Irrigation Clinic Educational Program will include: DOT commercial enforcement, new tax laws, water quality/precision ag scholarship and drones.

Central Minnesota Irrigator's Corporation 50th Annual Meeting agenda:

- 50 Years CMIC & Ag Center
 - Legislative Irrigation Issues and Your Irrigation Associations
 - Resolutions & Election of New Board Members & IAM Directors
 - Door Prizes.
- The Central Minnesota Irrigator's Corporation (CMIC) welcomes irrigators, dry land producers, area businesses, and the public to attend in this year's Irrigation Clinic.
- For information, contact: Keith Olander, Director, Central Lakes Ag and Energy Center & CMIC Educational Advisor; phone at 218-894-5141, email at Keith.Olander@clcmn.edu.

Mark Your Calendar

January 22

CARE COMMUNITY MEAL
Tues., Jan. 22, 4:30 - 6 p.m., Church of Christ, 27343 490th St., Staples. Free. For info, 218-894-2609.

January 24

WADENA WHIRLAWAYS SQUARE DANCE CLUB MTG
Thurs., Jan. 24, 7:30 - 9:45 p.m., Wadena VFW. Richard Miller, caller. For info., 320-760-6043.

'SAMC's Got Talent' event Feb. 16, Staples

A variety of individual musicians and small group ensembles, blended with the sound of the Staples Area Men's Chorus (SAMC) will present 'SAMC's Got Talent,' at Timbers Restaurant and Event Center in Staples Saturday, Feb. 16. Doors open at 5 p.m.

Proceeds from this event will benefit outreach programs that the chorus does. Tickets are available at Nelson Insurance Agency and Timberlake Hotel, both in Staples; from any SAMC member or online at www.staplesmen.org. For more information, call 218-895-5046.

Cardinal Calendar

SM school events

January

• **DISTRICT SPELLING BEE**
Thursday, Jan. 17, 12:15 - 3 p.m., Centennial Auditorium, Staples.

• **MSMS SCIENCE FAIR**
Wed., Jan. 23, at the Motley-Staples Middle School gym. Open to the public from 2 - 5 p.m.

• **CONNECTIONS SHOWCASE**
Night Wednesday, Jan. 30, 6:30 - 8 p.m., Sourcewell in Staples.

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

New food shelf hours

The Staples Area Food Shelf will be open on the fourth Thursday of each month from 5 - 7 p.m. The food shelf board asks that you note the time change and plan your usage accordingly.

In addition to Thursday evening, the food shelf is open Mondays and Tuesdays from 2 - 4 p.m. It is located at 402 Wisconsin Ave. SE in Staples. For more information call 218-894-2427.

TCHC health festival set for February 2

Tri-County Health Care's (TCHC) 29th annual February Festival of Health will be held on Sat., Feb. 2, from 9 a.m. to noon at Minnesota State Comm. and Tech. College (M State) in Wadena, located at 405 Colfax Ave SW.

This free family event offers more than 60 health-related and interactive booths by local businesses and organizations.

Each booth provides hands-on learning, and community health, wellness and safety information for all ages. Some booths will also offer attendees a chance to sign up for prize drawings.

Free health screenings include blood pressure checks, vision screenings and blood glucose tests.

Throughout the day, free entertainment and demonstrations will take place. They will include performances by Just for Kix, demonstrations by Mid-Minnesota Taekwondo, free face paintings by Beth Kern and free caricatures by Doug Curtis.

February Festival of Health is sponsored by Tri-County Health Care, Tri-County Health Care Foundation and M State Wadena.

Staples City Council agenda

The Staples City Council will meet Tuesday, Jan. 22, at 7 p.m. at the Staples City Hall, 122 6th St NE, Staples.

Preliminary agenda items include:

- Presentations from Joseph Krueger, City Attorney, and Kyra Ladd, Prosecuting Attorney, Wadena County
- Consider approval of Solid Waste Haulers License to G & T Sanitation
- Consider request from Todd County, authorize purchase of tax forfeit parcel and authorize the public auction of parcel
- Consider Resolution No. 1757 calling for Public Hearing on assessment for removal of hazardous building located at 217 Dakota Avenue SE in the amount of \$13,829
- Discuss Todd County Clean Indoor Air Ordinance
- Committee Reports include Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Mar-

keting Tourism Board
• Open forum.
• City Administrator's report.

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WADENA, MN

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GLASS PG-13
Fri. thru Thurs. Jan. 18 - 31
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:00 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:00
Matinees Sat. & Sun. Jan. 19 & 20 at 1:15 pm

Screen 2
HELD OVER 2ND WEEK! THE UPSIDE PG-13
Fri. thru Thurs. Jan. 18 - 24
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:10 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:10
Matinees Sat. & Sun. Jan. 19 & 20 at 1:15 pm

Screen 3
HELD OVER 3RD WEEK! THE MULE R
Fri. thru Thurs. Jan. 18 - 24
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:15 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:15
Matinees Sat. & Sun. Jan. 19 & 20 at 1:30 pm

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All Seats \$5.00
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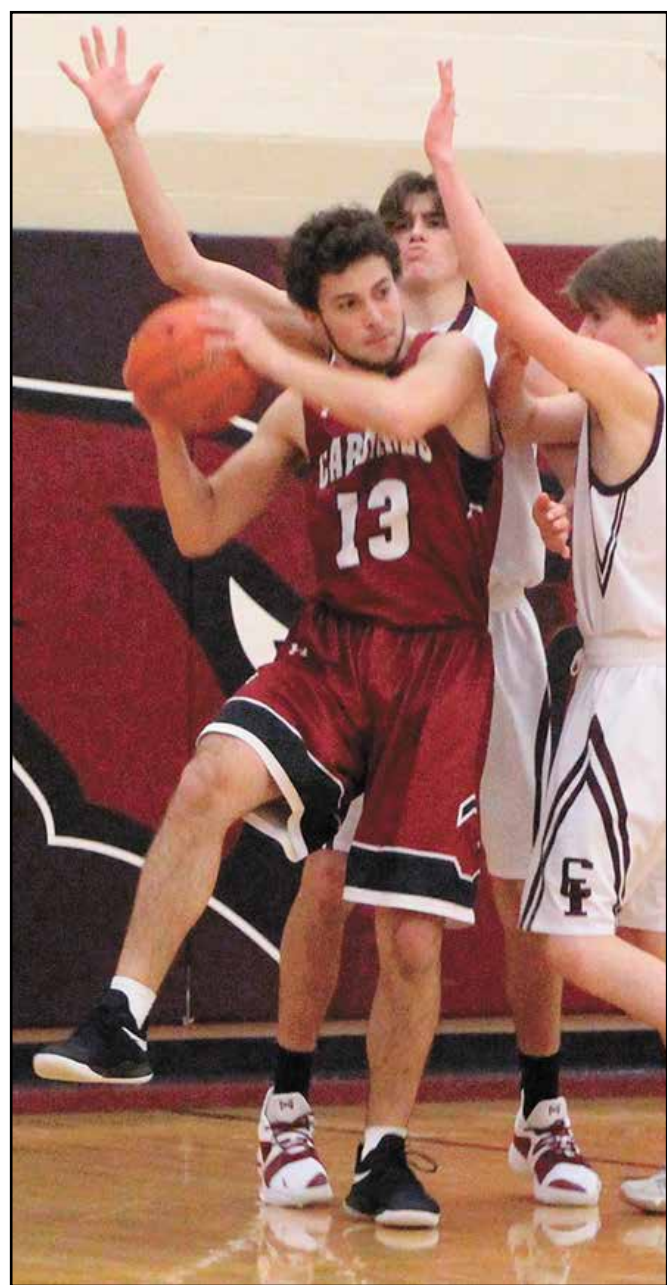
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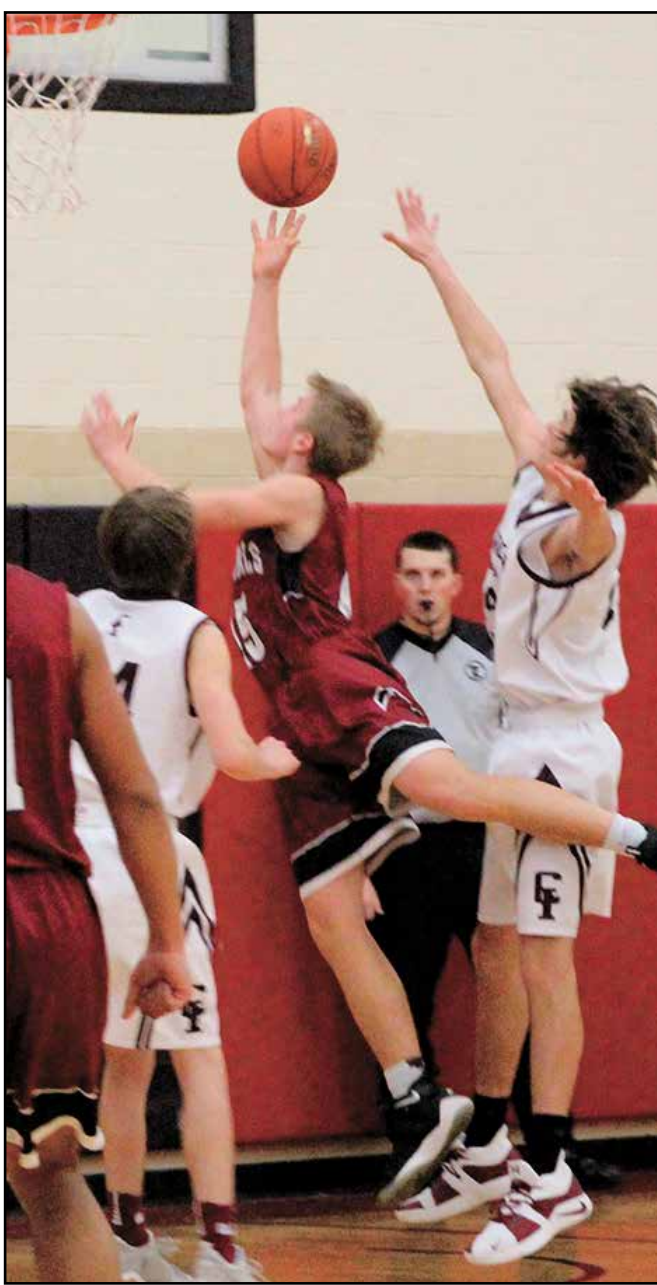
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Beating the double teams

Above left, Emmitt Winkels is double-teamed under the basket and looks to pass back out. Right, Max



Strickland flies through the lane past the Crosby-Ironton defense. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Every half makes a difference in girls basketball

The Staples-Motley girls basketball team had good halves and bad halves, both on offense and defense, as they lost to two good teams, then put it all together for a big win to finish their week.

The Cardinals lost to Hawley 76-54 on Jan. 8, then fell to Crosby-Ironton 71-44 on Jan. 10. A great second half led them to a 52-32 win over Frazee on Jan. 12.

At Hawley, the Cardinals started out well offensively, but struggled to stop Hawley, as their top two players scored 16 and 15 points in the first half, and the Staples-Motley girls fell behind 42-27.

"In the second half our defense was a little better, but we still have to improve," said Coach Brian Smith.

Although the offense ran smoothly, it was the first game the team didn't hit a three point shot. Jenna Dvorak pulled down nine rebounds to lead the team.

Against Crosby-Ironton, the defense improved, but the offense fell short in the first half.

"We played a mix of man and zone and I thought our girls played hard and were in position to make plays," said Smith.

Katie Smith hit two three pointers in the first half, one right before the buzzer off an inbounds play, but the Cardinals were still down 25-15.

"They didn't allow us to get going in the first half," said Coach Smith.

Tabetha Allen had 15 points in the second half, but the defense slipped and the team stayed behind by double digits the whole half. Allen also had 16 rebounds in the game.

Staples-Motley had beaten Frazee earlier in the season, but one of their injured players was back in the lineup for this one.

In a hard-fought first half, Staples-Motley made 12 of 19 free throws to eke out a 23-22 halftime lead.

"In the second half we cranked up the defensive pressure and were able to disrupt their offense," said Smith.

The team doesn't use their press often, but when



Long shot

Katie Smith lines up a three pointer.

they started it in this game, "the girls were able to execute it and I feel that was the difference in the game," said Smith.

The team played better on offense. "We had some good possessions where we were very patient and waited for a good shot," said Smith. I was very proud of how the girls were able to make the adjustments we talked about at halftime."

The good free throw shooting continued, as the team finished 26 for 36. Allen had 11 rebounds blocked six shots, while Smith and Alix Peterson also had blocked shots and Dvorak had 10 rebounds.

Team results
Staples-Motley 54, Hawley 76

Scoring: Haley Cichos 16, Jenna Dvorak 15, Alix Peterson 7, Tabetha Allen 6, Addison Lorber 3, Klaire Storry 3, Kaila Erbe 2, Bella Martin 2

Staples-Motley 44, Crosby-Ironton 71

Scoring: Allen 15, Cichos 12, Smith 6, Peterson 5, Dvorak 5, Martin 1

Staples-Motley 52, Frazee 32

Scoring: Cichos 12, Allen 11, Smith 9, Peterson 7, Dvorak 6, Martin 4, Erbe 3

Lessons learned in hoops losses

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team suffered three losses in the past week, but the young team learned different lessons from each game.

The Cardinals played well at Pequot Lakes on Jan. 8, losing 70-53. They struggled against Crosby-Ironton on Jan. 11, falling 61-23, and came up just short at Upsala, with a 53-42 loss.

Against Pequot Lakes, the Cardinals played hard and took better care of the ball, said Coach Nick Doll.

"We are still learning what it takes to play at the varsity level, but our kids have a growth mindset, and are determined to focus on the big picture," said Doll.

The team had cold shooting against Crosby-Ironton and fell behind early.

"Crosby is a well coached, talented team with size and good guard play, which is why they are now 10-1," said Doll. "We are hopeful to compete with them a little better when we see them later in the year."

Coach Doll said the "little things" made the difference in the Upsala game.

"We did some good things, but made too many errors and got killed in the hustle department," said Doll.

"We need to give excellent effort in order to compete. We talk a lot about the little things like loose balls, rebounding, taking charge,

es, communicating and effort. I hope this is a lesson learned and one that we carry with us for the rest of the season."

Team results
Staples-Motley 53, Pequot Lakes 70

Scoring: Sivert Klefsaas 23, Max Strickland 10, Isaac Christoffersen 5, Isaac Kronenberg 5, Alex Giza 5, Ben Olander 4, Ryan Wick 1

Staples-Motley 23, Crosby-Ironton 61

Scoring: Klefsaas 11, Kronenberg 5, Christoffersen 4, Strickland 2, Giza 1

Staples-Motley 42, Upsala 53

Scoring: Kronenberg 12, Jordan Carlson 6, Klefsaas 6, Olander 6, Izaiiah DeMars 3, Wick 2, Strickland 2, Giza 2



Alex Giza rebounds.



Playing through contact

Above left, with a defender's arm around his waist and another grabbing his arm, Isaac Kronenberg tries to go up for a shot. Despite the contact, no foul was



called. Right, Ryan Wick passes after collecting an offensive rebound. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Dribble drives

Above, Bella Martin finds a gap between defenders. Below, Addison Lorber dribbles to the hoop. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Wrestlers win dual, place high in eleven team tournament

The Staples-Motley wrestling team defeated Wadena-Deer Creek 42-15 on Jan. 8, then placed fifth in an 11 team invitational at Bertha-Hewitt/Verndale/Parkers Prairie on Jan. 14. Against Wadena-Deer Creek, several younger wrestlers got a chance to wrestle in the varsity match, with Owen Winter and Dalton Wells earning pins.

In the tournament, Owen Bjerga placed first at 160 pounds with a 16-3 win in the title match and Blayne Dumpprope was second at 138 pounds.

Team results
Staples Motley 42, Wadena-Deer Creek 15

106 Owen Winter W Fall 1:26
113 Issiah Tabatt L Fall 3:52
120 Dalton WellW Fall 0:45
126 Payton Bjerga L 8-4

132 Conner Dobson W FF
138 Curtis Miles L 5-0
145 Brayden Christensen W

11-0
152 Logen Weite W 10-2
160 Blayne Dumpprope W

15-3
170 Owen Bjerga W FF
182 Gordon Enyart L 4-1
195: Double Forfeit
220 Shaine Guggenberger

W FF
285: Double Forfeit
Bertha Hewitt/Verndale/
Parkers Prairie Invitational
LPGE-Browerville 276, Ber-

tha Hewitt/Verndale/Parkers
Prairie 217, Benson 137, Crosby-Ironton 116.5, Staples-Motley 95.5, Park Rapids 95, Deer River 83, Breckenridge 82, Pelican Rapids 73.5, Wahpeton 48, Ortonville 36

120 - Payton Bjerga 5th
126 - Sam Jennissen 6th
132 - Brayden Christensen

5th
138 - Blayne Dumpprope

2nd
145 - Logen Weite 4th
160 - Owen Bjerga 1st
182 - Gordon Enyart 5th



Ice fishing shelters have evolved in new directions

It's still possible to find winter angling shelters that would seem right at home on the movie set of Grumpy Old Men, the 1993 romantic comedy with a background rich in ice fishing footage and lore, and set right here in Minnesota.

Inside the Outdoors



Mike Rahn

The on-ice village where co-stars Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau spent their hopeful angling hours resembled a community totally lacking in building codes and covenants. One-of-a-kind might be the best compliment that could have been paid to those fish houses; ramshackle, or derelict, might have applied equally.

Movies often exaggerate things for an intended effect. But, artistic license aside, the movie's depiction was fairly representative of the structures that dominated winter angling for a long, long time. What made them so unique, and sometimes structurally primitive, was the fact that many were home-made by people who knew fishing, but might not have known a ball-peen from a claw hammer. They did the job, but many were far from a work of art. No matter, for it was the activity that went on inside them—the catching of fish—that mattered more than winning design awards.

Fast forward to today, and on-ice angling structures have taken a decidedly stylish, professional turn. Though you'll still find the home-made structure now and again, that has become less the rule. Fishing gear of all kinds has evolved, and that can certainly be said of angling shelters. Some are not far removed in functionality from the homemade shelter; four walls and a roof, a floor with openings for drilling through the ice beneath, but manufactured to a higher standard of craftsmanship and uniformity; bought versus built, you could say.

Designs of current

angling shelters have diverged in some very opposite directions, driven by similarly opposite motivations. One motive is to make the ice angling experience as smooth—even luxuriant—as possible. The other is to maximize mobility. How these objectives are achieved demonstrates some very different concept in winter angling shelters.

The most visible to anglers and non-anglers alike is a design approach whose brand name could serve as a generic description. Though I hesitate to name brand names, doing so here is justified, given the fact that it was early into this market, and its name comes close to describing how far angling shelters have come since the days of Grumpy Old Men.

Ice Castle is a brand name, but is no longer the only one of its kind in the ice fishing marketplace. It's also an idea; that ice anglers can not only have a highly mobile shelter, but also one that has many of the comforts of home; castle-like, if you will. Instead of transporting a stationary structure to a favorite lake on a trailer; depositing it on the ice, and perhaps from time to time moving it to a new location on the same lake, in the Ice Castle approach the shelter and the trailer are one. Your pickup or sport utility vehicle pulls the rig onto a lake at a landing, you drive it to a desired location, then lower the shelter's deck to the ice. You're ready to fish. When it's time to go home, the wheels are lowered—which raises the shelter to normal trailer height—and you're back on the road. Next time, you may fish an entirely different lake.

If you're fishing in a fully-equipped model, you have use of a kitchen, can watch "the game" on satellite TV, or connect to the Internet, have the convenience of a lavatory, bunks for sleeping; the works. Instead of fishing for a few hours—or perhaps for the day—in a primitive structure whose only amenity is a stove to keep you warm, in an castle-style rig anglers can stay virtually as long as they want; certainly for an entire weekend if one chooses. This concept has been catching on like

wildfire, and it's possible to spend as much money on such shelters as you would on a vehicle. Some justify the expense by reasoning that the wheeled shelter can be used in summer for camping, too.

If there's a downside to these towable angling shelters, it's their size and weight, unless you opt for the smallest of the genre. That means that it takes a substantial vehicle to pull it, especially on a lake where you might encounter snow or slush conditions, and need a vehicle with top traction and pulling power. The ice has to be thick enough to safely support that weight before you're able to enjoy all those creature comforts you paid for. When the ice begins to deteriorate in late winter and early spring, there'll come a time when good judgment will dictate that you park the rig for the season.

Which brings us to the other extreme in angling shelter evolution. It is to ice fishing what the back-

packing tent camper is to the Winnebago. It is, of course, the collapsible tent-like—often called "pop-up"—angling shelter. These styles are constructed of lightweight fabric with a collapsible supporting frame. Many models stow in their own attached sled. Many have integral seating. There are models for the solo angler; for duos, even models that could accommodate 4-6 anglers. One of the virtues of this style of shelter is that an angler can get involved in ice fishing without spending "an arm and a leg." One of the smaller collapsible shelters can be purchased for as little as \$300, give or take.

The smaller models can be pulled by a walking angler, via an integral or separate sled. The larger ones can be pulled by a snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle, which opens up fishing opportunities when the ice would be unsafe for highway vehicles. Of course, recent history has shown

that there are ice conditions when—or where—it's not safe for even a snowmobile or ATV.

The castle-like trailer-on-wheels is certainly mobile, but that mobility can be restricted by ice thickness and the limitations sometimes posed by snow and slush. Plowed ice roads are sometimes the only way such rigs can get to preferred parts of a lake. Without doubt, the ultimate in mobility is provided by the collapsible pop-up angling shelter. Of course, if your ice angling passion and budget permits, there's nothing that prevents the committed angler from having both!

One perhaps less recognized effect of these barrier-breaking angling structures is their potential for stemming—perhaps even reversing—the downward trend in angling participation. According to mid-2018 data from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, fishing license sales in our state had

dropped to the second lowest level in 20 years. Angler and hunter numbers are declining as older adults retire from the pursuits, and fewer young people replace them.

One virtue of the castle-like angling shelters is their family-friendliness, offering comfort and nearly any amenity you'd find in your home on a compact scale. You don't have to be a diehard, or willing to rough it, to fish in one. Less-committed family members—such as our children, or a spouse—may find a casual, even reluctant exposure turning into a favored recreation. As already mentioned, the opportunity for a "maybe-interested" person to give ice fishing a try without a major investment—via the collapsible shelter route—has its own, very obvious, attractions.

Of these developments, I'm sure the Grumpy Old Men would approve.

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
Sunlight (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
MAS:
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

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

Cushing

Bethany Lutheran
25430 Bison Rd. Cushing, MN
320-749-2140
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
MAS:
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, 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
City. 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.

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 School 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Hewitt

Church of the Nazarene
114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146 Hewitt, MN
218-924-2028
Pastor Wayne Hoeffert
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.

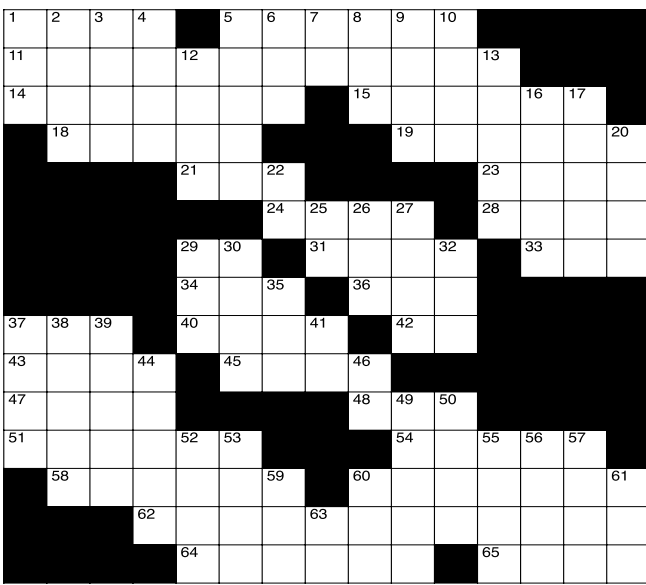
Verndale Alliance
109 NW Brown Street, Verndale, MN 56481
218-445-5619
Senior Pastor Tony Stanley
Heath Belknap, Pastor of Student Ministries
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Bible Fellowship Classes 11-11:45 a.m.

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.

Crossword Puzzle

Week 3



- CLUES ACROSS**
1. Cut into cubes
5. Food flavorings
11. Longest tenured "Tonight Show" host
14. One being educated
15. British conservatism
18. End without completion
19. Boater
21. Indicated horsepower (abbr.)
23. Protects the chest
24. Expresses pleasure
28. Stiff hair, bristle
29. Blood type
31. Taxis
33. Ribbed material
34. Young female socialite
36. Game cube
37. Priest's liturgical vestment
40. 2.1 km tributary of the river Seille
42. The golden state
43. Powder mineral
45. Coat with plaster
47. Far East housemaid
48. Digital audiotape
51. Merchandising
54. Libreville is the capital
58. Incapable of flexibility
60. Language of Andorra
62. Repeat in concise form
64. Dark areas
65. Enough (archaic)
CLUES DOWN
1. Disk jockeys
2. 9th Greek letter
3. Fish of the carp family
4. Medical prefix for within
5. Short for synthesizer
6. What part of (abbr.)
7. Farm state
8. Thermionic vacuum tube
9. Employee stock ownership plan
10. A crane
12. Filippo ____, Saint
13. One below tens
16. Impatiently desirous
17. Inflict a heavy blow
20. As fast as can be done (abbr.)
22. Ma's partner
25. Carrier's invention
26. Possessed
27. Invests in little enterprises
29. Summate
30. Rosary part
32. A large body of water
35. Woman's undergarment
37. Essential oil obtained from flowers
38. Cripples
39. An explosion
41. Of, French
44. Fish of the genus Salvelinus
46. Bahrain dinar
49. Banded calcedony
50. Giant armadillo
52. In place of
53. Electronic countermeasures
55. Large package of cotton
56. 3564 m French Alp
57. European defense organization
59. Check
60. Former OSS
61. Not old
63. Goodwill promotion
CW151410

Answers

"Putting Christ First"

Pastor Greg Leslie

Motley United Methodist Church, Staples United Methodist Church

Where do we stand in our faith? Is Christ first in your life? It seems that society today has different thoughts about what should come first. Recently I read a report about how the church is declining, denominations are separating, less people are coming to church. And yet when we visit others and converse with them, many other things come to mind rather than Christ. There seems to be some correlation.

We have just finished the Christmas season, and we seem to forget that Christ is here once again. We should all start seeing Him as a beacon of our commu-

nity, even if our thoughts and interpretations differ.

From the Gospel of John 3:30 it states, "That He must increase and I must decrease".

I hope that the New Year serves you all well in your approach to being a disciple for Christ. I hope you find ways of increasing your personal connection to a broken world. Most of all I hope you all begin seeing how the birth of Christ can give us each an opportunity to bring Christ back into the lives of those who have forgotten.

Be a CHRISTIAN first.

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:

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

Ernie's Food Market
Groceries - Gas - Convenience - more
Staples, MN 218-894-1072

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

Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank
Fully Insured to \$250,000
Staples, MN 218-894-3900

Central Building Supply
Bob Reeck, Manager
Hwy. 10 West, Staples, MN

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

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

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



Central Lakes College announces Fall Honors List

Central Lakes College, Brainerd and Staples, has announced its 2018 Fall Semester Honors List. The President's List includes students who earned a grade point average of 3.75 or higher while enrolled in at least 12 credits. The Dean's List includes students who earned a grade point average of 3.25 - 3.74.

The released honors list does not include students who have requested no release of information. Local students named includes:

Motley

Jonathan Decker, Sa-

mantha Mrazek, Dominic Nistler, Mackenzie Wolpert, Krystal Yoder, President's List; Amber Bell, Jared Cleveland, Jordan DeChaine, Kali Mammenga, Gavin Smith, Jeremie Vanek, Kelsie Weite, Dean's List.

Pillager

Derek Chambers, Elise Jensen, Angela Masurka, Hannah Ruhl, President's List; Samantha Dixon, Jared Eng, Kailynn Heide, Anthony Horak, Noah Jacobson, Bo Kruchten, Olivia Ruhl, Rachel Ruhl, Mackenzie Shaw, Dean's List.

Staples

Tyler Davidson, Claire Mayhew, Alexandra Raiden Ritter, Sadie Thompson, Kristi Trana, President's List; Jacob Bakken, Kelly Bendson, Brian Dobson, Hannah Dolezal, Matthew Fisher, Chelsea Hofmann, Megan Host, Sydney Johnson, Stephanie Lenk, Olivia Leslie, Jared Manuel, Jacob O'Rourke, Jaxon Olander, Samantha Schimpp, Kyle Serich, Braden Tyrrell, Sueann Zitur, Dean's List.

Student Achievements

ALEXANDRIA TECHNICAL & COMMUNITY COLLEGE has announced its Fall 2018 Dean's List. To qualify, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher during the semester. Local students named include:

- Tristan Pfaff, Motley
- Melissa Zetah, Motley.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA DULUTH has announced its Dean's List for Fall Semester 2018. To qualify, students must have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. Local students named include:

- Jennifer North, Pillager
- Tanner Swenson, Pillager

lager

- Reid Busker, Staples
- Jenessa Iverson, Staples.

NORAH ANDERSON, Staples, has been named to the 2018 Fall Semester Dean's List at Augsburg University in Minneapolis. To qualify, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.50 or higher.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY - FARGO has announced its Fall 2018 Dean's List. To qualify, students must earn a 3.50 grade point average or higher and be enrolled in at least 12 class credits. Local students named include:

- Josie Erickson, Cushing
- Jacob Miller, Motley
- Matthew Cherne, Pillager
- Taiya Holmberg, Pillager
- Jaden Streed, Pillager
- Charles Bakken, Staples
- Chelsea Nanik, Staples
- Skyler Svendsen, Staples.

SAMANTHA THOMAS, Pillager, has been named to the 2018 Fall Semester Dean's List at Bethel University in St. Paul. To qualify, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.6 or higher during the semester.

Hello World

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:

Born to Jessica Beier and Andrew Thompson of Motley, a baby boy, Bellamy Marvin weighing eight pounds, two ounces on January 4, 2019.

Born to Jonna Seibert and Landon Ament of Wadena, a baby boy, Lane Raymond weighing eight pounds, two ounces on January 4, 2019.

Born to Bethany Hurtig and Benjamin Weekley of Wadena, a baby girl, Kinzlee Yvette weighing seven pounds, one ounce on January 5, 2019.

Born to Janae Johnson and Luke Ostrowski of Brainerd, a baby boy, Crue Leslie weighing eight pounds, 10 ounces on January 10, 2019.

Born to Karlee Morales and Kaleb Dahlvang of Staples, a baby boy, Kolton Matthew weighing seven pounds, 10 ounces on January 11, 2019.

WELCOMING HOME

TO MOTLEY...



Noah
Beautiful son of Debra & Thomas
Born 11/2/18 in Staples.



Arlo
Beautiful son of Chelcee & Cole
Born 11/14/18 in Staples.

TO STAPLES...



Lila
Beautiful daughter of Andrea & Jonathan
Born 11/5/18 in Staples.



Seaharra
Beautiful daughter of Tacassia & Schuyler
Born 11/26/18 in Staples.

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

Lakewood HEALTH SYSTEM
Your Choice. For a lifetime of care.
218-894-1515
lakewoodhealthsystem.com

Thank you FOR READING THE Staples World

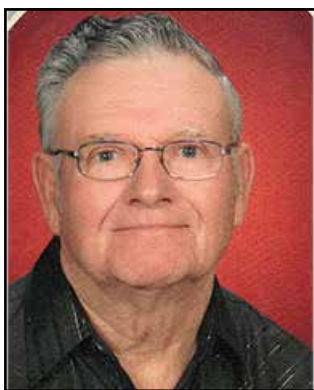


Topsy turvey snowman...

"I wanted to make people smile," said Addisyn Cichos of Staples, who built an upside down snowman following the January snowstorm that canceled

school. Addisyn's snow skills were noticed by neighbors in the Ravilla Street area of Staples. (Submitted photo)

Obituaries



Robert Cory

Robert "Bob" Cory of Staples passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family, at Lakewood Health Care Center in Staples on Thursday, January 10, 2019.

His funeral service will be held Saturday, January 19 at 2 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church in Staples. Visitation will be on Friday, January 18 from 4 to 6 p.m. at Brenny Funeral Chapel in Staples and will continue at the church on Saturday from 1 to 2 p.m.

Bob was born on April 13, 1932 in Poplar Township to Charles and Marie (McCoy) Cory. He purchased his farm in 1952. He was married to Evon (Dumpprope) in Staples on April 25, 1956. Besides operating the farm Bob worked at Durkee Manufacturing in Pine River for several years. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and camping in the foothills. Spending time with his family, especially his children and grandchildren, was very important to him.

Bob is survived by Evon, his wife of 62 years; his children, Roxanne (Kolby) Ingebretson of Moorhead, Randy (Elizabeth) Cory of Motley and Ron (Shelli) Cory of Staples; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

His parents and four brothers preceded him in death.

Brenny Funeral Chapel and Cremation Service
w3c A00006B2019JAN17



Delores Pipek

Delores M. Pipek, age 90, of Staples passed away on Saturday, January 12, 2019 at Lakewood Health Care System in Staples.

She was born on February 19, 1928 to Matilda (Wrede) and Charles Martin in Staples, MN. She married George E. Pipek on October 13, 1950. Together they raised five children.

She especially loved the great outdoors. She spent her summers golfing and won many tournaments over the years. She was an avid skier, bow hunter, and ice skater. Softball, bowling, and spearing were other activities she enjoyed throughout the years. Delores loved gardening and prided herself on preparing meals from the garden. During the summer months, her deck was beautifully arranged with spectacular flowers. Above all, her real passion was reading.

Delores spent many years fighting cancer and other illnesses, and all the while she never complained. She was a warrior and a hero who will be terribly missed by many.

She is preceded in death by her parents; husband, George; and brother Gerald Martin.

Delores will be deeply missed by her children, Karen (Tom) Schuster of Plains, MT, Gary (Karen) Pipek of Staples, Dan (Anna) Pipek of Staples, Diane (Chuck) Gillespie of Staples, Pam (Greg) Schmitz of Perham; 24 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; sisters, Mary Lee (Ken) Becker and Darlene (Tootie) (Rolie) Gode; brother, Ray (Angie) Martin.

Mass of Christian Burial for Delores will be held 11:00 a.m. on Friday, January 18, 2019 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Staples with Father Gabriel Walz presiding. A Rosary will be held at 9:00 a.m. followed by a gathering of family and friends from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. also at the church. Interment at Evergreen Hill Cemetery in Staples.

Arrangements are by Taylor Funeral Home, Staples.

w3c A00006B2019JAN17



Edna Dahlvang

Edna Dahlvang, age 77, of Rogers passed away peacefully on January 13, 2019 at the St. Cloud Hospital.

Funeral Services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on January 18 at the Brenny Funeral Chapel in Staples, MN. Family and friends are invited to gather beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the chapel on Friday. A gathering of family and friends will be held on Thurs., Jan. 17 from 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Brenny Funeral Chapel in Staples.

Edna was born in Wadena to Benjamin and Mabel Spilman on February 2, 1941.

Edna grew up in the Leader area and graduated from Staples High School in 1959. She married Robert Dahlvang on September 5, 1959.

Together, Robert and Edna raised their five children: Brad, Nina, Brian, Blake and Mary. In addition, she provided foster care to many children.

Edna attended Minnesota Beauty Academy in 1965 and received her license in December 1967. She went on to own and operate Imperial Hair Fashions.

Together with her husband they owned and managed multiple rental properties and a machine shop. She worked quality control at Joyner's Plating until her retirement.

She found pleasure in crocheting for which many of her projects were donated or held in fond possession of love ones. She enjoyed completing crossword puzzles over the phone with family and countless summers spent at the lake cabin.

She will be missed by her loving companion, Joe White; children, Brad (Misty), Nina, Brian (Vikki), Blake (Cathy) and Mary, grandchildren (10), great-grandchildren (16), brothers: Ernest, Vernon, Edward, Douglas, Richard and Walter; sisters: Irene, Mary, Elaine; and many other family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert; her parents; and her siblings, Wayne, Marvin, Leroy, Josephine and Donnie.

Arrangements are by Brenny Funeral Chapel, Staples.
w3c A00006B2019JAN17

Beverly Shinabarger

Beverly Shinabarger, age 88, passed away January 9, 2019, at the Lakewood Health System Care Center, Staples, MN.

She was born to Samuel and Mabel Carry on August 8, 1930 in Minneapolis MN. Beverly attended high school in Staples, and was married to Edward Shinabarger on October 12, 1947 in Philbrook.

She enjoyed raising goats and was known for her homemade bread, made with home ground wheat.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband and sister, Viola Comeaux.

She is survived by one sister Sylvia Collier of Staples, and nephews Chris and Jeff Collier and Steven Comeaux.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers or gifts of money please honor Bev by doing acts of kindness.

Arrangements are with the Schuller Family Funeral Homes, Wadena, MN
w2c A00006B2019JAN17

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Newspaper deadline for copy and advertising: 12 noon Fridays



SECOND NOTICE EVERGREEN HILL CEMETERY

Reminder: All holiday decorations must be removed by January 13, 2019 at Evergreen Hill Cemetery, Staples.

3pnc

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF STAPLES

The City of Staples, in conjunction with the Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has applied for Pre-Disaster Mitigation grant projects for a Storm Shelter/Safe Room and Severe Weather Warning System at Dower Lake Recreation Area.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), EO 11988 and EO 11990, public notice is required of any federal actions that affect floodplains or wetlands. All necessary permits will be obtained prior to construction and completion of the project.

The objectives of the Pre-Disaster Mitigation program are to prevent future losses of lives and property, to implement state or local Hazard Mitigation plans, to enable mitigation measures to be implemented, and to provide funding for identified and approved hazard mitigation projects.

Public participation is encouraged. Interested parties and/or citizens are invited to comment on the project within 30 days either in writing to:

Duane Castaldi, Regional Environmental Officer FEMA Region V 536 South Clark Street, 6th Floor Chicago, IL 60605

Or comments may be directed via e-mail to Mr. Castaldi: Duane.Castaldi@fema.dhs.gov

3pnc

TODD COUNTY PUBLIC OUTREACH NOTICE

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has enacted a requirement that all local agencies with greater than 50 employees or who are slated to receive federal funding included in the 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) must develop and adopt an ADA Transition Plan or be substantially working towards completion of the plan.

Each agency is required to complete a self-evaluation/survey of its facilities, policies and practices as it relates to the requirements set forth in The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Repair or replacement of deficient facilities must be noted and addressed in a formal transition plan.

This document has been created to specifically cover accessibility within the public rights of way and does not include information on Todd County programs, practices, or building facilities not related to public rights of way.

The draft Todd County ADA Transition Plan is available on the Todd County website at the following address: https://www.co.todd.mn.us/departments/public_works/public_works_frontpage_panel. Hard copies of the draft are also available at the Todd County Public Works Department (see address below).

The County is seeking public comment through February 25th, 2019. Any comments should be directed to Loren Fellbaum, Todd County Engineer at the following physical or email address:

Loren Fellbaum, Todd County Engineer 44 Riverside Drive Long Prairie, MN 56347 lorenfellbaum@co.todd.mn.us

3-4pnc

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DECEMBER 27, 2018

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 27th day of December, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Neumann. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda

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

Consent Agenda

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

To approve the Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for December 17 and 18, 2018 as presented.

To approve the Human Resources Report for Personnel Actions dated December 27, 2018 as on file.

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants (ACH) 400085 through 400105 in the amount of \$13,269.45 and (Regular) 50626 through 50695 in the amount of \$66,079.77 for a total of \$79,349.22.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Warrants number 514660 through 514676 in the amount of \$14,157.84 and warrants number 704101 through 704178 in the amount of \$324,435.38.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the contract with Peters Law Office for Public Defender services in Todd County for 2019.

County Sheriff

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Law Enforcement Labor Services Union 156 and Todd County.

County Fee Schedule Hearing

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To open the floor for public input regarding the 2019 Proposed County Fee Schedule.

Commissioners

On motion by Becker and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To establish a Policy Committee to update, review, and maintain all of the County's Policies every three years at minimum. Members would include two County Commissioners, HR Manager, County Coordinator, County Attorney and/or Labor Attorney, one Elected Official, and two Department Heads.

Solid Waste Fee Hearing

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

introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To open the floor for public input regarding the 2019 Proposed Solid Waste Tipping, Parcel, Mattress and Tire Fee Schedules.

Solid Waste

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

2019 BOARD RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING SOLID WASTE TIPPING FEES

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners is mandated by the State of Minnesota to manage solid waste generated by its citizens in environmentally correct and state approved processes; and

WHEREAS, The Todd County Board of Commissioners have authority to establish and modify solid waste service fees and tipping fees; and

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners have been presented the proposal for setting the Residential Tipping Fee at \$0.08 per pound, and the Commercial Tipping Fee at \$100 per ton for the Todd County Solid Waste Transfer Station.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners set the Residential Tipping Fee at \$0.08 per pound, and the Commercial Tipping Fee at \$100 per ton for the Todd County Transfer Station, to be implemented on February 1, 2019.

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

2019 BOARD RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING SOLID WASTE PARCEL FEES

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners is mandated by the State of Minnesota to manage solid waste generated by its citizens in environmentally correct and state approved processes; and

WHEREAS, The Todd County Board of Commissioners have authority to establish and modify solid waste service fees and parcel fees; and

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners have been presented the proposal for setting the Residential Parcel Fee at \$48, and the Commercial Parcel Fee at \$48 for

the first ton, and remaining at \$40 for every ton after for the Todd County Solid Waste Transfer Station.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Todd County Board of Commissioners set the Residential Parcel Fee at \$48.00, and the Commercial Parcel Fee at \$48 for the first ton, and remaining at \$40 for every ton after for the Todd County Transfer Station, to be implemented on January 1, 2019.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Erickson, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

2019 BOARD RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING SOLID WASTE MATTRESS AND TIRE FEES

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners is mandated by the State of Minnesota to manage solid waste generated by its citizens in environmentally correct and state approved processes; and

WHEREAS, The Todd County Board of Commissioners have authority to establish and modify solid waste service fees and mattress and tire disposal fees; and

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners have been presented the proposal for setting the Mattress Disposal Fee at \$12 per mattress, \$12 per box spring, and the Tire Disposal Fee at \$0.13 per pound, or \$5 for a regular passenger vehicle tire and \$10 for a regular passenger vehicle tire if it has a rim, for the Todd County Solid Waste Transfer Station.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners set the Mattress Disposal Fee at \$12 per mattress, \$12 per box spring and the Tire Disposal Fee at \$0.13 per pound, or \$5 for a regular passenger vehicle tire and \$10 for a regular passenger vehicle tire if it has a rim for the Todd County Solid Waste Transfer Station, to be implemented on January 1, 2019.

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

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE 2019 SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE FUND BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Todd

County Board of Commissioners are required to adopt an annual budget and certify it to the County Auditor;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the following as the 2019 Budget for the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund of the County of Todd, Minnesota and directs that it be forwarded to the County Auditor.

Table with 2 columns: Vendor Name, \$ Amount. Includes MACH. CO INC, MORRISON CO PUBLIC HEALTH SERV, NORTHERN STAR COOP, ROYAL TIRE, SATELLITE TRACKING OF PEOPLE (STOP), TURNKEY/THREE SQUARE MARKET, 82 PAYMENTS LESS, THAN \$2,000, Total \$79,349.22.

Table with 2 columns: Vendor Name, \$ Amount. Includes HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS, MID MINNESOTA DRUG TESTING INC, VILLAGE RANCH INC, PAYMENTS LESS.

Solid Waste Enterprise Fund 2019 Budget table comparing 2019 Budget and 2018 Budget across categories like Property Taxes, Licenses & Permits, Intergovernmental, State Grants, Charges For Services, Miscellaneous, Transfers in, Subtotal Revenues, Personal Services, Services And Charges, Supplies And Materials, Capital Expenditures, Other Expenditures, Transfers, Subtotal Expenditures, Balance.

Auditor-Treasurer's Report

The Auditor-Treasurer has nothing to report at this time.

Commissioner's Report

The Commissioners had nothing to report at this time.

Coordinator's Report

The Coordinator had nothing to report at this time.

Service Awards

Todd County Recorder Cheryl Perish and Todd County Sheriff Don Asmus were presented Service Awards for their long-standing service to the citizens of Todd County and congratulated on their upcoming retirements.

Adjourn

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Becker, the meeting was adjourned for the month of December 2018.

AUDITORS WARRANTS table with Vendor Name and \$ Amount. Includes ALLIED 100, BRAATEN SAND & GRAVEL, LITTLE FALLS MACHINE INC, LONG PRAIRIE.

Table with 2 columns: Vendor Name, \$ Amount. Includes THAN \$2,000, Total 14,157.84.

Table with 2 columns: Vendor Name, \$ Amount. Includes DHS-SWIFT, PERISH/ALAN, PSJ ACQUISITION LLC, WILLIAMS DINGMANN FAMILY FUNERAL-LONG PRAIRIE, V#15450-COST, EFF HEALTH INS, 70 PAYMENTS LESS, THAN \$2,000, DHS - MSOP- MN SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM, DHS - ST PETER, RTC - 472, RURAL MN CEP INC, Total \$324,435.38.

On a motion by Kircher and seconded by Erickson, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held December 27, 2018 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on January 2, 2019.

Witness my hand and seal:

Gary Kneisl, County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

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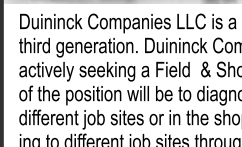
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Aerated lakes warning

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has issued its annual ice safety warning for lakes with winter aeration systems.

Aeration creates areas of thin ice and open water that are extremely hazardous to people and pets. Open water areas can shift or change shapes, depending on weather conditions, and leaks may develop in air lines, creating other areas of weak ice or open water.

The updated list of aerated lakes and more information is available at mndnr.gov/eco/lakeaeration.

"We're urging people to use caution any time they venture onto lake ice, especially at night," said Amanda Yourd, DNR hydrologist and aeration coordinator. "Extreme care should be taken on aerated lakes. Watch for the large orange and black warning signs at high-use public accesses and the required thin ice signs around open water areas."

Aeration systems help prevent winter-kill of fish populations by adding oxygen to the lake and, in certain situations, to protect shorelines from ice damage. They are generally operated from the time the lakes freeze until the ice breaks up in the

spring. About 280 lakes will have aeration systems operating on them this winter. Private hatchery operators also use aeration systems, usually on small lakes without public accesses.

A permit from the DNR is required to install and operate an aeration system. Permit holders must publish public notices, post warning signs and inspect the systems at least once every seven days. Liability insurance is generally required of private groups or citizens operating aeration systems in protected waters. Watch for notices in local media identifying aerated lakes. DNR staff ensure permittees comply with all requirements and regularly inspect systems for safety.

Some municipalities may have ordinances that prohibit entering into the thin ice marked area and/or prohibit the night use of motorized vehicles on lakes with aeration systems in operation. These local regulations are often posted at accesses where they apply.

Questions concerning aeration or thin ice can be answered by calling a regional or area fisheries office or the DNR at 888-646-6367.

The spot on the spot

By Jeff Weaver

We have all heard the saying "spot on the spot" when it comes to finding and catching fish, but does it really matter? Yes, it does, so much so, especially in the winter, that when placing either my portable or permanent house I spend extra time using both my depth finder and my handheld GPS to get my location to be spot on.

Some will say that you can drill a bunch of holes and hole hop up and down the break or structure trying to locate, or follow, a school of fish. This technique works, but in cold harsh conditions, not so much.

So, what is the spot on the spot. In many cases it may be as simple as some green weeds, a lone boulder on a gravel bar or an inside turn on a mid-lake point. Brush piles, underwater cribs or pilings, even transition areas from mud or soft bottom to hard bottom can be considered the spot on the spot, so it is critically important to make sure your ice fishing location includes one or more of these underwater type features.

So how do you find one

of these spots on the spot areas that will be productive in the winter. That process really starts during the open water season.

One of the techniques I like to do is to try and use the same type of depth finding electronics and the same type of GPS navigation unit with the same lake chip and make notes and drop weigh-points which look like they are going to be a good winter location.

One of the biggest fish holding attractants I look for are solid green weeds. This is easily done with today's modern electronics like graphs and flashers. If this green weed area is adjacent to another structure change like a mid-lake point, inside turn or a transition area, you may have a location which may be a real productive winter location.

Again, I want to stress, using the same GPS navigation system and depth finding electronics in the winter as you do in the summer allows you to really key in on structure quickly and accurately. Differing systems will have different contours and features which will not put you in the fishing location

you desire.

When locating my ice fishing destination on any outing, I really depend on the two key pieces of electronics which we used during the summer months. I will use my GPS unit to navigate to the general area which I intend to fish. I have great confidence in the unit that I use and I believe it gets me to within a few feet of my intended location. Once arrived, I will punch a few holes to make sure I am in the desired depth, have green weeds and a good hard bottom. If all of these criteria are met, including marking some fish activity, I set up either my portable or permanent fish house to enjoy a day on the ice.

Modern ice fishing isn't about going out and drilling some holes by all the other houses and fishing. There is technology and equipment out there that will allow any hard water angler to be as sophisticated and mobile as you are during the open water season. Taking your time and understanding the equipment which is available will open up new hard water adventures and put more fish on the ice.



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*Thomas Sellnow is a Real Property Law Specialist certified by Real Property Section of Minnesota State Bar Association.
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Classified Advertising DELIVERS

Place your Classified Ad
for only **\$9⁸⁵/wk.**
Your ad will appear Thursday in the
Staples World
and online at www.staplesworld.com
and Saturday in the **SQUARE SHOOTER**

Both publications and Internet for One Price!

Payment must accompany the order.
Use form below or click on www.staplesworld.com
DEADLINE: 5 p.m. Monday

Classifications		
NOTICES	FOR SALE	WANTED TO BUY
100 Events/Announcements	300 Antiques/Collectibles	501 Miscellaneous
101 Card of Thanks	301 Good Things to Eat	502 Livestock
102 In Memory	302 Lawn/Garden	REAL ESTATE
103 Lost & Found	303 Hay/Straw/Feed/Seed	601 Wanted to Rent
104 Give Away	304 Livestock	602 Apartments for Rent
106 Personals	305 Pets	603 Houses for Rent
107 Notices	306 Sporting Goods	604 Commercial for Rent
SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT	307 Household	605 Mobile Homes for Rent
201 Business Opportunities	308 Musical	606 Land for Rent
202 Childcare Providers	309 Miscellaneous	607 Houses for Sale
203 Childcare Wanted	310 Health/Beauty	608 Farms for Sale
205 Help Wanted	311 Firewood	609 Mobile Homes for Sale
206 Positions Wanted	312 Christmas Trees	610 Land for Sale
207 Equipment for Rent	313 Computers/Office Equip.	611 Business Property for Sale
208 Storage	314 Farm Services	612 Real Estate Wanted
209 Business Services	315 Camper Trailer	
210 Animal Care/Supplies	VEHICLES	GARAGE SALES
211 Work Wanted	401 Automobiles	701 Garage Sales
	402 Trucks/Vans	702 Flea Market/Crafts
	403 Recreational	
	404 Farm Equipment	
	405 Heavy Equipment	
	406 Parts/Repair	

SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT

205 Help Wanted
Big Boyz, Hwy 210, Motley is looking for someone to **WASH TRUCKS AND CHANGE TIRES**. Apply in person Hours are 10 a.m.-5p.m. Mon-Fri. Pay based on work ethics and experience. 2-3c

Todd County HHS Employment Opportunities. Todd county HHS is looking for a reliable, service oriented individual to serve the citizens of Todd County in a full-time capacity for the following position: **Behavioral Health Supervisor**. To Learn more about this opening and how to apply visit the official Todd County website at www.co.todd.mn.us or <https://www.governmentjobs.com/career/cotoddmn>. Questions can be directed to Todd County Administration 320-732-6155. 2-3c

208 Storage

FOR RENT
Japke's North 8th Street Mini Storage, 894-1551
6x20, 10x12, 10x20, 10x24

209 Business Services
Will do snow removal from roofs. Paul Drake Tree Service. 218-639-9528. 2-4p

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At MMFCU, we don't just say "We're with you all the way" – we thrive on it for the benefit of our employees, members, products, services and community. Our employees play a vital role in building relationships with our members. This is where you come in. You like people, right? Make a career out of it! Help our members improve their financial well-being, and help yourself get the most out of your career.

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FOR SALE REAL ESTATE

303 Hay, Feed, Seed
Hay: 4 x 5 round bales.
218-397-2504. 3p

309 Miscellaneous PLAT BOOKS AVAILABLE IN COLOR: Todd, Morrison, Crow Wing and Wadena counties, \$40 plus \$2.95 tax. Staples World Office. 5tfx

602 Apartments for Rent

Studio. Heat, water furnished. \$475/mo. Security deposit/ reference required. Non smoking, no pets. Ken 218-894-3891, Gregg 763-772-2902. 3-5p

STAPLES: Downtown, 1 - 2 bdrm., recently remodeled, NO pets, non smoking, 218-894-3108. 6tfc

Classified Ad Order Form

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Classification # _____

Cost of Ad	
First 15 words for one week	\$9.85
Add for number of words over 15 x 25c =	_____
OR First 15 words for three weeks	\$25.00
Add for number of words over 15 x 25c =	_____
Add \$5 for bold type and/or CAPITALIZED indicate which word(s) is/are to be bold or capitalized	_____
Add \$10 for Blind Box	_____
TOTAL enclosed	_____

Card of Thanks and *In Memoriam* are 20c per word with no minimum.
Number of words _____ x 20c = _____
TOTAL enclosed _____

Please check your ad the first day.
Refunds or credit will not be given for errors brought to our attention after the second publication.
We are not responsible for errors due to illegible copy or missing punctuation.

Your ad will be printed as you write it.
Please print clearly, one word per space.

Use additional paper if necessary.
Thank you for your order!

Please mail completed form and check payment to:
Staples World, Box 100, Staples, MN 56479

The Fine Print

The publishers liability for errors in an advertisement or for failure to publish the ad shall be limited to publishing the ad in a subsequent issue or for the refund of any monies paid for an ad not run (and out of date for subsequent issues) providing the advertiser reports the error or omission immediately after it occurs.

All advertising copy is subject to the approval of the general manager. We will not accept ads from anyone with a past due account.

Regarding sex or age preference in help wanted advertising in accordance with the rules adopted by the Civil Rights Commission, the Staples World, Sunday Square Shooter and Heartland Market cannot accept help wanted advertising copy which in any way expresses a sex or age preference on the basis of a bonafide occupational requirement unless the advertiser files an affidavit with the newspaper justifying the sex or age preference on the basis of a bonafide occupational requirement.

All real estate and rental advertising in these publications is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which made it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin or any intention to make any such preference limitation or discrimination." These publications will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate or rental which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

HEARTLAND MARKET
Display ads: \$12.00 (per col. inch)
Classified Reader \$9.30 first 25 words; additional 35c each word (one week)

Auction Directory = \$3 per line; \$15 minimum.
Inserts = \$65 per thousand
* Color rates available.

Heartland Market deadline: 5 p.m. Wednesday.
Reaching over 20,585 homes;
DISTRIBUTED in these paid NEWSPAPERS: Staples World; Barnesville Record-Review; Battle Lake Review; Clay County Union of Ulen; Northwoods Press, Nevis; Eagle Bend/ Bertha/ Clarissa Independent News Herald; Hawley Herald; Henning Citizens Advocate; Long Prairie Leader; Parkers Prairie Independent; Sebeka/Menahga Review Messenger; Verndale Sun.

CENTRAL TODD COUNTY Central Todd County Care Center is seeking Certified Nursing Assistants

We are in search of someone who is looking for a rewarding job in the Nursing field. Evening and Night shifts now available for CNAs. Must be a TEAM player and possess a special interest in working with Long Term Care residents, families, and visitors.

CTCCC offers a wide variety of benefits and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Contact Amanda Rickbeil, arickbeil@ctcccinc.com or call 218-756-3636 ext. 12

Pick up an application in the Business Office, or after hours at the Nurse's Station.
Business Hours: Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

CENTRAL TODD COUNTY CARE CENTER IS LOCATED IN CLARISSA, MN.
EOE

Todd County Employment Opportunity

We are looking for reliable, service oriented individuals to serve the citizens of Todd County in the following areas:

- Road Deputy Full-Time

To learn more about these positions and how to apply visit the official Todd County Website at www.co.todd.mn.us or go directly to NEOGov at <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/cotoddmn>
Question can be directed to Administration at 320-732-6155 EOE

CENTRAL TODD COUNTY Central Todd County Care Center RN/LPN position available

We are in search of someone who is looking for a rewarding job in the Nursing field. Full-time night/ evening shift nurse (including every other weekend and holiday).

SIGN ON BONUS: \$2,000 FOR FULL-TIME
Must be a TEAM player and possess a special interest in working with Long Term Care residents, families, and visitors.

CTCCC offers a wide variety of benefits and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Contact Amanda Rickbeil: arickbeil@ctcccinc.com or call 218-756-3636 ext. 12

Pick up an application in the Business Office during business hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Or after hours at the Nurse's Station.

CENTRAL TODD COUNTY CARE CENTER IS LOCATED IN CLARISSA, MN.

VEHICLES WANTED TO BUY

501 Miscellaneous FREE DROP OFF: Microwaves, Air Conditioners, Water Heaters, Gas Grills, Propane Tanks, Furnaces, Lawn Mowers, Refrigerators, Freezers, Washers, Dryers, Misc. Iron and Scrap. Christmas Tree Lights. **WE BUY CANS AND BATTERIES.** NO: TV's, Electronics, Mattresses, Tires, Household trash. Call for information: 218-639-0150. Card Auto, 27593 Todd Line Rd, Staples. 36tfc

WANTED TO BUY: JUNK CARS & TRUCKS.
218-639-5509. 50-4p



Staples-Motley Schools seeks a **Full time Information Technology Systems Technician**

Associates degree in information technology or related field or equivalent; experience with MAC, Windows, Mobile Devices; hardware and software knowledge.
Complete job description available at www.isd2170.k12.mn.us
Submit application to:
District Office, 202 Pleasant Ave., Staples MN 56479.
Position open until filled. EOE

Did you Know ...
The local newspaper is the No. 1 source for community news, beating TV by nearly 5 times and the Internet by 10 times the audience

*Fourth annual NNA nationwide readership study

www.nnaweb.org

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Staples World newspaper subscription rates, one year:

Local: \$41 (Todd, Wadena, Morrison, Cass counties)
Minnesota: \$46.
Out-of-State: \$51.
Foreign: \$61.

Student Rate: \$31 per school year, in-state (Sept.-April)

On-Line: \$37
Print with on-line: \$65

P.O. Box 100
224 4th St. NE
Staples, MN 56479
218-894-1112
www.staplesworld.com

SCHOOL continued from page 1a

Building options still open

to refurbish it.

Mike Angland of Withersmith Smith Nolting architect firm showed possible floor plans and some of the concepts of updating the schools to fit modern educational needs. He said the plan would be to utilize central areas as collaborative spaces. It would also create enough space for special needs students, STEM classes (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), new music areas and adequate gym space. The elementary school would retain their early childhood spaces, which was not included in a previous floor plan.

Angland said there would be a new entrance to the competition gym at the high school site that will function as a community space, and they could also put in fitness areas and public meeting spaces to function like a community center. The current plans do not call for a swimming pool.

Choosing an option

The board held a straw poll, which is not a legal vote, to see what way board members were leaning on

the project. Bruce Lund, Mary Freeman, Chad Longbella and Greg Frisk indicated they are leaning towards the two building option, while Bryan Winkels and Brad Anderson abstained from the vote.

Based on the 4-2 split, Winkels recommended that the building planners start moving forward with plans for the two building option.

The board plans to take an official vote at the next meeting, on Tuesday, Jan. 22, starting at 6 p.m. at the high school media center.

Timeline

The board suggested moving ahead to fit the timeline for a referendum vote in May. Superintendent Ron Bratlie said the plans have to be ready in February, but he thought they would be able to do it.

Earlier in the meeting, Nexus Solutions gave statistics showing May could be a good time for a referendum vote.

"When unemployment is high, it is not a good time for a levy," said Brown. Recent statistics showed low unemployment statewide, and also in Todd and Wadena counties.



Scholars show prizes for DFS auction

Staples-Motley High School Dollars for Scholars representatives model just a few of the items to be auctioned at the Dollars for Scholars auction on Monday, Jan. 21 at the high school cafeteria. Students will serve a spaghetti dinner from 5-6:15 p.m., and the auction is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m.

Students modeling hand knitted items, from left, Scout Strickland, Emmitt Winkels, Cole Winkels, Max

Strickland, Kiera Dumpprope, Bo Erholtz and Mady Hull. Items in the photo include gift certificates for excursions and recreation, restaurant and food items, quilts, fishing and kayaking equipment, a cooler and air compressor, and a sledding toboggan. Many more retail items will be up for auction, as well as school spirit items such as reserved seats and autographed team items. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Thanks for the memories...



End of an era

Gary Mueller takes a break from putting together an ad for one of his customers at the Staples World, something he has done faithfully for the past 45 years. Mueller announced his retirement at the beginning of the year, with his last day on the job being Jan. 15. (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)

MUELLER continued from page 1a

It was very busy during those early days, Mueller went on. "I had lots of calls every week." He recalled walking from Kentucky Fried Chicken on the west end of town, to Williams Floral on the east, stopping at every business along his route.

Over the years, the downtown retail community began to disappear and the Staples World expanded its advertising to Motley, Pillager, Verndale, Wadena and Brainerd.

When Paul Caquelin bought the newspaper, he sent Mueller to the MNA (Minnesota Newspaper Association) Ad Sales and Design School for a week. That was very helpful, Mueller said, adding, "It was a turning point for me. I went from being an ad taker to being an ad seller."

After that, Mueller began to be more actively involved in offering suggestions to his customers as they contemplated advertising.

He has made plenty of phone calls over the years, and most recently, added email as a means to contact his customers. For Mueller, however, in-person communication is key to having a good rapport with advertisers. When you're there, face to face with your customers, you might glean some insight that would not happen over a phone conversation or email, Mueller said.

As he gets ready to pass the gavel on to the next ad representative, Mueller offers these words of advice. "Know your product. Be personable and listen. If a mistake is made, make sure they (customer) trust that it will be taken care of and dealt with fairly."

In addition to changes he experienced in advertising during his four-plus decades at the newspaper, Mueller also saw many changes in the area of technology. When he first

heard him ask, in his professional editor's voice, "Yes, may I speak with Mr. Lyon, please?" A short while later, they heard him hang up the phone in a huff and learned later that he'd called the Minnesota Zoo and the woman he spoke with played into the World's joke by answering, "Mr. Lyon is sleeping right now, would you like to speak with Mr. Tiger?"

They laughed about that joke for a long time.

Yes, he'll miss the camaraderie of his co-workers and customers, Mueller said. "I've got to thank all the retailers for putting up with me all these years," he said.

After 45 years of a routine he's appreciated and enjoyed, life will be different for Gary Mueller. However, he's looking forward to spending more time fishing out on Fish Trap Lake and the Crow Wing River; and plans to do more deer hunting than in past years. Plus, he and his wife, Shirley, want to do more traveling together.

Yes, Mueller, it's time for some well-deserved rest and relaxation.

When he shuts down his computer at the Staples World for the final time, his co-workers will be there to remind him that he's only 20 seconds from Lefty's.



Earlier days

Gary Mueller, right, Staples, joined the Staples World staff in 1973, helping start from scratch the newspaper's advertising department. During his 45 years at the paper, Mueller was part of several design changes and worked for five different publishers, including (in order of ownership) Chuck Mayer, Paul Caquelin, Mike Parta, Bill and Margie Devlin; and most recently, RMM Publications, who took over ownership at the beginning of this year. After 45 years donning the title 'ad rep,' Mueller is retiring.



'93 Lions help with food shelf demand

Staples Food Shelf coordinator Frank Leidenfrost, left, accepts \$1,000 from the Staples '93 Lions Club's Mike Gold. The Lions Club approved the extra donation to help the food shelf keep up with increased demand that started this fall. Leidenfrost said the food shelf served 78 families in September, including seven new families, and distributed

5,012 pounds of food. In October, 19 new families were part of 79 families provided with 6,345 pounds of food. In November, nine new families were part of 93 families who were served 5,917 pounds of food. December statistics were not available yet. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

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