



Wednesday, February 9, 2022

Staples, Minnesota

\$125

## Weather

### This Week's Forecast

|         | High | Low | Cond.        |
|---------|------|-----|--------------|
| Feb. 9  | 26°  | -1  | Cloudy       |
| Feb. 10 | 31   | 25  | Snow Showers |
| Feb. 11 | 30   | -7  | Cloudy       |
| Feb. 12 | 11   | 5   | P. Cloudy    |
| Feb. 13 | 22   | 7   | M. Sunny     |
| Feb. 14 | 24   | 14  | M. Sunny     |
| Feb. 15 | 25   | 10  | Cloudy       |

### Last Year, 2021

|         | High | Low | Cond.    |
|---------|------|-----|----------|
| Feb. 9  | -8°  | -11 | Sunny    |
| Feb. 10 | -10  | -12 | Sunny    |
| Feb. 11 | -5   | -14 | Cloudy   |
| Feb. 12 | -12  | -23 | M. Sunny |
| Feb. 13 | -15  | -22 | Sunny    |
| Feb. 14 | -10  | -27 | Sunny    |
| Feb. 15 | -3   | -28 | Sunny    |

Average Temps:  
H = 26° Low = 8°

Compiled by  
Dale Hausmann,  
WCCO's Staples area  
Weatherwatcher

## Public Notices

ISD #2170: 10A

## Obituary

Carol Gosse  
Vivien Griffith  
Paul Marohn



Thank you for subscribing!

## SM Speech first at tourney

The Staples Motley Cardinal Speech Team placed first at the Fergus Falls High School "Otter Orations" Tournament held Jan. 29. The first place title saw the Cardinals completing among 27 "A" and "AA" area teams. Points are awarded for Finalists and Honor Finalists, with the Cardinals earning 288 points; second place was Melrose with 194 and Bemidji placed third with 103 points.

The following speakers earned medals of recognition at the tournament: Micah Larson, Champion, Creative Expression; Keegan Harvey, 4th, Creative Expression; Laken Hines, 3rd, Drama; Keegan Harvey and Keegan Bestland, Champions, Duo; Caden Mrazek and Luke Bates, 2nd, Duo; Iain Sams and Cy Johnson, 3rd, Duo; Olivia Opheim and Estella Bock, 4th, Duo; Brynn Bestland and Addy Toepper, Honors 3rd, Duo; Isabel Birkholtz, Honors Champion, Ext. Reading; Walker Johnson, Honors 3rd, Ext. Reading; Brynn Bestland, 3rd, Ext. Speaking; Iain Sams, 3rd, Great Speeches; Raina Mikhaeil, Honors 2nd, Great Speeches; Connor Judd, 2nd, Humor; AJ Nienow, 3rd, Humor; Walker Johnson, Honors 6th, Humor; Olivia Opheim, Hon-

ors 2nd, Informative; Estella Bock, Honors 3rd, Informative; Jaden Johnson, 6th, Original Oratory; Grace Allen, Champion, Poetry; Riley Dabbs, Honors 3rd, Poetry; Cy Johnson, Honors 6th, Prose; Luke Bates, Honors 2nd, Prose; Grace Allen, Honors 5th, Prose; Riley Dabbs, Honors 3rd, Prose; Caden Mrazek, Champion, Storytelling; Keegan Bestland 3rd, Storytelling and Laken Hines, 5th, Storytelling.

Front, left to right: Bel Birkholtz, Addy Toepper, Cecily Moe, Brynn Bestland, Raina Mikhaeil, Walker Johnson; second row: Cy Johnson, Iain Sams, Isiah Tabatt, Andrew Daniels, Olivia Opheim, Grace Allen, Estella Bock; third row: Micah Larson, Laken Hines, Daniel Ortiz, Connor Judd, Caden Mrazek, Luke Bates, Jaden Johnson; fourth row: Riley Dabbs, Keegan Bestland, Keegan Harvey, AJ Nienow, Maddock Harvey. (Submitted photos)

**The Staples-Motley Speech team will be hosting their Staples Host Lions home tournament Saturday, February 12. The meet begins at 9:15 a.m. at the SM high school; the public is welcome to attend.**



## Champions

Grace Allen, Micah Larson, Caden Mrazek, Keegan Harvey, Keegan Bestland.



## Captains

Iain Sams and Connor Judd.

## Healthy Homes Assessment available

From Todd County Health and Human Services

Todd County Health and Human Services is offering free Healthy Home Assessments to Todd County residents in need of home assistance.

A Healthy Homes Assessment includes:

- Completion of a healthy homes checklist by a trained Healthy Homes practitioner
- Identification of any

housing-based health threats

- Information on mitigation efforts including: educational materials, community resources or programs that would benefit the household in addressing the safety and health concerns.
- Providing supplies to address the issue(s), such as: radon test kit, carbon monoxide monitor, non-

See **HOMES** on page 3a

## Elementary building plans approved

The Staples-Motley School Board approved construction documents for the Staples Elementary School addition of a gymnasium and renovating existing classrooms. This renovation and building addition is expected to cost \$12,334,000.

At a special board meeting Jan. 31, they also approved sending the doc-

uments out for bids. A bid opening is planned for Feb. 22 with approval at the Feb. 28 board meeting.

The construction plan is to start the gymnasium and finish the updates on the current building in the summer of 2022. The new gymnasium and wellness center is scheduled to be completed by the fall of 2023.

## Staples tax abatement policy moving forward

By Mark Anderson  
Managing Editor

The Staples Economic Development Authority (SEDA) gave their approval to a new tax abatement policy proposed for the city to use for economic development. The policy must go to the city council to be approved.

At the Jan. 25 SEDA Board meeting, Economic Development Director Melissa Wyman said the

tax abatement policy was developed to be similar to the policy that was passed by the City of Wadena, with several changes to fit Staples. A majority of the policy is determined by state statutes. She said other cities in Wadena County are looking to pass tax abatement policies as a county wide development effort.

According to the proposal, tax abatement may See **SEDA** on page 3a



## Wireless World welcomed

The Staples Chamber of Commerce welcomed Wireless World (Verizon) hosting a ribbon cutting at their location, 1230 US 10 (Ernie's Grocery) on Jan. 31. Wireless World remains in the Verizon store location with more tech products and services available.

Left to right: Rachel Johnson, Mayor Chris Etzler, Jennifer Crider, store manager, Zechariah Larson, sales agent, Todd Van Tol, greeter/check-in, Melissa Wyman, economic developer and Kathleen Ferrel, Staples Chamber of Commerce co-chair. (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)

## Possible mail theft in Scandia Valley Township

The Morrison County Sheriff's Office reports that on Jan. 31, at approximately 10:38 a.m., their office received a report of mail that was possibly stolen and dumped at the Crow Wing Power Substation located four miles east of Little Falls, off Hwy 27, in Little Falls Township. All the mail located came from the areas around Bear Road and Cottonwood Road, approximately five miles north of Cushing, in Scandia Valley Township.

Sheriff Larsen would like to remind residents of ways to protect themselves against mail theft.

- Mail your letters at the post office or hand them to a letter carrier when mailing items that may contain personal information or have monetary value, rather than placing them in your mailbox.

- Pick your mail up promptly after delivery. Don't leave it in your mailbox overnight.
  - Tell your post office when you will be out of town so they can hold your mail until you return.
- The sheriff's office is asking residents to contact law enforcement immediately if you witness someone other than the mail carrier or postal worker, manipulating someone's mail. If you do witness this type of activity, try to get a description of the person or the vehicle they are driving, as well as a plate number if possible.
- Sheriff Larsen is asking residents to contact their office at 320-632-9233 and ask for an investigator, if any suspicious activity was observed in the last couple days pertaining to this investigation.

## Snowmobile crash near Motley, one injured

The Morrison County Sheriff's Office reports that on Feb. 4, at approximately 12:46 p.m., their office received a report of a snowmobile accident with injuries on the snowmobile trail located off 330th Street, approximately six miles south of Motley in Scandia Valley Township.

According to the sheriff's office, 55-year-old John Jasinski of Faribault and 38-year-old Mark Johnson of East Grand Forks were driving snowmobiles traveling west on a trail that runs along 330th Street. Jasinski was traveling in front of Johnson and they

approached an area in the trail where it came to a 90-degree left turn. In the turn, Jasinski lost control causing him to be thrown off the snowmobile. Johnson then struck the snowmobile that was unoccupied. Jasinski was transported to Lakewood Health System Hospital in Staples by Mayo Clinic Ambulance with unknown injuries. Johnson was not injured.

The Morrison County Sheriff's Office was assisted at the scene by the MN DNR, Scandia Valley Fire Department, Scandia Valley First Response Team and Mayo Clinic Ambulance.

## COVID numbers remain high

COVID-19 numbers are surging due to the Omicron variant coming to Minnesota. Two communities in the area reached record weekly highs while others were lower than recent weeks.

Wadena had 104 new cases of COVID-19 and Verndale had 31, the highest weekly total for both zip codes. Browerville also had 31, their highest total since October.

Staples had 57 new cases, after recording 82 the previous week. Motley fell from 36 to 24. Other area communities that were lower than the week before are Pillager with 31 and Long Prairie with 74.

## Motley area police reports

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

Jan. 26 - The MPD arrested Chantel Deblois-Cervantes, 55, for driving while intoxicated.

Jan. 31 - The MPD arrested Danny Bishop, 32, for driving while intoxicated.

Jan. 29 - The MPD issued a citation to Allan Kostrzewski, 70 for failure to yield while making a left turn.

Jan. 28 - The MPD issued a citation to Alexander Soyering, 31, for speeding and no proof of insurance.

Jan. 27 - The MPD assisted Morrison County with a person that was turning himself in on a warrant.

Jan. 31 - The MCSO was dispatched to 21 mail tampering complaints in the Cushing area.

# Todd County Garden Day is March 26

The Todd County Master Gardeners in conjunction with the Sauk River Watershed will present the Todd County Garden Day on Saturday, March 26, 2022, from 8:15 a.m. to 3:05 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, 401 4th St South, Long Prairie.

Keynote speaker is John Ball, Professor at South Dakota State University Extension Forestry Specialist & South Dakota Department of Agriculture Forest Health Specialist. John will be presenting on Diversifying Our Landscapes. We

have our favorites, but we need to diversify our landscapes.

Then you will have the choice to attend four sessions on Jumping Worms, Native Plants for Shade & Woodlands, Designing Wonderful Containers, Penny-An Old Fashion Favorite, Succulent Gardening, Growing Apples in Zone 3, Introduction to Rock Gardening, Vegetable Gardening 101, Soil: Starting from the Ground Up, Getting Kids Interested in Gardening, Northern Accent Roses,

Native Plants for Sun & Sand, Starting Seeds, The Cutting Garden and Language of Flowers, MN Prairie Plants for the Rock Garden, Enjoy the Beauty of your Garden Inside, Outwitting Peter Rabbit and Bambi and Continuous Color in the Garden.

Bring a water sample for the Water Nitrates Test by the Sauk River Watershed.

Early bird registration is due by Feb. 28. For more information, email toddc-tymg@gmail.com

## Five Wings seeking grant ideas, local rep

Greater Minnesota residents with an idea to strengthen their community can now apply for partnership support from the University of Minnesota Extension Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships (RSDP).

RSDP supports local innovation by connecting community ideas to University of Minnesota resources. Community members work on diverse project teams that research, design and plan local sustainability projects with University students, faculty and staff. RSDP seeks ideas from

diverse populations and those who have not previously partnered with the University.

Project ideas are invited now through Feb. 14. Award decisions will be made by RSDP's five regional boards this spring.

### FWAC Seeks Todd County Representative

Council members are charged with setting policy, as well as approving grant programs and services designed to improve the lives of the people in Region Five through arts and cul-

ture programs. They also review and make funding award decisions about grant applications submitted to the council. In addition, Five Wings Arts Council members represent the Council at various arts events in the region and state.

Anyone interested in serving the arts in this capacity should submit a letter of interest stating their expertise and resume to Five Wings Arts Council, PO Box 118, Staples, MN 56479 or e-mail vicki.fwac@arvig.net. or call 877-654-2166.

## Film plastic recycling program expanding

The Film Plastic Recycling Program that serves Otter Tail, Todd and Wadena Counties is ready to bring more collection sites on board. The program collects film plastic material from farms and boat storage facilities and delivers it to a regional collection hub in Sauk Center. The collected film plastic is used by Revolution Bag, located in Arkansas, to make commercial trash bags with up to 94 percent post-consumer content.

Agricultural plastic, boat wrap, and other film plastics are a problem material due to the bulky nature of the waste, and the lack of convenient disposal options. Prior to the program that started in 2016, most agricultural film plastic was either land-filled or illegally burned on site, with no practical option for recycling. Otter Tail County received a grant last year to expand existing film plastic recycling efforts into a regional program with consistent monthly collection. Grant funds were used to purchase a truck dedicated to the program, and monthly collection has been ongoing since June of 2021.

Currently, Otter Tail County manages the program and collects over 200 tons of film plastic annually from farms and boat storage facilities for recycling. With 50 additional containers available for collection sites in February, the amount collected is expected to increase to over 280 tons annually.

Sites such as farms or marinas that generate a large amount of film plastic material may qualify for an on-site container that will be serviced regularly. Smaller sites with film plastic waste or individuals may drop off the material for recycling at any Otter Tail, Todd, or Wadena County Transfer Station at no charge. Material accepted in the program includes silage plastic, bale wrap, and bunker cover (No skrim or net wrap), and boat wrap (cords cut off). Drip tape and greenhouse plastic are also accepted in the program.

"We are thrilled that Otter Tail County was able to receive this grant and keep the film plastic recycling program going," said Assistant Director Zach Fjestad. "Additionally, we will add 50 more canisters to the pro-

gram and with the ability to bring film plastic to the transfer stations, everyone should have access to recycle this material."

Generators of film plastic are overwhelmingly supportive of this recycling program as it takes care of a long-standing problem with disposal of this material. "Great program, no more unsightly piles of plastic around the feed site or stray pieces across the fields" said Brad Johnson, farmer in Orwell Township in southwest Otter Tail County. "We just wish it would have existed 10 years ago!"

For more information about the Film Plastic Recycling Program visit <https://ottertailcountymn.us/film-plastic-collection/>. If you are interested in participating in this program, contact Zach Fjestad, Assistant Director for the Otter Tail County Solid Waste Department at 218-998-8950.

## DNR grants get children outside

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources announced another phase of the extremely popular No Child Left Inside grants. These grants help more children cast a line, study animal tracks, hike or bike, or simply learn more about nature.

"We continue to have high interest in our outreach grant program," said Jeff Ledermann, DNR education and skills team supervisor. "Children in many communities don't have the resources or opportunities to spend quality time outdoors. These grants help boost outdoor programs and initiatives all around the state and especially in communities with limited opportunities to connect with nature."

Public entities and non-profit organizations serving youth under age 18 can apply for these No Child Left Inside grants. The minimum funding request is \$5,000, with a maximum request of \$25,000. Applications for the current funding phase must be received by 2 p.m. on Thursday, March 10.



## From bench to back in the game.

Don't let an injury end your season—get expert help from the sports medicine team at Tri-County Health Care. Our skilled, certified staff customizes care to help athletes of all ages train safely, recover efficiently and return to the activities they enjoy. Find the treatments, services and support you need to stay at the top of your game, right here at Tri-County Health Care.



### Tri-County Health Care

is becoming **Astera Health**



To learn more, call **218-631-7522** or visit **TCHC.org**.

## FILM PLASTIC RECYCLING PROGRAM

Now accepting film plastic from boat wrap or ag plastic at Transfer Stations in Otter Tail, Wadena and Todd Counties.



Larger generators may qualify for an on-site dumpster and regular ongoing collection. For more info or to inquire visit [ottertailcountymn.us/film-plastic-collection](https://ottertailcountymn.us/film-plastic-collection) or call 218-998-8950



Looking back

75 Years Ago - 1947

Feb. 6, 1947 - Mrs. Edward L. Morey entertained the ladies of the Motley Study Club in her home Saturday afternoon, Feb. 1. Ten members were present. Roll call was on the life of Susan B. Anthony. Mrs. Rudy Topp gave a very interesting and informative topic on New Zealand and Australia. Poetry was read by Mrs. Dewitt Roberts. Vocabulary drill was lead by Mrs. A. F. Sampson. The members enjoyed a nice lunch following the meeting. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Fred Henry, March 1.

Compiled by Dawn Timbs

Feb. 6, 1947 - Carlson Furniture on Fourth Street in Staples advertized the following sales: 3-piece bedroom suite - maple finish, vanity, chest and bed - \$99.50; 5-piece bedroom suite - prima vera blond finish. Bed chest, vanity, bench and night stand - \$198; Inner-spring mattresses - \$44.50 and \$36.50.

Feb. 6, 1947 - Darrel Bryce, fireman, second class, aboard the USS P.C. 1168, is credited by the captain of his ship for the rescue of James Simons, MMOM 3/c, of New Orleans, who was overcome by smoke, and severely burned when a fire broke out aboard the ship while at sea.

Young Bryce assisted with extinguishing the fire aboard a P.C-1169, and was the first volunteer to rescue Simons, who was trapped in the engine room, was overcome by smoke and severely burned while on duty.

Bryce enlisted in the United States Navy after his graduation from Staples High School in June, 1946. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Bryce, Staples.

Feb. 6, 1947 - From Caserta, Italy, comes the



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our Feb. 3, 1972 edition. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photo? Do you have a memory to share? Email your answers and where you are from to dtimbs@staplesworld.com by Friday, or call 218-894-1112. The answers will be published in next week's paper, as well as a new mystery photo.

The office girl immediately contacted Staples Police on the radio, the fire alarm sounded and advised firemen to meet at the Fire hall for safety precautions, and Mr. Kenner was notified. Police and firemen converged on the hospital and with the assistance of hospital personnel, a search of the basement, first and second floors was conducted, but nothing was found. Fire trucks were stationed in the hospital area for a period of time, Kenner said.

50 Years Ago - 1972

Feb. 10, 1972 - A telephone call to the Staples Municipal Hospital late Monday afternoon caused considerable concern to hospital personnel, police authorities, members of the Staples Fire Department and county officials.

Gary Kenner, hospital administrator, told The World that a call came into the hospital about 5:40 p.m. Monday and the operator on duty took the call. The message was that the whole hospital would blow up in five minutes and then the caller hung up.

Staples Police officers, along with the Todd County Sheriff's Dept. and the Minnesota Crime Bureau are conducting an investigation concerning this matter. Officers said that a call of this type is a felony and carries a sentence up to 5 years.

Feb. 10, 1972 - The Cardinal Wrestlers of Coach Don Dravis walked away with their fifth consecutive Mid-State Conference Championship last Saturday on the mat of the C-I school. The Cards sent eight men into the championship matches and returned home with seven titleists and one runner-up. Building up a point total of 138 1/2, the Card finalists included Mike Roberts, Mark Bendson, Bill Bendson, Gordy Thompson, Charlie Sowers, Roger Madson, Jim Nichols and Loren Bendson.

Feb. 10, 1972 - Coleen Swecker, first girl member of the Motley FFA Chapter, topped five male members in the local FFA creed speaking contest held Jan. 31, in the high school cafeteria.

Kelly Boldan placed a very close second and Scott Rollins placed third in a speaking contest which included questions pertaining to the creed. Miss Swecker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Swecker Jr., will represent the chapter at the regional creed speaking contest March 11, in Aitkin.

Feb. 10, 1972 - Dr. and Mrs. Rick Weber left Monday for Minneapolis where they will spend a few days before leaving for Edinburgh, Scotland, where Dr. Weber will perform his clerkship for six weeks at the Orthopedic Hospital. Before returning to the United States, the Webers plan a two month auto tour of Europe, which will include a visit with the Hofmann family in Switzerland, home of Miss Mary Ann Hofmann, who is the foreign exchange daughter of Dr. Weber's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Weber of Staples.

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25 Years Ago - 1997

Feb. 6, 1997 - Greater Staples Hospital & Care Center was presented with the 1996 Care Providers of Minnesota Team Achievement Award at a ceremony held recently in Minneapolis.

Feb. 6, 1997 - The Staples Motley one-act play received the first place honors Saturday at the Section 6 tournament and will be competing Friday in the Class A one act state competition at O'Shaughnessy Auditorium at the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul.

SEDA continued from page 1a

Board looks at expanding Staples to help develop Highway 10 corridor

only be used to increase or preserve the tax base, provide employment or provide other development goals.

The SEDA board questioned if they should review the policy for one more month before approving it, but board member Steve Gertken said that it is a general document and every application will be approved on a case by case basis, so unless there was a large issue, they should approve it at the meeting.

Highway 10 expansion

Also at the Jan. 25 meeting, Wyman said that she has been in discussions with different prospective businesses that are looking for larger lots along Highway 10. The board noted the recent addition of the Casey's convenience store along the highway, which was built after the company purchased lots and homes along the highway. But there may not be ready-made opportunities for more homes to get sold.

Board member Doug Case suggested the city start looking to expand along the access road west of town, where there already are some businesses that are not in the city limits.

"I recognize that people might object and there could be hard feelings, but we have to look at what is best for the city," said Case.

Board member Chris Etzler said the city has cleaned up some city boundary issues in the past. "Any time this comes up it ruffles feathers," said Etzler. "But we have to consider how we

grow, there is only so much space on the Highway 10 corridor in city limits."

The board suggested they could start the conversation about future development along Highway 10.

Strategic plan

The SEDA Board reviewed their five year strategic plan, which was scheduled to run from 2017-2022.

The board found that many of their goals in three main categories: thriving economy, residential growth and social vibrancy. One part of the plan that did not improve much in the four years was building new single family homes.

Wyman suggested the next strategic plan could focus more on marketing. She has presented an offer from a company to develop a new web site and provide a marketing person that the city could use. The Golden Shovel proposal would cost \$6,000 a year.

Wyman said empty lots in the Staples Industrial Park are Shovel Ready Certified and could benefit from more marketing. The SEDA Board approved renewing memberships in statewide groups, the Economic Development Association of Minnesota, Community Venture Network and Minnesota Marketing Partnership.

In other development news, Wyman said the Batchelor Block Opera House project is included on the governor's list for funding in the next bonding bill.

HOMES continued from page 1a

Safe homes assessment

toxic cleaning supplies, batteries, childproof locks, private well testing, dehumidifier, trash cans, night lights, non-skid rugs, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, sheets/pillow covers, vacuum, lead test kits, electrical outlet covers and downspouts.

A follow-up visit to determine if home safety and health issues have improved

If you are interested in a Healthy Home Assessment please contact David Determan at 320-732-4271 or david.determan@co.todd.mn.us.

Staples World DEADLINES Newspaper deadline for copy and advertising: 12 noon Fridays

ONE Order Bill Check THE MINNESOTA DISPLAY AD NETWORK It's the no-stress way to place your newspaper ad in multiple publications. We can place it statewide or regionally. You'll place one order and because you only get one bill, you only write one check. Your newspaper representative can provide complete details. The 2x4 Network is a program of the MNA, phone 800-279-2979



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo, published in the Jan. 27, 1972 edition of the Staples World featured school nurses Mrs. Ruby Kittilson (seated) and Mrs. Beverly Nelsen (standing) performing a hearing test on Gary Weishalla, a seventh grader at the Staples Public Schools.

Beverly Nelsen of Staples recognized herself and fellow school nurse Ruby Kittilson using the audiometer to test students' hearing. "I do not know the student...I wish I did. We 'screened most students at that time, including students at the vocational school," Nelsen said.

Pat DiGiovanni of Motley; and Kathy Odden, Judy Wolak, and Brian and Lori Bates, all of Staples, correctly identified Kittilson and Nelsen. Janice Johnson of Staples recognized Ruby Kittilson, adding that she remembered her having a very kind heart. Mike Koppes of Staples recognized both school nurses, but guessed the student to be Danny Flom. Koppes also shared a funny story about the time Nelsen checked his hearing, but didn't see him raise his hand and kept turning the volume up. Thanks for participating in our Mystery Photo.

HOME HEALTH HAZARD? OWNERS & RENTERS Are you concerned about your home? A home health assessment can: Identify home and safety issues Provide education materials and supplies CALL TODAY! DAVID DETERMAN 320-732-4271 ESPANOL DISPONIBLE Todd County MINNESOTA



# DEED looks at Walz budget proposals for Minnesota

From Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)

Over the past two weeks, Governor Walz and Lt. Governor Flanagan have rolled out their Budget to Move Minnesota Forward. Several components of the plan will live under DEED's leadership, so we wanted to share the full picture of the proposal that DEED will focus on this legislative session.

The \$7.7B budget surplus has come to Minnesota at an inflection point in our economy. After two very difficult years for small businesses and workers across our state, we have an opportunity to seize this moment for the Minnesota economy and create a future that puts Minnesota on the cutting edge of job creation and economic growth. At DEED, our mission is to empower the growth of the Minnesota economy, for everyone. Our central aim in this budget is to empower growth that is rooted in equity and – together with business, labor, and community leaders – show the world that Minnesota met this moment of disruption with creativity and innovation.

Below you can learn more about the Department of Employment and Economic Development's priorities that are included in the Walz-Flanagan Budget to Move Minnesota Forward.

## Cut Taxes for Small Businesses

- Replenish the Unemployment Insurance trust fund.

The Governor and Lieutenant Governor's budget makes a one-time investment of \$2.73 billion to replenish the UI Trust Fund, which will prevent pandemic-related tax increases for businesses that were negatively impacted by COVID-19. This investment ensures that businesses across the state are held harmless and that future UI tax rates for employers will not be impacted by the pandemic.

## Ensure Broadband for Every Minnesotan

- Finish broadband statewide

The Walz-Flanagan budget invests \$170 million to finish the job of bringing border-to-border broadband access to all Minnesotans. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor's investment, which would remain a competitive matching fund grant program, would finally pave the way for achieving the state's goal of providing every Minnesotan with reliable broadband.

## Grow Small Businesses and Attract Talent

- Enhance Launch Minnesota

Governor Walz proposes investing \$5 million in the Launch Minnesota program to expand supports for our startup ecosystem and launch an accelerator to help startups scale in Minnesota.

- Invest in the Angel Tax Credit

The Governor recommends allocating \$7 million for the Angel Tax Credit in FY23 and \$10 million in FY24-25. The program is Minnesota's primary economic development tool to assist early-stage businesses engaged in technological innovation by providing a tax credit to investors or investment funds that make an equity investment. The Angel Tax Credit program has resulted in over \$498 million in private investment in Minnesota startups, leveraged by the state's issuance of \$120 million in tax credits to angel investors.

- State Small Business Credit Initiative Investment Changes

Minnesota is growing opportunities for startups and entrepreneurs by developing resources that encourage more private investment to fuel their growth. Allows the Department of Employment and Economic Development to take equity positions in small and emerging businesses to effectively manage and distribute the \$97 million in funding from the U.S. Treasury for the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) the state is receiving.

- Legalize Adult-Use Cannabis

Prohibiting the use of cannabis in Minnesota hasn't worked. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor know that Minnesota needs modernized solutions to harness the benefits of legalizing cannabis, including expanding our economy, creating jobs across the state, allowing law enforcement to focus on violent crime, and regulating the industry in order to keep our kids safe. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor recommend funding for the safe and responsible legalization of cannabis for adult-use in Minnesota.

- Expand Marketing Campaign to Attract Talent and Business Opportunities.

Minnesota has a long history as the problem-solving capital of America – our ideas have propelled the world forward, whether that's supercomputing, inventing in-ear hearing aids, or the pacemaker. This funding will also build out the agency's Business Vitality Council to assist state agencies in the planning process to address large issues facing Minnesota.

- Nonprofit Resiliency & Recovery Fund

Minnesota's nonprofit organizations are the first line of community support – particularly as communities recover and rebuild from COVID-19. They play a critical role in connecting people to supportive programs, funding, and services, and are essential to moving the state forward. The Governor recommends \$50 million to provide financial support for nonprofits critical to accelerating an equitable COVID-19 pandemic recovery – allowing nonprofits to scale their operations to meet current demands.

## Grow our Workforce

- Tech Jobs Pipeline for Youth

Minnesota's talent pipeline for technology severely lags the nation, and as a key indicator, last year Minnesota ranked 50th out of 50 states in the number of students who took the AP computer science examination. Yet, this sector is critical to Minnesota's economic growth. That's why Governor Walz is investing \$15 million in the Tech Youth Training program to prepare the future of our workforce

- Technology Re-skilling Training

Governor Walz proposes an investment of \$13 million in the Adult Tech Training Program for Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), and women. These are some of the highest-paying jobs in the state and will help close the gap on racial and gender disparities in our communities while also meeting tech labor demands.

- Clean Tech Workforce Training Program

Clean Tech Workforce Training Program to train, retrain, and upskill workers in the transportation, weatherization, and energy efficiency industries.

- Modernize Workforce Tools

The Governor's budget invests \$15 million in one-time funding to modernize the Department of Employment and Economic Development's workforce system to best serve Minnesota jobseekers with upgraded digital tools that bring the resources Minnesotans can get in-person, virtually.

- Paid Family and Medical Leave

Too many Minnesotans, especially those in lower-wage jobs, must make the unfair choice between a paycheck and taking time off work to care for a new baby or a family member with a serious illness.

## Create Opportunity for New Workers

- Office of New Americans

Immigrants and refugees from all parts of the globe are vital to Minnesota's future growth in every

corner of the state. However, is it essential that new Americans are included in the state's employment and economic growth and are supported through the integration process. That's why Governor Walz recommends \$470,000 to establish an Office of New Americans focused on supporting immigrant and refugee integration, reducing barriers to employment, and improving connections between employers and job seekers.

- Establish Office of Ombudsperson for the Safety, Health, and Wellbeing of Agricultural and Food Processing Workers

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed and exacerbated the challenges faced by agricultural and food processing workers. Governor Walz is prioritizing an investment of \$255,000 per year to fund an Office of Ombudsperson for the Safety, Health, and Wellbeing of Agricultural and Food Processing Workers.

- Fund the Extension of the Agricultural Worker Wellness Committee (AWWC)

Governor Walz recommends \$252,000 per year to extend the committee's efforts – which will support safety, health, and wellbeing for workers as well as their children, families, and communities.

## Address Climate Change to Create New Economic Opportunity

- Electric Vehicle and Charging Infrastructure Grant Program

Climate affects everyone and the transportation sector is the largest source of greenhouse gases in Minnesota. This program will help businesses transition their fleet vehicles to electric and will support the electric charging infrastructure necessary for such a transition. Governor Walz is recommending \$20 million to encourage businesses to upgrade their fleets and purchase light-duty electric vehicles and charging infrastructure.

- Energy Transition Grant Program

A number of power plants across Minnesota are scheduled for closure, which can have a negative impact on the communities surrounding them. Right now, 8-10 Minnesota counties and cities are, or will soon be, facing power plant closures as the state transitions out of fossil fuel-fired power plants. Governor Walz is recommending \$2.5 million to support impacted communities by providing resources for these communities to diversify their economies and find new opportunities for quality jobs and economic growth.

# Letter to the Editor

## Foster Grandparent program

For people thinking of retirement and don't know exactly what to do with all their time, they may want to look at Foster Grandparents. It is very beneficial to both the kids and to the person being the Foster Grandparent.

Our time in the program has been very beneficial to us, we have met some wonderful kids and hopefully they have benefitted from

us as much as we have benefitted from them. And we have met some wonderful teachers, on that subject the kids from around here are very lucky to have such wonderful and caring teachers. We are both amazed to see so many adults (teachers and paras) who truly care about the well being of the students, we cannot say enough about the pleasure we have gained from this program.

John and Marcia Marsh  
Motley, Minn



# Gazelka bill repeals tax on Social Security income

From the office of Senator Paul Gazelka

On the first day of the 2022 legislative session, Senator Paul Gazelka introduced a bill to fully and immediately repeal the state's outdated tax on Social Security income, allowing Minnesota's retirees to deduct all Social Security income on their state income taxes beginning next year.

"Cost of living keeps going up, and as one of the last states to tax Social Security income, we're making life difficult for our seniors who have paid enough in taxes throughout their life," Senator Gazelka said. "When seniors look at their finances and meeting their goals for retirement, they look at this tax, and it's causing more and more seniors to leave our state. This is bad for Minnesota, it is bad for economic activity, and it's time that we once and for all agree to fully phase out the Social Security income tax."

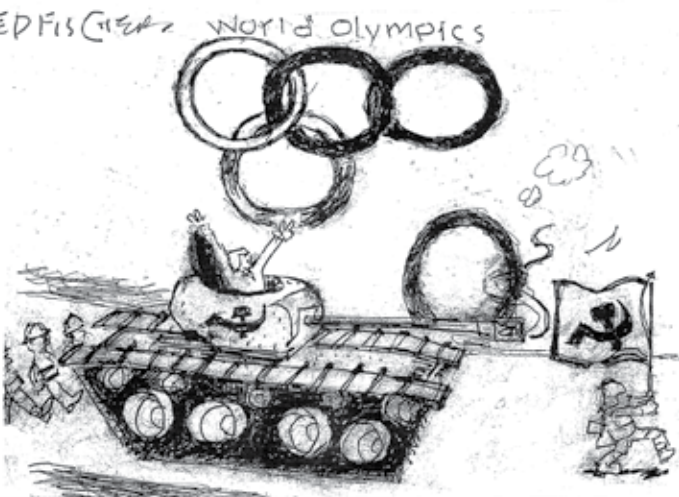
By taxing Social Security income, the state is taxing benefits that retirees already paid for during a lifetime of hard work. Eliminating this tax will deter the flight of retired Minnesotans to friendlier states who do not tax Social Security benefits. This is one of the most popular and frequent requests constituents make at town halls, via social media, and through emails and phone calls.

Facts about Social Security income taxes:

- Minnesota is one of only 12 states that still tax social security benefits.
- Kiplinger Magazine ranks Minnesota as "not tax-friendly" for retirees.
- Social Security is double taxed – once when it's taken out of your paycheck, and then again when you receive your benefit later in life.
- 352,000 Minnesota seniors would benefit from the repeal of the Social Security income tax.

Quote of the week

“It is through art that we will prevail and we will endure. It lives on after us and defines us as people.”  
— Rita Moreno



Quote of the week

“I would rather belong to a poor nation that was free than to a rich nation that had ceased to be in love with liberty.”  
— Woodrow Wilson

# Staples World



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

**Note to Advertisers:** Advertisers should check their ad following first publication. This newspaper shall not be liable for failure to publish an ad or for the typographic error or errors in publication except to the extent of the cost of the ad for the first day's insertion. Adjustment for errors is limited to the cost of that portion of the ad wherein the error occurred. The publisher reserves the right to cancel any advertisement at any time.

**Letters:** Readers are encouraged to express their views by writing letters to the editor. Letters are verified for authenticity, so please include a name, address and phone number. Only the author's name and city will be published. Letters may be edited for spelling and grammar errors, libel, length and other factors. Private thanks, solicitations and libelous letters will not be published. Letters are printed on a space available basis. The editor reserves the right to reject letters.

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

Member: Minnesota Newspaper Association, National Newspaper Association, Heartland Market Group, MCAN Advertising



## “Paradise Island” escape room at the Staples Library



### Roll Cobbs in the lead

Check out the “Paradise Island” escape room at the Staples Public Library. Be the first to solve the puzzles and escape from Paradise Island before it sinks into the ocean. Challenges include locks, puzzles and riddles. Groups that escape in the shortest amount of time win a \$25 gift card to a local restaurant. The fastest time so far is the “Roll Cobbs” with a time of 25 minutes and 26 seconds. Challenge ends Feb. 16. Sign up your team of five or less (teens - adults) at the library. Sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library.

Above: “Roll Cobbs,” Faith James, Olivia Vergin and Zach Strickland. (Submitted photos)



“Masked Bandits,” Patrick Perish, Kevin Perish, Grace Haines.



“Fierce Kitties,” Jennifer Scheerle, Carolyn Triepke, Shena Bue.



“3 Gens,” Jeanette Evans, Ella Judd, Tonia Judd, Macy Judd.

## Cardinal Calendar Staples-Motley School events

- February**
- **SNO DAZE** Feb. 7 - 11
  - **SPELLING BEE** Feb. 17, 1 p.m., Centennial Auditorium

All Staples-Motley Upcoming Events are subject to change. Go to [www.isd2170.k12.mn.us](http://www.isd2170.k12.mn.us) for up to the minute information.

**Staples World**  
DEADLINES  
Newspaper deadline for copy and advertising: 12 noon Fridays

## Mark Your Calendar

### February 9, 10

**FREE TAX-AIDE** Wednesdays, 1-4 p.m. and Thursdays, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m., through April 14, Staples City Hall. Must call for an appointment at 218-296-2159. For low to moderate income taxpayers.

**STAPLES SERENITY AA GROUP MTGS** are held at the Staples Assembly of God Church on Tuesday and Thursday evenings beginning at 7 p.m. Masks required. For more info., 320-874-0979.

**WADENA WHIRLWAYS SQUARE DANCE GROUP DANCING** Thursday, Feb. 10, 7:30 - 10 p.m., Staples Community Center. Larry Johansen, caller. For info., 218-296-1642.

### February 11

**WOMEN'S OPEN AA RECOV-**

**ERY MEETING** Every Friday in person, 10:30 a.m., Motley Free Methodist Church (lower level), 33 Wellwood St. E. Motley. All women welcome.

### February 14

**AA GROUP MTGS IN MOTLEY** are held at the United Methodist Church, 847 3rd Ave. S., on Mondays at 8 p.m.

### February 16

**STAPLES 60+SENIOR CITIZENS 'VALENTINES PENNY BINGO' PARTY** will be held Wednesday, Feb. 16, at noon. Door prizes include gift card to local business. To reserve your seat, call Arlene at 218-894-2254 no later than Feb. 14. If you wish to eat lunch, call 218-894-2556 before noon on Feb. 15 to reserve a meal.

## Annual Hawley Art Show is April 7 - 10

### Artists invited to enter their work

The 53rd Annual Hawley Art Show will be held April 7 - 10 at the Community Center in Hawley.

All artists are welcome to enter their artwork to be displayed and judged. Entries will be judged in four classes: professional, amateur, student (grades 7 - 12) and student (preK - 6th grade). Entries are limited

to original artwork only: paintings, drawings, printmaking and collages. Entry days are April 2 and 3, from 1 - 5 p.m.

For more information about the show call or text: Sandy Maydole, 218-329-9168; Jill Swanson, 218-790-1403; or Kat Glad, 701-388-0510.



### Pate is Driver of the Year

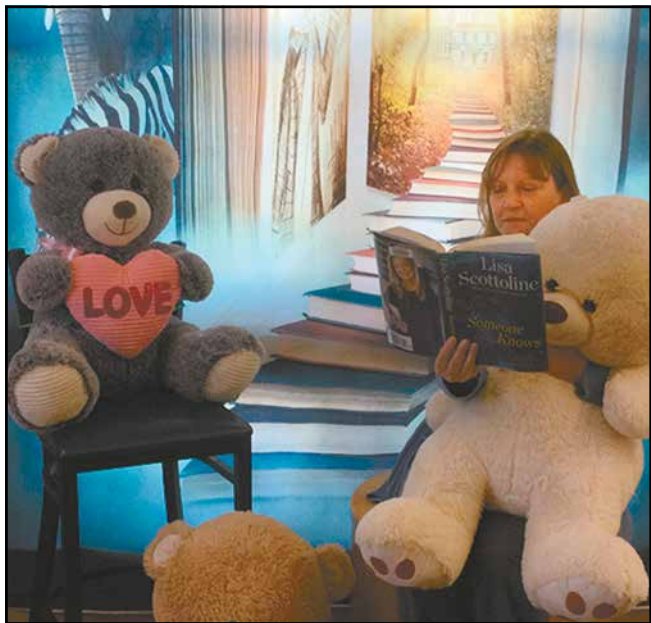
Jack Pate of Browerville was named “Driver of the Year” by the National Association of Small Trucking Companies. Pate drives for Daggett Truck Line of Frazee. Pate has driven for Daggett Truck Line for more than 24 years and has accumulated over 3,592,124 accident-free miles. “Daggett Truck Line is very proud of their drivers and should be proud of themselves as well,” said Buster Anderson, Executive Vice President of NASTC, “It says a lot about a company when they can attract and keep employees of this caliber.”

Pictured, Anderson and David Owen President of NASTC, present Pate with the award at the NASTC Annual Conference in Nashville on Nov. 6.



### “I Love to Read” in February

February is “I Love to Read” month and what better way to celebrate than with a good book at the Staples Public Library. The library features window paintings by Amy Bomstad, above. Those visiting can have their picture taken with your favorite book in the photo booth like Library Assistant, Angie Johnson. Explore the opportunities at the Staples Public Library during “I Love to Read” month or any time. (Submitted photos)



**NON TRADITIONAL LENDERS FORUM**  
**FEBRUARY 22, NOON, ZOOM**  
Learn about gap financing and hear directly from local lenders, including:  
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Todd Wadena Electric Co-Op  
North Central Economic Development Association  
Initiative Foundation  
**Register at:**  
<http://www.thealliancemn.org/news-&-events/non-traditional-lenders-forum>

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Rep. for Fergus Falls Monument Co.

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Looking for a gift idea?

Consider a Gift Subscription to the Staples World newspaper.

\*Gift cards available.

224 4th St. NE Staples, MN



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Hello World

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o o

Student Achievements

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BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:

Born to Nina Ecker and Jeffrey Wood of Wadena, a baby girl, Summer Grace weighing eight pounds, 13 ounces on January 28, 2022.

Born to Taylor Schmitz and David Burcham of Verndale, a baby boy, Emmett Michael weighing eight pounds, 15 ounces on January 31, 2022.

Born to Kaci Beach and Jesse Potz of Staples, a baby boy, Lennox Andrew weighing eight pounds, four ounces on February 3, 2022.

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Obituaries

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Paul Marohn

Harvey Paul Marohn, 93, of Motley, passed away February 5, 2022.

Services will be held Saturday, February 12 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Motley at 11:00 a.m. Visitation will be held one hour prior to services at the church.

Arrangements are by Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

w7c A00006B2022FB09

Carol Gosse

Carol 'Sue' Gosse, 66, of Staples, passed away February 4, 2022.

Services will be held Saturday, February 12 at the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel in Staples at 2:00 p.m. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the services at the Brenny Chapel.

Arrangements are by Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

w7c A00006B2022FB09



DON'T FORGET!!!!

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

Friday, noon

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance

1512 8th St. NE, Staples.....218-894-2891

Pastor Zach Jones

Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.

Sunday School.....11:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

AWANA.....6:00 p.m.

Assembly of God

914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples.....218-894-1081

Pastor Roy Miles

Small Groups (Bible classes for all ages).....9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship Service.....10:30 a.m.

Children's Church (Kids start in main worship service).....11 a.m.

Prayer Meeting.....5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Sonlight (kids ages 4 yrs.-6th grade).....After school to 5:30 p.m.

Youth Group (Teens, 7th-12th grade).....After school to 5:30 p.m.

Church of Christ

27343 490th St., Staples.....218-894-2609

Pastor Barry Klein

Facebook Live

Bible School (youth and adult).....9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY:

Teen Youth/Adults Bible Study.....7-8 p.m.

First Congregational Church, UCC

firstconougccstaples@gmail.com

204 5th St. NE, Staples.....218-894-2571

Worship.....9:30 a.m.

Fellowship, refreshments following service

Faith Lutheran

430 12th Street, NE., Staples.....218-894-1546

Pastor Carl Larson

Pastor Chris Mathiason

Sunday Worship Service.....9:00 a.m.

Sunday School and Coffee Fellowship.....10:05 a.m.

Sacred Heart Church

310 4th St. NE, Staples

Church.....218-894-2296

Pastor Fr. Aaron Kuhn

Parochial Vicar, Fr. Gabriel Walz

MASS:

Thursday and Friday.....8:30 a.m.

Sunday.....8:30 a.m.

Seventh Day Adventist

421 Dakota Ave. SE, Staples

218-894-0033

Saturday Worship.....9:30 am.

Sabbath School.....10:45 a.m.

Thomastown Covenant

15940 251st Ave., Staples.....218-894-3923

Pastor Scott Jorgenson

Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH.....6:30 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran

1000 4th St., NE, Staples.....218-894-2372

Rev. Robin Collins

Sunday Divine Service.....9:00 a.m.

Sunday School & Bible Class.....10:30 a.m.

United Methodist

310 5th St. NE, Staples.....218-894-2248

Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.

(Nursery Available for Sunday Worship)

Sunday School (for grades K-12 and adults).....9:15-10:15 a.m.

Aldrich

Balsamlund Lutheran

19550 490th Street, Aldrich

Eric Clapp.....701-261-2394 (cell)

Sunday Worship.....8:15 a.m.

Sunday School.....8:30 a.m.

Cushing

Bethany Lutheran

25430 Bison Rd.Cushing, MN

320-749-2140

Pastor Carl Larson

Pastor Chris Mathiason

www.bethanylutherancushing.org

Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.

Communion.....1st and 2nd Sunday of each month

Lincoln Evangelical Free

1354 320th Street, Cushing, MN 56443

Phone: 218- 575-2449

www.lincolnefree.org

Facebook Lincoln E Free

Office Hours: Tues. - Thurs., 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Senior Pastor: Don Reigstad

Community Life Pastor: Jim Brown

Associate Pastor: Joe Reigstad

SUNDAY

Church Worship Gathering.....10:00 a.m.

YouTube Channel.....10:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Community Meal.....5:30 p.m.

Family Night.....6:00 p.m.

Motley

Motley Free Methodist

33 Wellwood St. E

Motley 56466.....218-352-6888

Jim Johnson, Senior Pastor

Charles Mallory, Associate Pastor

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

facebook live.....9 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Youth Group.....6:00-8:00 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran

497 3rd Ave. S, Motley.....218-352-6399

Pastor Vicar Paul Koehler

Sunday School and Bible Class.....8:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.

St. Michael

1st St. and Birch, Motley.....218-894-2296

Pastor Fr. Aaron Kuhn

Parochial Vicar, Fr. Gabriel Walz

MASS:

Tuesday.....6:30 p.m.

Sunday.....10:30 a.m.

United Methodist

847 3rd Ave. S. Lane, Motley.....218-352-6466

Pastor Greg Leslie

www.motleyumc.net

Sunday Worship Service.....9:00 a.m.

Monday AA meeting.....8:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS)

524 Front Street, PO Box 116, Hewitt, MN

Pastor Robin Fish

Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.

United Methodist Church

Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN

Pastor Kenneth Uhren

Sunday Services.....10:30 a.m.

Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.

Verndale

Verndale Alliance

109 NW Brown Street, Verndale, MN 56481

218-445-5619

Senior Pastor Tony Stanley

Heath Belknap, Pastor of Student Ministries

Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.

Sunday Bible Fellowship Classes.....11-11:45 a.m.

Family Life Church

402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale 218-445-5568

VerndaleFLC@gmail.com

Pastor Amos Self.....218-371-7189

Children's Pastor Kenneth Kjeldergaard

SUNDAY

Sunday School.....8:30 a.m.

Worship Service.....10:00 a.m.

Prayer Meeting.....5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Night Life Groups.....6:30-8 p.m.

Hope Chapel Alliance

18126 County Road 7, Verndale

218-445-5643 or 218-472-3316

Pastor Neal Malcore

Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.

Sunday School.....10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Family Night.....5:30 p.m.

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Bartlett Township (LCMS)

17097 460th St., PO Box 37, Verndale

Pastor Robin Fish

Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.

Verndale United Methodist

10 3rd Ave. SW, Verndale

218-445-5108

Pastor Jill Pawlowski

Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.

Central United Methodist

5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar)

Pastor James Middendorf, 320-260-4950

Sunday Service.....9:00 a.m.

Bible Study.....10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Seeds of Hope.....7:00 p.m.

Verndale United Methodist

10 3rd Ave. SW, Verndale

218-445-5108

Pastor Jill Pawlowski

Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.

Central United Methodist

5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar)

Pastor James Middendorf, 320-260-4950

Sunday Service.....9:00 a.m.

Bible Study.....10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Seeds of Hope.....7:00 p.m.

Casino Assembly of God

Pastor Dan Johnson

N. of Motley, Hwy. 64, E. on Cty 34 to Cty. 104.

Phone.....218-746-3839

Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.

Worship.....10:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship.....7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY.....7:00 p.m.

First Baptist

903 River Street South, Pillager

Pastor Jake Anderson

218-746-3778

curious@fbcpillager.com

Worship Gathering.....10:00 a.m.

Connection Point.....9:30 a.m.

Hewitt

Church of the Nazarene

114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146 Hewitt, MN

218-924-2028

Pastor Wayne Hoffert

Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship.....10:45 a.m./6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY PRAYER.....7:00 p.m.

Vivien Griffith

Vivien Griffith, 90, of Motley, passed away January 30, 2022, at his home.

Services were held February 4 at the Motley Free Methodist Church.

Vivien was born to Vernon and Mabel (Rogers) Griffith on October 30, 1931, in Pillager. He met the love of his life, Donna Mae Loucks and they were united in marriage on January 26, 1952. Together they had four children. He worked with his brother in construction and they enjoyed building homes together. Viv also enjoyed ice fishing and hunting.

He is survived by his loving wife of 70 years, Donna; four children, Dean, Pat Crouse, Cindy (Ronny) Hanson and Deb Thompson, 15 grandchildren and many great-grandchildren.



Vivien is preceded in death by his parents; two brothers Marvin and Duane; one sister, Charlotte and one daughter in-law, Kim.

Arrangements were by the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

w7c A00006B2022FB09

CLC food pantries awarded microgrant

Central Lakes College was awarded a \$3,000 microgrant to support its campus food pantries from Swipe Out Hunger, a national nonprofit committed to ending college student hunger.

CLC was one of only 17 colleges nationwide to receive a microgrant in this first cycle of Swipe Out Hunger's inaugural campus pantry microgrant fund.

"The Swipe Out Hunger grant gives us the opportunity to continue to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables for our students," said Erich Heppner, CLC Director of Student Life. "Perishable food items can be challenging to come as they're not often donated. As a result, this grant allows us to go to our local grocery stores and purchase the fresh produce that we need. We believe that if students eat well, they will study well."

Rachel Sumekh, Founder and CEO of Swipe Out Hunger, said "Beyond best practices and a community of support, campus pantries made clear to us that increased funding was the most impactful way they could better support students' basic needs. We are thrilled to help colleges across the U.S. strengthen their pantries, and we're even more excited to learn how, with some additional support, campus pantries can better meet students' needs."

Cold temperature

The morning of Feb. 3, temps plummeted to -34 as recorded on a vehicle dashboard (not including wind chill).

Did you know...

81 percent of community newspaper readers read public notices?



2018 NMA Community Newspaper Readership Survey

Sayings for Church Signs

"To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing." -Dr. Martin Luther King

God has two dwellings; one in heaven, and the other in a meek and thankful heart.

Nothing is more honorable than a grateful heart.

Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it.

Act your praise, not your shoe size.

Have you thanked God today?

Give Thanks For Each Day...You'll Never Get To Live It Over Again.

If you can't feed a hundred people, then just feed one.

Gratitude is the heart's memory.

God gave us our relatives

What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal.

Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all the others.

"Drowning" in life's situations? Don't worry, your lifeguard walks on water.

"Fear not" appears in the Bible 365 times - once for each day

"If you don't plan for your future, you may not like what you get."

"One nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all".

"Peace. Be still." -Jesus

"Purity of speech, of the mind, of the senses, and of a compassionate heart are needed by one who desires to rise to the divine platform."

"Sincerity and truth are the basis of every virtue."

"Soul" food served here.

The devil offers treats - It's a lie.

Two things you can count on: Death and Taxes.

Are you ready for both?

Seven days without prayer makes one weak

A person without prayer is like a tree without roots.

A smile is a light in the window of your soul.

-sayingsforchurchsigns.com

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

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Staples, MN 218-894-1072

Staples Veterinary Clinic

"Complete Animal Care"

Staples, MN 218-894-1775

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Fully Insured to \$250,000

Staples, MN 218-894-3900

Central Building Supply

Hwy. 10 West, Staples, MN

218-894-3794

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Your community newspaper since 1890

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218-894-1112

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Staples, MN 218-894-3263

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

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

HAPPY Valentine's DAY



## Cardinals win on the road

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team had a busy week that started with a 61-58 win against Upsala on Jan. 31. The team played hard against Crosby-Ironton on Feb. 4, but lost 72-44. On Feb. 5, the team traveled to conference leader Detroit Lakes and didn't have enough left in the tank, falling 79-41.

Against Upsala, the Cardinals found themselves down 23-28 at halftime. Isaiah Schultz and Chandler Braith kept the Cardinals in the game, Schultz scoring 12 points in the half and Braith had eight. Schultz did all of his work inside, as he didn't make a three point shot until late in the game. Braith finished with 14 points that included four 3-pointers in the game.

In the second half, Dakota Hennigar and Sivert Klefsaas helped out in the scoring, Hennigar with 10 and Klefsaas with eight. The extra scoring help pushed

the Cardinals into the lead.

Against Crosby-Ironton, Staples-Motley fell behind early because of hot outside shooting by C-I. They stayed with them for much of the game but could never make up that deficit.

### Team results

**Staples-Motley 61, Upsala 58**

Scoring: Isaiah Schultz 19, Chandler Braith 14, Dakota Hennigar 13, Sivert Klefsaas 8, Hunter Miller 4, Dominic Gomez 3

**Staples-Motley 41, Detroit Lakes 79**

Scoring: Klefsaas 19, Schultz 12, Schimpp 6, Gomez 3 Hennigar 2

## Cards get first conference win

The Staples-Motley girls basketball team lost a road game at Pine River-Backus, 72-54 on Jan. 31, but came back strong to get a conference win, beating Aitkin at home, 74-54, on Feb. 3.

The Aitkin game was hard fought, with both teams refusing to let the other get an easy score. The result was a lot of free throws, and the Cardinals took advantage, making 27 of 38 shots at the line for 71 percent. Meanwhile, Aitkin made 24 out of 40 free throws.

Ashley Robben did a lot of the hard work, making nine out of eleven free throws. Lauren Rutten made five of six. Allison Knosalla made four 3-pointers but never went to the free throw line.

### Team results

**Staples-Motley 74, Aitkin 54**

Scoring: Lauren Rutten 20, Allison Knosalla 18, Ashley Robben 13, Addison Lorber 7, Kenzie Erickson 5, Olivia Lorber 4, Aften Robinson 2, Cami Anderson 2, Miranda Schotzko 2

## NFL player signs footballs for young fans in Staples

By Tom Crawford

Two grandparents from Staples recently conspired to help one young football enthusiast meet a professional football player.

Local barber Kurt Weishair, and one of his customers, Tom Crawford, former editor at the Staples World, had talked over several months about Tom's granddaughter having met and married a member of the Chicago Bears football team, linebacker Christian Jones.

In December, Kurt mentioned that he and his grandson Tayden enjoyed watching National Football League games together. "Tayden knows the plays, the players, he really eats that stuff up."

Kurt relayed how he told Tayden that he had a customer who knows an NFL player.

"You know someone who knows an NFL player?" was Tayden's astonished reaction.

At that time, the two old grandpas agreed that when the opportunity presented itself, they would try to introduce their respective grandsons.

With the end of the NFL season, that opportunity arose Jan. 29 and 30 when Christian and Elizabeth Jones (along with Elizabeth's mother, Peggy Howell) braved the cold to visit her grandparents, Tom and Patricia, who had just moved into an apartment at Lakewood Manor, Staples.

Christian had brought along an autographed Chicago Bears cap, while Tayden and his brothers Brodey and Ryker, had brought their footballs. It was all smiles as the three youngsters and Christian, who was No. 57 this



### Football signing

Chicago Bears linebacker Christian Jones signed a football for Tayden Weishair, who is watching very closely. (Submitted photos)



### Meeting an NFL player

Chicago Bear Christian Jones signed a football for brothers Brodey (No. 33) and Tayden Weishair. Brodey is wearing a Bears' hat given to the boys by Christian. At far left is his wife, Elizabeth.

past season with the Bears, talked football. Christian signed their footballs as their mom, Chelsea and

Grandpa Kurt told them they would never play with those again.



## Basketball action

Top photo, Dominic Gomez grabs a rebound in traffic against Crosby-Ironton. Above, Dakota Hennigar rises up to score over the defense. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



### Champions

The Staples-Motley sixth grade girl's basketball team won the championship at the Perham tournament held Jan. 29. Front: Brooklyn Winter, Chloe Larson, Jaide Holst. Back: Brooke Reisenauer, Alyce Scheler, Caroline Hoppe, Jazmine Hove, Clara Maros. (Submitted photo)



## Fourth grade BB team first at home tourney

The fourth grade Staples-Motley boy's basketball team placed first at their home tournament held Jan. 29

in Staples. The boys played Brainerd White, Brainerd Blue, Mille Lacs and Pillager. (Submitted photos)



### First place medals

Left: The Staples-Motley fourth grade boy's basketball team came home with first place medals Feb. 5 following their basketball tournament held in Walker. They faced Nevis, Pine River, Little Falls and Walker teams.

If you would like your youth sports photos considered for publication in the Staples World, send photos and info. To [jwinter@staplesworld.com](mailto:jwinter@staplesworld.com). Please include names.

# \$4 million grant for Todd County Solid Waste accepted

By Karin L. Nauber  
Todd County correspondent

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency selected Todd County to receive a grant for \$4,000,000 (four million dollars) through the Solid Waste Processing Facilities Capital Assistance Program (CAP).

The grant is for construction of a new transfer station and household hazardous waste facility.

The project budget includes approximately \$1.5 million in county matching funds. The grant money is from General Obligation Bond Proceeds generated by the State of Minnesota.

Todd County submitted a final grant application in March, 2021. In January, 2022, the State of Minnesota finalized their review and sent Todd County the grant agreement.

The only thing left to do for the county to utilize the funds was to accept the terms of the agreement and authorize Solid Waste Director Chris McConn to electronically sign the CAP grant agreement through DocuSign.

After a brief discussion with Commissioner David Kircher clarifying that they were doing everything correctly with having McConn sign, the board approved McConn to sign and the grant agreement was accepted.

The county share of approximately \$1,512,210 will

come from the Solid Waste Department for \$540,000 and from the General Fund in the amount of \$972,210.

#### In other business:

- Approved the transfer for the 2022 Parks and Trails appropriation of \$9,000.

- Held the annual Todd County Board of Commissioners and the Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Supervisors joint meeting in a joint session to discuss SWCD business. Topics this year was the SWCD funding, budgeting, feedlots and other items. Deja Anton presented most of the SWCD information.

Commissioner Barb Becker questioned if the county was giving SWCD too much power in that they have taken on some duties of planning and zoning.

Planning and Zoning Director Adam Ossefoort said that there would always be a line between these two offices because of enforcement issues.

Kircher said that part of the reason the SWCD was brought into the county buildings and under the wing of the planning and zoning office was to make things easier for the citizens who utilized the services.

- The board hereby scheduled the 2022 Todd County Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting for Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 6 p.m.

- After discussion, the board approved the low bid from Roof 1 to replace the roof on Annex 2 for \$81,529. It's being replaced due to

age and condition of the roof.

The Justice Center roof was also discussed as this one is in serious need of replacement, as well. Facilities Supervisor Mitch Johnson said that because of the many complications on that roof, it would require more work and more expense, but that it was being discussed, as well.

- At the Fall 2021 Road Meeting, the topic of creating an Adopt A Highway Program in the Public Works Department was discussed.

The board approved the creation of a Todd County Adopt A Highway Program.

- Set the 2022 Spring Road Meeting for Monday, April 4 at 9 a.m. at the Northern Shop.

- Approved and signed the 2022-2023 Snowmobile Safety Enforcement Grant in the amount of \$8,804.

- With Kircher opposed, the board approved receiving grant funding through the Federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) in the amount of \$25,419.13. The money will be used for improving security county-wide relating to voting.

Kircher's opposition was because he said it seems like every time there's going to be an election, the government is telling counties they have to spend more money for something.

Auditor/Treasurer Denise Gaida said that this grant was based for security and could be used for things

like securing voting areas and other issues they're working with the MIS department.

Kircher questioned, "We need to spend \$25,000 for a fob key?"

Coordinator Chris Pelzer said that the money could be used to enhance security countywide as long as it enhances the election security.

"Every election they send us money or want us to upgrade. This implies to me that we have security issues," added Kircher.

Pelzer said that the county did not have security issues, but that this was a great opportunity to use these funds instead of having to use county funds.

#### Background:

The Office of MN Secretary of State is currently soliciting applications from jurisdictions for grants to purchase voting equipment through the Federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) grant.

Todd County is eligible to apply and receive \$25,419.13 in funding through this grant, to be used to improve accessibility to, implement security improvements for elections systems for and/or fund other activities to improve the security of, federal elections.

The Chief Elections Officer of Todd County is delegated authority to execute the grant agreement.

Todd County has met all preliminary requirements to participate in the grant agreement.

# Gazelka awarded with MnFIRE Bronze Axe

The Minnesota Firefighter Initiative (MnFIRE) awarded Sen. Paul Gazelka its bronze axe to commemorate his leadership in the fight for firefighter health and wellness.

"I am extremely grateful to receive a legislator of the year award from MnFire for my work on the Hometown Heroes Assistance Program," Senator Gazelka said. "Firefighters are heroic public servants. We ask them to risk their lives to save our loved ones, homes, and communities. They are heroes and deserve our support in whatever mental or physical health issues they face, and I'm proud to be an advocate for them in St. Paul."

In July 2021, the state legislature passed the most comprehensive firefighter well-being legislation in the nation. The bipartisan Hometown Heroes Assistance Program dedicates \$4 million per year to ensure that every Minnesota firefighter will have access to the education, prevention, and care needed to handle a cardiac, emotional trauma, or cancer diagnosis.

"Minnesota's fire service is grateful for Sen. Gazelka's unwavering support to provide our state's hometown heroes with the health and wellness resources they need and deserve," said MnFIRE President George Esbensen. "The commemorative bronze axe is the highest honor we can bestow to show our appreciation for the commitment and support Sen. Gazelka has demonstrated for Minnesota's 20,000 volunteers, paid-on-call, part-time and full-time firefighters."

This milestone for firefighter health in Minnesota combines three vital elements: an assistance program with expanded emotional trauma resources, and up-to-\$20,000 critical illness policy, and ongoing health and wellness training. All active Minnesota firefighters – volunteer, paid-on-call, part-time and full-time – can access the MnFIRE Assistance Program, are automatically enrolled in the Critical Illness insurance policy, and can receive training, all at no cost.

Sports

Staples World

# Minnesota's CWD fight seems stuck in low gear

Last week a document expected to be of great significance was delivered to the state Legislature by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). That document reflected the DNR's new joint authority with the State Board of Animal Health to regulate captive deer and elk farms in Minnesota. The grant of this joint authority to the DNR last July by the Legislature was seen by many as a move in the right direction in the fight to contain the highly infectious, deadly-to-whitetails chronic wasting disease (CWD).

So far the DNR's report is getting less than enthusiastic reviews, and has not generated great confidence that the state's captive deer and elk farms - widely regarded as the culprit in the spread of CWD to wild deer - will be aggressively regulated.

Until the Legislature acted in 2021 to bring the Minnesota DNR into the regulatory picture, captive deer and elk farms were monitored and regulated solely by the State Board of Animal Health. This is apparently because these captive deer and elk are private property, and are raised behind farmers' fences, like beef, pork, and dairy cattle. This was a Frankenstein-like regulatory arrangement, for the expertise of the Board of Animal Health is the health issues and diseases of cattle, not wild animals. Its constituency is farmers, not sportsmen. And there has been little evidence that its loyalties do not lie in the same place.

Some of the details contained in the new report to the Legislature are troubling, to say the least. Roughly one third of the captive farms jointly inspected by the DNR and the Board of Animal Health had infractions; things such as untimely reporting of dead captive animals, and failure of fences that are supposed to keep wild whitetails and captive deer and elk apart. CWD can be spread by direct contact between captive and wild animals, and also spread to wild whitetails that encounter infectious residues left on the ground by infected captive deer or elk.

Fence failures are the biggest direct threat for spreading CWD from captive to wild animals. The report found that one out of five farms inspected had inadequate fencing. Under current rules, captive deer and elk farmers have 45 days to bring in

adequate fencing up to standard. Fortunately, the DNR has recommended that this far-too-generous repair timing be greatly reduced.

One of the most disturbing things to come out of the report was the revelation that the Board of Animal Health has taken the position that it will not conduct an inspection of a captive deer or elk farm if a farmer refuses to allow a representative of the DNR on its property to jointly inspect the facility and its animals.

The idea that a farmer could deny access to a state agency that is monitoring a highly infectious and deadly disease is outrageous. It's not a matter of private property rights. A farmer could not deny a government inspector access to his land and animals if the disease being monitored was foot-and-mouth disease, or mad cow disease. Denying access to inspect should not be a farmer's option.

A disease of domestic cattle or poultry can potentially become an epidemic that harms farmers, and - by extension - a farm state's economy. Such threats are taken very seriously, and control measures can't be ignored. But it seems apparent that not enough take seriously the potential impact of a debilitating, deer-killing disease running rampant among the state's whitetails. As things now stand, chronic wasting disease has escaped the small initial pocket of infection in the Southeast, and is now found in Central and Northern Minnesota, too. A common denominator has been the presence of infected animals on, or from, captive deer and elk farms.

Yet there has not been adequate support in the state Legislature for a moratorium on new farms for captive deer and elk in Minnesota. No appetite for a moratorium - recommended in the DNR's report - on importation of deer and elk from captive farms in other states where CWD is found.

Lawmakers are understandably reluctant to interfere with private enterprise. But the Legislature's doing virtually nothing to prevent CWD from becoming a pandemic among Minnesota's whitetail deer has its own - and huge - potential economic implications. The economic impact of deer hunting in Minnesota has been estimated at up to \$500 million each year, which easily dwarfs the economic benefits of captive deer and elk farms.

The DNR's authority over these farms is limited. The real power lies with the Minnesota Legislature, which so far has seemed content to stand by as the CWD genie gets ever closer to escaping from the bottle.

# Proposed Minnesota budget includes investments in outdoors

From Minnesota DNR

The announcement of the final piece of the Walz-Flanagan Budget to Move Minnesota Forward gives the full picture of 2022 investments in the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources' work. The Walz-Flanagan budget proposal for the DNR includes critical investments in infrastructure, climate adaptation and mitigation, and drought relief.

The bonding budget package includes \$221.4 million of infrastructure investments for the DNR, while the supplemental budget includes \$81.5 million for climate adaptation and mitigation, and \$13.35 million to address the impacts of the 2021 drought on the state's natural resources.

"The Move Minnesota Forward budget proposal can advance the DNR's mission and address critical issues such as climate change, improving access to the outdoors, and rehabilitating and modernizing aging - and in some cases failing - outdoor infrastructure," said Commissioner Sarah Strommen. "These are important investments that will connect Minnesotans to the outdoors and maintain our high quality of life throughout the state."

#### Infrastructure investments

The bonding budget package includes \$221.4 million for the DNR to care for existing assets; modernize, expand or develop facilities that support natural resource management and outdoor recreation; and invest in DNR-managed public

lands.

Key investments are:

- \$110.8 million to address deferred maintenance and to preserve existing assets
- \$36.4 million for modernizing or expanding existing facilities and investing in new facilities to address current and future needs
- \$20 million for flood hazard mitigation grants
- \$15 million for investments in public lands
- \$12 million for the continued development of Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine State Park
- \$8 million for dam safety repair, reconstruction and removal
- \$7.8 million for wildfire aviation infrastructure
- \$5 million for accessibility improvements at state parks and wildlife management areas
- \$5 million for community tree planting grants
- \$1 million for grants to local and regional parks and trails

#### Climate adaptation

The Walz-Flanagan supplemental budget includes \$81.5 million for investment in DNR-managed public lands, facilities and infrastructure to reduce carbon in the atmosphere, and work to adapt to current and future climate change impacts.

Key investments are:

- \$42 million for climate investments in natural lands and waters, including modernizing and enhancing DNR-managed assets and restoring streams to mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts
- \$24 million for acquisition of public lands to support recreation and conservation to decrease the

state's net greenhouse gas emissions

- \$10 million for enhancing grasslands and restoring wetlands on wildlife management areas for carbon capture and resiliency
- \$5.5 million for the Private Forest Management Program to accelerate technical and cost-share assistance to private woodland owners to manage their land for climate change mitigation and adaptation

#### Drought relief investments

The supplemental budget also includes \$13.35 million for the following DNR efforts to address impacts of the 2021 drought:

- \$5.55 million for replacing tree seedlings lost to the drought in public and private forests
- \$4.5 million to provide grants to local and tribal governments to plant and manage community shade trees
- \$3 million for water efficiency grants to municipal, tribal, and other community water suppliers
- \$300,000 to resolve DNR-confirmed well interference problems that occurred during the 2021 drought

The Move Minnesota Forward budget is a clear indication of the Walz-Flanagan Administration's commitment to investing in the DNR's ability to serve Minnesotans. During the 2022 legislative session, updates on the DNR's budget and policy proposals will be available on our website ([mndnr.gov/aboutdnr/legislativeinfo](http://mndnr.gov/aboutdnr/legislativeinfo)).



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## HELP WANTED: FT Administrative Assistant, District Office.

Staples-Motley School District is taking applications for a FT Administrative Assistant at the District Office. Must be a detailed multi-tasker with office experience.

**Position details may be viewed at:**

[www.isd2170.k12.mn.us](http://www.isd2170.k12.mn.us)

**Please submit resumé to: District Office,  
905 4th St. NE, Staples, MN 56479.**

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Freshwater Education District is seeking 2 specialist positions. The positions will be a combination of completing assessments, scoring, writing reports, and assisting staff with due process requests, programming, and/or overall education district projects.

A MN Special Education Licensure is required and at least three years of teaching experience is preferred.

**Application deadline: Noon on February 24, 2022**

**Please send Letter of Application, Resume' and 3 Letters of Recommendation to:**

Lori Murdock, Director of Special Education  
Freshwater Education District

2222 Industrial Drive, Wadena, MN 56482  
218.631.3505, ext. 1042 - [lmurdock@fed.k12.mn.us](mailto:lmurdock@fed.k12.mn.us)

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## WADENA COUNTY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### Appraiser/Records Specialist

Responsible to support the functions and staff of the Wadena County Assessor's Department by classifying property utilizing multiple applications, answering phone calls, customer service and generating and submitting reports to the MN Department of Revenue by statutory deadlines.

**SCHEDULE:** Mon.-Fri., 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**WAGE RANGE:** \$17.91 to \$24.42 per hour; Starting wage dependent on qualifications.

### Assistant County Engineer

Manages the development and implementation of highway construction projects, including road and bridge projects, and supervising staff and contractors in the design, construction, and maintenance of roads and bridges. Assists in supervision of Wadena County Highway Department.

**SCHEDULE:** Mon.-Fri., 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. - flexible schedule possible

**WAGE RANGE:** \$30.31 to \$41.31 per hour; Starting wage dependent on qualifications.

### Payroll Coordinator

Provides technical work to coordinate, perform, and maintain all County payroll. This position manages and maintains accounts payables, accounts receivable, and benefits deductions for the Human Resources Department. This position also assists the County Coordinator with administrative tasks.

**SCHEDULE:** Mon.-Fri., 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**WAGE RANGE:** \$19.51 to \$26.59 per hour; Starting wage dependent on qualifications.

**BENEFITS:** Health, vision, dental, short and long term disability, life, PERA retirement with employer contribution match, generous paid vacation and sick leave.

**HOW TO APPLY:** The online application and complete job descriptions are available at: [www.co.wadena.mn.us](http://www.co.wadena.mn.us).

the Human Resources office in the **Wadena County Courthouse**, 415 Jefferson Street S, Wadena, MN 56482.

Application deadlines will be listed on the County website postings.

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The Family of  
**Jennifer Ziegler**  
7p

### 107

#### Notices



#### Magic Forest Childcare Center in Staples

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### 205

#### Help Wanted

**COOK/BARTENDER**  
**PT:** Flexible days, nights, weekends; willing to work w/your schedule. Pick up applications at **FRIENDLY INN**, 2321 330th Ave., Motley or call 612-801-4463 w/questions. 6-7c



## HELP WANTED:

Staples-Motley School is taking applications for a **Custodian** at the Middle/High School.

PM/ evening shift. Must be able to stand for extended periods of time; background check is required. Benefits include Insurance, vacation and sick leave.

**Applications may be submitted to:**

**District Office, 905 4th St. NE, Staples, MN 56479**  
EOE/E

## FRONTIER TOWNHOMES

FOR RENTAL INFO CALL  
**218-296-5031**  
Under new ownership

We are accepting applications for 2 and 3 bedroom townhomes in Staples, a community you can get attached to. Rent based on income. Now professionally managed by

**BRUTGER**  
EQUITIES, INC.  
Income guidelines apply.

### 208

#### Storage

## FOR RENT

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

### 209

#### Business Services

Your major appliance parts source. Parts for all major brands. One day service, **Staples True Value**, Staples. 218-894-3263. 26tfc

## FOR SALE

### 301

#### Good Things To Eat

**BEEF HAMBURGER:** Born and raised on our farm, slaughtered locally. No hormones; no medicated feed. \$4.50/lb. Best to call after dark: Bonnie or Roger, 218-894-3275. ALSO: A fat beef in April. w4-7p

## WANTED TO BUY

### 501

**Miscellaneous  
JUNK CARS & TRUCKS.**  
218-639-5509. 6-7c

## REAL ESTATE

### 602

#### Apartments for Rent

#### \*Spacious Apartments\*

## FOR RENT - ALDRICH

1 and 2 bedrooms.

**COUNTRY LIVING, FISHING ON RIVER, ELECTRIC INCLUDED.**  
**Call 218-851-6798**

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

## EASTWOOD APARTMENTS

in **Motley MN.**

is now accepting

applications for **FUTURE**

**2-3 bedroom apartments**

Laundry facilities

available on site.

garage included with

apartment. All utilities paid.

Applications are available at:

**956 Hwy 10 S., Motley**

**For information and**

**qualifications**

**contact Nicole at**

**218-751-6881**

An Equal Housing Opportunity



Public Notices

NOTICE  
FAWN LAKE  
TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF AUDIT

The Annual Board of Audit for Fawn Lake Township will follow the regular February meeting to be held at the town hall on Monday, February 14, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Questions, call the clerk at 218-5310-0287.

Kelly Miller, Clerk  
Fawn Lake Township  
6-7pnc

NOTICE  
VILLARD TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF AUDIT

The Villard Town Board will hold it's annual Board of Audit at 6:45 p.m. on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at the Eastwood Inn, Motley, MN.

The regular monthly meeting will follow immediately after.

Mary Trantina Koenig, Clerk  
Villard Township  
7pnc

MOOSE LAKE 2022  
ANNUAL MEETING  
NOTICE

Moose Lake Township will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. at the Leader Community Hall.

The township is now accepting bids for road maintenance and cemetery maintenance. Please send bids to: Moose Lake Township Clerk, 5335 51st Ave. SW, Pine River MN 56474

In case of inclement weather, the alternate meeting date will be Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. at the Leader Community Hall.

Karen Roubal, Clerk  
Moose Lake Township  
6-7pnc

Staples Motley School Board

ISD #2170  
SCHOOL BOARD  
MEETING #10  
Dec. 20, 2021, 6 p.m.  
District Office

MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order with Winkels, Lund, Freeman, B. Anderson, Reeck and L. Anderson present (comprising a quorum). Also attending: Supt. Tappe; Finances, Regan; Principals Johnson and Schmidt; approximately 25 students and community members; Staples World Managing Editor; Anderson and Recording Secretary,

Madson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

**Motion** by Freeman, seconded by Lund, to add agenda items 10 and 10.1. MC

**Motion** by B. Anderson, seconded by Lund. to adopt the agenda. MC

**Recognize Public** - Chair Winkels welcomed the group and thanked everyone for coming.

**Community Forum** - none

**Consent Agenda:** **Motion** by Freeman, seconded by Reeck, to approve the Consent Agenda. MC

**Approve the Resolution to Accept Donations and Grants** **Motion** by Winkels,

See **SCHOOL BOARD** on page 11a

seconded by L. Anderson, to approve the Resolution to Accept Donations and Grants in the amount of \$ 15,150 and in-kind donations valued at \$600. MC

**Finance Items** John Regan presented the Financial Report

**Motion** by Freeman, seconded by Lund, to approve the Current School Year Budget & Certify the 2021 Tax Levy, Payable 2022 at \$5,314,323.96. MC

The Board will be asked to consider the sale of additional bonds in January or February. Ehlers will bring several options to the Board for consideration, and the decision will be based on

SECTION 00 11 13  
ADVERTISEMENT  
FOR BIDS

**TITLE:**  
**Staples-Motley  
Elementary  
- Facilities  
Improvements**

**LOCATION OF WORK:**  
1025 4th Street NE  
Staples, MN 56479

**OWNER:**  
**Staples-Motley Public  
Schools ISD #2170**  
905 Fourth Street NE  
Staples, MN 56479

**C O N S T R U C T I O N**  
**MANAGER:**

**ICS Consulting, LLC.**  
1331 Tyler Street,  
Suite 101  
Minneapolis, MN 55413  
(320) 360-5506  
Contact: Jorden Pangrac

**ARCHITECTURAL:**  
**JLG Architects**  
525 Broadway  
Alexandria, MN 56308  
(320) 408-7008

**STRUCTURAL:**  
**Northland Consulting  
Engineers**  
102 South 21st Ave West  
Duluth, MN 55806  
(218) 727-5995

**MECHANICAL &  
ELECTRICAL ENGI-  
NEER:**

**Obernal Engineering**  
2201 12th Street N,  
Suite E  
Fargo, ND 58102  
(701) 280-0500

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

The project consists of interior and exterior renovations to the existing Elementary School as well as an approximate 40,000 sf gym and wellness center addition. Renovations include interior classroom refreshes, indoor air quality upgrades and kitchen renovation. Work scopes include but are not limited to: Earthwork, Masonry, Precast Wall & Precast Plank, Concrete, Polished Concrete, Roofing, General Construction, Aluminum Doors & Windows, Flooring, Wood Athletic Flooring, Fluid Applied Flooring, Acoustical Ceilings & Acoustical Treatment, Food Service Equipment, Fire Suppression, Mechanical, and Electrical.

**BID DATE AND LOCATION:**

Sealed Bids will be received at Staples-Motley School District ISD #2170 District Office, 905 4th Street NE, Staples, MN 56479 then publicly opened and read aloud. Bids will be received and stamped-in prior to 2:00 p.m. local time on February 22, 2022. Bids submitted after allotted time will be discarded, NO EXCEPTIONS.

**EXAMINATION OF DOCUMENTS:**

Bidders may view drawings and specifications for the project at the office of the Construction Manager.

For Electronic access to the bidding documents, please contact the Construction Manager at (320) 360-5506. The Construction Manager can also provide locations of Builders Exchange's holding plans for contractors to access. Bidders are responsible for any, and all costs associated with the production of plans and specifications for their use.

**BIDDING REQUIREMENTS:**

Each Bidder must comply with the following requirements to reassure acknowledgment and recognition of their Bids:

Bids must be accompanied by Bid security in the form of a certified check,

cashier's check, or Bid bond in the amount of five percent (5%) of the base Bid submitted, made payable to the owner, as guarantee that Bidder will, if awarded, enter into contract in accordance with contract documents and submitted Bid.

Submit Bid on the prescribed form, which is furnished with the specification, with full name and address of the Bidder.

Completely fill in all blank spaces on the Bid Form, in ink or typewriter, in both words and figures.

Sign in longhand, executed by a principal duly authorized to enter into an agreement. If a Bidder is a co-partnership, then signatures on the Bid shall be by an authorized member of the firm, with names and addresses of each member of partnership.

Base Bid and all alternate Bids shall be stated both in writing and in figures. In all cases, written and numerical figures must agree; otherwise at Owner's option, it shall be cause for rejection of Bid. Complete form without alterations.

Submit alternate prices (Bid) for either increasing or decreasing the costs, as called for on Bid form and Description of Alternates. Submit a Bid for all alternates.

Owner may make such investigations as they deem necessary to determine the ability, competency, and responsibility of the Bidder to perform the work. Any Bidder shall furnish to Owner all such information and data for this purpose, as the Owner may request. Owner reserves the right to reject any Bid if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of, such Bidder fails to satisfy the Owner that such Bidder is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract and to complete the Work contemplated therein. The competence and responsibility of Bidder will be considered in making an award, including, but not limited to; (1) proof of financial responsibility, (2) quality of similar work, (3) amount of experience with similar projects, (4) facilities, personnel and equipment, (5) reputation for performance, and (6) the ability to complete the work within specified time. Owner reserves the right to reject any Bid where there is reasonable doubt as to the qualifications of the Bidder.

Owner reserves the right to; (1) accept Bidder's Base Bid only, (2) accept any one or more of bidder's Alternate Bids, in any order regardless of the order in which they were listed, (3) reject all Bids, (4) award contract based on his investigation of Bidders, as well as acceptance of alternates, all of which Owner deems to be in his best interest, (5) waive informalities or minor irregularities in Bids and waive minor irregularities or discrepancies in Bidding procedure.

Upon award of Contract, Contractor shall provide AIA A312 Performance and Payment Bonds in the amount of 100 percent (%) of Contract Sum in accordance with General Conditions and Amendments to General Conditions.

**BIDDING DOCUMENTS & SITE REVIEW:**

Each Bidder (including subcontract Bidder where appropriate) is required to visit the site and to fully inform themselves and record their own investigations as

to the extent of the Work, the extent of the work performed by other contractors under other construction packages, conditions under which the Work is to be performed, existing buildings and streets, conditions of the area, existing utilities and other features, type of soil, available facilities and difficulties that may be encountered in connection therewith, and other relevant items which will affect their Bid or the Work.

Prior to submitting a Bid, each Bidder is required to examine all of the bidding requirements, all Contract Documents, all drawings, and specifications for the Project (including those primarily for other Subcontracts). Contractors shall become thoroughly familiar with the scope of the Project and all factors and items of work which will affect their Bid or the Work, whether shown or specified in documents primarily for Work of others or Work of this Contract.

No extras will be allowed the Contractor as a result of misunderstanding of the extent of scope of the Work as a result of his failure to study and record his own findings. Submission of a Bid shall be proof that such examinations have been made and that Bidder has recorded their own investigation and has become thoroughly familiar with all contract documents (including all addenda). The failure or omissions of any Bidder to examine any form, instrument or document shall in no way relieve any Bidder from any obligation in respect to their Bid or be the responsibility of ICS or its counterparts to ensure you have read all documentation. This is the sole responsibility of the Bidder and its Sub-Contractor(s).

**PRE-BID CONFERENCE:**

A Pre-Bid conference will be held at 3:30 p.m. on February 8, 2022 at Staples-Motley School District ISD #2170 District Office, 905 4th Street NE Staples, MN 56479. If Bidders want to visit the physical site, a site review will take place immediately following the Pre-Bid conference at Staples-Motley High School / Middle School. No extras will be allowed because of the Bidder's misinterpretation to the amount of work involved, Bidder's own error, negligence, or failure to examine the site.

**START DATE:**

Work will begin after receipt of the signed contract from the Owner. The anticipated award date is March 1, 2022. Pre-construction and submittals work related to the project is to commence immediately after receipt of the signed contract. The onsite work will begin on the premises no later than June 3, 2022.

**SUBSTANTIAL AND COMPLETION DATE:**

Owner requires all work to be substantially complete in different areas throughout the site on or before milestone dates as listed in the Summary of Work as well as the overall construction schedule provided in Section 01 32 10 Project Schedule Requirements. Final completion of all work must be completed by 8/30/2024.

**END OF  
SECTION 00 11 13**

6-8pnc

SECTION 00 11 13  
ADVERTISEMENT  
FOR BIDS

**TITLE:**  
**Staples-Motley High  
School - Facilities  
Improvements**

**LOCATION OF WORK:**  
401 Centennial Drive  
Staples, MN 56479

**OWNER:**  
**Staples-Motley Public  
Schools ISD #2170**  
905 Fourth Street NE  
Staples, MN 56479

**C O N S T R U C T I O N**  
**MANAGER:**

**ICS Consulting, LLC.**  
1331 Tyler Street,  
Suite 101  
Minneapolis, MN 55413  
(218) 820-7367  
Contact: Damien Williams

**ARCHITECTURAL:**  
**JLG Architects**  
525 Broadway  
Alexandria, MN 56308  
(320) 408-7008

**STRUCTURAL:**  
**Northland Consulting  
Engineers**  
102 South 21st Ave West  
Duluth, MN 55806  
(218) 727-5995

**MECHANICAL &  
ELECTRICAL ENGI-  
NEER:**

**Obernal Engineering**  
2201 12th Street N,  
Suite E  
Fargo, ND 58102  
(701) 280-0500

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

The project consists of interior and exterior renovations of the approximate 135,000 sf existing High School / Middle School. Renovations include interior finish refreshes and indoor air quality upgrades. Work scopes included are Sitework, General Construction, Fire Suppression, Mechanical, and Electrical.

**BID DATE AND LOCATION:**

Sealed Bids will be received at Staples-Motley School District ISD #2170 District Office, 905 4th Street NE, Staples, MN 56479 then publicly opened and read aloud. Bids will be received and stamped-in prior to 2:00 p.m. local time on February 15, 2022. Bids submitted after allotted time will be discarded, NO EXCEPTIONS.

**EXAMINATION OF DOCUMENTS:**

Bidders may view drawings and specifications for the project at the office of the Construction Manager.

For Electronic access to the bidding documents, please contact the Construction Manager at (218) 820-7367. The Construction Manager can also provide locations of Builders Exchange's holding plans for contractors to access. Bidders are responsible for any, and all costs associated with the production of plans and specifications for their use.

**BIDDING REQUIREMENTS:**

Each Bidder must comply with the following requirements to reassure acknowledgment and recognition of their Bids:

Bids must be accompanied by Bid security in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, or Bid bond in the amount of five percent (5%) of the base Bid submitted, made payable to the owner, as guarantee that Bidder will, if awarded, enter into contract in accordance with

contract documents and submitted Bid.

Submit Bid on the prescribed form, which is furnished with the specification, with full name and address of the Bidder.

Completely fill in all blank spaces on the Bid Form, in ink or typewriter, in both words and figures.

Sign in longhand, executed by a principal duly authorized to enter into an agreement. If a Bidder is a co-partnership, then signatures on the Bid shall be by an authorized member of the firm, with names and addresses of each member of partnership.

Base Bid and all alternate Bids shall be stated both in writing and in figures. In all cases, written and numerical figures must agree; otherwise at Owner's option, it shall be cause for rejection of Bid. Complete form without alterations.

Submit alternate prices (Bid) for either increasing or decreasing the costs, as called for on Bid form and Description of Alternates. Submit a Bid for all alternates.

Owner may make such investigations as they deem necessary to determine the ability, competency, and responsibility of the Bidder to perform the work. Any Bidder shall furnish to Owner all such information and data for this purpose, as the Owner may request. Owner reserves the right to reject any Bid if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of, such Bidder fails to satisfy the Owner that such Bidder is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract and to complete the Work contemplated therein. The competence and responsibility of Bidder will be considered in making an award, including, but not limited to; (1) proof of financial responsibility, (2) quality of similar work, (3) amount of experience with similar projects, (4) facilities, personnel and equipment, (5) reputation for performance, and (6) the ability to complete the work within specified time. Owner reserves the right to reject any Bid where there is reasonable doubt as to the qualifications of the Bidder.

Owner reserves the right to; (1) accept Bidder's Base Bid only, (2) accept any one or more of bidder's Alternate Bids, in any order regardless of the order in which they were listed, (3) reject all Bids, (4) award contract based on his investigation of Bidders, as well as acceptance of alternates, all of which Owner deems to be in his best interest, (5) waive informalities or minor irregularities in Bids and waive minor irregularities or discrepancies in Bidding procedure.

Upon award of Contract, Contractor shall provide AIA A312 Performance and Payment Bonds in the amount of 100 percent (%) of Contract Sum in accordance with General Conditions and Amendments to General Conditions.

**BIDDING DOCUMENTS & SITE REVIEW:**

Each Bidder (including subcontract Bidder where appropriate) is required to visit the site and to fully inform themselves and record their own investigations as to the extent of the Work, the extent of the work performed by other contrac-

tors under other construction packages, conditions under which the Work is to be performed, existing buildings and streets, conditions of the area, existing utilities and other features, type of soil, available facilities and difficulties that may be encountered in connection therewith, and other relevant items which will affect their Bid or the Work.

Prior to submitting a Bid, each Bidder is required to examine all of the bidding requirements, all Contract Documents, all drawings, and specifications for the Project (including those primarily for other Subcontracts). Contractors shall become thoroughly familiar with the scope of the Project and all factors and items of work which will affect their Bid or the Work, whether shown or specified in documents primarily for Work of others or Work of this Contract.

No extras will be allowed the Contractor as a result of misunderstanding of the extent of scope of the Work as a result of his failure to study and record his own findings. Submission of a Bid shall be proof that such examinations have been made and that Bidder has recorded their own investigation and has become thoroughly familiar with all contract documents (including all addenda). The failure or omissions of any Bidder to examine any form, instrument or document shall in no way relieve any Bidder from any obligation in respect to their Bid or be the responsibility of ICS or its counterparts to ensure you have read all documentation. This is the sole responsibility of the Bidder and its Sub-Contractor(s).

**PRE-BID CONFERENCE:**

A Pre-Bid conference will be held at 3:30 p.m. on February 1, 2022 at Staples-Motley School District ISD #2170 District Office, 905 4th Street NE, Staples, MN 56479. If Bidders want to visit the physical site, a site review will take place immediately following the Pre-Bid conference at Staples-Motley High School / Middle School. No extras will be allowed because of the Bidder's misinterpretation to the amount of work involved, Bidder's own error, negligence, or failure to examine the site.

**START DATE:**

Work will begin after receipt of the signed contract from the Owner. The anticipated award date is February 23, 2022. Pre-construction and submittals work related to the project is to commence immediately after receipt of the signed contract. The onsite work will begin on the premises no later than June 3, 2022.

**SUBSTANTIAL AND COMPLETION DATE:**

Owner requires all work to be substantially complete in different areas throughout the site on or before milestone dates as listed in the Summary of Work as well as the overall construction schedule provided in section 01 32 10 Project Schedule Requirements. Final completion of all work must be completed by 9/30/2023.

**END OF  
SECTION 00 11 13**

5-7pnc

SCHOOL BOARD continued from page 10a

term rates at that time.

**Motion** by B. Anderson, seconded by Lund, to authorize payment of the vouchers. MC

**Motion** by Winkels, seconded by Reeck to approve the Resolution Directing Administration to Make Recommendations for Reductions in Programs and Positions. This is the annual resolution required to allow any future budget reductions to occur.

Following a Roll Call vote, voting in in favor: Freeman, B. Anderson, Winkels, L. Anderson, Reeck and Lund. Opposed: none. Motion Carried

**FACILITIES**

**Presentation by ICS / Update to the Board**

ICS Updated the Board on the project timeline and reviewed the design by JLG.

**Policy and Other**

**Motion** by Winkels, seconded by Lund, to adopt Policy # 731 Post Issuance Compliance Policy. MC

**Motion** by Winkels, seconded by Reeck, to approve the review and revisions recommendations to Policies #102 Equal Educational Opportunities; #406 Public and Private Personnel Data; #413 Harassment and Violence; #501 School Weapons Policy; #507 Corporal Punishment; #515 Protection & Privacy of Pupil Records; #524 Internet Acceptable Use; #204 School Board Meeting Minutes; #704.1 Food Service Payment Policy; and the review of policies with no changes: #103 Complaints - Students, Employees, Parents and Other Persons; #201 Legal Status of the School Board; #202 School Board Officers; #203 Operation of School Board Governing Rules; #203.5 School Board Meeting Agenda; #203.6 Consent Agenda; and #906 Community Notification of Predatory Offenders. MC

**Motion** by Lund, seconded by Winkels, to Adopt the Resolution Establishing Combined Polling Places for 2022: Staples Community Center, Motley City

Hall and Scandia Valley Township Hall

This is an annual requirement, regardless of whether an election is anticipated.

Following a Roll Call vote, voting in favor: L. Anderson, Reeck, B. Anderson, Winkels, Freeman and Lund. Opposed: none. Motion Carried.

**Motion** by Freeman, seconded by L. Anderson, to approve the 2020-2021 Combined WBWF summary. MC

**Motion** by Reeck, seconded by Winkels, to Approve the Resolution Supporting the City of Staples Letter of Intent to Apply for Funding Through the MN Safe Routes to School Program. MC

**Reports**

School Board: FED - Nov. 27 Minutes and Sourcewell - Oct. 19 minutes

Superintendent, Principal, Activity and SMEA reports were given

**Motion** by Freeman, seconded by B. Anderson, to adjourn the meeting. MC

*Complete minutes can be viewed at: [www.isd2170.k12.mn.us](http://www.isd2170.k12.mn.us).*

7pnc

SCHOOL BOARD ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING #11 Jan. 3, 2022, 6:00 p.m. District Office MINUTES

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order and Roll Call was taken with Members Bryan Winkels, Brad Anderson, Mary Freeman, Bruce Lund, Jeremy Reeck and Lisa Anderson present (comprising a quorum). Also present: Supt. Tappe; Finance Director, Regan; Principals Johnson and Schmidt; several employees, community members and students; Staples World Managing Editor, Anderson and Recording Secretary Madson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Recognize Public

2022 Organizational Items:

Chair Winkels called for nominations for Board Chair. B. Anderson nominated Winkels. Winkels called for additional nominations and with no further nominations Winkels was declared the Board Chair.

Election of other Officers

Chair Winkels called for nominations for Vice Chair. Winkels nominated Lund. Winkels called for additional nominations and with no further nominations, Lund was declared Vice Chair.

Winkels called for nominations for Clerk. Winkels nominated Freeman. Winkels called for additional nominations and with no further nominations Freeman was declared the Clerk.

Winkels called for nominations for Treasurer. Freeman nominated B. Anderson. Winkels called for additional nominations and with no further nominations, B. Anderson was declared the Treasurer.

Appoint Person (s) to Perform Duties of the Office of Clerk & Treasurer

**Motion** by Freeman, seconded by B. Anderson, to designate Bonnie Madson as Asst. to the Clerk; and the Finance Director, John Regan, as Asst. to the Treasurer. MC

Appoint Board Members to Serve on Educational Committees

Members voiced their intent to serve on the following committees: **Freshwater Education District**, Bruce Lund (Alternate Mary Freeman); **Sourcewell Delegate Assembly**, Bryan Winkels; **MN State HS League**, Bryan Winkels; **QCOMP**, Mary Freeman (reassignment in June) **MSBA Legislative Liaison**, Lisa Anderson; **Community Education Advisory Council**, Bryan Winkels; **Economic Development Authority**, Supt. Tappe; Alt. John Regan. **Finance Committee**: B.

Anderson and Reeck; **Policy Committee**: Winkels and L. Anderson; **Technology Committee**: Winkels; **Meet & Confer Committee**: Lund and Freeman; **Facility Committee**: Freeman and Reeck and **Superintendent Evaluation**: Winkels and B. Anderson

Audit report

Presentation of the 2020-2021 Audit by Jon Archer of Schlenner, Wenner & Co. The district was given an Unmodified (Clean) Opinion for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

**Motion** by Lund, seconded by B. Anderson, to accept the 2020-2021 audit by Schlenner, Wenner & Co. as presented. MC

Annual Organizational Items:

**Motion** by Freeman, seconded by Reeck, to designate 2022 School Attorneys, Official Depositories, Investment of Funds, Electronic Transfers, Signature Approvals:

Official School Attorneys

To name Pemberton Law Office of Fergus Falls; Kennedy & Graven and Knutson, Flynn & Deans to serve as the official school district attorneys for 2022, and that the selection be determined by the administration. Authority was also granted to the administration to employ any other attorney/law firm as deemed necessary.

Official Depositories

To name the following as official depositories for 2022: First International Bank and Trust, Unity Bank Central, Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank, Mid-Minnesota Federal Credit Union, MN School District Liquid Assets Fund Plus, MN Trust and other financial institutions which are in compliance with MN Statutes governing school district depositories.

Signers at these Official Depositories shall include the Board Chair (Bryan Winkels); Board Treasurer (Brad Anderson); Superintendent Shane Tappe and Finance Director, John

Regan.

Official(s) to Invest Funds

To authorize school officials to invest funds on behalf of the school district: Finance Director, John Regan and Superintendent Shane Tappe.

Agent(s) to Make Electronic Transfers

To authorize school officials to electronically transfer funds to be invested for the district: Finance Director, John Regan and Payroll Clerk, Julie Polak

Signature Approvals

Authorize Superintendent Shane Tappe and Finance Director, John Regan, to execute agreements and/or financial documents as necessary on behalf of the Staples-Motley School District.

Official Newspaper

To designate The Staples World as the legal and official newspaper for the Staples-Motley School District for 2022. It was noted this a 1.5 percent (%) increase in printing costs over last year.

Motion Carried

Set School Board Meeting Schedule

**Motion** by Reeck, seconded by Freeman, to set the 2022 meeting schedule:

Regular meetings will be held the second to the last Monday of the month (February and June will be the last Monday of the month) at 6:00 p.m., with a school/public forum first on the agenda if someone would like to address the board on any topic, subject to the limitations of policy #206.

Work sessions will be the first Monday of the month (no Work Session scheduled in July or Sept). All work Sessions MAY be followed by a regular Board Meeting as needed. Other meetings may be called as needed.

All meetings will be held in the building of the District Office. **Motion Carried**

Set School Board salaries for the period of Jan. 1, 2022 - Dec. 31, 2022

**Motion** by Freeman, seconded by Lund, for the

2022 School Board Salary to remain at \$3,377. MC

Approve the Resolution Allowing the School District to Purchase Supplies or Services from a School Board Member

**Motion** by Freeman, seconded by B. Anderson to Approve the Resolution Allowing the School District to Purchase Supplies or Services from a School Board Member. Upon a Roll Call vote, the following voted in favor: Freeman, L. Anderson, Winkels, B. Anderson, and Lund. Opposed: None Reeck abstained. **Motion Carried**

Adjournment

**Motion** by Lund, seconded by B. Anderson, to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 p.m. MC

7pnc

SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING #12 Jan. 10, 2022, 7:45 a.m. District Office MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order with Winkels, Lund, Freeman and Reeck present (comprising a quorum). Also attending: Supt. Tappe; Finance Director, Regan and Recording Secretary, Madson.

**Motion** by Freeman, seconded by Lund, to adopt the agenda. **Motion Carried**

Facility Project

**Motion** by Reeck, seconded by Freeman, to approve the submission of the Review and Comment for the Activity and Wellness addition at the Staples-Motley Elementary site. Voting in favor were Reeck, Freeman, Lund and Winkels. Opposed: none. B. Anderson and L. Anderson were absent. **Motion Carried**

Adjournment

**Motion** by Lund, seconded by Reeck, to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 a.m. **Motion Carried**

7pnc

\*SERVICE DIRECTORY\*SERVICE DIRECTORY\*SERVICE DIRECTORY\*SERVICE DIRECTORY\*SERVICE DIRECTORY\*SERVICE DIRECTORY\*SERVICE DIRECTORY\*SERVICE DIRECTORY

SERVICE DIRECTORY

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**CELL 218-838-0581**

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**Long Prairie Sanitation**  
Long Prairie, MN

**218-631-3101 888-878-5578**

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# Extreme cold can't stop mail carriers like Susan Williams

By Dawn Timbs  
Staples World reporter

When the seed catalogs and chirping baby chicks arrive at the post office, it's a sure sign that spring is on the way, Susan Williams of Staples said recently, while sharing about her job as a rural mail carrier.

But that may be a few weeks out yet, judging by the below-zero temps and heavy snowfall that's been a part of the weather reports these past few weeks. Plus, the groundhog saw his shadow on Feb. 2, which is never a good sign for Minnesotans who've grown weary of winter about now.

You've got to dress for it, Williams says of braving the cold out on the job. Wearing layers is key, and in addition to donning a good pair of winter boots and gloves, she makes sure to insert foot and hand warmers on those below-zero days, in particular.

Williams has worked for the United States Postal Service (USPS) for nearly two years, stationed out of the Staples Post Office. She's been a rural mail carrier that entire time, starting out as a sub, but now has her own route, Rural Route 3.

As a rural mail carrier, much of Williams' route is in the country, where she makes deliveries from her vehicle to mailboxes on the curb. Although there's a heater in her truck, it doesn't stay too warm because she is constantly opening the window to deliver mail.

Sometimes her job requires her to get out of her truck, such as when making deliveries to a collection box at an apartment building or mobile home park. Or, if a package is too big to fit in a mailbox, Williams must deliver it to the recipient's door. "We love big mailboxes," she laughed.

On average, she's probably out of the truck about 90 minutes a day, Williams said, adding that it all depends on how many packages need to be delivered.

They never know how many packages they are going to get, but can expect a large number on Mondays and the day after a holiday. Williams went on to share that one day she delivered 68 packages and was back in the office by 2:30 p.m. "The next day, the coldest as luck would have it, I deliv-



## Cluster mailbox delivery

Having sorted and organized the mail before leaving the Staples Post Office, rural carrier Susan Williams unlocked the cluster mailbox at an apartment dwelling in town and placed the mail in its designated address spot. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

ered over 200 and didn't get back until 6 p.m.," she said, noting that it was after dark when she returned to the post office.

Those bitterly cold temps are even more difficult for city carriers who make deliveries on foot. They are outside close to eight hours every day, Williams said, adding that they walk most of their route.

Dealing with snow and ice is also something postal workers contend with during the winter months. Some routes are more difficult than others, depending on the maintenance of roads and sidewalks.

Williams noted that mail carriers (both rural and city) are very appreciative of gifts people leave them on occasion, especially during the holidays. However, what they'd really like is to have people keep their sidewalk and curbs free of snow so the mailbox is easily and safely accessible. Perhaps this would be a good way to show your mail carrier a little love as they make deliveries on Valentine's Day.

Yes, she's experienced the kindness of people while out on her route, Williams said. She recalled at least three times her truck got stuck in a snowbank and somebody came to her rescue. Once, when she landed in a ditch, a farmer came by and pulled her out with his tractor.

Not only has she encountered some wonderful people while out on the job, but Williams enjoys the staff at the Staples Post Office as well. "The people I work with are great," she said.

Prior to adding 'mail carrier' to her resume, Williams worked a variety of jobs, including that of an English teacher and doing consulting work. In all of them, interacting with people is one of the aspects she's enjoyed the most.

As a mail carrier, Williams said, "It's cool to be part of a service that people need." It's rewarding to hear sighs of relief when she delivers medicine or a check to someone who's been waiting for it, or to see the smiles from an elderly person receiving a Christmas package from their grandchild. "I like that we're able to connect families," she said.

Yes, the extreme cold can make working conditions difficult, but the positive aspects of her job far outweigh the temporary sub-zero temps.

Actually, Williams said she prefers working out in the cold ahead of those sultry summer days. It gets hot in that truck, she said, going on to note that there's not a lot you can do to modify your body temperature on those humid, 90-plus degree days. At least in the winter, you can add another layer of clothing.

It's not all that bad, Williams said, when asked how she's dealt with the frigid temps these past few weeks. She gets warmed up after work by taking a hot shower, wrapping up in a blanket, and sipping a cup of hot chocolate while reading a good book or magazine. Perhaps that seed catalog came in the mail. That would mean spring is around the corner.



## Delivering a large package

Susan Williams, a rural carrier for the Staples Post Office, delivers packages of all shapes and sizes while out on her route.

She had a large one to deliver Jan. 26, to a home in Staples.

## Still smiling

Despite the sub-zero temps and bitter wind Jan. 26, USPS rural carrier Susan Williams displayed a warm, sunny smile while delivering mail in Staples. Williams said that she's able to endure working in the extreme cold by wearing layers and plenty of warm clothing.



## Removing snow at the airport

The City of Staples' Streets Committee has put in a lot of hours this winter plowing and removing snow. Pictured

above, a city crew member plows snow recently at the Staples Airport. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

# Snow plows have been busy in Staples this winter

By Dawn Timbs  
Staples World reporter

Over two feet of snow has fallen in the Staples area so far this winter, keeping the city's street department busy plowing and removing snow.

Public Works Director Scott Grabe said that in December of 2021, each member of the street department crew put in an average of 83 hours removing snow, with most of that time dedicated to plowing.

In January, each crew member averaged about 70 hours of work dedicated to snow removal. Most of that time was spent hauling the snow away, Grabe said.

Depending on the amount of snowfall, the city usually hauls it away a few days after plowing. Most of the snow goes to a lot at Summit Ave. and 2nd St. NE. But, they will haul it to other lots as well, depending

on where the snow was loaded.

In addition to the street department, Grabe said that employees from the city's Electric and Water/Wastewater Departments also help with snow removal. This includes cleaning sidewalks, parking lots and alleys, as well as driving a dump truck when it's needed to haul snow away.

Snow on 2nd Avenue is plowed by the city and MnDOT plows Hwy 210/6th Street So.

"There have been several days where our guys were up at one or two in the morning, and they've had to work some holidays and weekends too," Grabe said. "The early mornings can really mess with their schedules but they've taken it in stride. Overall, their morale is still high and if you compare our streets to those of other towns, you'll see that they do a great job of keeping our streets clean."



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