

School board to look at next referendum

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples-Motley School Board discussed the possibility of another building referendum at a work session on Dec. 2. The board plans to explore the issue further at their Dec. 16 regular board meeting at 6 p.m. at the District Office.

As the first step in exploring a referendum, Superintendent Shane Tappe said they need to hire a consulting firm to guide the process. He recommended ICS, a firm that he worked with at Dawson-Boyd to get a referendum passed. ICS has its headquarters in Blaine, MN and recently opened an office in Park Rapids.

"There is one company head and shoulders above the others," said Tappe.

"ICS provides us with the best opportunity to be successful. They have great communication and shareholder input. It was a great experience in the Dawson-Boyd district, I don't know if there is an out-of-state firm that can compare to what they can do."

Tappe said he would invite ICS to the Dec. 16 meeting so the board can learn about their services.

Board member Mary Freeman said the school also has to consider an operating levy that must be passed by voters. The school's current operating levy expires in 2021. The money from that levy only

goes to school operation, none of it goes to building issues. The bond referendum only pays for building issues, none of it goes to school operation.

Business Manager Chuck Herdegen said the school should consider another operating levy in November 2020 or in 2021 at the latest, to replace the expiring levy. Tappe said the operating levy is needed "to keep all our programs operationally consistent."

Freeman was concerned that voters might not like having two school referendums close together, even

See **NEXT** on page 12a

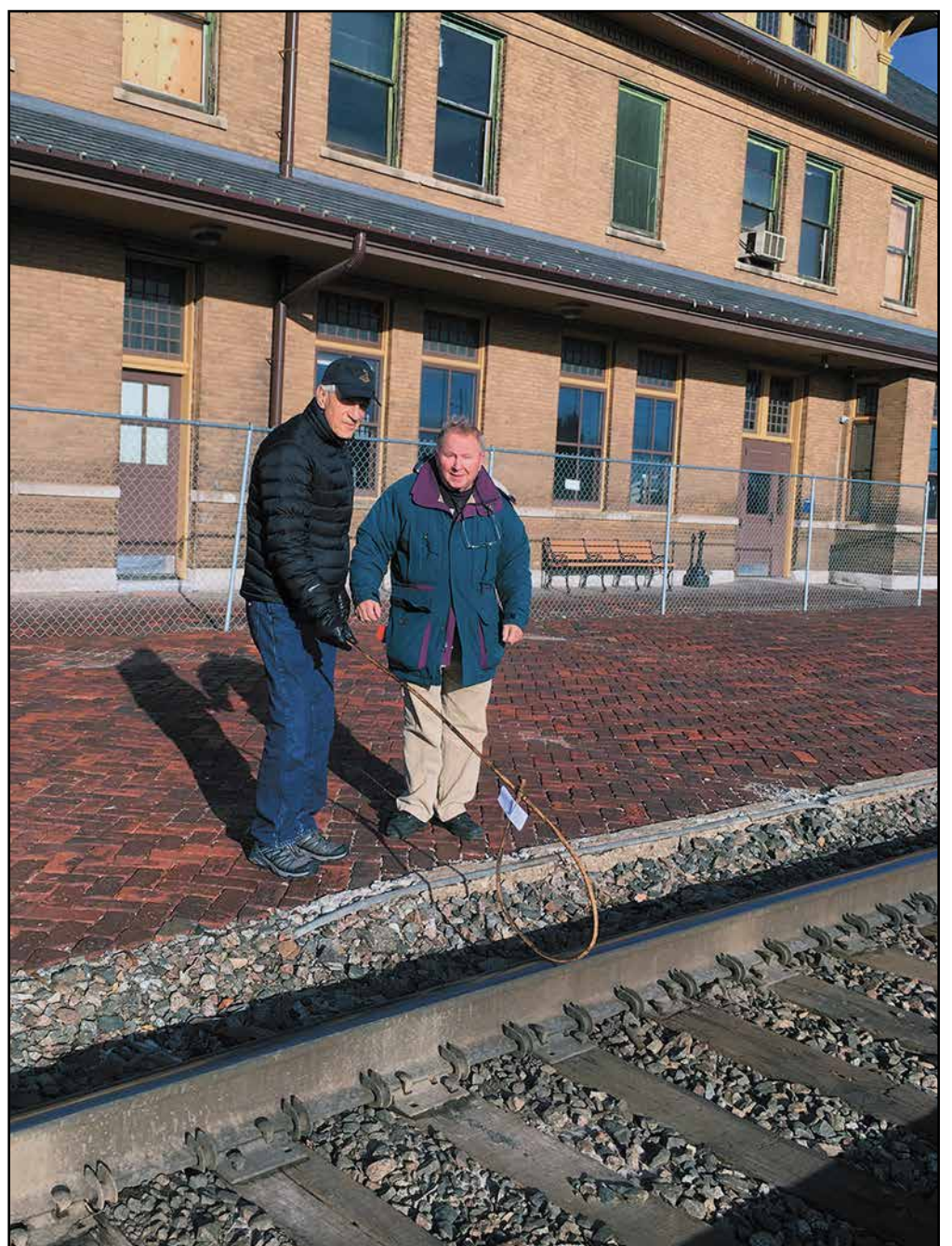
Athletic Hall of Fame events scheduled

The Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame will open their new library display on Jan. 17, 2020 and is planning to induct the second class on Oct. 3, 2020.

The grand opening of the library will be Jan. 17, in conjunction with the annual Don Dravis wrestling meet. The time and additional details will be announced later. The event will take place at the high school cafeteria, with 2019 inductee plaques to be unveiled along with state tournament trophies.

The nomination process for the 2020 Hall of Fame class will also begin at the Jan. 17 event.

The 2020 induction ceremony will be Oct. 3 at Centennial Auditorium in Staples with doors opening at 6 p.m. A reception gathering will follow at Timbers Restaurant following the presentations.



Measuring the distance

Pat Miller (left) and Tom Kajer, both of Staples, demonstrate how depot agents knew where to stand years ago when handing messages to railroad crews of moving trains. (Submitted Photo)

Miller recalls railroad communication method

Pat Miller of Staples recently stopped by the Staples World to share some memories from his days working for the railroad.

Now 90, Miller was a railroad engineer from 1947 - 1960, during which time he was acquainted with the 'Widow Maker,' a device used for communication between the engineers and depot agents. After radio hook-ups were made available and there was no need for the 'Widow Maker' anymore, Miller found one in the garbage one day. He retrieved it, thinking it might be of interest to future generations someday. He recently donated the 'Widow Maker' to the Staples Historical Society, located at the Northern Pacific Depot in Staples.



Before telephones

Tom Kajer, member of the Staples Historical Society (SHS), demonstrates catching a "Widow Maker." This piece of railroad memorabilia was recently donated to the SHS by Pat Miller of Staples. (Submitted Photo)

By Pat Miller

Before the railroads had telephones between the engineer and the conductor, communication was handled in a much different way. Engineers and conductors were given train orders, speed restrictions and other information to the crews before leaving the station. Sometimes depot agents and telegraphers would receive important messages they had to pass on to crews of moving trains.

The messages were then clipped to a bamboo pole that had been heated and bent in such a way that they could be handed to the moving crews. That device was called 'The Widow Maker.'

The agents would attach the message and then stand a measured distance from the track, reach up so the engineer or fireman could put their arm through the opening. They would then pull off the message and toss the 'Widow Maker' back to the agent so that he could repeat the procedure with the conductor in the caboose.

The nickname 'Widow Maker' came from the fact that the agent had to perform these actions standing so close to the moving

train. They measured the distance by taking the handle of the hooped device and when the hoop touched the rail, they knew they were the right distance for the crews to get the information.

It sounds simple enough, but when a steam engine is traveling over 50 miles per hour it's more than intimidation, it's downright scary. It was not unusual for an agent to back away and the train would have to stop to get the message.

I don't recall any agents suffering injuries while delivering information this way, but they may have occurred on other divisions.



The 'Widow Maker'

Early technology used for railroad communication. (Submitted photo)

Weather

This Week's Forecast
High Low Cond.

Dec. 11	-3°	-11°	Sunny
Dec. 12	15	6	Cloudy
Dec. 13	28	8	Cloudy
Dec. 14	15	-2	Cloudy
Dec. 15	13	3	P. Cloudy
Dec. 16	14	0	M. Cloudy
Dec. 17	13	5	P. Cloudy

Last Year, 2018
High Low Cond.

Dec. 11	26°	12°	Cloudy
Dec. 12	34	16	Cloudy
Dec. 13	39	22	Sunny
Dec. 14	42	26	Sunny
Dec. 15	47	33	Sunny
Dec. 16	42	25	Sunny
Dec. 17	38	29	Sunny

Average Temp.:
H = 25° Low = 10°

Snow
Week Total Snow: 4"

Total snow: 21.5"

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher



HOF pin for inductees

The Staples-Motley Hall of Fame Committee has ordered personal pins for every person, including team members, inducted into the hall. Pins will be available to inductees at the Jan. 17 library grand opening. The actual size of the pin is one inch in diameter.

Public Notices

Staples
Township: **9A**



Beauty in nature's storm

Lee Jenkins of Staples was out and about following the Dec. 1 snowstorm and stopped to photograph this scene which he entitled "Snow Sculpture".

Thank you for subscribing!

Live Drive-Thru Nativity in Pillager Dec. 11 - 12

The sixth annual 'Live Drive-Thru Nativity' will be held Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 11 and 12, 6 - 8:30 p.m., at the Pillager Fairgrounds. Watch for traffic signs.

Sponsored by the churches of Pillager, the event features a live drama of the Christmas story... complete with live animals (including camels, sheep and donkeys) and a number of actors.

Dozens of actors, playing the parts of travelers, shepherds, angels, wise-

men; and Mary and Joseph, will be involved in telling the Christmas story. The event is coordinated by Casino Assembly of God Church of Pillager.

It takes approximately 10 - 15 minutes to drive through the nativity, depending on traffic and attendees never have to leave their car.

There is no charge to attend the live nativity, but a donation bucket will be available at the end. For more information, 218-821-2276.

Law enforcement reports

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

Dec. 4 - The MPD assisted Minnesota State Patrol with a possible hit and run that was reported. Both vehicles involved continued westbound on Hwy 10. The MPD searched Hwy 10 from Motley to Staples but was unable to locate.

Dec. 4 - The MPD received a report of a male subject that is not welcome at Dollar General in Motley due to his disruptive and assaultive behavior, as well as possibly shoplifting things from the store. The manager said that the man has been advised that he is not allowed in the store, but the subject stated that he won't quit coming into the store until he is served a trespass notice. The MPD stopped at the subject's residence and found he wasn't at home, so a trespass order was left between the outer screen door and the inner door.

Dec. 4 - The MPD received a report from the Motley Post Office that a male subject had been found sleeping in the front entryway of their building at 6 a.m. An employee woke him and he was very apologetic and left when he was told to. The subject said that he was cold and had been laying next to a heat vent in the floor. The employee said that she did not smell alcohol on him. She was concerned for his wellbeing as she believed he may be homeless and was not dressed for the weather. The subject has not been seen since.

Dec. 2 - The MPD received a report of a

wallet that had been stolen out of a truck parked at a residence in Motley. The wallet was later located in a neighboring unit. The money that had been in the wallet was missing, but the subject's driver's license and other cards were located near the wallet.

Nov. 29 - The MPD received a complaint of a scam. The caller stated that she applied for a loan online and had received an email from a loan company stating she had been approved and that she needed to contact them. She then received a phone call from a subject by the name of David Smith. He instructed her to buy a pre-paid card and to give him the card number to secure the loan. She stated she bought two cards, one for \$200 and the other for \$500 and gave Smith the card information. She advised that the money was taken from the cards and she did not get the loan.

Nov. 29 - Motley Unity Bank called the MPD to report a counterfeit \$100 bill. It was turned over to the police department for investigation.

Nov. 27 - The MPD assisted Cass County with a domestic dispute at the 12000 block of 71st Ave. SW, Motley. The male party had already left and was reportedly drunk, high on meth, and possibly armed with a handgun.

Dec. 3 - The MCSO received a call from Orton's BP Station in Motley regarding a female in the station who said she put her vehicle in the ditch north of Motley on State Hwy 64. She seemed very intoxicated, the report said.

Dec. 1 - The MCSO located Gina Marie Statema, 47, in the ditch near Hwy 10 and 330th St. in Cushing. The driver failed the standardized field sobriety tests, had a preliminary breath test of .179 and was later arrested.

Dec. 1 - The MCSO arrested Nicholas Christopher Kasten, 20, for misdemeanor domestic assault. The incident took place at the 900 block of Hwy 10, Motley.



Ribbon cutting at new EV charging station in Motley

A ribbon-cutting ceremony, hosted by the City of Motley and Minnesota Power, was held for a new solar-powered electric vehicle (EV) charging station in Motley Dec. 3. Local officials and businesses were invited to attend. Pictured, from left, are Stephanie Barney, Region Five Development Commission; Andrea Lauer, Mayor of Royalton; Greg Zylka, Mayor of Little Falls; Lacey Smieja, Motley City Clerk/Treasurer;

Pat O'Regan, Motley City Council member; Al Yoder, Mayor of Motley; Paul Helstrom, Customer Programs and Services Representative with Minnesota Power, Duluth; Joe Brichacek, owner of BRICKS Travel Center, Motley; and Bruce Brotherton, Public Works Director for the City of Motley. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

City of Motley's new EV charging station up and running



Answering questions

Motley Mayor Al Yoder, left; and Paul Helstrom with Minnesota Power in Duluth, spoke following a ribbon-cutting event at the new solar-powered electric vehicle (EV) charging station in Motley. Helstrom, who was charging the Chevrolet Bolt he drove to Motley from Duluth (in background) took time to answer questions pertaining to electric vehicles. The charging station in Motley is located near the intersection of Highways 10 and 210, on property near BRICKS which the city is leasing. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Motley is now home to a new solar-powered electric vehicle (EV) charging station, one of just a handful throughout northeastern Minnesota.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Dec. 3, at the new EV station, located near BRICKS Travel Center near the intersection of Highways 10 and 210. The city is leasing the property from BRICKS.

According to a press release from Minnesota Power, the ribbon-cutting event officially dedicated the DC fast charger and Level 2 EV charging stations and a 4-kilowatt solar array.

The two EV charging stations can each charge one vehicle at a time and will be available for public use. They are part of Minnesota Power's plan to build a charging network in northeastern Minnesota to provide more charging options for motorists. Other charging stations are in Duluth, Virginia, Ely and Two Harbors.

At the ribbon-cutting event, Paul Helstrom with Minnesota Power said that Motley was a great location for an EV charging station, and a necessary one for drivers of electric vehicles to feel comfortable going a great distance. It's the way of the future, Helstrom said of electric vehicles.

Mayor Al Yoder also spoke at the recent event. He thanked Minnesota Power for bringing the EV charging station to Motley, noting that without them, it wouldn't have happened. He also thanked Helstrom for his work on the project.

Yoder went on to note the positive impact that an EV charging station can have on a community. Because electric vehicles produce fewer emissions, Yoder hopes Motley will be an inspiration to others looking for ways to reduce pollution. In addition, an EV charging station will hopefully bring business to Motley, both the mayor and Helstrom noted. While a traveler's vehicle is charging, they might grab a bite to eat at a nearby restaurant, or do some shopping in town.

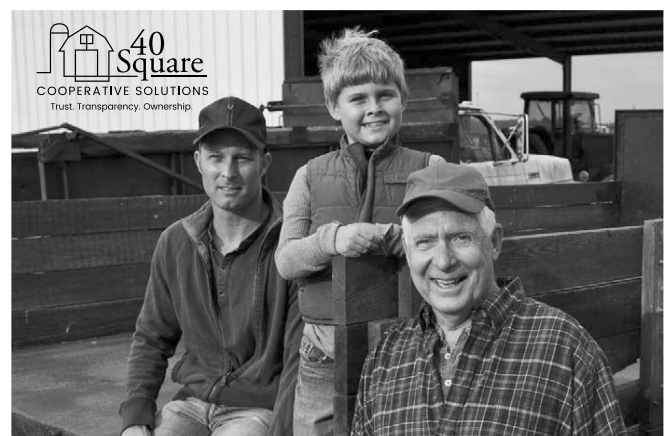
Mayor Yoder also said that he's already heard from people outside of Motley, thanking the city for providing this service to owners of electric vehicles.

According to the press release, all of the charging stations have operating temperatures down to at least 22 below zero, so they are compatible with the northern Minnesota climate. Electric vehicle use in northern Minnesota is currently low, but more consumers are expected to invest in this innovative and evolving technology as electric vehicle travel ranges have increased to more than 200 miles per charge and charging station availability is increasing.

Motley Food Shelf holiday hours

The Motley Food Shelf will be closed on Thursday, Dec. 25. It will, however, be open on Thursday evening, Dec. 19, from 6 - 8 p.m.

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Paskewitz receives \$1,000 MFBF scholarship

Rebekka Paskewitz from Todd County received a \$1,000 Al Christopherson Scholarship from the Minnesota Farm Bureau Foundation (MFBF) during the Minnesota Farm Bureau's 101st annual meeting. Recognition was given during the luncheon awards banquet on Nov. 23, at the DoubleTree Hotel in Bloomington.

Paskewitz is the daughter of Alan and Vicki Paskewitz. She is attending South Dakota State University where

she is studying agriculture education.

"The qualifications and goals of these students are exemplary of the bright future of agriculture," said MFBF President Kevin Paap. "Investing in the education of Minnesota's rural youth is an important mission for the Minnesota Farm Bureau Foundation."

Each year the foundation has presented scholarships to deserving students. This year, scholarships were

increased to \$1,000 (instead of \$500) in celebration of Farm Bureau's Centennial. MFBF awards these scholarships to students who are college juniors or seniors or in their final year of college.

Minnesota Farm Bureau is the largest general farm organization in the state. For information on becoming a member or to apply for a scholarship, contact your local farm bureau office or log onto www.fbmn.org.

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Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the Dec. 4, 1969 edition of the Staples World featured Larry J. Converse, 14, with a bobcat that he had trapped in a wolf trap on the Harold Gollner farm, located 2 miles east of Leader. The bobcat weighed 30 pounds, was 36" long and was 19" at the front shoulders.

Greg Frisk of Motley correctly identified Converse, whom he said was his childhood neighbor and friend. Frisk's recollections of the bobcat encounter were somewhat different from the World's report, however. "He (Converse) saw this bobcat about to eat his pet kitten. When he yelled, it took off at full speed. Within two blocks, Larry ran it down and choked it with his bare hands. When Bill Finn heard of his awesome speed, he signed him up as a sprinter for the Motley Rockets track team," Frisk shared.

Kelly Boldan of Willmar, Leader native, correctly identified Converse; and Mike Koppes of Staples (1971 SHS grad) incorrectly identified Converse as Staples native Dean Nelsen.

Thanks for participating in our mystery photo.



75 YEARS Ago - 1944

• Dec. 14, 1944 - At an "immunization clinic" held in Staples recently a total of 367 children were given inoculations and vaccinations for diphtheria and small pox. Doctors W. J. Lund, J. M. Cook and C. F. Reichelderfer, all of this city, were in charge of the program.

• Dec. 14, 1944 - "Yep, it Pays to Advertise," says Morey Fish Co., read a front page headline. The story went on to say that, "In frantic desperation," the Morey Fish Co. of Motley called the World

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**Compiled by
Dawn Timbs**
- O -

office the other day to have their classified advertisement cancelled.

The ad was: "Wanted: two men to work at Morey Fish Company at Motley during the winter."

So many applications, both written and personal, were received by the company in Motley, that they were about driven "stark mad" telling applicants that the position had been filled. The position was filled within a short time

Looking back

after the paper reached Motley, and people had a chance to read the classified section.

If people want anything, want to sell, or have lost anything, it pays to advertise. There is always someone who responds in some way to the various advertisements appearing in the classified section of the Staples World.

50 YEARS Ago - 1969

• Dec. 18, 1969 - Darrell Hanson, star forward for Coach Doug Johnson's Cardinal basketball team joined 24 other Minnesota prep cagers on WCCO Radio's All-State Basketball Team of the Week Wednesday night, Dec. 10. Hanson, a 6' forward, is a senior at Staples high school. He connected for 14 points in the Cardinal opening victory over Frazee and then hit for 26 counters against the Park Rapids quint for his season's high to date. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Wal-fred Hanson.

• Dec. 18, 1969 - The Staples Jaycee President, Mel Nefstead, has announced the annual Distinguished Service Award banquet will be held in the Staples Public School Cafeteria on Monday, Jan. 19.

• Dec. 18, 1969 - **Letters to Santa Claus:**

- Dear Santa, For Christmas, I would like a Julia doll, a game, beautiful Chrissy clothes and those two model dolls. With love, Michelle Swecker.

- Dear Santa, How are you? I am fine. I WANT a Barbie doll, a record, a hair setter, a tie and a kal-ball game, a kaboom game, and a thing maker for Christmas. Love, Sheri Sampson.

- Dear Santa, I would like an automatic knitting machine for Christmas. I have been wishing for one for at least two years. I do hope you will bring me one. I love you! Your friend, Lesley Jones.

- Dear Santa, Please bring me a Johnny West set. I hope you know what that is. Gary Zetah.

- Dear Santa Claus, I'd like a toy car for Christmas. Bring some things for my sisters. Mark Meide.

- Dear Santa, I would like a math computer and a mini-bike, a million dollars, the Twins stadium and the Astrodome in Houston. Please fill my stocking. The candy is in the kitchen. Have a nice Christmas, Brett Bacon.

25 YEARS Ago - 1994

• Dec. 15, 1994 - Sheila Wellstone, the wife of Sen. Paul Wellstone, spoke Friday morning to a group of students, faculty and community members at the Staples Campus of the Brainerd Staples Technical College on violence against women. She said the problem must be addressed at the local level across the nation before it will be alleviated.

• Dec. 15, 1994 - Rebecca Winter was appointed as the first full-time woman deputy county sheriff by Sheriff David Asmus and the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the commissioners' meeting Dec. 7.

• Dec. 15, 1994 - David Sanda of Staples has been studying at the Univer-



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our Dec. 4, 1969 edition. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photo? Email your answers and where you are from to dtimbs@staplesworld.com by Friday morning, or call 218-894-1112. The answers will be published in next week's paper, as well as a new mystery photo.

city of Aberdeen in Scotland since September as part of St. Olaf College's international studies program. Sanda, an economics major, is a senior at St. Olaf College. He will finish the semester of studies at Aberdeen Dec. 16.

• Dec. 15, 1994 - The boys basketball season is off and running, with the Cardinals this weekend hosting two strong ball clubs after opening last Saturday night with a win. The Staples Motley High School Cardinal boys claimed a 70-52 win over Swanville in their first outing of the season.

The box score for SM players (total points each): Cy Bestland, 12; Blaine Joerger, 20; Erik Kelly, 13; Loren Brownell, 8; Dan Otteson, 9; Chris Heier, 8.

10 YEARS Ago - 2009

• Dec. 10, 2009 - 'Pipeline leaks 210,000 gallons of oil,' was the top headline. The story went on to report that the incident happened just east of Staples in Villard Township. Denny Schneider awoke before daylight to a sulphur smell coming from the Koch crude oil pipeline perhaps 50 yards from his house. A large pool of oil had filled in the hole where maintenance crews had been busy the night before excavating a large hole to replace a short section of the pipeline. More than 200,000 gallons had spilled out overnight. The article's subhead read, 'Majority expected to be recovered with little soil or groundwater contamination.'

• Dec. 10, 2009 - Nine seniors are fired up for their final season of Cardinal boys basketball, with Staples Motley fans also fired up for another exciting and promising season. This year's seniors include Trevor Wentworth, Jordan Riewer, Gunner Johnson, Jon Bristow, Isaac Fuhrman, Derek Wolhowe, Jordan Peterson, Brandon Larson and Jason Johnson.

• Dec. 10, 2009 - The Staples Motley Cardinal girls started off their 2009-10 basketball season with two wins, over Pillager and

Detroit Lakes, last week. Caitlin Robinson, Nikki Pearson and Abby Smith all scored in double figures in the 54-38 win on Dec. 3, over the Huskies. The Cards got their second win of the season Friday night, Dec. 4, with a 59-41 victory over the Detroit Lakes Lakers.

• Dec. 10, 2009 - There was standing room only at a Community Christmas Concert Dec. 5, at Sacred Heart Church in Staples. The annual event featured the music of Colla Voce Girl's Choir, Staples Area Women's Chorus, Central Minnesota Boy's Choir, and the Staples Area Men's Chorus. For the final number, the four choirs joined forces to sing, "Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain," under the direction of Stan Carlson. Carlson, who will be retiring as director for the Staples Area Men's Chorus next spring, received a standing ovation for his original piece, "Ego Sum Qui Sum," performed for the first time by the Staples Area Women's and Men's Choruses.



Construction continues



The remodeling process is slowly, but surely underway at the old Ernie's building in Staples; and in time will be the new home of NAPA Auto Parts. Owner Adam Goebel of Becker said that to date the new entrance has been cut in and the heating and plumbing is in the process of being installed.

Above, the new front entrance of the building (formerly on Hwy 10) will be along 5th Street NE. In the middle photo, construction worker Eric Brichacek (working near the new entrance) is pictured on the inside of the building Nov. 26. At left, Nathan Schimpp, employee at Giza's Plumbing and Heating in Staples is at work installing the heating unit. NAPA Auto Parts is currently located at 119 2nd Ave. NW in Staples. Goebel said they are looking forward to the added space at their new location. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

Santa is Waiting for YOUR Letter



We'll publish your letter in the Dec. 25 issue of the Staples World.

By Dec. 13 please bring it to our office at 224 4th St. NE, Staples, or mail it to us at PO Box 100, Staples, MN 56479

Then we'll send your letter on to Santa at the North Pole!

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Shovelers without borders showing up

I have been walking around Staples a lot this winter, and I appreciate that most sidewalks are shoveled and passable. The same thing happened last year, we all did a great job of shoveling after the first big snowfall. But with each succeeding snowfall, fewer and fewer sidewalks would get carved out again.

• ○ •
Small town diet



By Mark Anderson
Editor

Part of it was the large amounts of snow we had last year, with plowed snow from the streets piling up to make five or six foot walls on one side, and the wind would blow more snow in to fill up sidewalks to that level.

Some people gave up on shoveling, which I completely understand, since it would take a Herculean

effort to shovel out that much snow. My own home does not have a sidewalk in front of it, so I can't say that I would have kept mine up. Amazingly, some people did keep their sidewalks clean, even though it didn't always do a lot of good if other spots on the block were not clean.

This year I have already seen many places where one person with a snowblower has cleared their entire block, including downtown here in front of the Staples World. My neighbor carved out the fire hydrant in my home yard. So there is a large contingent of "Shovelers Without Borders" in the community and they deserve our accolades.

My favorite memory of a shoveling flub was in another community where an assisted living facility was connected to a hospital by a 40 foot hallway. Even though both buildings were owned by the same health care system, they apparently had two different shovelers because on both sides everything was cleared, except for a 40 foot stretch of snow bank exactly where the hallway

connected the two. Eventually the dispute got solved, but I imagine it took meetings, explanations, and perhaps some heartfelt revelations and tears of frustration before it was all done.

Let's not get to that point here, it is better to shovel more than your exact property line than to let the snow pile up. If your neighbor doesn't like it, just ask forgiveness.

In some spots, the shoveled path is narrow, not much wider than the training shovel that I used to shovel pig manure while growing up. The narrow path works for me, but a lot of people in the community need walkers or canes to get around. Already this year I saw a person on a handicap scooter stuck on a stretch that had been shoveled, but the bottom layer was melting and the small scooter wheels sunk in and couldn't gain traction. We got the scooter going again, but it is another reminder that we all need to come together as a community to make sure everyone is able to move around during the winter.



Protecting Americans' private health data

By U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar

It's the holiday season, and two of the most popular gifts this year are wearable devices that help people track their exercise and sleep—along with home DNA testing kits that help people discover more about their ancestry or genetic health risks.

New technologies have made it easier for people to monitor their own health. But whether it's health tracking apps, wearable technology devices, or home DNA testing kits, companies have been given access to your personal, and private, health data with very few rules of the road in place regulating this practice.

More than twenty years ago, Congress passed the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act—or HIPPA. This landmark health privacy law limited the sharing of your personal health data throughout the health care delivery system to people like your doctor and hospital, but the law didn't prepare for the sophistication and affordability of the technology we have available today, and as such, that expectation of privacy isn't so simple.

Just ask St. Paul resident, Dave Krelc, who received

letters from a Puerto Rican data-handling company—Inmediata—saying that the medication his family was taking may have been disclosed online. Or Diana Diller, who is one of the millions of women who used the pregnancy app Ovia, which shared users' personal health data including information on those who had high-risk pregnancies and other birth complications with certain employers and insurance companies.

And what about the health apps like the ones people use to help manage depression or try to quit smoking?

A study published earlier this year confirmed that many of these apps are collecting your most intimate data and sharing your personal details with third parties. Most people don't even realize that they consented to this practice when they started using the app.

That's why I introduced the bipartisan Protecting Personal Health Data Act with Senator Lisa Murkowski from Alaska. This legislation will strengthen privacy and security protections for consumers' personal health data by requiring that meaningful health data privacy regulations are put in place to keep up

with advances in technology. We need safeguards to protect consumers' sensitive health data that is collected by innovative technologies not regulated under existing health privacy laws.

And don't just take it from me. Consumer Reports supports my bill, saying: "The current legal framework for privacy around health data is out of date and incomplete. Protecting the legal right to privacy for users of new health technology is about ensuring consumers have the freedom to take advantage of promising new health technology without losing the right to privacy or facing harm such as discrimination."

Emerging health technologies can undoubtedly make our lives easier, but they shouldn't come at the expense of our privacy. Congress should pass my bill to ensure that Americans are in charge of their own personal health data, how it is stored, analyzed, and shared—and with whom. Our laws need to keep up with technology and give patients the privacy and protections they expect. And that's exactly what the Protecting Personal Health Data Act will do.

Minnesota needs a transportation vision

By Margaret Donahoe
Executive Director, MN Transportation Alliance

Minnesota legislators have been touring the state this past fall, getting a firsthand look at important public assets and infrastructure that's wearing out as they prepare to put together a capital bonding bill. As they travel, they will take notice of the worn out and increasingly unsafe roads and bridges they're using to travel from point to point.

Vehicle weights and traffic fatalities each increased in 2018. We're seeing more wear and tear and the roads of greater Minnesota are becoming increasingly dangerous, with the majority of traffic fatalities now happening on rural two-lane highways.

If legislators decide to include funding for local roads and bridges, bus systems, ports and freight rail corridors in the bonding bill, that will make a difference. But it's also time for legislators to stop treating infrastructure like it's a partisan issue where one side doesn't want the other to get a "win".

Minnesota's support of safer, more efficient transportation options knows no party. It's time for the legislature to stop playing politics and start working together to address the real need for increases in long-term, dedicated funding that will make our transportation system safer and more efficient.

We're now 11 years removed from our last ambitious transportation package that sought to shore up our roads, bridges and transit options. Following a decade of work to get caught up, Minnesotans are currently at a crossroads—literally. Will we resign ourselves to paying for vehicle damage from potholes, lost time with family members, more costly products and yearly fatality statistics or will we demand action from our lawmakers?

Back in 2008, Minnesota legislators did the right thing when they voted to increase transportation user fees like the gas tax to create the necessary resources to adequately maintain our transporta-

tion system statewide. The bill was vetoed by Governor Pawlenty, but the legislature was resolute enough in its position that they overrode the veto in a bipartisan manner. At the time, the bill was seen as a ten-year plan for addressing the state's needs. It allowed for a lot of improvements over ten years, including new bridges to replace fracture critical ones like the 35W bridge, expanded highways, better local roadways and better transit service in more areas of the state.

As we head into year 12 of that ten-year plan, the transportation system continues to age and wear out. Local governments bear the burden from the lack of state and federal funding increases. In order to keep up with maintenance and needed repairs, local property taxes and local sales taxes have become the funding source of last resort rather than dedicated transportation user fees collected at the state level. With more deficient local bridges and more local roads wearing out, the state needs to assist local governments with investments both through the capital bonding bill and through a long-term transportation funding plan.

Legislators on both sides of the aisle recognize that shoring up our key transportation corridors is important to increasing our productivity and strengthening our economy. It helps producers in the agricultural and manufacturing sectors to get their products to market easier and allows people to get where they need to be quicker and more safely. But while they agree on what needs to be done, they are allowing partisan rancor to get in the way of these important improvements to the lives of all Minnesotans.

Minnesota needs leaders who are willing to put petty partisan bickering aside and take bold action to make the changes needed to get our state moving again. We saw what could happen when in 2008 legislators took bold action and set us up with a ten-year plan. It is time for the legislature to create a new ten-year transportation plan to help move us forward as a state and reconnect our communities for a safer Minnesota.

Get big, or get out, redux

By Brian Depew,
Center For Rural Affairs

Asked about the plight of dairy farmers in Wisconsin, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue said, "[The] big get bigger and small go out and that's kind of what we've seen here ... Everyone will have to make their own decisions economically whether they can survive."

The Center for Rural Affairs was founded in 1973.

Earl Butz was Secretary of Agriculture. Butz had a similar view, "Get big or get out."

Butz believed farm consolidation was inevitable.

The Center was founded on a different belief. We believe in our ability to come together to shape the future through policy change. We believe in widespread ownership of businesses and farmland. We believe those who work hard ought to have an opportunity to share in the ownership and prosperity their labor created.

For 46 years, we have stood up for these beliefs.

Unlike Perdue, we believe consolidation in agriculture is not inevitable. Instead, we understand it is the direct result of policy decisions we have made together as a nation. We can choose to make different policy decisions. Consider:

We can choose to place a cap on crop insurance subsidies. Right now, if one operation farmed the entire state of Iowa, the federal government would subsidize their crop insurance on every single acre. We have fought to level the playing field by capping this subsidy at \$50,000 per farm, a cap that would affect only the largest 2 percent of farms.

We can choose to enforce the Packers and Stockyards Act and put hardworking livestock producers on a

level playing field in the market dominated by large multinational meatpackers. Instead, the current administration has chosen to roll back rules and enforcement even further.

These are choices we make. We can make different choices. Together, we have made good choices to shape the future or agriculture, proving it can be done. Consider:

Today, over 70 million acres of working farmland are protected by the Conservation Stewardship Program because we chose to fight for this landmark program in the 2008 farm bill.

The 2018 farm bill includes a record \$100 million in funding for beginning farmer training and local food system support because we chose to fight for these programs.

We are not resigned to a future of inevitable market consolidation. We understand the choices we make in Washington set the path for agriculture in the countryside.

We believe in a future where people who work hard are treated fairly in the marketplace, where policymakers fight to protect everyday rural people from corporate market control, and where ownership of assets is widespread with opportunity for all who participate.

We call on policymakers to join us.

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

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Festival of Creches/ Nativity Sets Dec. 14

Event to be held at St. Michael Church, Motley

A Festival of Creches/Nativity Sets will be held Saturday, Dec. 14, at St. Michael Church in Motley.

Hosted by the Staples-Motley Catholic Youth Ministry, the event is being held for the benefit of Care Ministries, St. Michael Building Fund; and the Sacred Heart Stained Glass Windows Fund.

The main event will take place from 2 - 6 p.m., during which time attendees can

view the creche exhibit and enjoy live music and hospitality. Children's activities will be available as well.

At 7 p.m., the public is invited to join the St. Michael Parish in worship; and to bring their own creche from home for the Blessing of the Creches portion of Sacred Mass.

The closing exhibit will take place from 8 - 10 p.m. In addition to the opportunity to view the creche

exhibit and enjoy live music, those in attendance are invited to participate in a Christmas Sing Along.

If you would like to share your creche/nativity set with St. Michael Church for the Dec. 14 event, call 218-414-0081.

St. Michael Church is located at 280 1st Ave. S., Motley.



An afternoon of holiday music

Staples native and former American Idol contestant Katie (Ziegler) Switzer performed a number of Christmas carols and other holiday music during an open house at Ace Hardware in Staples

Dec. 6. Young people enjoyed singing along on familiar songs like, "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" and "Jingle Bells." (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Holiday lights at Pine Grove Park, Staples

Drive through event every Friday, Saturday, Sunday in December

A drive through North Pole Holiday Lights event takes place at Pine Grove Park in Staples every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 5 - 9 p.m. through the end of December.

There are over 25 different light displays this year and Christmas music will be broadcast as people drive through the park. Hot chocolate will be available and wreaths will be for

sale as well. Proceeds will benefit local events.

This event is organized by the City of Staples Parks and Recreation Department, along with the Staples Host Lions and Sisters with Sass. Over 200 hours have gone into the hanging of the lights.

The Holiday Lights drive through event is made possible by the generous donations of several area businesses.



Season of Lights

The 24th Annual Season of Lights ceremony, sponsored by the Lakewood Health System Foundation, as well as the Hospice and Palliative Care programs at Lakewood, was held Nov. 24, at Timbers Event Center in Staples. A total of 107 hospice and palliative care patients were honored, with ornaments hung by family members and staff in honor of the patients that died this year. The program also included a welcome by Tim Rice, President and CEO of Lakewood Health System (LHS); music by Lauren Ruten; a message by Dr. Julie Benson, Hospice and Palliative Care Medical Director; prayer by Don Reigstad, Chaplain; "Silent Night" led by Paul Johnson and Lonna Dille; and a time of honoring LHS employees. Military veterans were also honored, with Taps played and colors posted by the American Legion Tri County Post #124 of Motley. (Submitted photo)

Mark Your Calendar

December 12

WADENA WHIRLAWAYS SQUARE DANCE CLUB MTG Thurs., Dec. 12, 7:30 - 10 p.m., Wadena VFW. Myron Hollatz, caller. For info., 320-760-6043.

December 15

CHRISTMAS AT THE DEPOT, SPONSORED BY STAPLES HISTORICAL SOCIETY Sun., Dec. 15, 1 - 2:30 p.m., at the Staples Historical depot, 1st Ave. NE and 4th St. NE, Staples. Colla Voce Girl's Choir will perform; apple cider and cookies served.

December 16

CONCERNED CITIZENS OF CENTRAL MINNESOTA MTG Mon., Dec. 16, at the Little Falls Care Center, 1200 1st Ave. NE, Little Falls. Board mtg, 6 p.m., potluck at 6:30 p.m., regular mtg., 7 p.m. Discussion: Medicare. Bring a friend.

December 17

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC - WALK-IN sponsored by Cass County Public Health, Tuesday, Dec. 17, 10 a.m. - noon and 1 - 2:30 p.m., Pillager Family Resource Center. For info., 218-547-1340.

WIC NUTRITION PROGRAM sponsored by Cass County Public Health, Tuesday, Dec. 17, 10 a.m. - noon and 1 - 2:30 p.m.; and Wednesday, Dec. 18, 9:30 a.m. - noon and 12:30 - 2 p.m., Pillager Family Resource Center. For info., 218-547-1340.

Cardinal Calendar

SM school events

December

- **K-4 CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** Dec. 11, 1:30, main gym
- **MS/HS CHRISTMAS CONCERT** Dec. 12. Grades 5 - 8 at 6 p.m.; Grades 9 - 12 at 7 p.m. Centennial Auditorium.
- **HS CHRISTMAS CONCERT** Dec. 16. Grades 9 - 12, Centennial Auditorium.
- **MS STUDENT OF THE MONTH AWARDS** Dec. 19, 8 a.m.
- **CHRISTMAS BREAK - NO SCHOOL** Dec. 23 - Jan. 1.

All Staples-Motley Upcoming Events are subject to change.



2019 Caring Tree at Lakewood Care Center

The Christmas Caring Tree is freshly decorated at Lakewood Health System Care Center in Staples featuring blue and white. Above: Iras Chapin and Marge Pearson, Resident Council Presidents, invite the public to visit the decorated Caring Tree in the dining room. Each bow placed on the tree has the name of a care center resident with gift ideas on the back. Care center employees and patrons can select a bow and return it with a gift to the activities department by Dec. 20. The gifts will be distributed on Christmas Eve morning. (Submitted photo)

Veteran's News

David A Anderson
Wadena County Veteran Service Officer

Different programs offer life insurance options and have different eligibilities to cover veterans (VGLI), service members (SGLI), and family members (FSGLI). You may also be able to get short-term financial coverage through Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Traumatic Injury Protection (TSGLI) to help you recover from a traumatic (severe) injury. If you're disabled because of an injury or illness caused - or made worse - by your active service, you may be able to get coverage through Service-Disabled Veterans' Life Insurance (S-DVI) to continue your life insurance beyond two years after you leave the military. Note that if you're ending your military tour of duty soon, you'll need to get new coverage quickly. In some cases, you must act within 120 days of leaving the military to be sure there's no break in your coverage.

VA life insurance options:

- **VGLI:** With Veterans' Group Life Insurance you may be able to keep your life insurance coverage after you leave the military for as long as you continue

to pay the premiums. Find out if you qualify for VGLI and how to manage your coverage at <https://www.va.gov/life-insurance/options-eligibility/vgli>.

◦ **SGLI:** Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance. Offers low-cost term coverage to eligible service members. If you're a service member who meets certain criteria, we'll automatically sign you up. Find out if you're eligible and learn how to manage your SGLI coverage while you're serving - and convert it when you separate or retire at <https://www.va.gov/life-insurance/options-eligibility/sgli>.

◦ **FSGLI:** Family Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance. Offers coverage for the spouse and dependent children of service members covered under full-time SGLI. Find out how much coverage you may qualify for - and how to apply for and manage your benefits at <https://www.va.gov/life-insurance/options-eligibility/fsgli>.

◦ **TSGLI:** Provides short-term financial support to help eligible service members recover from a severe injury. If you were covered by SGLI and experienced a traumatic injury while serving in the military, find out how to file a claim

for TSGLI or appeal a past decision at <https://www.va.gov/life-insurance/options-eligibility/tsgli>.

◦ **S-DVI:** provides low-cost coverage to eligible service members. If you have a service-connected disability, find out how to apply for S-DVI online or by mail by going to <https://www.va.gov/life-insurance/options-eligibility/s-dvi>.

◦ **VMLI:** Veterans' Mortgage Life Insurance offers mortgage protection insurance to the families of veterans with severe service-connected disabilities who've adapted a home to fit their needs. Find out if you qualify - and how to apply and manage your coverage at <https://www.va.gov/life-insurance/options-eligibility/vmli>.

Once you decide to acquire VA life insurance you can access and manage your policy online by going to <https://www.va.gov/life-insurance/manage-your-policy>.

Motley Free
Methodist Church

**Tuesday,
December 31
8 p.m. - Midnight**

"Praying In The New Year"

• 8 p.m. Opening program in the Sanctuary
• 9:45 p.m. Food, snacks, drinks, games and Fellowship
• 9:45 p.m. Movie "25 Hill"
• 11:30 p.m. Communion; Praying into the New Year
• Midnight "Happy New Year 2020!"

Facebook: Motley Free Methodist Church Twitter: @FreeMotley
For info: Charles Mallory, Associate Pastor
218-352-6022 or charlesMFMC@gmail.com

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WADENA, MN

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"JUMANJI: THE NEXT LEVEL"
Fri. thru Thurs. Dec. 13 - Jan. 2
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:10 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:10
Matinee Sat. & Sun. Dec. 14 & 15 at 1:00 pm

Screen 2
"KNIVES OUT"
Held Over 4th Week!
Fri. thru Wed. Dec. 13 - 18
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:00 & 9:30
Sun. thru Wed. 1 Show at 7:00
Matinee Sun. Dec. 15 at 1:30 pm

SPECIAL ADVANCE SCREENING!
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19TH • AT 7:00 PM
"STAR WARS: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER"

Screen 3
"FROZEN II"
Held Over 4th Week!
Fri. thru Thurs. Dec. 13 - 19
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:15 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:15
Matinee Sat. & Sun. Dec. 14 & 15 at 1:15 pm

FREE CHRISTMAS MATINEE!
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14TH
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Wrestlers start season with sorrow, optimism

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples-Motley wrestling team started the season with positive attitudes and an upward trend in the number of wrestlers competing. But the team also has a heavy heart as they start the season.

"We are saddened by the recent loss of legendary Staples-Motley wrestling coach Don Dravis," said Coach Mark Carlson. "Don set the tone for success and tradition for our program and made a huge impact not just locally, but throughout the wrestling community."

As the program moves forward in memory of the former coach, they have reasons to be excited for the upcoming season.

The Cardinals had three wrestlers place in their opening tournament at Wadena-Deer Creek on Dec. 7. Owen Bjerga won the 170 pound weight class with a technical fall, fall and a 13-5 major decision in the championship match against a ranked wrestler.

The other placers were Logen Weite, fifth place at 152 pounds, and Will Danilyuk, 6th place at 145 pounds. Several other Cardinal wrestlers competed in junior varsity matches or did not place at the tournament.

Season preview

All-State wrestler Owen Bjerga will be the team's leader and a captain this year.

"Owen had one of the best seasons in S-M wrestling history in regards to wins and takedowns," said Carlson.

Bjerga finished second at state last year in a very close championship match. "I know he is motivated to improve on that finish," said Carlson.

Several other wrestlers have varsity experience, including Dalton Wells, Will Danilyuk, Sam Jennissen, Conner Dobson and Logen Weite. "We are excited about this group with good experience," said Carlson.

Another group of athletes are either new to the sport or ready to step up and contribute to the varsity program for the first time, after competing in



Starting at the top

Cole Winkels, left, started his wrestling career by facing the two time defending state champion, Craig Orlando of Bertha-Hewitt/Verndale/Parkers Prairie. Winkels fought off a couple of throw attempts before getting pinned. One positive, he will likely never face a tougher wrestler.

junior high and junior varsity matches.

"We will be stronger towards the second half of the season when we have everyone available in the line-up and peaking," said Carlson. "Our motto is to get one percent better every day and every opportunity in all that we do, whether it's school, wrestling, other activities, and in life. We learn from our losses and failures and that is much of the focus this year in 'winning and learning.'"

Another team focus will be to promote learning of core action values and being positive in personal improvement and supporting teammates.

The number of student-athletes participating in wrestling is growing, especially in the 6th-8th grade group. The 9th-12th grade group also is increasing, but at a slower rate.

"We are still needing to increase the participation in the high school group, with 14 varsity weights to fill," said Carlson. "We really encourage any student-athletes still interested to give wrestling a try, as wrestling is a founda-

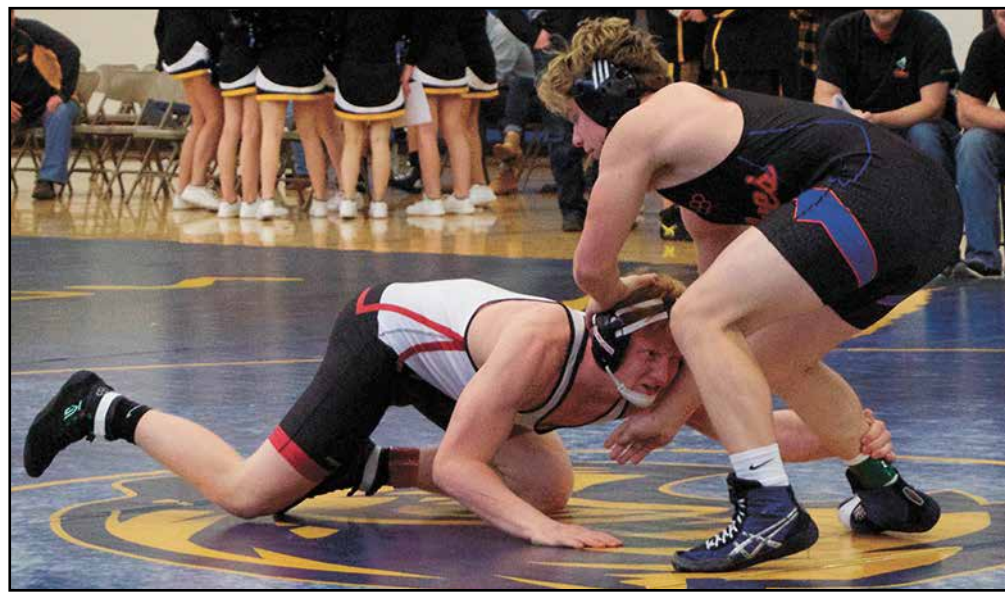
tional sport that makes you better in all other sports, whether it's football or cross-country."

The athletes and coaches are working together to improve the local wrestling community.

"I'm blessed to have great coaches from the youth program on up to our junior high and senior high programs," said Carlson. "We have a strong youth feeder youth program and great volunteers helping out in that program. The future looks really bright."

Many wrestling programs around the country are struggling to fill their varsity rosters, and Minnesota is considering reducing dual meets to 12 or 13 weights, which was the range in the 1970s through early 2000s. The national average is 4 or 5 forfeits per dual meet and the majority of wrestlers are between 125-175 pounds.

"A correction to both the weight classes and the number of weight classes are needed, in my opinion," said Carlson.



Master of the maneuver

Owen Bjerga gets low to pick the ankle of an opponent during the WDC tournament. Bjerga is one of a few wres-

tlers to consistently catch their opponent with that move. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Gaining leverage

Logen Weite comes out on top during a scramble on the mat, despite his opponent having him wrapped up.



Catching air

Will Danilyuk spins with is opponent to remain on top.



Near fall

Conner Dobson turns his opponent.



Takedown position

Sam Jennissen shoots in to grab his opponent's leg at the WDC tournament.

Native cookbook weaves a cultural and culinary tale

My wife and I are regular listeners to public radio. Not just for the classical music that soothes frayed nerves on my lengthy drive home from work, but also for some of the features that you don't get on commercial radio.

We don't consider ourselves gourmet cooks, but one show we regularly listen to is *The Splendid Table*, which—according to its tagline—is "a show for people who love to eat."

One of its shows happened annually on Thanksgiving Day for many years, and was called "Turkey Confidential." It featured listener call-ins from cooks seeking advice on how to make their holiday meal a success or—occasionally—needing help to rescue their meal from impending disaster.

But most weeks the show dealt with more general food-centric issues. Sometimes they were ethnic in nature; not surprising since the French, Italians, Greeks, Koreans and other ethnicities have unique foods that have found their way into the culinary melting pot that is international cooking. Entire cookbooks are written with one ethnicity's

food heritage and tastes in mind.

Most cookbooks could be called "mainstream," like the first one to be a genuine critical success, Julia Child's 1961 *Mastering the Art of French Cooking*, which has been reprinted many times over. But my wife came across a very different cookbook a few days ago, while she was indulging her weakness for regularly stopping at a local second-hand store.

The volume she found is called *The Rural and Native Heritage Cookbook*, published by Totem Books, which—at least when this plastic-ring-bound edition was printed in 1987, was a publishing enterprise located in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. With such a title and publishing origin, you might expect a cookbook like this to include recipes featuring foods from the wild and you would be correct. It's divided into section titles like *Big Game*, *Small Game*, *Game Birds*, *Fish* and *Wild Edibles*.

These are followed at the book's conclusion with the chapter titled *Miscellaneous*, wherein are found such things as moose and venison marinades, several fish batters and that staple flatbread of early voyageurs - bannock. Especially interesting there in the *Miscellaneous* chapter are graphs that depict the nutritional value of many wild foods. They depict how certain foods would satisfy a recommended daily intake of fat, carbohydrate, protein, calcium, iron, vitamin A and the

other dietary building blocks.

The foods whose nutrition is graphed here include stewed black bear, roasted venison, deer liver, cooked muskrat and beaver, roasted geese, raw eel, steamed pike, broiled whitefish, raw dandelion greens and cooked fiddlehead ferns. Reflecting the concern that native peoples have for the welfare of their children, the graphs show how these foods would satisfy the nutritional needs of a young teenager.

Especially interesting to me is how neatly this cookbook—published more than three decades ago— dovetails with a growing movement today in wider America that is advocating the harvest, preparation and consumption of foods from the wild. Not just vegetarian items like wild asparagus, blueberries and raspberries, dandelion greens, mushrooms and ferns, but also fish and game. The movement emphasizes not only the genuinely healthful aspects of wild foods, but also the integrity of participating in the cycle of life as harvesters of the creatures we consume.

High-end, "big city" restaurants in the Twin Cities and elsewhere have cautiously but steadily been integrating wild foods into their traditional menus; entrees like venison, rabbit, wild boar and elk, watercrossed by ferns, complemented or spruce tips. Web sites like Minnesota native Mark Norquist's *Modern Carnivore* unap-

ogetically promote the sustainable harvest and consumption of wild game and fish. Part of their mission is to reaffirm ancient bonds that—for most—have been replaced by the bond of convenience as shoppers and buyers in local grocery stores. This movement's message is that humans are part of and participants in, the cast and processes of Nature.

It's risky to generalize, yet not inaccurate to say that North America's native peoples have not set themselves apart from Nature as have many of us who are not of their communities. For them there has never been a breach in the straightforward logic of humans' need to obtain their sustenance from the land and its bounty. The cookbook that my wife serendipitously found in her second-hand store clearly reflects that reality.

Members of my generation may remember Euell Gibbons, viewed by many as the father of the foraging movement that took off in the 1960's when he published the landmark *Stalking the Wild Asparagus*. Many think his book was only about the identification, collecting, preparing and eating of wild plants, fruits and nuts. But Gibbons also wrote in that book of dining on bluegills and carp, crayfish and turtles, frog legs, even woodchuck, opossum, raccoon and muskrat.

Clearly he knew something that the rest of us did not.



Mike Rahn

Basketball boys show team improvement

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team opened the season with a 80-66 loss at Wadena-Deer Creek, then followed up with a 66-52 win at home against Verndale.

The Cardinals started the season short a couple of players due to injury, including two of their top rebounders and scorers. But many players have stepped up at different times.

"That presents both a challenge and an opportunity for our guys," said Coach Nick Doll. "Our first two games were impressive with how our guys have accepted the challenge. Inexperienced guys are getting a lot of minutes, and they are playing with confidence and aggression. We need to keep that up and build on it."

Against W-DC, Josh Schimpp made six three pointers to keep the Staples-Motley offense flowing, but defensively they couldn't make enough stops to keep the game close at the end.

Against Verndale, the Cardinals started out hitting outside shots to gain an early lead, with Adam Oberlander making the first three pointer and Isaac Christoffersen shooting two more. That helped extend the defense and Max Strickland took advantage by driving inside for two baskets. The defense forced several turnovers to help build a 30-18 halftime lead. In the second half, Verndale cut the lead to ten, but the Cardinals pulled away again when Issac Kronenberg started getting offensive rebounds and scored twice inside.

Coach Doll said the team has already improved on their results from the first two games last year. "That is what we are all about, one percent better every day is our mantra," he said.

Despite the improvement, Doll said there is a long way to go to compete with the top teams in the area.

"We are not ready to challenge for the section," said Doll, with Fergus Falls and Perham as Section 8AA favorites. "However, we are bigger, faster, stronger, smarter and more skilled than we were last year. Our goal is to continue that trend and take as few steps backward as possible. If we do that, maybe by the end of the year we can surprise some people. There is nothing scarier than playing a team with nothing to lose."

The fans attending the first two games may have seen some of that playing out.



To the rim

Issac Kronenberg swoops in for a layup. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

"The effort these guys have given so far has been great, and is fun to watch," said Doll "The atmosphere at our home game against Verndale was fantastic. I would encourage everyone to come check us out. We appreciate the support so much. We have a great sports community and we love the home court advantage our supporters give us."

Team results
Staples-Motley 66, Wadena-Deer Creek 80
 Scoring: Josh Schimpp 25, Izaiah DeMars 7, Adam Oberlander 7, Isaiah Schultz 7, Max Strickland 6, Lyle Brownell 6, Isaac Christoffersen 3, Ryan Wick 3, Issac Kronenberg 2
Staples-Motley 66, Verndale 52
 Scoring: DeMars 16, Christopher 12, Wick 7, Oberlander 7, Kronenberg 6, Strickland 6, Schimpp 6, Brownell 4, Schultz 1



Laying it up

Max Strickland slices through the Verndale defense.



Fast break

Adam Oberlander beats the defense down the floor.



Back for more

Izaiah DeMars didn't let a head wound keep him out for long, coming back bandaged up to score some second half baskets.



Pick and roll

Elizabeth Danilyuk dribbles past the defense as Alix Peterson sets a pick. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Positives found in two basketball losses

The Staples-Motley girls basketball team looked good despite a 59-48 loss to Breckenridge on Dec. 3, then suffered cold shooting and turnovers in a 56-49 loss to Park Rapids on Dec. 6.

"Against Breckenridge we played really well," said Coach Brian Smith. "I was pleased with our effort. They are a really good team and have a couple of girls that are really a challenge to contain."

The Cardinal effort kept them within one point at halftime. Breckenridge opened the second half with three straight three pointers, including a bank shot. "That was the difference in the game," said Smith.

Staples-Motley closed the gap to five or six points but were unable to make it all the way back.

A few players came through against a quality opponent.

"Addy Lorber stepped up and gave us a huge lift," said Smith. "They made it really hard for our guards to get open looks from outside but when Addy started driving into the lane and collapsing the defense it opened things up a bit."

The defense locked in on Katie Smith in the first half but she was able to get free in the second half, when she and Lorber each hit two big three pointers.

On defense, Coach Smith said Tabetha Allen did a good job against the 6'1" center from Breckenridge. Allen had 12 points and 12 rebounds.

Against Park Rapids, the Cardinals started with a lead but went into a cold stretch of turnovers and missed shots and fell behind 26-19 at halftime.

"Not much went right for us in this game, we didn't shoot the ball very well and defensively we were a step behind the whole first half," said Smith.

After halftime adjustments, Staples-Motley came within one late in the game, but Park Rapids made free throws to put the game away.

"This is a game that we will try to learn a few things from," said Smith.

The team has a goal of fewer than 18 turnovers per game, but had 14 in the first half.

They also allowed 16 offensive rebounds in the first half and shot 32 percent from the field, including 12 percent on three pointers.

"On the positive side we had eight different players score and we shot 83 percent from the free throw line," said Smith.

Team results
Staples-Motley 48, Breckenridge 59
 Scoring: Addison Lorber 15, Tabetha Allen 12, Kaitlyn Smith 8, Alix Peterson 7, Haley Cichos 4, Elizabeth Danilyuk 2
Staples-Motley 49, Park Rapids 56
 Scoring: Allen 20, Cichos 6, Lorber 6, Smith 5, Peterson 5, Kaila Erbe 4, Bella Martin 2, Danilyuk 1



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Santa is Waiting for YOUR Letter



We'll publish your letter in the Dec. 25 issue of the Staples World.

By **Dec. 13** please bring it to our office at 224 4th St. NE, Staples, or mail it to us at PO Box 100, Staples, MN 56479

Then we'll send your letter on to Santa at the North Pole!



Needing/Wanting a Granite Memorial FOR YOUR FAMILY?

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 Rep. for Fergus Falls Monument Co.
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 Consider a Gift Subscription to the Staples World newspaper.
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 Staples, MN
Staples World

Hello World

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:
 Born to Ashley and Andrew Kimber of Parkers Prairie, a baby boy, Wyatt Andrew weighing six pounds, 14 ounces on November 27, 2019.
 Born to Ashley and Chad Wallgren of Staples, a baby boy, Hudson Thomas weighing seven pounds, 11 ounces on November 27, 2019.
 Born to Angel and Mario Andrade of Long Prairie, a baby girl, Penelope Lynn Dianne weighing six pounds, four ounces on

November 29, 2019.
 Born to Meghan and Justin Gangestad of Baxter, a baby boy, Joseph Vianney weighing seven pounds, 13 ounces on November 30, 2019.
 Born to Kayla and Drew Yungbauer of Staples, a baby girl, RenLee Renee weighing six pounds, four ounces on December 1, 2019.
 Born to Jennesa and Jayme Steele of Brainerd, a baby boy, Ryker James weighing seven pounds, 11 ounces on December 3, 2019.

Thank you...
 for reading the
Staples World



Celebrating Nov. birthdays

The November/December birthday party was held at the Staples Senior Center December 4. Above: The honored guests were (left to right): Gloria Marden, Arlene Skov, Martha Holsapple and Neil Grover, who all had birthdays in November. (Submitted photo)

Staples Area Church Directory

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

Assembly of God
 914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples 218-894-1081
 Pastor Roy Miles
 Discipleship Classes 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Evening Prayer 6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
 Wednesday times are for Sept. - May
 Sonlight (Kids Program) 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.
 Youth Group 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Church of Christ
 27343 490th St., Staples 218-894-2609
 Pastor Barry Klein
 Website: www.stapleschurchofchrist.org
 Bible School (youth and adult) 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY:
 Teen Youth/Adults Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Motley
Motley Free Methodist
 33 Wellwood St. E
 Motley 56466 218-352-6888
 Pastor Jim Johnson
 Sunday Worship 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
 Kids Club 4:00-5:30 p.m.
 Youth Group 5:30-7:30 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Woodworking with nature: holiday gift ideas

State Parks and Rec. activity Dec. 21

This program is "rooted" in trees and is located at the Glendalough State Park. It will be held Dec. 21 from 10 a.m. until noon.
 Trees play so many important roles in nature and in our every day lives. We will take a look at some of our Minnesota trees, their uses and the many other wonders of trees, while putting your creative and craftsmanship skills to work. This is a "make and take" program. Participants will leave with one or more projects they can use at their own home or give away as holiday gifts.
 Projects will vary, so there will be something that interests you regardless of your age. Children must be accompanied by an adult (fee is per person).
 Participants are required to pre-register by Friday, Dec. 13 and the program is limited to 15 people. Call the park at (320) 852-7200 to register or for more information.
 A MN state Park vehicle permit is required to attend this event, and can be purchased at the park for a day fee or an annual permit.
 Glendalough State Park is located 1.5 miles north of Battle Lake on State Hwy. 78, then 1.8 miles east on Ottertail Co. Hwy. 16. The address is 24869 Whitetail Lane, Battle Lake, MN 56515. The park is open daily from 8 a.m.-10 p.m.

Happy Birthday
 to the great
 KO...
 the go-getter,
 Dec. 15.
You inspire us!
 Love, Your co-worker friends (and Gary M., too)

Santa is Waiting for YOUR Letter



We'll publish your letter in the Dec. 25 issue of the Staples World.

By Dec. 13 please bring it to our office at 224 4th St. NE, Staples, or mail it to us at PO Box 100, Staples, MN 56479

Then we'll send your letter on to Santa at the North Pole!

Christmas... a Time of Holy Peace

Pastor Carl Larson, Faith Lutheran Church

¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

-Luke 2:13-14

A couple of weekends ago my brother, Keith and I were at our home farm in Amboy spending a little pre-holiday time with our parents. It was while we were sitting together in the living room that we jointly reminisced about our boyhood Christmases at our home church. In what became a quite lengthy sentimental journey, memories abounded as to how each and every Christmas our home church created a wonderful consciousness of peace. It seemed that each and every remembrance brought us back to that pew in the church where we sat together as a family and sang our favorite Christmas Carols, soaked in the special music offered up by the choir or by guest musicians, and then intently listened to the scripture and stories that painted a picture of the birth of the Christ Child. This menagerie of Christmas Eve experienced in our little church always pointed toward a holy peace.
 But, then, the impeachment news began to filter into our conversation and turned our attentions away from the Christmas peace of the past and launched us into the new reality of constant conflict and chaos. For the impeachment hearings and the continual coverage by the 24 hour news brought us to that place where a Christmas peace seems to be unknown in the contemporary world. It binds us to that place in the world where politics and policy, controversy and contempt, disdain and disrespect seems ceaseless, and where there always seems to be a group of people in a perpetual battle with another. It's in that

place where it seems that peace is forever lost and that conflict and chaos win out.
 After talking about the impeachment controversy along with the persistent turmoil around the world, it was my mom that suggested we revisit the peace of Christmas and remember that peace is a place where the mind and spirit can reside and be refreshed.
 In Hebrew the word for peace is "shalom," a kind of well-wishing that says it all:
 • may you be healthy, whole, complete.
 • may you experience a steadfastness in love.
 • may you know where you fit in the universe, and may you have tranquility in that.
 Augustine said that peace is "the tranquility of order." When you know where you fit into God's world - that you are more than a beast, but less than God - that is the sense of order that brings tranquility.
 My wish for you this Christmas is that you experience peace, which includes the hope that somehow that civility will reign in the land of the free and home of the brave. But it goes beyond that. Christmas shalom is the confidence that when God's undeserved grace rests on us, we will know a peace that goes beyond understanding. The peace that comes because Christ came into the world and put things in order, beginning with his birth, completed in his death and resurrection.

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:

<p>Longbella Drug Store <i>"The Prescription Store"</i> 2nd Ave., Staples • 218-894-2242 Motley and Pillager</p>	<p>Ernie's Food Market Groceries - Gas - Convenience - more Staples, MN 218-894-1072</p>	<p>Staples Veterinary Clinic <i>"Complete Animal Care"</i> Staples, MN 218-894-1775</p>	<p>Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank Fully Insured to \$250,000 Staples, MN 218-894-3900</p>
<p>Central Building Supply Bob Reeck, Manager Hwy. 10 West, Staples, MN</p>	<p>Staples World Your community newspaper since 1890 224 4th St. NE, Staples, MN 218-894-1112</p>	<p>Tower Pizza Pizza, Pasta, Salads, Sandwiches Staples, MN 218-894-3299</p>	<p>Staples True Value <i>"Just Ask Rental!"</i> Open 7 days a week. Staples, MN 218-894-3263</p>

Public notices are a community's window into the government. You look for those notices in your newspaper. From zoning regulations to local budgets, governments have used local newspapers to inform citizens of its actions as an essential part of your right to know.
Keep public notices in newspapers!



Todd County Commissioners Minutes

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS NOVEMBER 19, 2019

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 19th day of November, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kneisl. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the agenda as presented.

Consent Agenda

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

To approve the Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for November 5, 2019 as presented.

GAMBLING PERMIT - TODD COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for the Todd County Council On Aging through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a Gambling Permit for the Todd County Council On Aging to hold a bingo event at the Clarissa Ballroom in Eagle Valley Township at the address 19281 Kotter Rd, Clarissa, MN on January 26, 2020.

GAMBLING PERMIT - MIDWEST OUTDOORS UNLIMITED PRAIRIE PARTNERS CHAPTER

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for the Midwest Outdoors Unlimited Prairie Partners Chapter through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a Gambling Permit for the Midwest Outdoors Unlimited Prairie Partners Chapter to hold a raffle event at the Hub Supper Club in Burnhamville Township at the address 30905 County 13, Burtrum, MN on March 7, 2020.

GAMBLING PERMIT - SAUK VALLEY GOBBLERS

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for the Sauk Valley Gobblers through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a Gambling Permit for the Sauk Valley Gobblers to hold a raffle event at the Diamond Point Steakhouse & Lounge in Birchdale Township at the address 12818 Bayview Dr, Sauk Centre, MN on February 29, 2020.

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 400428 through 400448 in the amount of \$50,603.69 and (Regular) 52519 through 52601 in the amount of \$56,067.26 for a total of \$106,670.95.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 800197 through 800254 and (Regular) 706009 through 706095 for a total amount of \$112,396.52.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS War-

rants number (ACH) 600069 through 600080 and (Regular) 515493 through 515532 in the amount of \$80,738.60.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the attached engagement letter with CliftonLarsonAllen LLP to provide auditing services to Todd County as specified for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2020, and 2021.

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

A resolution authorizing entry into a Joint Powers Agreement in the form of a Declaration of Trust establishing an entity known as "Minnesota Association of Governments Investing for Counties" and authorizing participation in certain investment programs in connection therewith:

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes Section 471.59 (the Joint Powers Act) provides among other things that governmental units, by agreement entered into through action of their governing bodies, may jointly or cooperatively exercise any power common to the contracting parties; and

WHEREAS, the MAGIC Fund was formed in October 1990 pursuant to the Joint Powers Act by the adoption of a joint powers agreement in the form of a Declaration of Trust by a group of Minnesota Counties acting as the Initial Participants thereof; and

WHEREAS, the Declaration of Trust, as amended, has been presented to this board and attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Declaration of Trust authorizes municipalities of the State of Minnesota to adopt and enter into the

Declaration of Trust and become Participants of the MAGIC Fund; and

WHEREAS, this board deems it to be advisable for Todd County to adopt and enter into the Declaration of Trust and become a Participant of the MAGIC Fund for the purpose of the joint investment of this county's monies with those of other counties so as to enhance the investment earnings accruing to each; and

WHEREAS, this board deems it to be advisable for Todd County to make use from time to time, in the discretion of the officials of the county identified in Section 2 of the following Resolution, of the Fixed-Rate Investment Program available to Participants of the MAGIC Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. Todd County shall join with other counties in accordance with the Joint Powers Act by becoming a Participant of the MAGIC Fund and adopting and entering into the Declaration of Trust, which is adopted by reference herein with the same effect as if it had been set out verbatim in this resolution, and a copy of the Declaration of Trust shall be filed in the minutes of the meeting at which this Resolution was adopted. The Auditor-Treasurer of Todd County is hereby authorized to take such actions and execute any and all such documents as they may deem necessary and appropriate to effectuate the entry of Todd County into the Declaration of Trust and the adoption thereof by Todd County.

Section 2. Todd County is hereby authorized to invest its available monies from time to time and to withdraw such monies from time to time in accordance with the provisions of the Declaration of Trust. The following officers and officials of the county and their respective successors in office each hereby are designated as "Authorized Officials" with full powers and authority to effectuate the investment and withdrawal of monies of this county from time to time in accordance with the

Declaration of Trust and pursuant to the Fixed-Rate Investment Service available to Participants of the MAGIC Fund:

Listed here are the names and titles of the officers and officials who will be authorized to invest and withdraw county monies in and from the MAGIC Fund and pursuant to the Fixed-Rate Investment Service. Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer, Jolene Sabrowsky, Chief Deputy Auditor-Treasurer, and Candace Perish, Deputy Auditor-Treasurer

The Todd County Auditor-Treasurer shall advise the MAGIC Fund of any changes in Authorized Officials.

Section 3. The Trustees of the MAGIC Fund are hereby designated as having official custody of this county's monies, which are invested in accordance with the Declaration of Trust.

Section 4. State banks, national banks, and thrift institutions located either within or without the State of Minnesota which qualify as depositories under Minnesota law and are included on a list approved and maintained for such purpose by the Investment Advisor of the MAGIC Fund are hereby designated as depositories of this county pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 118.005 and monies of this county may be deposited therein, from time to time in the discretion of the Authorized Officials, pursuant to the Fixed-Rate Investment Service available to Participants of the MAGIC Fund.

It is hereby certified that the Todd County Board of Commissioners duly adopted this Resolution at a duly convened meeting of the board held on the 19th day of November, 2019, and that such Resolution is in full force and effect on this date, and that such Resolution has not been modified, amended, or rescinded since its adoption.

Facilities

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Neuman, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the budgeted request to move on purchasing a new condenser and coil with rotation of indoor coils at the price of \$42,385 from Johnson Controls.

Ditch/Ag Inspector

On motion by Becker and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the CAI pursuing the Noxious Weed and Invasive Plant Grant for 2020 by submitting an application.

Public Works

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

2020 MASTER BRIDGE PRIORITY REPLACEMENT LIST

WHEREAS, Todd County has determined that the attached list of bridges on County State Aid Highways, County Roads, Township Roads, and Municipal Streets are either listed as structurally deficient or are a high priority for removal and replacement within the immediate future, and;

WHEREAS, local roads play an essential role in the overall state transportation network and local bridges are a critical component of the local road system, and;

WHEREAS, State support for the replacement of bridges continues to be crucial to maintaining the integrity of the local road system and is a necessary funding source for the County, Townships, and Municipalities to proceed with replacements of the bridges on the attached list, and;

WHEREAS, Todd County intends to proceed with the replacement of these bridges as soon as either State Transportation Bond Funds or State Townbridge Funds become available.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Todd County commits that it will proceed with the replacement of these listed bridges immediately after being notified of the availability of State Transportation Bond Funds or State Townbridge Funds.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the attached state bid purchase agreements for new equipment and authorize purchase of a used tractor backhoe up to the budgeted amount below: a. Nuss Truck and Equipment (New Plow Truck Chassis) for \$120,681.99 b. Towmaster Truck and Equipment (New Snow Plow Equipment) for \$107,562.50 c. Ziegler Equipment (New Loader) for \$170,260 d. RDO Equipment (Used Tractor/Backhoe) for up to \$41,495.51.

Policy Committee

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

ADOPTION OF CHANGES TO TODD COUNTY TECHNOLOGY POLICY

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners has recognized a need for a strong, up to date Information Technology Policy, and;

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners and policies subcommittee have had an opportunity to review the policy revisions put forth in Article V, Cellular Phone Use of the Information Technology Policy and find their implementation to be in the best interest of the sound administration of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Todd County Board of Commissioners adopts the attached changes to the Todd County Information Technology Policy and directs the County Coordinator to begin administration of said policy as of November 20, 2019.

Other Resolutions

It is understood that this Resolution replaces and supersedes all prior County Board actions, oral or written, relating to the subject matter hereof.

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

TODD COUNTY TRAVEL POLICIES

Section 1.01 Travel Policy...1

Section 1.02 Out-of-state travel policy...4

Section 1.03 Meal reimbursement...4

Section 1.04 Conference/seminar requests...4

Full policy document on file and available for public inspection at the County Auditor-Treasurer's Office.

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

ADOPTION OF CHANGES TO TODD COUNTY PERSONNEL POLICY

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners has recognized a need for strong, up to date personnel policy, and;

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners and policies subcommittee have had an opportunity to review the policy revisions put forth in Article V, Section 5.02 of the Personnel Policy and find their implementation to be in the best interest of the sound administration of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Todd County Board of Commissioners adopts the attached changes to the Todd County Personnel Policy and directs the County Administrator to begin administration of said policy as of November 20, 2019.

Other Resolutions

It is understood that this Resolution replaces and supersedes all prior

County Board actions, oral or written, relating to the subject matter hereof.

Planning & Zoning

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

Todd County Resolution to support a Long Prairie River Watershed One Watershed, One Plan Application

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources has developed policies for coordination and development of comprehensive watershed management plans, also known as One Watershed, One Plan, consistent with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.801, Comprehensive Watershed Management Planning Program; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.301, Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, authorizes Minnesota Counties to develop and implement a local water management plan; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103C.331, subdivision 11, Comprehensive Plan, authorizes Minnesota Soil and Water Conservation Districts to develop and implement a comprehensive plan; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Minnesota set a goal for full statewide transition to One Watershed, One Plan by 2025 and authorizing the Board of Water and Soil Resources BWSR to provide guidance to local governments as they begin program work, and

WHEREAS, the counties of Todd, Douglas and Morrison, and the associative Soil and Water Conservation Districts within the Long Prairie River - Watershed #9, as delineated in the attached One Watershed, One Plan Suggested Boundary Map, have interest in developing a comprehensive watershed management plan for this area; and

WHEREAS, Todd County recognizes the future need for both County Commissioner and staff commitment in the development and follow through of this plan and hereby pledges any required participation to the application and the resulting grant, and

WHEREAS, Todd County recognizes there may result in some restructuring of priorities in individual and capital projects in future annual plans, as well as office operations within watershed boundaries; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Todd County recognizes and supports watershed-scale planning efforts consistent with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.801, also known as One Watershed, One Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Todd County welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with the counties, soil and water conservation districts within the Long Prairie River for watershed-scale planning efforts in the future; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Todd County supports an application to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for a planning grant to develop a comprehensive watershed management plan and anticipates entering into a Memorandum of Agreement with the counties, soil and water conservation districts within the Long Prairie River, to collaborate on this effort, pending selection as a recipient of a planning grant.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To grant the subdivision request for a preliminary plat named Little Swan Lake Addition as submitted.

County Sheriff

On motion by Kirchner and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To

approve the Policing Contract with the City of Eagle Bend effective November 1, 2019 for two years.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the purchase of a new washer and dryer from Minnesota Chemical Company for \$25,470.

Administration

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve final interviews to be conducted with Coordinator candidates #2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 11 on December 5, 2019.

Auditor-Treasurer's Report

The County Auditor-Treasurer reported on meetings attended and projects in progress including agricultural tax season deadlines and beginning preparations for yearend financial reports.

Commissioner's Report

The Commissioners reported on meetings attended.

Adjourn

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kircher, the meeting was adjourned for the month of November 2019.

COMMISSIONERS WARRANTS	
Vendor Name	\$ Amount
ALLSTATE PETERBILT OF ALEXANDRIA	\$3,933.51
BRAATEN SAND & GRAVEL	8,012.50
COMPASS MINERALS AMERICA	2,259.47
CONTECH ENGINEERED SOLUTIONS, LLC	35,595.40
EMERGENCY AUTO TECH	2,315.98
JMD MANUFACT, INC.	2,466.54
LEVEL GROUND	2,400.00
M-R SIGN CO. INC	2,233.54
NOW MICRO INC	3,179.25
SHI CORP	4,128.94
WADENA ASPHALT CO	3,385.00
93 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	26,310.82
Total	\$106,670.95

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS	
Vendor Name	\$ Amount
V #15770 - COST EFF HEALTH INS.	\$4,297.23
DHS - SWIFT	4,507.52
V #15418 - COST EFF HEALTH INS.	3,601.50
FRESHWATER ED. DIST	17,988.00
V #15653 - COST EFF HEALTH INS.	6,936.00
NOW MICRO INC	3,179.25
RURAL MN CEP INC	13,616.54
138 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	58,270.48
Total	\$112,396.52

Vendor Name		\$ Amount
BRAZA HOME INC.	\$5,579.38	
HOLISTIC FAMILY ED. SERVICES	6,880.69	
#15891	2,015.20	
MID MINNESOTA DRUG TESTING INC	2,180.00	
NEXUS INC-MILLE LACS ACADEMY/SHIP PROG.	12,495.17	
NORTHERN PINES MENTAL HLTH CTR INC	4,247.00	
#13887	2,164.42	
STEP	7,774.12	
VILLAGE RANCH INC	7,184.25	
PAYMENTS LESS		
THAN \$2,000	30,218.37	
Total	\$80,738.60	

On a motion by Becker and seconded by Erickson, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held November 19, 2019 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on December 4, 2019.

Witness my hand and seal:

Gary Kneisl,
County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

50pnc



NOTICE OF FILING FOR STAPLES TOWNSHIP

Staples Township is accepting filings for:

Supervisor for a three (3) year term

Secretary for a two (2) year term

The filing period for these offices opens at the home of the Clerk on December 31, 2019 and closes at 5:00 p.m. on January 14, 2020. Filing fee is \$2.00.

Please contact Bonnie Thoele at 218-296-2151 or 218-894-3638 to file for office.

Bonnie Thoele, Clerk
50-51pnc



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

Both publications and Internet for One Price!

Payment must accompany the order. Use form below or click on www.staplesworld.com

Deadline: Friday at Noon

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

Classified Ad Order Form

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Classification # _____

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

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

TOTAL enclosed _____

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

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

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

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

NOTICES

101 Card of Thanks
Thank you for your words of kindness, cards, food and flowers at the time of the passing of Donna Miller. Special thanks to Dr. Leville and Dr. Benson, the staff at Lakewood Care Center and Hospice for all your support and care. Special thanks also to Chaplin Paul and Iten Funeral Home.
Carroll Miller Family
50p

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

RICHS PAINTING: Interior, Exterior, Decks. Wood work, power washer. 218-414-0396. Free estimates. Lic. #IR748424. cl49-2p

SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT

205 Help Wanted

FOR SALE

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

HYDRAULIC WOOD-SPLITTER w/5.5 Tecumseh gas motor. Good cond. Steve, 218-640-6353. 49-51p

312 Christmas Trees
CHRISTMAS TREE FARM: Open daily, 2-1/2 miles north of Verndale and 1 mile west on Cty. Rd. 4. **ALSO:** Guitar lessons. 218-631-4009 or 218-639-6331. 48-50p

CHRISTMAS GREENS and natural (sheared) trees. SE Staples. Bill, 218-894-3440. 50-52p

WANTED TO BUY

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

JUNK CARS & TRUCKS. 218-639-5509. 49-50p

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Morey's Seafood International is looking for a Senior Level Accounting professional with a Bachelor's Degree. 5-10 yrs. accounting experience required. Experience in a manufacturing environment is a plus. Cost accounting skills needed. 3-5 years Supervising Accounting Personnel preferred. The position is located in Motley, MN. **We offer competitive wages, benefits, and much more! Come join our valuable team of employees!** Send Resume by e-mail, or fax at: E-mail: awalz@moreys.com Fax: 218-303-4347 EOE

Looking for a good deal? Check out the **Staples World Classifieds**

HELP WANTED: Administrative/Accounting Assistant

The City of Motley is accepting applications to fill the position of **PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE/ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT.** A high school diploma or equivalent is required. The hiring range for this position is \$13.38 - \$15.22, dependent on experience. The position is 20-25 hours/week. A resumé, cover letter and City application are required. **Application forms and a full list of hiring requirements can be found online at www.cityofmotley.com, or at City Hall.** All application materials must be received no later than 3:30 p.m., Thurs., December 19, 2019, and can be emailed to: cityofmotley@brainerd.net, dropped off at City Hall during office hours, or mailed to: City Hall at 316 Hwy. 10 S., Motley, MN 56466, Attn: City Clerk. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. EOE

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3 bedroom \$1,100 per month
2 bedroom \$950 per month
Rent includes: Double attached garage, heat, water, sewer and trash
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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.

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT	49% NEWSPAPERS
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Staples World
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The Fine Print

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

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

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

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

HEARTLAND MARKET

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

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

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

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SEED/FEED/GRAINS	SAVE ON YOUR NEXT PRESCRIPTION World Health Link. Price match guarantee! Prescriptions required. CIPA certified. Over 1,500 medications available. Call today for a free price quote. 866/237-5131 Call now!	MOBILEHELP America's premier mobile medical alert system. Whether you're home or away. For safety and peace of mind. No long term contracts! Free brochure! Call today! 855/610-5151
SEED TREATMENT for soybean White Mold and SDS! Ask your seed dealer for Heads Up Seed Treatment. Cost effective, proven results. www.headsupST.com or 866/368-9306	VIASAT SATELLITE INTERNET Up to 12 Mbps plans starting at \$30/month. Our fastest speeds (up to 50 Mbps) & unlimited data plans start at \$100/month. Call Viasat today! 877/446-9168	DISH NETWORK \$59.99 For 190 channels! Add high speed internet for only \$19.95/month. Call today for \$100 gift card! Best value & technology. Free installation. Call 855/562-4309 (some restrictions apply)

THE CLASSIFIEDS

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Former Minnesota Viking (and Santa) came to town



Above, from left, are Andy Daniels, Remington Converse, Michael Becker (in background), Taylor Serich, Madden Roberts, all freshmen at Staples-Motley High School; Santa and former Viking Carl Lee. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

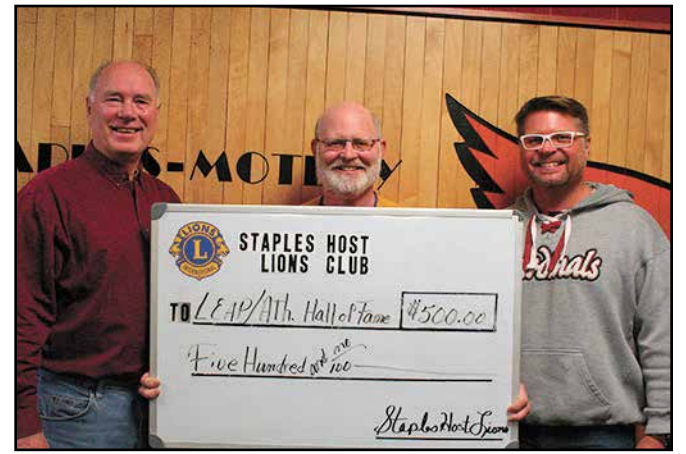
Former MN Viking Carl Lee, along with his pal Santa, stopped by Ace Hardware in Staples Dec. 6, where he chatted with fans and signed autographs. The event was sponsored by JJ Kern Promotions, a fundraiser for free youth football camps (Midwest Premier Football League). Pictured above, from left, are Santa, Jason Poynter, Deb Kaiser, Jean Pollema, Ace Hardware employees; Carl Lee; Hal Swanson, Ace Hardware owner; Kenny Salber, Austin Orth, employees.



Lions donations

The Staples Host Lions recently made donations to local organizations. Pictured above, Lion President Mike Gold (center) presents a \$1,000 donation to the Staples-Motley Grad Blast. Also pictured are Christie Berg (left) and Kathy Petrich, on the SM Grad Blast committee.

Pictured below, Lion President Gold (center) presents a \$500 donation to LEAP/Athletic Hall of Fame. Also pictured are Mike Hajek (left) and SM High School Principal Mike Schmidt. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



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sellnowj@sellnowlaw.com
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229 Central Ave., Long Prairie
320-732-1919 • Toll free: 877-297-1125
*Thomas Sellnow is a Real Property Law Specialist certified by Real Property Section of Minnesota State Bar Association.
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Sharing poetic music and photos for a snowy evening

"Frostiana: Seven Country Songs," under the direction of Nathan Thelen (left) and Steven J. Hoemberg, Jr., was performed at the Community Christmas Concert at Centennial Auditorium in Staples Dec. 7. "Frostiana" is based on poems written by Robert Frost which were put to music by American composer Randall Thompson. The Combined Choir included members of the Staples Area Women's Chorus, Staples Area Men's Chorus and the Staples-Motley High School A cappella Choir. Prior to the performance, Men's Chorus member

and poet David Bengston gave an introduction about Frost and his work. During the presentation, the work of area photographers was shown on a screen, helping further bring to life the words written by Frost. The photo pictured is one by Ken Klose of Staples, shown during the sixth song, "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening." Other photographers whose work was featured included John Gorton, Don Hoffmann and Dan Jacobson (along with Dan's wife). (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Men's and Women's Choruses sing songs of the season

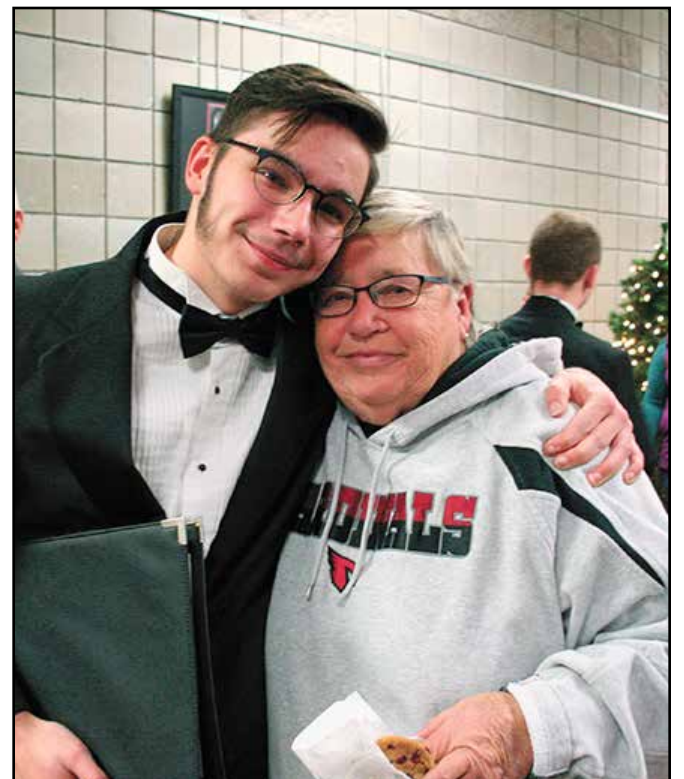
The Staples Area Men's Chorus, under the direction of Steve J. Hoemberg Jr. (top photo); and the Staples Area Women's Chorus, under the direction of Nathan Thelen, shared a variety of holiday music at the Community Christmas Concert in Staples Dec. 7. The Men's Chorus, accompanied by Sandy Paskewitz, performed, "Silver Bells" and "Do You Hear What I Hear?" The Women's Chorus, accompanied by Kim Prestridge, performed "Adorar Al Nino" and "Stars I

Shall Find." The Staples-Motley High School A cappella Choir, directed by Thelen (bottom photo) performed, "Brightest and Best" and "African Noel," and the Combined Choir, directed by Hoemberg, performed, "Out of the Orient Crystal Skies" and "Fum, Fum, Fum," the latter of which featured both Paskewitz and Prestridge at the piano. Following the intermission, the Combined Choirs returned to perform, "Frostiana: Seven Country Songs." (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Student art on display

Staples-Motley High School students in Jill Schneider's art class had the opportunity to paint pictures inspired by the poetry of Robert Frost. Several paintings were on display in the lobby of Centennial Auditorium during the Community Christmas Concert, which featured a combined choir performance of 'Frostiana,' based on seven of Frost's poems. Pictured above is a painting by senior Shaylee Bills, inspired by the Robert Frost poem, "Choose Something Like a Star." Below, is a painting by junior Emmet Anderson, based on Frost's poem, "The Pasture." Audience members enjoyed looking at the variety of paintings during intermission, while enjoying coffee and cookies. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



A hug from grandma

Alex Morlock (left) gets a hug from his grandma Barb Ringler of Staples during intermission at the Community Christmas Concert Dec. 7. Morlock, a junior at Staples-Motley High School, sang in the A cappella Choir, the Staples Area Men's Chorus, as well as the Combined Choir's performance of, "Frostiana, Seven Country Songs." (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

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Downtown Staples

Dec. 13 - 14

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CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY

NEXT continued from page 1a

First step to look at a consulting firm

though they are for different purposes.

"People need to understand how separate and dissimilar they are, even though they call them both referendums," said Freeman.

Board member Bryan Winkels said because of space constraints caused by moving grades 5-12 into the high school building, some of the spaces may have moved from yellow to red in the building rating, meaning it is now inadequate space for the purpose it served. Tappe said the new process would re-score the spaces.

The board was updated on the current building project. Troy Miller of LHB said their examination of the school buildings shows a need to replace flashing around the outside of the elementary school gym. He said the synthetic materials are shrinking and cracking, and will need to be replaced with metal.

He also commented on the high school gymnasium, saying the school

needs to put radiant heat around the walls to give the school time to figure out if they want to save the old gym. "The moisture that is trapped in there wouldn't continue tearing it apart," said Miller.

Tax levy increase

The school board also held their annual truth-in-taxation session as part of the meeting. Herdegen said the budget projection is for a 2.67 percent tax levy increase.

While that increase is consistent with inflation, a lot of work went into keeping the increase that low. The school will add a \$1.5 million long term facility maintenance (LTFM) levy, but other levies will be removed to offset much of the increase.

Herdegen also said the school is under budget for this past year. "The funds are ending up better than we projected," he said.

The board will take action on the proposed budget at the Dec. 16 board meeting.