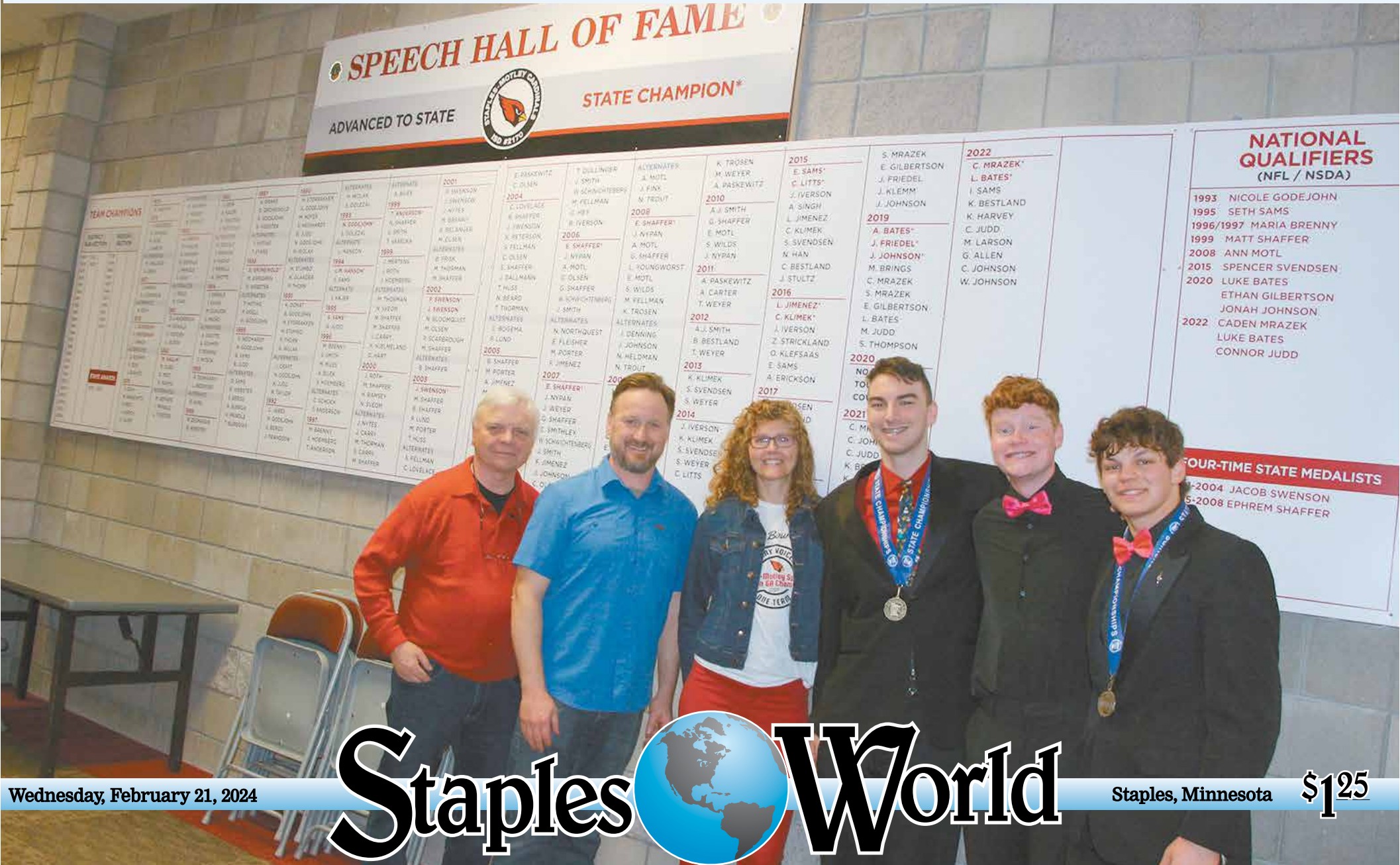


Inside this issue:

High School, Middle School honor rolls
SPARKS event
Wolf controversy
Election information

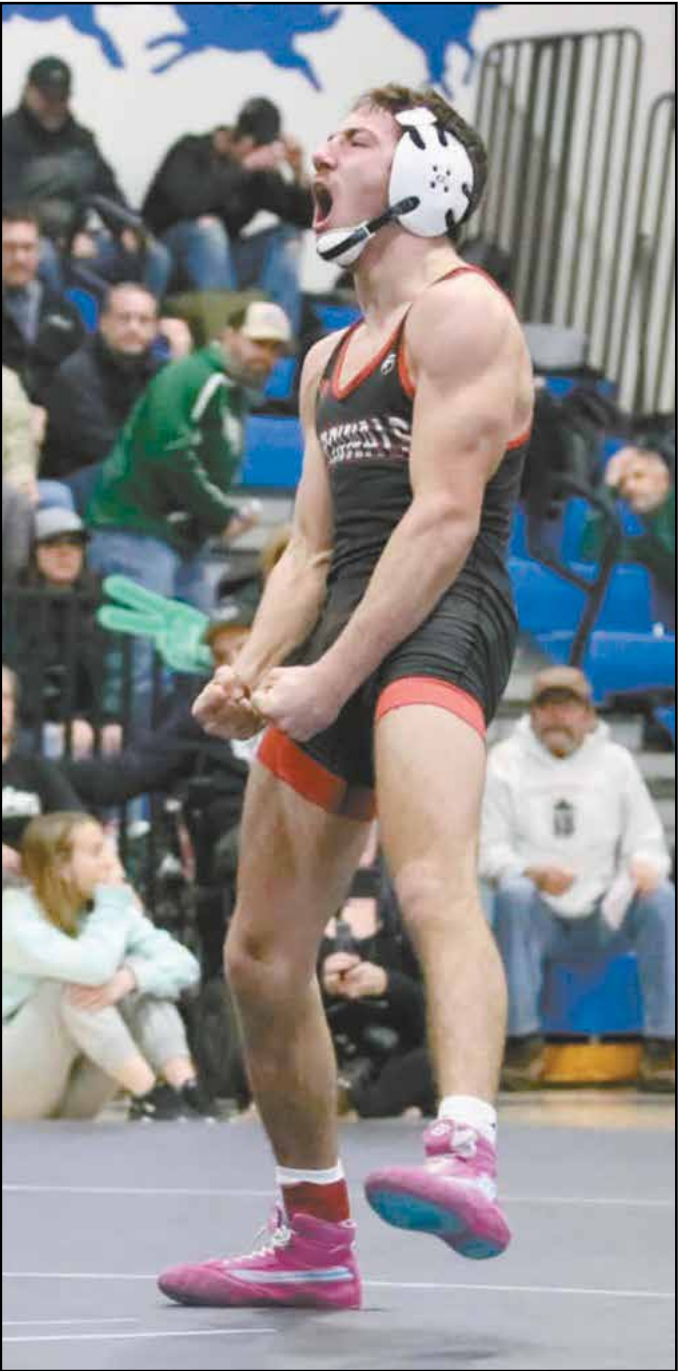


Wednesday, February 21, 2024

Staples World

Staples, Minnesota \$1.25

Speech HOF Staples-Motley Speech Team coaches and state speech champions posed by the newly constructed Speech Hall of Fame in May of 2023. It's located in the lobby of Centennial Auditorium in Staples. From left are coaches Frank Odell, Brian Sams, Heather Sams; and 2023 state champions Micah Larson, Luke Bates and Caden Mrazek. Larson competed in the Creative Expression category with his speech "Sports Atheist"; and Bates and Mrazek's winning speech, in the Duo Interpretation category, was "Young Frankenstein." Brian Sams and Heather (Stumbo) Sams were part of the speech team in past years and their names appear on the wall as well. Brian was an alternate to state in 1985 and a state competitor in 1989. Heather was an alternate to state in 1990 and competed at the state tournament in 1991. See story, Page 2A. (Photo by Dawn Timbs)



State-bound celebration

Above, Staples-Motley fans celebrate after Blake Neelan, right, earned a pin that changed the momentum of the Section 7A finals match and sent the team to state. (Submitted photos)

Staples council approves splitting Timberlake Hotel lots

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples City Council approved redrawing the property parcels of Timberlake Hotel and Timbers Restaurant. The two buildings had been built on four parcels between Highway 10 and 2nd Ave. NE. The move now makes it possible for a sale of the restaurant. A group of local investors has been planning to open a brewery and had looked at the Timbers Restaurant as one of the possible locations. As part of the parcel redrawing, the council approved a parking access easement that will allow either venue to utilize the parking spots on the property. City Administrator Jerel Nelsen said the easement is similar to what they did when the new Ernies Food Market was built on Highway 10, so that additional businesses could share parking. That easement is now coming into play with The Plaza now

open next door.

Public Works

Staples Public Works Director Scott Grabe said there is going to be a new business going in on the north side of Highway 10. That portion of the county is served by Minnesota Power for electricity, but the City of Staples has agreed to take over the electric feed and infrastructure because it is closer to current city lines. The council approved the "service by exception" agreement. Grabe also updated the council on replacing cast iron water pipes on the south side of Staples. He said many places in the city have cast iron pipes, but for some reason it is causing water discoloration on the south side. "It would be a massive effort to replace all of the cast iron," said Grabe. "We want to eventually get rid of it, but it does last a long time so it doesn't need to get done quickly." He said they will do repairs as needed but will concentrated replac-

ing areas where there is discoloration. "There is nothing poisonous about the water, but if you get a glass of orange water, you can tell me it's healthy but I'm not going to drink it." In addition to replacing some pipes, Grabe said they will continue to hire a company to do "pigging", a procedure that helps clean the insides of the pipes. Grabe also said the railroad crossing on 6th Street in Staples is scheduled for a complete reconstruction this summer, so it will be closed for a period of time. He said the work they did on it last summer was just a temporary fix. **Tourism update** The council heard a presentation from Renee Kroll, director of Discover Staples, the board that takes money from the city's lodging tax and uses it to promote Staples. Kroll told the council that Dis-

See **STAPLES** on page 14a

Weather

2024 This Week's Forecast			
	High	Low	Cond.
Feb. 21	47	24	Sunny
Feb. 22	42	19	M. Sunny
Feb. 23	30	19	M. Sunny
Feb. 24	48	29	M. Sunny
Feb. 25	45	29	Sunny
Feb. 26	50	33	M. Cloudy
Feb. 27	43	27	Rain
Last Week, 2023			
	High	Low	Cond.
Feb. 21	8°	-6	Cloudy
Feb. 22	11	2	Cloudy
Feb. 23	6	2	Snow
Feb. 24	3	-18	Cloudy
Feb. 25	15	-1	Sunny
Feb. 26	27	2	M. Sunny
Feb. 27	33	26	Cloudy

Average Temps:
H = 30° Low = 11°
Congratulations:
S-M Wrestling Team!

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Moose Lake	8A
May Township	8A
Bullard Township	9A
Villard Township	9A
Todd Accuray Testing	9A
Todd Commissioners	9A
Todd Voter Information	10A

Obituaries

Jody
Boedingheimer
James Olson

Outstanding Cardinal Speech Team members recognized in ‘Hall of Fame’

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

It’s “one of a kind,” Frank Odell said of the ‘Speech Hall of Fame’ display board that graces a lobby wall at Centennial Auditorium in Staples.

Measuring 16-ft. in length, the board includes the names of Staples-Motley (SM) Speech Team members who’ve competed at state and/or nationals since 1975. As of 2023, there are 240 names inscribed, which includes 25 state champions (written in red), and 14 national competitors.

Odell, a retired Staples-Motley teacher and long-time coach for the Cardinals speech team, said the special recognition board was nearly two years in the making. It was erected in the spring of 2023, just in time for the speech showcase at Centennial Auditorium, which featured performances by team members who’d recently competed at the state tournament.

“It was a long process,” Odell said, going on to mention all who were instrumental in creating the new ‘Hall of Fame’ board, including the Staples Host Lions who funded the project, SM Activities Director Josh Lee who offered support along the way, SM Speech Coach Brian Sams, and volunteer Joe Mrazek, who logged many hours in creating and

putting together the display.

Odell himself is a major reason the ‘Speech Hall of Fame’ is a reality, something that’s evidenced after hearing stories of earlier displays that once graced the halls at Staples-Motley.

In 1980, Odell recalled two speech team members - Kathy Edin and Dawn Schimpp - who agreed to create and paint the first ‘Speech Hall of Fame’ as part of an independent study class he advised.

The mural was located on a hallway wall near the classroom of speech teacher and coach Tom Girtz. It featured the names of those early state competitors, as well as the team’s motto, ‘You Can if You Think You Can,’ as taught to them by Coach Odell.

Years ago, that portion of the old high school that contained the speech team’s mural was torn down. Somewhere along the way a second ‘Hall of Fame’ board was constructed, and for many years was on display in the homeroom of English teacher and speech coach Bob Shaffer.

The board disappeared after Shaffer retired, eventually making its way into storage. Odell recalled going to a section meet and asking team member Caden Mrazek if he knew where the board was. No, he didn’t, nor did any others on the team. Concerted search efforts were made, and

shortly after the board was found. Brian Sams shared that he’d been interested in finding a new home for it, but the board had not been kept up very well and wasn’t really suitable for a prominent public location.

At that point, discussion took place as to the possibility of having a new ‘Hall of Fame’ board built...one that contained ample room for names of all current and future state speakers, as well as being custom designed with quality materials, reflective of the Cardinals’ top-notch talent.

Everyone who was approached thought this was a great idea, and thus began the two-plus years process that was spearheaded by Caden Mrazek’s dad, Joe Mrazek, who had the computer software needed to design the special board. The result of the collective work of Joe and several others (including Staples native Kent Nordell who works at Range Printing in Brainerd) will most likely be on display outside of Centennial Auditorium for years to come.

The chronicle of gifted Staples-Motley speakers begins in 1975, with Nancy Sadusky’s name being the first on the list. Then in 1978, prior to the pairing of their respective schools, the first two state champions are noted...Julie Ackerson from Motley High School and Scott Grossman from

Hall of Fame						
TO STATE		STATE CHAMPION				
1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
*J. UHRICH M. HAGLIN D. SCHIMPP M. DEWALD J. PRINDLE K. EDIN ALT. J. REGO R. CARD	D. JANDERSON M. DEWALD E. GOEDEN L. OLSEN	*M. HAGLIN R. CARD D. MOE D. ADAMS ALT. M. DEMARS J. PRINDLE L. TOEDTER	J. EDIN K. KAJER A. TOEDTER E. NEFSTEAD ALT. M. DEWALD T. DENNING S. MACHO J. PRINDLE A. SINOTTE	J. PRINDLE T. EVANS M. CARLSON S. MACHO ALT. A. SINOTTE A. SCHIMPP T. DENNING C. MITSCH	R. DESMARIS L. REDEMSKE ALT. B. SAMS	R. DESMARIS K. WEBSTER D. A. B. T. T.

Portions of the former display board

The former ‘Hall of Fame’ board documenting Staples-Motley Speech Team members who’d competed at the state tournament, had ended up in storage for

awhile. It was rediscovered, but was not in the best condition, at which point discussion ensued regarding the creation of a new board. (Submitted photos)

INDIVIDUALS ADVANCING TO NATIONALS						
(NATIONAL FORENSIC LEAGUE)						
1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
DRAKE GRONWOLD BODEJOHN WEBSTER ALT. HOTING EVANS	*DGRONWOLD M. ASPEGREN B. WEBSTER ALT. T. HOTING P. ODELL A. GODEJOHN	S. NEIDHARDT A. GODEJOHN B. SAMS B. JUDD ALT. D. SAMS B. WEBSTER S. BERGS A. BERGA V. PRINDLE T. BURROWS	H. STORBAKKEN A. GODEJOHN M. HOFER S. NEIDHARDT B. JUDD N. GODEJOHN H. WOLAK ALT. H. STUMBO K. OLANDER P. THORN	K. DONAT A. GODEJOHN H. STORBAKKEN H. STUMBO P. THORN H. WOLAK ALT. J. CRAFT N. GODEJOHN A. JUDD R. TAYLOR	C. Jares N. Godejohn S. Bergs J. Frandsen ALT. H. Wolak S. Dolezal	V. Godejohn S. Dolezal ALT. L. Hansen

Staples High School.

Over the years the Cardinals would continue to work hard, and thanks to the dedication of committed and gifted coaches, along with the talents and perseverance of the student speakers, many more names have been added to the ‘Speech Hall of Fame.’

There are several ‘second-generation’ state speakers at Staples-Motley, as noted on the display board. Speech coaches Brian and Heather (Stumbo) Sams both competed for the Cardinals at state...Brian in 1989 and Heather in 1991. Years later, two of their sons would follow suit. Elijah Sams was a state speech champion in 2015, and his brother Iain was a state competitor in 2022.

Coach Odell’s son Peter Odell was an alternate to state in 1988; and Coach Shaffer had a few of his children compete at state speech, including Ephrem

Shaffer, who took home gold medals three years in a row (2006, 2007, 2008).

Staples High School graduate Tammy (Evans) Johnson competed at state in 1984, later returning to her alma mater as a speech team coach. In 2019, Tammy’s son Jonah Johnson was a state speech champion for the Cards.

Jill Mertens, daughter of the 1978 gold-medalist Julie (Ackerson) Mertens, would follow in her mother’s footsteps, competing at state speech in 1999. Other second-generation ‘Hall of Famers’ include Tera Weyer, a state speech competitor in 2011, whose mother Joy (Prindle) Weyer competed at state in 1984; and siblings Samantha and Caden Mrazek (both multiple state competitors), whose mother Tanya (Hoting) Mrazek competed at state speech in 1987 and 1988. As noted in the ‘Hall of Fame’, Samantha made it to state in 2017,

2018 and 2019; and Caden in 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022 and 2023, bringing home gold medals the last two years. In addition, Caden is one of only three five-time state medalists, and could possibly have been the first and only six-time state medalist, had it not been for COVID. As noted on the display board, there was no state speech tournament in 2020, due to the COVID pandemic.

One can assume that Staples-Motley would most likely have had some more names added to the Speech Hall of Fame in 2020. And based on the many ribbons and trophies the Cardinal Speech team has already brought home this season, it looks like they may be sending quite a few talented speakers to the state tournament in April. We’ll look forward to reading their names on the one-of-a-kind Staples-Motley Speech Hall of Fame down the road.



Where it all began

The first hand-painted ‘Hall of Fame’ for the Staples Speech Team was located in a hallway of the old high school that’s since been torn down. Pictured above, in 1980, are speech team members (and

state speech medalists) Dawn Schimpp (left) and Kathy Edin, who painted the mural during an independent study class led by speech teacher and coach Frank Odell. (Archive photo)

Todd Wadena DFL

Caucus

Tues., February 27

Start at 6:30 p.m.

Following are the

Caucus locations:

•Eagle Bend City Hall

•Long Prairie-Grey Eagle HS

•The Galeon in Osakis

•Staples Motley HS Cafeteria

•Wadena Deer Creek Elementary School

Call 612-419-4033 for Township Location

Paid for by Todd Wadena DFL,
Ken Valenta,Treasurer, 29065 King Rd, Browerville, MN 56438

w8-9p

Paid for by Todd County Republicans,
40298 Pinewood Court, Browerville, MN 56438

w8-9p

Motley area law enforcement reports

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

Feb. 12 - The MPD received a report of a domestic between a mother and daughter in Motley.

Feb. 10 - Morrison County deputies responded to a call regarding a suicidal subject in Motley.

Feb. 9 - The MPD received a report of damage being done at the city’s dog park. According to the complaint, a particular dog runs excessively back and forth

along the fence lines, causing damage to the grass and shrubs at the park. In addition, the dog’s owners sit in their vehicle and watch the dog run around. Motley Police spoke with one of the owners who said she understood they could be charged with damage to property if this continues.

Feb. 8 - Motley Police unlocked a parked vehicle that was still running at the 600 block of 3rd Ave. S., Motley. An infant was in the vehicle.

Feb. 7 - Motley Police received a report of a Motley resident that was shooting up meth in front of his children.

Feb. 13 - The MCSO received a report of a fully engulfed old cabin at the 4800 block of Sherwood Dr. SW, Motley, in Cass County.

Feb. 9 - Morrison County deputies responded to a report of a jack-knifed semi truck that was blocking both lanes of traffic at Hwy 10 in Cushing.

Republican Caucus, Todd County

February 27, 2024, 7 p.m.

Bertha-Hewitt HS Library:
Bartlett TWP, Bertha City, Bertha TWP, Germania TWP, Hewitt City & Stowe Prairie TWP

Browerville HS Library:
Browerville City, Hartford TWP, Little Elk TWP, Turtle Creek TWP & Ward TWP

Clarissa City Hall:
Burleene TWP, Clarissa City, Eagle Bend City, Eagle Valley TWP, Iona TWP & Wykeham TWP

Grey Eagle Senior Citizen Center:
Birchdale TWP, Burnhamville TWP, Burtrum City, Grey Eagle City, Grey Eagle TWP & Swanville City

LP-GE HS Commons:
Bruce TWP, Little Sauk TWP, Long Prairie City, Long Prairie TWP, Reynolds TWP & Round Prairie TWP

Osakis Elementary School Media Center:
Gordon TWP, Kandota TWP, Leslie TWP, Osakis City, West Union City & West Union TWP

Staples-Motley HS Media Center:
Fawn Lake TWP, Moran TWP, Staples City, Staples TWP & Villard TWP

Paid for by Todd County Republicans,
40298 Pinewood Court, Browerville, MN 56438

w8-9p

2024 Republican Precinct Caucuses

Pursuant to the laws of the State of Minnesota notice is hereby given that Precinct Caucuses of the Republican Party of **Wadena County** will be held

Tues., February 27, 2024 at 7 p.m.

Arrive early to register

Held at the following locations:

•Menahga High School Commons for:
Menahga City, Blueberry Twp., Huntersville Twp., Shell River Twp.

•Sebeka High School Media Room for:
Lyons Twp., Meadow Twp., Nimrod, N. Germany Twp., Orton Twp., Red Eye Twp., Rockwood Twp., Sebeka

•Wadena-DC High School Commons Area for:
Leaf River Twp., Wadena P1, Wadena P2, Wadena P3, Wadena Twp.

•Verndale High School Library for:
Aldrich City, Aldrich Twp., Bullard Twp., Staples, Verndale, Wing River Twp.

Prepaid and paid for by: Wadena County Republicans, PO Box 531, Wadena, MN

w8-9p

Looking back

75 YEARS Ago - 1949

• Feb. 24, 1949 - Seven members of the Staples Rotary club will be in attendance at an International good will meeting of Rotary International to be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba on Feb. 26. The meeting will be the observance of the 25th meeting of this kind.

Making the trip will be Harry Peterson, Dr. F. W. Bens, M. G. Huff, Duane Lund, William Shelper, Eugene DesMarais, and Norman Haugen.

• Feb. 24, 1949 - Final plans were completed early this week for the annual observation of World Day of Prayer, which this year will be held in the First English Lutheran church in Staples March 4, from 2:30 until 3:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

• O •
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
• O •

President of the Staples Council of Church Women is Mrs. Raymond Ewing, who has made the arrangements for the event.

• Feb. 24, 1949 - Improvements at the New Staples Theatre are progressing satisfactorily, according to Lars P. Anderson, contractor in charge of the alterations at the place.

Several major changes are taking place, included among them being the installation of a large lounge room in the basement, off from which will be installed a ladies powder room, and men's and ladies' rest rooms.

A new open stairway leading to these rooms has been built, and the concrete steps are being put in this week. On the first floor will be added a "crying" room. This is directly off the main lobby.

The entire theatre has been redecorated, new lights were installed some time ago, and also new carpets were placed on the floor of the lobby and down the aisles.

• Feb. 24, 1949 - Miss Darline Hayenga and Miss Elizabeth Shelper have been named co-valedictorians of the 1949 graduating class of Staples high school. Wallace Anderson of rural Staples, has been named salutatorian of the class.

• Feb. 24, 1949 - John Sanger was all a jitter recently when he went to visit his trap line on his farm north of Staples, and found a brush wolf securely



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from 1969. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photo? Do you have a memory to share? Email your answers and where

caught in two of his traps.

Mr. Sanger had set the traps to get some fox which had been killing some of the chickens in his flock. When he went to the traps he discovered the wolf. One hind leg was caught in one trap, and a front leg caught in the other. The animal was still alive, and showed lots of fight as Mr. Sanger approached. He ran back to the house and yelled at Mrs. Sanger, "Give me the gun, I've got a whopper of a wolf in my traps." He shot the wolf, which measured exactly four feet from tip to tip.

50 YEARS Ago - 1974

• Feb. 21, 1974 - Barb Turner was crowned queen and reigned over the Sno-Week activities at the Staples Area Vocational-Technical Institute Feb. 4 - 7.

Queen Barb succeeds Sally Rychman as queen and Bill Johnson was crowned king.

A student of photo Tech I, the queen and her husband, Tipper Turner, are formerly from the Crosby-Ironton area. King Bill is a student in heavy equipment and is from Coon Rapids.

Other candidates for Sno-Week royalty were Shirley Feldick, Marabeth England, Janet Snetsinger, Julie Kantola, Dave Munsterteiger, Anthony Young, Dave Scheevel and Gene Smith.

• Feb. 21, 1974 - Behind a

super team effort, the Staples Cardinals of Coach Don Dravis returned the District 24 Championship to Staples High School following two days of mat action in the Staples Auditorium Friday and Saturday.

Competing against wrestlers from 12 other schools in the District, the Cards won the 1974 event with a total of 133 points. Brainerd, one of the pre-tourney favorites to repeat as the district titleholder, had to settle for second place behind the Cards as they had 128 points.

This was the fifth District 24 title for the Dravis coached Cardinals of SHS, having previously won in 1967, 1970, 1971 and 1972.

Staples finished with three champions, Mark Bendson at 119, Jeff Marden at 145 and Ron Kern at 167. Roger Madson, the Staples heavyweight, took second place in the district and then the Cards came through with five third placers, who will also advance into the Region Six tourney. They were Dave Roberts at 98, Harry Goeden at 112, Bob Sowers at 138, Bob Sadlo at 180 and Mike Motl at 132.

• Feb. 21, 1974 - A 40-minute narrated sound filmstrip presentation, entitled Battle of Armageddon, will be shown at the Staples Church of the Nazarene Sunday, Feb. 24, at 7:30 p.m.

Battle of Armageddon is

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

in vivid color, complete with narrated sound. This presentation traces the history of the nation Palestine, its past, present and its future. It presents a visual panorama of past prophecy and then clearly shows God's plan for tomorrow.

Rev. Wilbur Moulton extends an invitation to the public to attend this special showing in Staples.

25 YEARS Ago - 1999

• Feb. 25, 1999 - The Cardinal girls basketball team, which ended its regular season last week with a 41-32 win over Crosby-Ironton, enters Section 8AA tournament play Thursday in a decidedly underdog role.

Coach Joe Joerger's Lady Cardinals team will go up against Minnewaska in a game starting at 7 p.m. in the Lakers home gym outside Glenwood. The Lakers are seeded third in the 8-team South Sub Section, while the Cards were ranked as the sixth strongest team.

• Feb. 25, 1999 - The annual induction ceremony for the Staples Motley National Honor Society was held Monday, with 22 new members inducted.

Dick Bremer, a 1974 staples High School graduate and the voice of the Minnesota Twins on their television network, was the guest speaker for the induction ceremony.

Eight juniors who were selected a year ago conducted the induction program. They included Katie Odden, Susan Hansen, Jason Motl, Kelly Weber, Lara Neidhardt, Aubrey Gold and Mark Carlson.

The 14 new seniors inducted included Amanda Barnett, Tonya Boyer, Paul Feakes, Andrea Hanson, Matt Heier, Chad Hoffmann, LeAnn Holmberg, Valerie Mudek, Amy Otteson, Stacy Reed, Brady Tepley, Allison Warn, Nicole Brichacek, Christopher Weber.

The new juniors inducted included Bryan Blessing, Jennifer Carry, Laura Anderson, Dana Haselberg, Lyndsay Hoernberg, Amanda Hoffert, Amanda Noska, Naomi Sveom.

10 YEARS Ago - 2014

• Feb. 20, 2014 - Emma Miller and Garret Secora were named the SnoDaze queen and king at Staples Motley High School Feb. 14.

• Feb. 20, 2014 - Jerry Mevisen of Nimrod will be in Staples Feb. 23, from 1 - 4 p.m. to introduce his new book "Good Shepherd" at the home of Amy Hunter, Staples Motley Area Chamber of Commerce Director.

• Feb. 20, 2014 - Kathy Johnson has been hired as Staples Elementary principal. Mike Schmidt has been hired as principal for Staples Motley High School. Both have been working in an interim capacity in those positions this school year. Schmidt will continue to also serve as Athletic Director for the school district.

Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the Feb. 11, 1999 edition of the Staples World featured members of the Staples Motley High School's Competition cheer team, which had recently won second place in state MCCA cheer competition. Pictured from left, front row: AmyJo Walthall, Laura Anderson, Jayme Hajek, Kelly Schmidt, Missy Matejicka. Back row: Assistant Coach Angie Thompson, Josie Thompson, Traci Weishalla, Sara Bach, Samantha Johnson, Coach Jannelle Thompson.

Sandy Carlson of Staples recog-

nized five of the cheerleaders (including her daughter-in-law Jayme (Hajek) Carlson) and their advisor Jennelle Thompson. Judy Wolak of Staples recognized several of the girls, including Jayme (Hajek) Carlson, whom she described as being "a delightful student in my third grade class when I was teaching at Staples Elementary...Together we share a lot of funny, good memories of that time when she now has me as a client at Jemma's Salon in Staples." Thanks for participating in our Mystery Photo.

Todd County court report Feb. 8

Long Prairie Police Department

Jose Luis Rodriguez Vargas, Long Prairie. Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Noe Silva Marquez, Faribault. Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Jacob John Knudson, Staples. Hands-Free Law- engage in cellular phone or video call. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Minnesota State Patrol

Michael James Brokke, Long Prairie. Window Tint less than 50 percent light transmittance. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Jimmie Teon Glover, St. Paul. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Hanna Jo Grimm, Lake City. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Barry James Harren, Freeport. Hands-Free Law- engage in cellular phone or video call. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Corrina Joy Hasbargen, Parkers Prairie. Hands-Free Law- access video content, images, games, software applications. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Janoa Rae Hedstrom, Alexandria. Speed 86/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Skyler James Dale Klinger, Long Prairie. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

David Maltos-Guijosa, New Town, N.Dak. Speed 85/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Jose Cruz Martinez, Minneapolis. Driving after cancellation. Dismissed.

Marcus Ryan Meder, Dalton. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Colton Michael Niemann, Foley. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Zachary Donald Person, New London. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Tina Michelle Peterson, Menahga. Speed 66/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Genesis Karolina Salgado Marin, Long Prairie. No Minnesota Driver's License. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Bradley Allen Schiele, West Fargo, N.Dak. Speed 82/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Ronald Joseph Schneider, Sauk Centre. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85. No proof motor vehicle insurance. Dismissed.

Noah Jordan Teasley, Ripley, W.Va. Speed 102/70. Fine \$150. Fee \$235.

Julie Ann Vanderhyde, White Bear Lake. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Staples Police Department

Kenneth John Johnson, Motley. Driving after cancellation. Dismissed, conditions met or expired.

Todd County Sheriff's Office

Kylee Faith Forcier, Wadena. Harassment; Restraining Order- violate and knows of temporary or restraining order. Dismissed, conditions met or expired.

Francis Jean Hall, Aldrich. Stray Animals—running at large of domestic animals prohibited. Dismissed.

Shannon Joseph Hinnenkamp, Long Prairie. Unauthorized Junk Yard. Dismissed.

Billy Joe Karwal, Grey Eagle. Driver's License—driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Nathan James Majerus Schloegl, Sauk Centre. Domestic Assault-intentionally inflicts/attempts to inflict bodily harm on another. Dismissed.

Domestic Assault- commits to act to cause fear of immediate bodily harm or death. Dismissed.

Disorderly Conduct- offensive, abusive, boisterous, noisy, obscene. Dismissed, conditions met or expired.

Joseph Roger Radimecky, Browerville. Assault- Second Degree-dangerous weapon. Dismissed.

Kidnapping- to commit great bodily harm/terrorize. Dismissed.

Threaten Crime of Violence. Dismissed.

Domestic Assault- fear. Dismissed.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County Feb. 1, 2024.

Eladio Jesus Galvez, Long Prairie. Theft of motor fuel from retailer. Sentenced. Fine \$50. Fee totals \$212. Local confinement 20 days. Stay 18 days for six months. Credit for time served: two days. Probation to the court, six months.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County Feb. 5, 2024.

David Allan Vanselow, Long Prairie. DWI- Fourth Degree Driving While Impaired. Dismissed. Careless Driving. Sentenced. Fine \$150. Fee totals \$225. Local confinement 90 days. Stay 88 days for one year. Credit for time served: two years. Unsupervised probation, one year.

Luke Matthew McCoy, Sauk Centre. Speed 88/70. Stay of adjudication. Fine \$60. Fee totals \$135. Unsupervised monitoring without conviction, one year.

Kevin John Shimak, St. Joseph. Speed 65/55. Dismissed, conditions met or expired.

Lori Ann Krienke, Browerville. Endanger Child- situation could cause harm or death- results sub harm physical/emotional health. Dismissed.

Endanger Child- situation could cause harm or death. Sentenced. Fine \$50. Fee totals \$125. Local confinement 364 days. Stay 364 days for two years. Supervised probation, two years.

Penny Elizabeth Mary Witucki, Eagle Bend. Fifth Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance. Dismissed.

DWI- operate motor vehicle- body contains any amount Schedule I/II drugs- not marijuana. Sentenced. Fine \$400. Fee totals \$505. Local confinement 90 days. Stay 90 days for one year. Supervised probation, one year.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County Feb. 7, 2024.

Brayan Omar Garcia Gonzalez, Perham. Fifth Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance. Dismissed.

Possess Ammo/Any Firearm- conviction or adjudicated delinquent for crime of violence. Sentenced. Fine \$50. Fee \$75. Concurrent/Consecutive.

Lin Andrew Neal, Robbinsdale. Threaten Crime of Violence. Sentenced. Commit to Commissioner of Corrections, Minnesota Correctional Facility 21 months, stay for five years. Local confinement 45 days. Credit for time served: 45 days. Fine \$50. Fee \$ totals \$125. Supervised probation, five years. Threaten Crime of Violence, Sgt. Walwick. Dismissed.

Harassment. Dismissed. Disorderly Conduct. Dismissed.

Assault- Fifth Degree- Fear of Bodily Harm or Death. Dismissed.

Two Counts Harassment- violate restraining order. Dismissed.

Eric Lee Ness, Sauk Centre. Drugs- First Degree- sale 17 grams or more cocaine or meth within 90-day period. Dismissed.

Drugs- Fifth Degree Possess Schedule I, II, III, IV- not small amount marijuana. Statutory stay of adjudication. Fine \$100. Fee totals \$100. Supervised probation, five years.

Pedro Emmanuel Reyes Cartagena, Long Prairie. Driving after revocation. Dismissed, conditions met or expired.

Driver must carry proof of insurance when operating vehicle. Dismissed, conditions met or expired.

Transfer plates, tabs, stickers to another vehicle. Dismissed, conditions met or expired.

Adrianna Rose Waugh, Alexandria. Disorderly Conduct- offensive, abusive, boisterous, noisy, obscene. Dismissed, conditions met or expired.

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Wolf caught in the act of doing what comes naturally

If Minnesota’s wolves had the awareness humans do, they would be anxious about the publicity they’ve been getting lately. The latest public relations black eye is a viral video of an eastern gray wolf—what we used to call “timber wolf”—pursuing and killing a whitetail deer. The video was made on a mobile phone at a logging site in northern Minnesota, the wolf so intent in its pursuit that it appeared to pay no attention to the logger filming it.

The video was posted on “X” (formerly known as Twitter) by U.S. Representative Pete Stauber, who represents the 8th congressional district. The Eighth District covers Northeast and parts of North-Central Minnesota, and includes Duluth, Minnesota’s North Shore of Lake Superior, and the U.S.-Canada border, from Grand Portage on the big lake to the Northwest Angle on Lake of the Woods. This region is home to the greatest number of wolves in Minnesota, and—some claim a direct correlation—the region has seen a fall-off in hunter harvest of deer in recent years.

For wolves generally, it’s been a long, torturous road through history, from their villainous image in the Little Red Riding Hood fairy tale and werewolf movies,

to their larcenous image as livestock killers, to a more favorable image as a wilderness icon. Along the way, traps, poison, snares, bullets, bounties, have all been used to punish wolves for real or imagined crimes.

In Minnesota the eastern gray wolf is thriving, with numbers that actually now exceed the goal of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Elsewhere below the Canadian border—outside of Alaska—there are limited populations in northern Wisconsin, northern Michigan, western Montana, northern Idaho, northeast Oregon, and the Yellowstone area of Wyoming. No place other than Alaska, and perhaps Yellowstone, approaches Minnesota in having a wolf population thriving over such a large territory.

The U.S. Department of the Interior’s Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) saw fit to reclassify the eastern gray wolf as no longer endangered in Minnesota, and to grant the state the authority to manage its population, including by hunting and trapping if population numbers warranted. Wolf hunting and trapping seasons were actually held during 2012-2014. But lawsuits by those opposed to wolf hunting have gained the upper hand, the latest instance in February, 2022.

In 2022, a California District Court ruling reversed the FWS’s most recent regulatory proposal to return wolf population management to the state. The court did not find outright that the wolf is endangered, or threatened, in Minnesota, but faulted FWS procedures

in its delisting process. Despite a wolf population that is stable or growing, and above original DNR goals, the court ruling has resulted in the wolf’s status in Minnesota being reclassified for now as “threatened,” under the Endangered Species Act.

In April of 2023 the Minnesota House of Representatives passed a budget bill that included a provision to permanently ban wolf hunting and trapping. The Minnesota Senate’s version did not include that provision. Democrats hold a slim one-seat majority in the state Senate, and apparently found the provision too controversial to support. In addition, the Minnesota DNR also opposed it, apparently not wanting to have wolf management authority taken permanently out of its hands.

Some have been critical of the DNR’s opposition to a legislative ban on wolf hunting and trapping. But, given the agency’s mission to manage the state’s wildlife resources, their stance only made sense. If it should be scientifically determined that Minnesota’s wolf population is out of balance with its habitat—remembering that the wolf is a creature that eats other creatures, not someone’s shrubs—then how else could the balance be restored than by reducing wolf numbers? That is, of course, if U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service regulations—and the courts—permit state management sometime in the future.

As for Representative Stauber’s video, our seeing firsthand a wolf killing a deer should not be grounds

for umbrage, or outrage. That’s the reality of their relationship in Nature, as it is the relationship of the fox and the hare, the goshawk and the grouse, the lioness and the antelope, and so on, ad infinitum.

It’s natural to be squeamish about seeing a kill. Think about the nature films you’ve watched, especially those that feature a predator stalking prey. We see plenty that show the stalk and the chase, maybe some shots of scavengers cleaning up afterward, but notably few actually show the making of a kill. I shouldn’t presume a film director’s intent, but I’ve always suspected that it is not for a lack of kill footage that we see relatively little of it.

I get it. I’ve felt a tug at my heart strings as I watched through a window as a tiny sharp-shinned hawk dismembered a still-living sparrow under the ambush tree in my backyard. I’ve watched over my decoys as a bald eagle in the distance hovered above and dove at a wounded duck. The duck dove repeatedly trying to escape, but eventually was grasped in the raptor’s talons and carried off, when it could not remain submerged without air. Such are the realities of life and death in the wild.

That’s not to say that wolves may not be having a negative impact on deer numbers in some parts of Minnesota. Especially during severe winters like the previous two, or when deer numbers are already suppressed, due to marginal habitat. But a dramatic kill video by itself does not convincingly make that case.

First year as Mayor sees city buzzing with activity

By Ron Murray
Staples Mayor

Hello again to the people of Staples. I have finished my first year as Mayor and have enjoyed all the things I have learned about our great city and getting to know our staff even better.

We said goodbye to a long time employee, Bruce Grondahl. We wish him well in his well earned retirement.

The last three months of the year brought with it a fantastic showing from our fall sports teams. We here in Staples have such a huge pool of talent in all areas of sports and the arts. Congratulations to football, volleyball, cross country and our women tennis team.

Our young, engaged business owners continue to be their best with the way they work together and present a good impression to our citizens and visitors alike. They worked together along with the rest of the Revitalization committee that was formed in response to our \$100,000 grant from the Blandin foundation and the historical society to put on a Christmas tree lighting event. Another event that was undertaken and was a success despite the weather was the annual north pole light display at our Pine Grove Park.

I was able to help out a couple of days there and it was an unbelievable undertaking. Bob Schaffer and Kerry Lindgren headed up the project under the Lions club. However, it took a small army of volunteers to be out there hanging lights and then the checking and rechecking due to RAIN of all things. I believe it took even more volunteer hours due to that. There were a tremendous amount of people helping. Another sign of great a pride in our city. The Polar Express holiday festival once again was a popular event as well almost doubling is size of attendance from last year.

I was honored to be asked and attended the S.P.A.R.K.S. fundraising dinner this past week and was so proud of the individuals who have been so dedicated to supporting our kids

in the schools with reading with them and being lunch buddies. It was a very heart warming event. They are in need of more volunteers to reach all the kids who need the extra help and attention. Please consider this volunteer activity.

As Mayor I attend a local group of people from all walks of life and work in Staples. The group is entitled L.E.A.P and demonstrates again the amount of positivity and engagement is present in our city. It stands for Leadership, Engagement, Advocacy and Positiveness. The conversations flow from new developments, recognition, new ideas and collaboration on how to get things done.

Our city was featured on Lakeland Public Television out of Brainerd when we were interviewed on Lakeland Currents with Ray Gil-dow.

As with previous letters, our town is buzzing with activity now with new businesses opening from all the construction work over the past year. I was honored to be at both ribbon cutting and open houses for the new Longbella Drug and the TCO Staples Therapy businesses opening in The Plaza on Highway 10.

New construction continues to occur in our city as well. Lakewood Health System is breaking ground for an addition for oncology center at their main campus.

We have been able to remove another blighted building in our city since I last wrote and another is being considered. We continue to work on these buildings as we can to try to rid our city of these unsafe and unsightly areas.

I have enjoyed running into people and visiting about our city whether it is at morning coffee at Tower Pizza, in other businesses or even at my place of work at hospital. I look forward to this year of continued growth in Staples and working with our group of council members on important topics that effect all of you. Please feel free to come to our meetings and if you can’t make in person you can view at YouTube Live.

Stauber visits Mexico border

Congressman Pete Stauber recently traveled to Cochise County, Arizona with his Western Caucus colleagues to hear from United States Border Patrol agents and local law enforcement agents about the ongoing border crisis. He also had the opportunity to participate in a House Natural Resources Committee field hearing to

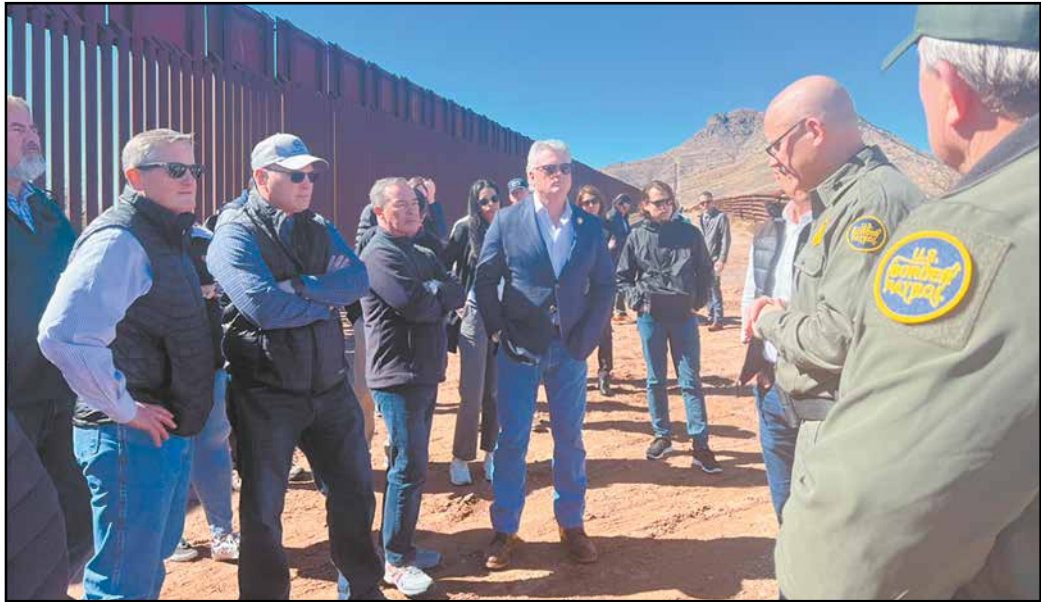
examine the effects of this crisis on the environment, economy, and national security.

According to a Stauber press release, there are eight authorities President Biden could utilize today to address the crisis at the border:

- End catch and release.
- Reinstate Remain in

Mexico.

- Enter into asylum cooperative agreements.
- End parole abuses.
- Detain inadmissible aliens.
- Use expedited removal.
- Reign in taxpayer-funded benefits for illegal aliens.
- Issue a proclamation to suspend or restrict entry.



Northern rep. on southern border

Congressman Stauber (wearing hat at left) and colleagues receive a briefing from United States Border Patrol agents. (Submitted photo)

Quote of the week

“It’s not what you look at that matters, it’s what you see.”

— Henry David Thoreau

Bemidji veterans home now open

Submitted by the Minnesota Governor’s office

Governor Tim Walz today announced that the newly-opened Bemidji Veterans Home admitted its first resident – a Minnesota veteran who signed up for the Air Force when he was 19 years old and served for more than two decades. The Bemidji

Veterans Home marks the third opening of three new homes across the state in the last six weeks. Preston and Montevideo also saw the opening of new homes in their communities.

“We are excited to announce the opening of Minnesota’s newest veterans home in Bemidji. This opening highlights the work being done to continue the expansion of services and increase the quality of life for our veterans,” said Governor Walz. “Providing our highest support for those who have sacrificed for our state and country is a priority and the opening of this facility represents another step in ensuring our veterans have a safe and stable place to call home.”

“MDVA is honored to open this third of three new veterans homes across the state in the last six weeks,” said MDVA Commissioner Brad Lindsay. “As our 294,000 Minnesota veterans age, it is more important than ever that we can care for them in their final years.”

Resort owner, dancer, karaoke singer and world-traveler Jim Larson – who retired from the military in 1974 – turns 90 in May. He is the very first Resident admitted to the Bemidji Veterans Home. Larson had worked on farms before he volunteered for service in the 1950s.

Larson expressed excite-

ment for his move. “No one likes to leave their home,” Larson said. “But there are times when you have to move forward. I feel like I’m one of the luckiest people alive. I’ve visited a lot of people in nursing homes. This place is more like home. The people here treat you like family.”

The home came to fruition after more than a decade of local advocacy and planning and two years of construction.

During the next few weeks, the home will continue to admit new residents, up to a total of 24. The home must then successfully complete a recognition survey from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (Federal VA). The survey is expected to take place later this spring.

Once that federal VA survey is completed, the home will continue to admit additional residents and hire the remaining staff required to care for a full facility. The home will also be pursuing its certification with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in the first year of operation. Minnesota Veterans Homes are surveyed by both the Minnesota Department of Health on behalf of CMS and the federal VA. Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) leaders look forward to achieving certification from these regulatory agencies.

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and area townships.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Cardinal Calendar

SM school events

March

- **OUR VOICE, OUR SONG CONCERT** March 2, Staples-Motley High School Main Gym, 7 p.m.
- **MS/HS CONCERTS** March 7, 6 p.m., 7 p.m., Centennial Auditorium
- **MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE** March 8, 3:45 - 5:45 p.m.
- **MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSICAL** March 15 - 16, Centennial Auditorium
- **POLAR PLUNGE** March 20
- **SADIE HAWKINS DANCE (GRADES 9 - 12)** March 23, 7:30 - 10:30 p.m.
- **VOCAL LARGE GROUP CONTEST AT STAPLES-MOTLEY** March 27



Donation to SM elem. for reading program

Lisa Wick, Early Childhood Coordinator for the Freshwater Education District pictured with Staples-Motley Elementary students received a \$2,500 donation to purchase books for the Reading For the Future program from the Lincoln Area Business Association. (Submitted photo)

Staples-Motley School Board regular meeting Feb. 26

The Staples-Motley School Board will hold their regular meeting Monday, February 26, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the District Office, 905 4th St. NE, Staples. Groups or individuals wishing to be included on the school/community forum portion of the meeting must contact the board chair or superintendent by noon the Friday prior to the board meeting. The agenda includes but is not limited to:

- Accept resignations of: Coral Cuppy, Transportation; Margret Urbanski, long term Math Substitute Teacher
- Approve the FMLA request from Tanner Anderson
- Approve hiring Naomi Sullivan, MS/HS Paraprofessional
- Approve the list of

spring coaches

- Facilities Update
- Approve Non-Renewal of three positions
- Approve ECSE Teacher and ESCE Paraprofessional
- Approve one unrequested leave of absence
- Tour of "The Nest" Project

Upcoming schedule:

- Mon., March 4:** Board Work Session, 6 p.m., District Office
- Thurs., March 7:** Policy Committee Meeting, 7:30 a.m., District Office (Trout, Reese)
- Mon., March 18:** Board Meeting, 6 p.m., District Office
- Mon., April 8:** Board Work Session, 6 p.m., District Office
- Mon., April 22:** Board Meeting, 6 p.m., District Office

Mark Your Calendar

February 21, 22

FREE TAX-AIDE Wednesdays, 1-4 p.m. and Thursdays, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m., through April 11, Staples City Hall. Must call for an appointment at 218-296-6616. For low to moderate income taxpayers.

'WALK WITH A Doc' Thursdays at 5:15 p.m., at Lake-wood Health System's main campus in Staples. Meet at the main entrance. For more information about this free program, visit <https://walkwithadoc.org/join-a-walk/locations/staples-minnesota>

WADENA WHIRLWAYS SQUARE DANCE GROUP DANCING Thursday, Feb. 22, 7:30 - 10 p.m., at St. Michael's Church, 280 1st Ave. S., Motley. Bill VanBergen, caller. For info., 218-894-2900.

February 23

WOMEN'S OPEN AA RECOVERY MEETING Every Friday in person, 10:30 a.m., Motley Free Methodist Church (lower level), 33 Wellwood St. E. Motley. All women welcome.

February 24

FREE COMMUNITY BREAKFAST Saturday, Jan. 27, 9 - 10:30 a.m., at Motley United

Methodist Church, 847 3rd Ave. S., Motley.

February 25

CELEBRATE RECOVERY GROUP MEETINGS are held every Sunday at 6 p.m., at Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood St. E., Motley.

February 26

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

February 27

CARE MINISTRY FREE MEAL Tuesday, Feb. 27, 4:30 - 6 p.m., at Assembly of God Church, 914 3rd Ave., Staples. The free meals are held on a monthly basis to promote fellowship, connection and nourishment.

EXPERIENCE STRENGTH AND HOPE AA GROUP MTGS IN STAPLES are held at the Church of Christ, 27343 490th St., Tuesdays at 7 p.m. For info., call Dan at 218-640-7228.

WADENA COUNTY REPUBLICANS MTGS are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Wadena VFW at 7 p.m. If you wish to eat early you may order from the menu prior to meeting.

CLC to host Minnesota Irrigator Program

Submitted by University of Minnesota Extension

Over the past few years, efficient agricultural irrigation has become a hot topic in Minnesota. With its sandy soils and limited precipitation, irrigation is a key component of production agriculture in the central region. Combined with these conditions and the limited and varying rainfall we have been experiencing, matching irrigation with crop water use has become more important. An understanding of the plant-water-soil relationship, proper irrigation system maintenance and use of irrigation scheduling are just some of the tools irrigators use for cost-effective crop production. If you want to improve your irrigation use efficiency, the University of Minnesota Extension is offering the Minnesota Irrigator Program (MIP) to provide you with the information you need to make irrigation decisions in 2024.

This 3-day event will be held in person at Central Lakes College in Staples (1830 Airport Rd) on March 6, 13 and 20 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Programming will include a discussion of the basics of irrigation, irrigation systems, how to use soil moisture sensors on your farm, irrigation scheduling

and special topics like variable rate irrigation and remote sensing.

In addition to learning about the most effective irrigation management, MIP attendance is one of the requirements to attain the Irrigation Endorsement of the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP). Certified farms will receive the endorsement with proof of MIP attendance and the adoption of a new irrigation practice or scheduling method on-farm. Tuition reimbursement is also available for MAWQCP farms. Continuing education credits (CEUs) for Certified Crop Advisers will also be offered for this program.

If you can't make it this year, don't worry. We will be offering this program at rotating locations throughout the state in the coming years. Participation is capped at 25 individuals (20 growers and 5 agency staff), so be sure to register today. The cost of this 3-day program is \$75. Breakfast and lunch are provided. For more information and to register, go to z.umn.edu/IrrigatorProgram.

Sponsors and partners include Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Minnesota Area II Potato Research and Promotion Council, Reinke Irrigation, Earthscout and R.D. Offutt Farms.

Staples Senior Nutrition program dine-in meal Feb. 29

Senior Nutrition Program
218-894-2556

Dine-in lunch followed by bingo will be offered at the Senior Nutrition Site, Staples Community Center senior's room on Weds., Feb. 29 at 11 a.m.

Lunch may be ordered through the nutrition site by calling LuAnn at 218-894-2556. Call by 10 a.m. Feb. 23 for the Feb. 29 meal. The menu includes spaghetti w/ meat sauce, California vegetable blend, Texas toast w/ marj., fresh fruit and low fat milk.

The Senior Nutrition Site is located at the Staples Community Center, 425 4th St. NE, Staples.



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4:30 - 6 p.m.

Staples Assembly of God
914 3rd Ave. NE

Menu: Sliced Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, Corn, Salad, Variety of Great Desserts.

Also showing the "JESUS" film in the sanctuary starting at 5:45 p.m. for all who are interested.



Ryan Edberg

Kingdom Youth Conference "The Wave"

WAVE

Kingdom Worship

Fri., March 1, 2024, 6 p.m.
Motley Free Methodist Church
33 Wellwood St. East, Motley
info: Call Jessica, 218-296-2441

All Welcome! No registration needed!



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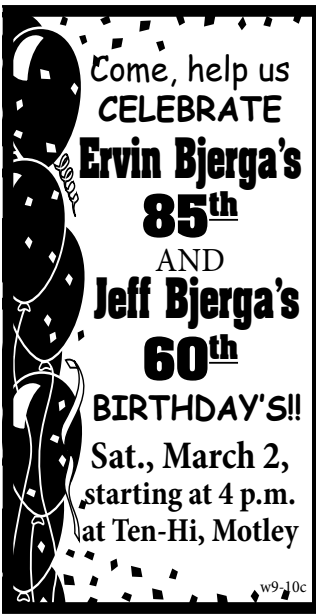
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Rosalia Zetah
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(formerly the Castaway)
4921 320th St., Cushing, MN 56443

oObituarieso

James Olson

James (Jim) Clarence Olson, 92, beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, departed this world on February 9, 2024.

Mass of Christian Burial was held February 16 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Staples.

Interment was at Evergreen Hill Cemetery, Staples.

He was born May 3, 1931, to his loving parents, Clarence and Anna (Reichel) Olson in Staples.

After graduating from Staples High School, James

proudly served his country in the United States Army during the Korean War. He courageously dedicated two years of his life to defend the freedoms we hold dear and was honorably discharged on July 31, 1954.

Upon his return to Staples, James's life forever changed when he met Daneen Tappe. Their chance encounter at a café led to a love story that spanned decades. They exchanged vows on September 27, 1956. Together, they nurtured a beautiful family and raised five children, Sharon, Douglas, Renae, Kathy and Debra, on their hobby farm just outside of Staples.

James was a dedicated, hardworking individual who wore many hats throughout his life. For over 30 years, he served as a school bus driver, ensuring the safety and well-being of countless children. Additionally, for 50 years, he lent his captivating voice and expertise as an auctioneer, spreading his passion for the trade with flair and charisma.

When he wasn't busy working, James enjoyed spending time with his friends at the café, playing cards and shaking dice. He also had a love for music and played the piano as well as the accordion. His infectious smile and positive attitude brightened the spirits of those around him. James had an unwavering commitment to taking care of his family, always willing to lend a helping hand and provide support in any way he could.

James will forever be treasured in the hearts of his surviving family members. He leaves behind one



loving son and four daughters, Sharon (Craig) Peterson, Douglas (Nancy) Olson, Renae (Randy) Wilson, Kathy (Kurt Wilson) Jennissen, and Debra Minnerath; 13 adoring grandchildren, Jeff (Jess) Kemp, Sarah (Ryan) Nord, Amy Schneider, Logan Olson, Grace Olson, Emma Olson, Brian (Brienne) Henkel, Chris Jennissen, Cassandra (Jimmy) Peters, Tina (Dave) Dooher, Ryan (Amanda) Minnerath, Scott Minnerath and Rachel (Jared) Odegaard; 14 precious great-grandchildren and one sister, Marjorie Miller.

He is preceded in death by his parents; beloved wife, Daneen Olson; one sister, Irene Olson; one son-in-law, James Minnerath and one great-grandson, Hayden Minnerath.

As we bid farewell to James, let us remember the lasting impact he had on our lives. His love, kindness, and resilience will forever serve as an inspiration to us all. May his soul find eternal peace and may his memory be a comforting blessing to the lives he touched.

Arrangements are with the Anderson Funeral Home and Crematory of Alexandria.

w9c A00006B2023FB21

Jody Boedigheimer

Jody Boedigheimer, 65 of Lincoln, passed away peacefully February 9, 2024 at her home.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 24, at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Motley, with Father Lauren Germann officiating. Visitation will be held Fri., Feb. 23, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls and on Saturday from 10 to 11 a.m. at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Motley.

Jody was born September 14, 1958 to Alex and Winnie Boedigheimer in Little Falls. She attended grade school at Lincoln Elementary School, District 76, kindergarten through sixth grade being a part of the last class prior to the school closure. Jody went on to graduate as salutatorian from Motley High School with the Class of 1977. She attended St. Cloud State University and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in education. Jody's first job was sorting and packing leeches, advancing to dishwashing at the Lin Club and worked as a waitress. Jody started her teaching career as a substitute teacher in Clarissa and Little Falls until she was able to obtain a full time position in the Little Falls School District. She continued to teach until retiring from full-time in 2021. She continued to sub until the time of her death. Jody was an avid reader and passed on many books to family and friends. She loved the lake, especially swimming and was always the last one out



of the water. Jody enjoyed traveling and see new places, planting flower gardens and seeing them bloom. She loved to bird watch and fed them faithfully along with her much loved pets. Jody was a member of the Lincoln Lakes Ladies Aide, was the current treasurer and was an active member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Motley and on the funeral committee. She belonged to the local ADK. Jody was a loving and caring sister always putting Jane's interests first. She was an amazing and generous friend to many, was dearly loved and will be greatly missed.

Jody is survived by twin sister, Jane Boedigheimer of Lincoln; bonus siblings, Liz Pritchard of Lakeville and James Dvorak of Centerville, VA; aunt and uncle, Jane (Kerm) Severson of Burnsville; aunt, Betty Boedigheimer of Colorado Springs, CO and many cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents. Arrangements are by the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls.

w9p A00006B2023FB21

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

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

Assembly of God
914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples 218-894-1081
Pastor Roy Miles
Small Groups (Bible classes for all ages) 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Children's Church (Kids start in main worship service) 11 a.m.
Prayer Meeting 5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Sonlight (kids ages 4 yrs.-6th grade) After school to 5:30 p.m.
Youth Group (Teens, 7th-12th grade) After school to 5:30 p.m.

Church of Christ
27343 490th St., Staples 218-894-2609
Pastor Barry Klein
Facebook Live
Bible School (youth and adult) 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY:
Teen Youth/Adults Bible Study 7-8 p.m.

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

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
310 4th St. NE, Staples
Church..... 218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn
Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Sunday 8:30 a.m.

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

Thomastown Covenant
15940 251st Ave., Staples 218-894-3923
Pastor Scott Jorgenson
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH 6:30 p.m.

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

United Methodist
310 5th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2248
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
(Nursery Available for Sunday Worship)

Aldrich

Balsamlund Lutheran
19550 490th Street, Aldrich
Janet Eckman SMA 218-837-5831
jre227@yahoo.com
Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.

Cushing

Bethany Lutheran
25430 Bison Rd. Cushing, MN
320-749-2140
Pastor Carl Larson
Pastor Chris Mathiason
www.bethanylutherancushing.org
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
Communion 1st and 2nd Sunday of each month

Lincoln Evangelical Free
1354 320th Street, Cushing, MN 56443
Phone: 218-575-2449
www.lincolnfree.org
Facebook Lincoln E Free
Office Hours: Tues. - Thurs., 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Senior Pastor: Don Reigstad
Community Life Pastor: Jim Brown
Associate Pastor: Joe Reigstad
SUNDAY
Church Worship Gathering 10:00 a.m.
YouTube Channel 10:00 a.m.

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
January - July 9 a.m.
July - January 11 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.

Motley

Motley Free Methodist
33 Wellwood St. E
Motley 56466 218-352-6888
Jim Johnson, Senior Pastor
Casey Reynolds, Assistant Pastor
Sunday Worship..... 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.
facebook live 9 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
AWANA 4:00-5:30 p.m.
Youth Group 6:00-8:00 p.m.

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

St. Michael Catholic Church
1st St. and Birch, Motley 218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn
Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Saturday 4:00 p.m.

United Methodist
847 3rd Ave. S. Lane, Motley 218-352-6466
Pastor Greg Leslie
www.motleyumc.net
Sunday Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Monday AA meeting 8:00 p.m.

Oylen

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

Pillager

First Lutheran Church
Pastor Matthew Sundquist
717 River Street S, Pillager, MN
218-746-3775
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School, 2nd and 4th Sundays 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.

Hewitt

Church of the Nazarene
114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146 Hewitt, MN
218-924-2028
Jim and Linda McGaffey, Pastor
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.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.

Hewitt Community Church
Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Kenneth Uhren
Sunday Worship 10:30 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
Tahna Rurup, Connections & Media Pastor
Tillman Phagan, Kid's & Food Shelf Pastor
Ryan Wolfenden, Youth Pastor
SUNDAY
Youth Prayer 9:20 a.m.
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting 5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Life Groups 6:30 p.m.

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

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

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

Central United Methodist
5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar)
Pastor James Middendorf, 320-260-4950
Sunday Service 9:00 a.m.
Bible Study 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Seeds of Hope 7:00 p.m.

St. Frederick Catholic Church
20 Mason Avenue NW 218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn
Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Saturday 6:00 p.m.

St. Hubert Catholic Church
Bluegrass 218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn
Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Leaf River Township The Old Country Church
Leaf River Twp., Wadena County Rd. 6
Info: 218-837-5690 Call first.
Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.

Asbury University Revival / Outpouring

According to recent studies...4,000-5,000 pastors quit each year. They don't quit because they have a lack of faith in God. They don't quit because they don't believe in the calling God has placed on their lives. Most don't even quit because of financial reasons.

Pastors quit because they are overwhelmed with mental exhaustion.

Until you're a pastor you'll never fully understand what it's like to carry spiritual burdens for people. Getting up in the middle of night, praying for your family of faith. Awakened in the middle of night with someone on your heart. Overwhelmed with concern by a persons absence or distance.

Your mind continually occupied with the presentation of the upcoming Sunday message - how to preach it, what to teach on, how do we apply it? Getting critiqued on a continual basis.

Being told you need to do better or that some areas of the church simply need to be better.

Pastors invest their whole life into people and yet people will turn their backs on their pastor at the first sign of a storm, usually without a conversation. Pastors stand in the middle of disputes.

Pastors stand in the middle of gossip.

Pastors council broken marriages.

Pastors comfort those who have suffered loss. Pastors navigate the waters of imperfect people with a desire to see each one thrive in their faith.

They long for spiritual breakthroughs. Your pastor craves the very best for you. All of this, while trying to battle their own flesh and grow in their own relationship with God.

Pastors see the posts.

Pastors hear the whispers.

Pastors endure the negativity.

Pastors are continually caring for the sheep while fending off the wolves.

Pastors pour out and pour out - rarely being poured into.

What keeps a pastor going? YOU!

You - the person who is genuinely hungry.

You - the person who worships with passion and freedom.

You - the teenager who is striving to be a follower of Jesus.

You - the single mom who understands the beauty of the hope found in Christ.

You - the one who walks through the door for the first time because you're in search of peace, hope, and community.

Pray for your pastor. Serve with your pastor.

Talk with your pastor. Encourage your pastor.

They are human. They need you more than you think.

--From a post submitted by Pastor Jim Johnson,
Motley Free Methodist Church

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these area businesses:

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

Central Building Supply
Hwy. 10 West, Staples, MN
218-894-3794

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

Tower Pizza
Pizza, Pasta, Salads, Sandwiches
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The Church Directory is supported by the advertisers listed above and the Ministerial Association.

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

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Neelan, Carlson launch Cardinals to state

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Blake Neelan stunned Holdingford with a throw for a pin, and Jack Carlson upset his opponent, two pivotal matches that helped the Staples-Motley wrestling team beat the state's second ranked team 32-25 in the Section 7A team final on Feb. 16, punching their ticket to the state meet.

The team state meet will be Thursday, Feb. 29, at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul with Staples-Motley starting at 11 a.m.

The Cardinals got to the championship match by beating Deer River 69-6 at home on Feb. 15, then winning their semifinal match against Royalton-Upsala 45-15 at Walker on Feb. 16.

In the championship match, the fifth ranked Cardinals needed to turn around a couple of matches from the last time they faced Holdingford, when they lost 32-22.

They started out with their first three winning big with bonus points. Gage Bjerga had a pin at 107 pounds, Caden Kramer came close to a pin, with several cradle holds resulting in near falls. He ended up with a technical fall.

Eli Greenwaldt was up next at 121 pounds. "I knew I could get a pin, I needed to tire him out first," said Greenwaldt, "the goal was to take him down a few times."

Once he got the lead, Greenwaldt felt it was time to go for the pin.

"I fake let him up and caught him in a front cradle," he said.

It was tight and he squeezed it down until he got the pin.

"I knew we were going to need it," Greenwaldt said about the six team points earned.

Coach Dan Bjerga said that just as important as the points on the scoreboard, the first three wrestlers set the tone for the rest of the team to follow.

"We start each dual very strong," said Coach Bjerga. "It helps gain momentum for the rest of the dual. They have done it all season and it builds confidence for the rest of the team to perform at the same level."

The upset

That confidence was needed in the next match, where Jack Carlson faced a wrestler he had never beaten before.

"I knew this needed to be won," said Carlson. His plan was to "be relentless" and keep driving through until the end of the match.

He started out by being patient and blocking shots from his opponent. "I had been working on my defense," said Carlson.

Coach Bjerga said it was

more than that. "Jack works hard in practice. We watch the films and saw that (his opponent) shoots from space. I'm sure Jack watched the same video over and over, he was prepared for it and it worked."

After a scoreless first period, Carlson allowed an escape and went into defensive mode again in the second period. In the final seconds, he turned defense into offense and got a take-down as the clock ran out for a 2-1 lead. In the third period, Carlson got one point for an escape and finished the match with two more take-downs for an 8-3 win.

"For him to do what he did, it's crazy," said Bjerga. "That kid is a super wrestler. Jack didn't do anything fancy or tricky, he just flat out out-wrestled him."

"The moment stood out, I knew I needed to do this for the team," said Carlson. "It definitely felt good, it was one of the most memorable moments of my career."

That gave the team hope that they could win the match. Turner Beachy and Riley Reese lost to ranked wrestlers, then Neelan came up to face the state's third ranked wrestler at 145 pounds

The shocker

Neelan started the season wrestling at 160 and 152 pounds. He sacrificed to get down to 145 in the middle of the season. "The first time it was hard, then it was easy every week after that," he said.

Feeling healthy and comfortable at 145, Neelan slipped into the state rankings the week before the section meet and felt he could do well against any wrestler at that weight, including his opponent from Holdingford.

"I knew I could beat that kid, I had envisioned it a hundred times," said Neelan.

For the first two periods, it wasn't looking good as Neelan couldn't generate any offense and he fell behind 3-0 and 5-0, with two penalty points for stalling. Despite the trajectory of the match, Neelan wasn't worried.

"He is pretty strong, but I knew I had to weather the storm," he said. "I knew I could beat him, I had to go out and be safe and wait until the right time."

With 45 seconds left in the match and the score 5-0, Neelan got to his feet with an escape. "I definitely felt he was tiring out," said Neelan. But he got hit with another stalling call to make it 7-1.

The now or never moment came with about 15 seconds left in the match. "I wanted to wait until there was just enough time, so I didn't give up a major if it didn't work," he said.

He tied up his opponent,



Coming through in a big section match

Jack Carlson applies pressure during the Section 7A match. (Submitted photos)



Luke Bjerga

trapped one arm, then pulled backwards with the other arm, using his rotational momentum to flip him onto his back. "It was a lat drop, I felt confident I could do it," said Neelan.

With the score 7-1, Neelan got two points for the take-down and three more for a near fall, keeping his opponent on his back. But that still just made the score 7-6, he needed a pin for it to be successful.

"I wasn't sure if I would get the pin, but he wasn't going anywhere, he wasn't moving."

The referee noticed the same thing and slapped the mat quickly after the throw, sending the Staples-Motley crowd into a wild frenzy. Neelan said he heard the crowd.

"It was a big moment," he said, "I knew that's what the team needed. It definitely changed things."

It was a nine point swing, changing what was headed towards a 20-11 lead into a 26-8 lead.

"We were hoping he would keep that match to just a decision," said Coach Bjerga. "But a few days ago in practice, we were drilling his lateral drop and I told Blake 'in the finals, you're going to lat drop him and pin him.'"

"It changed the match," said Bjerga. "At that point I thought we still have some work to do here, but it became a realization that we might really do this."

The Holdingford team also appeared surprised by the sudden pin. "I knew they were shook," said Neelan. "Everyone felt the momentum sliding our way, the last time we met that's not how it went."

Section champions

Top ranked Colbe Tappe came up next against a ranked opponent. He had just gotten back after being out due to illness, but took care of business with a needed 7-2 win.

"We can depend on him," said Coach Bjerga. "He beat two very solid kids in the two matches." Tappe had pinned a ranked opponent against Royalton-Upsala.

From that point on, the Cardinals needed to limit

the points given up to a slew of high level wrestlers. Owen Winter lost to a ranked opponent but was never in danger of getting pinned.

Sensing they needed to change things around, Holdingford bumped their second ranked 172 pounder up a weight, allowing Zachary Tabatt to take the mat instead of Dustin Converse.

"The coaches met on multiple occasions and went through all the possible lineups," said Coach Bjerga. "They had to show first, that's why we put Zach in. He did an outstanding job."

Tabatt lost 7-2, but limited the damage, never giving up any back points.

With their best wrestler moving up to 189 pounds, the Cardinals also bumped up Converse, who got pinned.

That made the score 29-21 with two weights left. Luke Bjerga was sent out to wrestle up a weight against the third ranked 215 pounder in the state. He needed to avoid a pin and did just that, never allowing back points and slowing his opponent down throughout the bout.

That left it up to Steven Petrich at heavyweight, with a directive to do anything except give up bonus points.

Petrich had beaten his opponent before and the team felt confident he could do it again.

"It all fell into place," said Coach Bjerga.

Petrich wrestled patiently, coming close to gaining an advantage in the first period, but cautiously backing off when it wasn't right.

In the second period, he started in the down position and gained a penalty point when his opponent was called for claspings. He eventually earned an escape and a takedown for a 4-0 lead.

His opponent started Petrich down again in the third period and he worked hard for another escape.

"We practice this and preach it," said Coach Bjerga, "if you stand up once and get stopped, do it again and again. Steven did exactly that and wore that guy down, it's hard to stop someone who keeps getting up."

Petrich got another takedown against a tired opponent for a 7-0 win, and Staples-Motley was headed to state.

Neelan's pin was the catalyst that sent the team to state. As a senior wrestler in his last team section match, he provided three more matches to wrestle with his teammates at state. "It felt pretty good, it doesn't get much better than that," Neelan said.

Greenwaldt noted that this is the first time in 25 years that the Cardinal wrestling team has gone to state. "This is what we have worked towards as a team for a long time," he said.

Greenwaldt placed as an individual at state last year and had some advice for his teammates who will be there for the first time.

"Relax, it's just a match, just do what we have been doing all season. Go out and have fun, there is no reason to do something different," said Greenwaldt.

Quarterfinals

Against Deer River, the Cardinals defeated several good wrestlers on their way to a clear victory. The biggest match was Caden Kramer pinning a ranked wrestler who had moved up a weight. On the opening whistle, Kramer shot in for a quick takedown and controlled the match until getting a pin in the second period. Kramer said he wasn't looking to be that aggressive right away, "I just felt it," he said.

Semifinals

Staples-Motley won the first nine matches against Royalton-Upsala with some lineup changes and some good wrestling.

"We did not expect that, we were afraid of not even winning six matches," said Coach Bjerga.

They accomplished it by inserting Beau Carlson at 121 pounds, where he won with a fall. Greenwaldt bumped up a weight and won with a major decision at 127 pounds.

With three tough wrestlers coming up, Coach Bjerga said the Cardinals were hoping to win one of the three, but Turner Beachy, Riley Reese and



Steven Petrich

Neelan all came through with huge wins.

After Tappe and Owen Winter won to make the score 42-0 against the state's seventh ranked team, the match was out of reach and Staples-Motley was able to rest their starters in the top two weights, with Reece Headley and Jacob Becker facing two high level wrestlers.

"They went out and fought hard, they did everything they could," said Coach Bjerga. He said this is an example of all the varsity wrestlers, not just the stars and the starters, who have stepped up when the team needed them this season.

"This is how it has gone all season," said Bjerga. "Each kid has a role, they know what their job is and they've been doing it. It's been fun to watch."

By beating the seventh and second ranked teams in the state, Staples-Motley now has a chance to be seeded in the top three for the state tournament. Those seedings are expected to come out this week.

Team results

Section 7A quarterfinals
Staples-Motley 69, Deer River 6

107 G. Bjerga W fall, 114 Caden Kramer W fall, 121 Elijah Greenwaldt W fall, 127 Jack Carlson W fall, 133 Turner Beachy W fall, 139 Riley Reese W 8-2, 145 Blake Neelan W fall, 152 Owen Winter W fall, 160 Colbe Tappe W fall, 172 Dustin Converse L fall, 189 Luke Bjerga W ff, 215 Adrian Gomez W fall, 285 Steven Petrich W ff

Section 7A semifinals
Staples-Motley 45, Royalton-Upsala 15

107 G. Bjerga W fall, 114 Kramer W 13-3, 121 Beau Carlson W fall, 127 Greenwaldt W 8-0, 133 Beachy W 8-0, 139 Reese W 3-2, 145 Neelan W 11-6, 152 Tappe W fall, 160 Winter W fall, 172 Converse L 4-0, 189 L. Bjerga W 4-1, 215 Reece Headley L fall, 285 Jacob Becker L fall

Section 7A finals
Staples-Motley 32, Holdingford 25

107 G. Bjerga W fall, 114 Kramer W 16-1 tf, 121 Greenwaldt W fall, 127 J. Carlson W 8-3, 133 Beachy L 6-2, 139 Reese L 19-2 tf, 145 Neelan W fall, 152 Tappe W 7-2, 160 Winter L 16-5, 19 Zachary Tabatt L 7-2, 189 Converse L fall, 215 L. Bjerga L 11-2, 285 Petrich W 7-0



Big wins, big crowds

In the section semifinal against Royalton-Upsala, Turner Beachy, above, and Riley Reese, below, came through with big wins. (Submitted photos)



NOTICE
MAY TOWNSHIP
ANNUAL MEETING

May Township will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

In case of bad weather, the annual meeting will be held March 19, 2024 at 7:00 p.m

Bianca Wyffels, Clerk
May Township

9-10pnc

NOTICE
MOOSE LAKE TOWNSHIP
2024 ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

Moose Lake Township will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. at the Leader Community Hall.

The township is now accepting bids for road maintenance and cemetery maintenance. Send bids

ADVERTISEMENT
FOR BIDS
TODD COUNTY COURTHOUSE
ROCK WALL AND EXTERIOR PLAZA
LONG PRAIRIE, MN

Project Identification: Sealed proposals shall be received for the construction work for repairs to the Todd County Courthouse Rock Wall and Exterior Plaza, located in Long Prairie, Minnesota, in accordance with the Construction Documents prepared by BHH Partners Planners/Architects, 650 3rd Avenue Southeast, Perham, MN 56573.

Project Description: Repair and replacement of the existing stone rock retaining wall and plaza. Including phase one and phase two.

Basis of Bids: A single prime lump sum bid will be received for general construction as noted in the Construction Documents.

Bid Opening: Bids for the project will be received and will be publicly opened and read aloud on **March 6, 2024 at 10 a.m.** Location: Todd County Board room, 215 1st Ave. S., Long Prairie, MN 56347. Address sealed bids to: Denise Gaida - Auditor/Treasurer, 215 1st Ave. S., Suite 201, Long Prairie, Minnesota 56347. Note the name of the project on the outside of the bid envelope.

Pre-Bid Walk-Through: A pre-bid walk-through will be held at the site. All interested bidders shall attend or make special arrangements with the Owner at the Owner's convenience. The Owner is not obligated to meet times/dates requested. Date: **February 22, 2024, 10 a.m.,** 215 1st Ave. S., Long Prairie, MN 56347.

Examination of the Site: All interested bidders shall visit the project site to obtain firsthand knowledge of existing conditions, including existing utilities and services, obstacles that may be encountered and all other conditions relative to the Work to be performed that may or may not be shown within the Contract Documents.

Additional Compensation: Awarded Contractors shall not receive extra payments for conditions that can be determined by examining the site and the Contract Documents in their entirety.

Bid Opening: Sealed bids shall be received and opened at Todd County Administrative offices located in the Courthouse. All bidders who are not attending may mail their bid to:

ATTN: Mitch Johnson
Todd County Facility Supervisor
212 2nd Ave. S.
Long Prairie, MN 56347

Contractor shall be responsible for bids mailed or delivered to ensure receiver of bids has bid by the bid opening.

Responsible Bidder Requirement: Any prime contractor or subcontractor that does not meet the minimum criteria in Minnesota Statutes, Section 16C.285, subdivision 3 or fails to verify that it meets those criteria is not a responsible contractor and is not eligible to be awarded the construction contract for the project or to perform work

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

In case of inclement weather, the alternate meeting date will be held Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. at the Leader Community Hall.

Karen Roubal, Clerk
Moose Lake Township

9-10pnc

fect in GOOD CONDITION WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS after date of bid opening. Failure to submit a bonafide bid proposal or to return documents as indicated will result in forfeiture of deposit. Bidders that do not receive contract documents through the Architect's Office will not be listed on the official plan holders list.

Time of Completion: The completion date for phase one of this project shall be not more than eight (8) months from notice to proceed date. If the project is not complete at that time, the Prime Contractor shall pay to the Owner the sum of \$500/day after this date for a period of thirty (30) days. After thirty (30) days, the General Contractor will pay the Owner \$1,000/day until the project is substantially completed. There will be no benefits to the Contractors for early completion of the project prior to duration indicated.

Bonding and Bidding Requirements: Each Contractor shall be required to provide a Performance Bond and a Material and Labor Payment Bond in the amount of 100 percent (100%) of the Contract Amount.

Bid Security: Bids that shall be accompanied by Bid Security in the form of a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond in the amount of five percent (5%) of the Base Bid submitted, made payable to the Owner, as guarantee that the Bidder will, if awarded, enter into a Contract in accordance with Contract Documents and submitted bid.

Labor Standards and Wages: This project is subject to Minnesota Labor Standards and Wages requirements of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 177.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 177.41 to 177.44 and corresponding Rules 5200.1000 to 5200.1120, this project contract is subject to the prevailing wages as established by the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry. Specifically, all contractors and subcontractors must pay all laborers and mechanics the established prevailing wages for work performed under the contract. Failure to comply with the aforementioned may result in civil or criminal penalties.

Bid Review: The Owner will not award the contract on the day of the Bid Opening and hereby reserves the right to award the contract pending bid review. All bids will be held until approval can be made for the lowest, qualified bidder.

Right to Reject Bids: The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids or parts thereof, to waive any informalities in bidding, and to award the contract to other than the lowest bidder if, in the discretion of the Owner, the interests of the Owner will be best served thereby. The Owner further reserves the right to hold all legitimate proposals for a period of thirty (30) days after the date fixed for the opening thereof without exception.

Bids Requested By:
Mitch Johnson
Todd County Facility Supervisor
212 2nd Ave. S.
Long Prairie, MN 56347

8-10pnc

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF TODD
DISTRICT COURT
JUDICIAL DISTRICT:
SEVENTH
Court File No.
77-CV-23-1016
Case Type: Contract

Civil Summons

Magnifi Financial Credit Union,

Plaintiff

vs

Matthew Rahn and Tamara Rahn, a/k/a Tamara D. Rahn, John Doe, Mary Roe and each other person unknown claiming any right or interest in any part of the real estate described in the complaint herein,

Defendants

This Summons is directed to (name of Defendants): Matthew Rahn and Tamara Rahn a/k/a Tamara D. Rahn; and John Doe, Mary Roe and each other person unknown claiming any possessory right or interest in any part of the real estate described in the complaint herein.

1. **You are being sued.** The Plaintiff has started a lawsuit against you. The *Complaint* is attached to this *Summons*. [Added for service by publication: the Complaint is not attached but is on file with the court in the above case.] Do not throw these papers away. They are official papers that start a lawsuit and affect your legal rights, even if nothing has been filed with the court and even if there is no court file number on this *Summons*.

2. **You must BOTH reply, in writing, AND get a copy of your reply to the person/business who is suing you within 21 days to protect your rights.** Your reply is called an Answer. Getting your reply to the Plaintiff is called service. You must serve a copy of your *Answer or Answer and Counterclaim* (Answer) within 21 days from the date you received the *Summons and Complaint*.

NOTICE OF
MORTGAGE
FORCLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: April 14, 2018

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$87,657.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Henry A. Youngvorst, an unmarried man

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Quicken Loans Inc.

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on April 20, 2018 as Document Number A508910 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Rocket Mortgage LLC f/k/a a Quicken Loans, LLC, by assignment recorded on November 13, 2023 as Document Number A538905 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: That part of Government Lot 1, Section 9, Township 133 North, Range 33 West lying between the North line of said Lot 1 and a line parallel therewith and 150 feet southerly therefrom measured at right angles thereto and between two lines parallel with and distant respectively 184 feet and 359 feet westerly, measured at right angles, from the east line of said lot, Todd County, Minnesota .

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 24709 THUN-

ANSWER: You can find the *Answer* form and instructions on the MN Judicial Branch website at www.mncourts.gov/forms under the "Civil" category. The instructions will explain in detail how to fill out the Answer form.

3. **You must respond to each claim.** The *Answer* is your written response to the Plaintiff's *Complaint*. In your *Answer* you must state whether you agree or disagree with each paragraph of the *Complaint*. If you think the Plaintiff should not be given everything they asked for in the *Complaint*, you must say that in your Answer.

4. **SERVICE: You may lose your case if you do not send a written response to the Plaintiff.** If you do not serve a written *Answer* within 21 days, you may lose this case by default. You will not get to tell your side of the story. If you choose not to respond, the Plaintiff may be awarded everything they asked for in their *Complaint*. If you agree with the claims stated in the *Complaint*, you don't need to respond. A default judgment can then be entered against you for what the Plaintiff asked for in the *Complaint*.

To protect your rights, you must serve a copy of your *Answer* on the person who signed this Summons in person or by mail at this address: [Mark F. Uphus, Attorney at Law, 310 Main Street East - PO Box 158, Melrose, Minnesota 56352](mailto:Mark.F.Uphus@uphuslaw.com).

5. Carefully read the Instructions (CIV301) for the *Answer* for your next steps.

6. **Legal Assistance.** You may wish to get legal help from an attorney. If you do not have an attorney and would like legal help:

- Visit www.mncourts.gov/selfhelp and click on the "Legal Advice Clinics" tab to get more information about legal clinics in each Minnesota county.
- Court Administration may have information about places where you can get

legal assistance.

NOTE: Even if you cannot get legal help, you must still serve a written Answer to protect your rights or you may lose the case.

7. **Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR).** The parties may agree to or be ordered to participate in an ADR process under Rule 114 of the Minnesota Rules of Practice. You must still serve your written Answer, even if you expect to use ADR.

8. **This lawsuit may affect or bring into question title to real property** located in Todd County, State of Minnesota, legally described as follows:

All that part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter in Section 26, Township 127 North, Range 35 West of the 5th P.M., Todd County, Minnesota, lying Northeast of the Township Road, together with all hereditaments and appurtenances belonging thereto.

The object of this action includes, among other things: foreclosure of a mortgage and other security interests against the above described property and fixtures, improvements, and any unaffixed manufactured housing unit located on the described property; to obtain judgment that Plaintiff's mortgage, security and other interests and claims against said property have priority over any claim or interest of any herein named Defendants and any other person; and obtain and docket, as may be appropriate, a deficiency money judgment against the herein named Defendants.

Dated: December 14, 2023

/s/ Mark F. Uphus
Mark F. Uphus,
Minn. Atty. Reg. # 141136
310 Main Street E
PO Box 158
Melrose, MN 56352
Telephone: 320/256-7491
Facsimile: 320/256-7612
Email:
manager@uphuslaw.com

7-10pnc

or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on September 9, 2024.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: January 09, 2024

ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC
F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC
Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.
By: /s/ N. Kibongni
Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Sueg Woo Hong, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(23-1256-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

5-10pnc



NOTICE OF
PRESIDENTIAL
NOMINATION
PRIMARY ELECTION
VILLARD TOWNSHIP

State of Minnesota
Todd County Audi-
tor-Treasurer

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN: That a Presiden-
tial Nomination Primary
Election will be held in the
Election Precinct of Villard
Township

at: Township Hall, 31337
County 28

on Tuesday, the Fifth
(5th) day of March, 2024,
at which the polls will be
open from the hours of 8:00
o'clock a.m. to the hour of
eight (8) o'clock p.m. for
the purpose of nominating
candidates for the follow-
ing offices specified below,
to-wit:

FEDERAL OFFICES

United States President
(4 year term)

M.S. 2071.12 (b) An individual
seeking to vote at the presidential
nomination primary must be regis-
tered to vote pursuant to Section
201.054, subdivision 1. The voter
must request the ballot of the party
for whose candidate the individual
wishes to vote. Notwithstanding
Section 204C.18, subdivision 1, the
election judge must record in the
polling place roster the name of

the political party whose ballot the
voter requested. When posting voter
history pursuant to Section 201.071,
the county auditor must include the
name of the political party whose
ballot the voter requested. The polit-
ical party ballot selected by a voter
is private data on individuals as
defined under Section 13.02, subdi-
vision 12, except as provided in Sec-
tion 201.091, subdivision 4a. A voter
eligible to cast a ballot as provided
in Section 58.06 must be permitted
to cast a ballot at the presidential
nomination primary consistent with
the requirements of that section.

Dated: February 14, 2024

Mary Trantina Koenig,
Clerk
Villard Township

9pnc

NOTICE
TODD COUNTY
ACCURACY TESTING

The public is welcome
to observe the Public Accu-
racy Testing of Election
Machines for the upcoming
Presidential Nomination
Primary Election.

Testing will be held on
February 27, 2024 begin-
ning at 8:30 a.m. until com-
plete in the Commissioner's
Board Room located in the
Historic Courthouse at 215
1st Avenue S, Long Prairie,
MN.

Please contact 320-732-
4414 with any questions.

Denise Gaida, Todd County
Auditor-Treasurer.

9pnc

TODD COUNTY
PLANNING
COMMISSION
215 1st Ave. South,
Suite 103
Long Prairie, MN 56347
320-732-4420
toddplan.zone@co.todd.
mn.us

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given
that the Todd County Plan-
ning Commission will hold
a public hearing on **Thurs-
day, March 7, 2024 at 6:00
p.m.** in the Commission-
ers meeting room, Historic
Courthouse, 215 First Ave.
South, Long Prairie, MN
to consider the following
applications.

NOTE: This meeting is
again being held in-person
and the public is encour-
aged to attend, but Zoom
and phone options are still
available for those who are
unable to attend in person.
If you wish to join via Zoom,
please contact our office
for the call-in informa-
tion. Those who do attend
in person can find parking
atop the hill on the west side
of the Historic Courthouse
and enter through the north
doors, near the American
Flag and monument.

Questions? Phone
320-732-4420 or email
toddplan.zone@co.todd.
mn.us.

AGENDA

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance

- Introduction of Plan-
ning Commission Members
and process review.
- The applicant is intro-
duced
- Staff report
- Applicant confirms if
staff report accurately rep-
resents the request
- Public comment
- Board review with
applicant, staff, and public
- Approval of agenda.
- Approval of the Febru-
ary 1, 2024 Planning Com-
mission meeting minutes.
- 1. **Proposed Amend-
ment to Todd County
Feedlot Ordinance:**
Section 9.11: Feedlots
- 2. **Enos J. Borntreger:**
Section 3, Eagle Valley
Township
Site Address: 19634
380th Street, Clarissa, MN
56440
PID: 07-0002200
- 1. Request to construct
and operate a Greenhouse
with Advertising Sign in
AF-1 Zoning.
- 3. **Ammon C. and Lizzy
J. Hershberger:** Section 20,
Reynolds Township
Site Address: 17698
232nd St., Long Prairie, MN
56347
PID: 20-0023000
- 1. Request for the con-
struction and retail sales
of Hunting Blinds in AF-1
Zoning.
- 4. **Ernest R. Huhta, Jr.
and Martha A. Huhta:**
Section 29, Long Prairie
Township, Lake Charlotte.
Site Address: 22339 US

- 71, Long Prairie, MN 56347
PID: 18-0050800
- 1. Request for Commer-
cial Services for all busi-
nesses in Recreational
Development Shoreland
Zoning.
- 5. **Jacob C. and Emma
Miller:** Section 31, Eagle
Valley Township
Site Address: 33371 171st
Ave., Clarissa, MN 56440
PID: 07-0037500
- 1. Request for the oper-
ation and retail sales of a
Sawmill and or Re-saw busi-
ness in AF-1 Zoning.
- 6. **Christopher Sunder-
man:** Section 10, Kandota
Township
Site Address: Balsam
Drive, Sauk Centre, MN
56378
PID: 14-0009002
- 1. Request to Rezone from
R-10 to AF-2 for permanent
dwelling.

**Adjournment.
Next Meeting:
April 4, 2024**

All persons interested
are invited to attend said
hearing or submit a letter to
be heard on these matters.
**All correspondence must
include name, mailing
address and be received
48 hours before the date
and time of the hearing.**

Todd County Planning
Commission
Jim Pratt, Chair

9pnc

NOTICE
BULLARD TOWNSHIP
ELECTION AND
ANNUAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given to
qualified voters of Bullard
Township, Wadena County,
Minnesota, that the Annual
Election of Officers and
Annual Meeting will be held
Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at
the Bullard Township Hall.
Election poll hours are 5:00
p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at which
time voters will elect:

- One (1) Supervisor,
three (3) year term;
- One (1) Clerk, two (2)
year term.

The Board of Canvass
will meet at 8:05 p.m., and
the Annual Meeting will
begin at 8:15 p.m.

In case of inclement
weather, the election and
meeting will be postponed
until Tuesday, March 19,
2024, with the same times
and location.

Janelle VanAlst, Clerk
Bullard Township

9-10pnc

PUBLIC
NOTICES:
Your Right
to Know

Todd County Commissioners Minutes

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS HELD
JANUARY 2, 2024

Public Comment

The Todd County Board of
Commissioners met in the Com-
missioner's Board Room in the
City of Long Prairie, MN on the
2nd day of January, 2024 at 9:00
a.m. The meeting was called to
order by Chairperson Neumann.
The meeting was opened with the
Pledge of Allegiance. All Commis-
sioners were present.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Denny and sec-
onded by Becker, the following
motion was introduced and adopt-
ed by unanimous vote: To adopt
the agenda as presented.

Board Organization

On nomination by Noska with
no other nominations, the follow-
ing was introduced and adopted
by unanimous vote: To appoint
Commissioner Becker as the
Chairperson of the Todd County
Board of Commissioners for 2024
proceedings.

On nomination by Noska with
no other nominations, the follow-
ing was introduced and adopted
by unanimous vote: To appoint
Commissioner Neumann as the
Vice-Chairperson of the Todd
County Board of Commissioners
for 2024 proceedings.

Consent Agenda

On motion by Denny and sec-
onded by Byers, the following
motions and resolution were intro-
duced and adopted by unanimous
vote:

To approve the Todd County
Board of Commissioner's Meeting
Minutes for December 28, 2023 as
presented.

GAMBLING PERMIT - MIDWEST
OUTDOORS UNLIMITED -
PRAIRIE PARTNERS

WHEREAS, the Todd Coun-
ty Board of Commissioners are
establishing their approval for a
Gambling Permit for the Midwest
Outdoors Unlimited - Prairie Part-
ners through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RE-
SOLVED, that the Todd County
Board of Commissioners approve
a Gambling Permit for the Midwest
Outdoors Unlimited - Prairie Part-
ners to hold a bingo event at the
Hub Supper Club in Burnhamville
Township at the address 30905
County 13, Burtrum, MN on March
2, 2024.

To hire Crystal Woznick to fill
the open Social Worker position.
Grade 10, Step 2 at \$28.91/hr.
Start date: TBD

Todd Wadena-Community
Corrections

On motion by Noska and sec-
onded by Neumann, the following
motion was introduced and adopt-
ed by unanimous rollcall vote:
To appoint Commissioner Becker
and Commissioner Noska to the
TWCC Advisory and Executive
Committees.

On motion by Noska and sec-
onded by Denny, the following res-
olution was introduced and adopt-
ed by unanimous vote:

RESOLUTION APPOINTING
MEMBERSHIP
Todd-Wadena Community
Corrections 2024

This is a resolution appointing
membership to the Todd-Wadena
Community Corrections Executive
Committee and Advisory Board.

WHEREAS, In accordance
with MN Statutes Chapter 401, in
1976 Todd and Wadena Counties
entered into a joint powers agree-
ment and established Todd-Wade-
na Community Corrections, and

WHEREAS, Membership of
the Todd-Wadena Community
Corrections Executive Committee
and Advisory Board needs to be
appointed by the Boards of Com-
missioners in Todd and Wadena
Counties, and

THEREFORE, IT IS RE-
SOLVED that the members of the
Todd-Wadena Community Correc-
tions Executive Committee are ap-
pointed as follows:

1. Barbara Becker, Todd County
Commissioner
2. Lew Noska, Todd County
Commissioner
3. _____, Wadena
County Commissioner
4. _____, Wadena
County Commissioner
5. Kyra Ladd, Wadena County
Attorney
6. Jane Gustafson, Assistant
Todd County Attorney

BE IT FURTHER RE-
SOLVED that the members of the
Todd-Wadena Community Correc-
tions Advisory Board are appoint-
ed as follows:

1. Barbara Becker, Todd County
Commissioner
2. Lew Noska, Todd County
Commissioner
3. _____, Wadena
County Commissioner
4. _____, Wadena
County Commissioner
5. Mike Allen, Todd County
Sheriff
6. Donald Asmus, Todd County
Citizen Member
7. Honorable Daniel A. Benson,
District Court Judge
8. Melissa Birkholtz, Police
Chief
9. Michael D. Carr, Wadena
County Sheriff
10. Honorable Douglas Clark,
District Court Judge
11. Johanna Diaz Torres, Eth-
nic/Minorities Representative
12. Alison Francis, Victims Ser-
vices Representative
13. Jane Gustafson, Assistant
Todd County Attorney
14. Heidi Heino, Wadena Coun-
ty Education Representative
15. Erica Keppers, Wadena
County Public Health Director
16. Kyra Ladd, Wadena County
Attorney
17. Katherine Langer,
Todd-Wadena Community Correc-
tions Director
18. Sheldon Monson, Wadena
County Citizen Member
19. Chris Myhro, Career Correc-
tions Agent
20. Jackie Och, Todd Coun-
ty Health and Human Services
Director
21. Jason Sellnow, Todd County
Public Defender
22. Josiah Tonder, Todd County
Citizen Member
23. Sarah Urbach, Todd-Wade-
na Community Corrections
Supervisor
24. Lane Waldahl, Wadena
County Citizen Member

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Noska and sec-
onded by Denny, the following
motion was introduced and adopt-
ed by unanimous rollcall vote:
To approve the December 2023
Auditor Warrants number (ACH)
903718 through 903773 in the

amount of \$532,325.68 (Manual)
908 through 916 in the amount of
\$67,418.78 and (Regular) 241898
through 242044 in the amount of
\$1,392,742.89 for a total of
\$1,992,487.35.

On motion Neumann and sec-
onded by Noska, the following res-
olution was introduced and adopt-
ed by unanimous vote:

A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING
AN OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER
FOR 2024

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes
Chapter 375.12 requires the annu-
al letting of bids for publication of
official proceedings of the County
Board and similar statutes require
the publication of delinquent tax
lists, County Financial Statements,
and local transportation project bid
advertisements, and;

WHEREAS, pursuant to adver-
tisement bids were opened to be
designated for those parties inter-
ested in being named as the offi-
cial newspaper for Todd County on
January 2, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RE-
SOLVED, that the Todd County
Board of Commissioners accept
the bid from Long Prairie Leader,
with a bid of \$18.00 per column
inch to be the Official Newspaper
for the year 2024 and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,
that the Todd County website
(www.co.todd.mn.us) be also des-
ignated as an official publication
for all statutory requirements.

On motion by Denny and sec-
onded by Byers, the following mo-
tion was introduced and adopted
by unanimous vote:

A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING
AN EXTRA PUBLICATION
NEWSPAPER FOR 2024

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes
Chapter 375.12 requires the annu-
al letting of bids for publication of
official proceedings of the County
Board and similar statutes require
the publication of delinquent tax
lists, County Financial Statements,
and local transportation project bid
advertisements, and;

WHEREAS, pursuant to adver-
tisement bids were opened to be
designated for those parties inter-
ested in being named as the extra
publication newspaper for Todd
County on January 2, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RE-
SOLVED, that the Todd County
Board of Commissioners accept
the bid from Long Prairie Leader
with a bid of \$12.00 per column
inch to be the Extra Publication
Newspaper for the year 2024.

On motion by Byers and sec-
onded by Neumann, the following
resolution was introduced and adopt-
ed by unanimous vote:

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISH-
ING THE 2024 TODD COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD PROTOCOL

(Copy of full resolution language
available in the Auditor-Treasur-
er's Office for public inspection.)

On motion by Noska and sec-
onded by Neumann, the following
motion was introduced and adopt-
ed by unanimous vote: To ap-
prove to continue to hold the Todd
County Board of Commissioner's
Meetings on the first and third
Tuesday of every month at 9:00
a.m. in the Todd County Historic
Courthouse and Worksession des-
ignated by the Board Chairperson
or three members of the County
Board as deemed necessary. The
County Board also approves that

the November 5th, 2024 meeting
be moved to November 4th, 2024;
that the December 3rd, 2024
meeting be moved to December
6th, 2024; and that the year-end
board meeting be scheduled for
December 30, 2024.

On motion by Denny and sec-
onded by Byers, the following res-
olution was introduced and adopt-
ed by unanimous vote:

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING
THE COMMISSIONER'S
COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
FOR 2024

WHEREAS, The County Com-
missioners have wide ranging and
diverse responsibilities, and;
WHEREAS, it is necessary for
Commissioners to be assigned to
Committees for the purposes of
advocating for the County, and to
effectively complete the work of
the County.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT
RESOLVED, that the attached
Committee Roster (Attachment 1)
is hereby adopted as the County
Commissioners' Committee As-
signments for 2024 and will remain
on file in the Auditor-Treasurer's
Office.

On motion by Byers and sec-
onded by Neumann, the following
resolution was introduced and adopt-
ed by unanimous vote:

DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITO-
RIES, INVESTMENTS and
ELECTRONIC FUNDS
TRANSFERS

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute
§ 118A.02, subdivision 1 (a) states
"The governing body of each gov-
ernment entity shall designate, as
a depository of its funds, one or
more financial institutions." and;

WHEREAS, in accordance
with Minnesota Statute § 118A.01
through § 118A.08, the County
Board of Commissioners has the
official role to authorize the Coun-
ty Auditor/Treasurer to select de-
positories & make investments of
funds under Minnesota Statute §
118A.01 to 118A.08 or other appli-
cable law for and on behalf of the
County of Todd and;

WHEREAS, in accordance to
Minnesota Statute § 385.07, the
County Board of Commissioners
has the official role to authorize
the County Auditor/Treasurer the
use electronic funds transfers
where deemed appropriate, expeditious
and in the best interest of the
County of Todd.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RE-
SOLVED, that the Todd County
Board of Commissioners authorize
the Todd County Auditor/Treasurer
to select depositories & make in-
vestments in accordance to Min-
nesota Statute § 118A.01 through
§ 118A.08 where the following fi-
nancial institutions are currently in
place:

- American Heritage National
Bank
- CETERA Investments man-
aged through American Heritage
National Bank
- Minnesota National Bank
- Gold Sweep Investments man-
aged through Minnesota National
Bank
- Moreton Capital Markets, LLC
- US Bank
- MAGIC Fund

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,
that the Todd County Board of
Commissioners authorize the
Todd County Auditor/Treasurer the
use of electronic funds transfers
where deemed appropriate, expe-

ditious and in the best interest of
Todd County.

County Auditor-

Treasurer's Report

The County Auditor-Treasurer
reported that year end reporting
preparation is underway and the
Presidential Nomination Primary
election season is coming soon.

County Coordinator's Report

The County Coordinator report-
ed that the County has been offi-
cially been awarded the Cultural
& Heritage Grant for \$395,000
from the MN Historical Society
after many years of hard work in
preparation.

County Commissioner's Report

The Commissioners reported
on meetings and events attended.
Commissioner Denny attend-
ed the GRRL, Prairie Lakes and
Emergency Services meetings
and his family welcomed a new
baby during the holiday break.

Commissioner Becker com-
mended Commissioner Neu-
mann on 20 years of service as a
Todd County Commissioner and
thanked him for his service.

Commissioner Noska has no
new reports at this time.

Commissioner Neumann ex-
tended thanks to the department
heads for support during the 2023
year.

Commissioner Byers has no
new reports at this time.

Recess

Chairperson Becker recessed
the meeting until January 16,
2024.

VENDOR NAME	\$ AMOUNT
MN DOR.....	\$54,030.96
US BANK.....	\$4,341.58
MN DOR.....	\$5,302.00
7 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000.....	\$3,744.24
CLIFTON LARSONALLEN, LLP	
.....	\$29,221.50
EBSO INC.....	\$267,734.84
HEALTH PARTNERS	
DENTAL.....	\$7,143.32
LONG PRAIRIE OIL	
COMPANY.....	\$5,651.55
LONG PRAIRIE SANITATION	
INC.....	\$4,673.25
MASWCD.....	\$2,695.00
MAUS/JOE & DIANE	
MID STATES ORGANIZED	
CRIME.....	\$5,340.00
ORTIZ AMBRIZ/JOSE	
OTTER TAIL CO SOLID	
WASTE DEPT.....	\$32,442.68
TODD CO AUD-TREAS.....	
\$5,831.54	
TRITECH SOFTWARE	
SYSTEMS.....	\$32,339.66
VERIZON.....	\$5,881.41
21 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000.....	\$13,778.30
CENTRA CARE.....	\$11,532.50
COUNTIES PROVIDING	
TECHNOLOGY.....	\$5,629.00
GALLAGHER BENEFIT	
SERVICES INC.....	\$2,000.00
INFORMATION SYSTEMS	
CORPORATION... \$29,716.00	
MN DEPT OF FINANCE.....	
\$5,596.50	
MORRISON COUNTY.....	
\$36,403.84	
PETERS LAW OFFICE,	
P.A.	
\$7,986.00	
PRAIRIE LAKES MUNICIPAL	
SOLID WASTE AUTH.....	
\$86,883.00	
RJ CONTRACTING &	
REMODELING LLC	
SANDERS CONSTRUCTION,	
INC.....	\$16,984.91
SHIRLEY'S GAS &	

GROCERIES INC...	\$5,791.85
STAPLES ADVANTAGE	
\$3,136.75	
STEP	\$11,002.81
SUERO/LEURY	\$2,100.00
TRIMIN SYSTEMS INC.....	
\$19,955.00	
VOYANT COMMUNICATIONS, ..	
LLC	
\$3,397.25	
WIDSETH SMITH	
NOLTING INC.....	\$4,533.36
21 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000.....	\$12,445.29
APEX EQUIPMENT	
LLC	
\$78,546.00	
ASSOC OF MN	
COUNTIES.....	\$2,175.00
BCI CONSTRUCTION	
INC	\$572,558.83
CARD SERVICES	
COBORNS	\$4,612.63
CARDMEMBER	
SERVICE	\$2,396.23
COOK/BYRON	\$3,000.00
DOUGLAS SWCD	\$2,437.04
FLEET SERVICES/WEX	
BANK	\$7,468.38
KREEMER/JASON.....	\$6,915.70
MINNESOTA POWER	
NORTHERN STAR	
COOP	\$2,690.63
OTTER TAIL COUNTY	
TREASURER	\$29,645.00
PAULZINE/NATHAN &	
JOAN	\$3,515.70
REGENTS OF THE	
UNIV OF MN	\$35,966.44
USPS-POC	\$14,544.13
WESTBROCK/BRUCE	
WIDSETH SMITH	
NOLTING INC.....	\$11,475.00
55 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000.....	\$20,273.28
CENTERPOINT ENERGY	
.....	\$2,620.42
CITY OF LONG	
PRAIRIE	31,423.18
FRERICKS/CHRIS	\$25,000.00
LONG PRAIRIE LEADER	
.....	\$8,503.94
METRO SALES INC...	\$8,121.32
RAINBOW RIDER	\$8,520.00
REINING/DANIEL.....	\$27,504.15
RURAL MN CEP INC.	
SOURCEWELL	\$56,283.28
STOECKEL JAHNER	
INC	\$25,000.00
TODD CO AGRICULTURAL	
SOC.	\$2,798.67
TODD SOIL & WATER	
CONS DIST	\$160,555.72
WEX BANK-SINCLAIR	
WIDSETH SMITH	
NOLTING INC.....	\$7,032.13
45 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	\$19,942.38
TOTAL	\$1,992,487.33

Notice to Voters

March 5, 2024

Statewide Presidential Nomination Primary Election



Review the information below to learn about upcoming elections.

Access Your Sample Ballot	Find Your Polling Place	Additional Election Information
Your official ballot will have the names of all candidates for your precinct. To see a list of the names of candidates and questions that will be on the ballot for your precinct visit: mnvotes.gov/myballot You may also be able to view your sample ballot online by scanning:  You may request to have a free copy of your sample ballot mailed to you.	Election Day is Tuesday, March 5. You can find your Election Day Polling Place by visiting: mnvotes.gov/pollfinder Voting Before Election Day You can vote early with an absentee ballot starting Friday, Jan.19. You can vote early by mail, in person, or from the military or abroad. Learn more by scanning: 	Most Election Day Polling Places are open 7am to 8pm. You may live in a precinct where a ballot is mailed to you as a mail ballot voter. If voting by mail, return your ballot no later than 8pm on Election Day. Election results will be available starting after 8pm on Election Day at: https:// www.co.todd.mn.us/ Check to see if you are pre-registered to vote by scanning: 

Contact Your Local Election Official

Your county election official:

- Can mail you a sample ballot for free
- Keeps your voter registration record
- Handles other parts of the voting process

Election official:
General phone:
Website:
Email:

Absentee Voting and Mailing Address:

Todd County Auditor-Treasurer
320-732-4469
[https://www.co.todd.mn.us/
elections@co.todd.mn.us](https://www.co.todd.mn.us/elections@co.todd.mn.us)
215 1st Avenue S, Suite 201
Long Prairie, MN 56347



NOTICES

103

Lost/Found

FOUND 2/13/24: 300 block of 4th St NE, Staples by Sacred Heart Church/Rectory. - prescription sunglasses/case. Can claim by identifying @ the Staples World. 9x

SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT

Todd County Employment Opportunity



Todd County is looking for reliable, service-oriented individual to serve the citizens of Todd County in the following position:

Deputy Auditor Treasurer

To learn more about this opening and how to apply visit the official Todd County website at www.co.todd.mn.us or www.governmentjobs.com/careers/cotoddmn

Questions can be directed to Todd Cty. Administration: 320-732-6447 EOE

205

Help Wanted

TODD COUNTY HHS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: Todd County HHS is looking for reliable, service-oriented individuals to serve the citizens of Todd County in the following positions: **Social Worker - Care Coordinator (full-time). **Registered Nurse - Care Coordinator (full-time). **Social Worker - Child Services (full-time). To learn more

about this opening and how to apply, visit the official Todd County website at <https://www.co.todd.mn.us/>. Questions can be directed to Todd County Administration 320- 732-6155. EOE 9c

208

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REAL ESTATE

602

Apartments for Rent

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Wild things in a winter that wasn't

It may be premature to begin referring to winter in the past tense, or be confident that the brutal weather our winters can serve up is behind us. As baseball legend Yogi Berra said when the New York Mets team he managed was far behind in the 1973 National League pennant race—before a late season surge that gave them the pennant—“It ain’t over ‘til it’s over.” We could still be hit with weather that is worthy of our state’s frigid winter reputation. Ahead of us could be a classic “state tournament blizzard,” such as those that have long been associated with the month of March, and high school athletic competitions.

Still, by most any standard, this will prove to be a winter that falls far short of that dubious reputation. Numerous daily high temperature records have been broken in many parts of the state. Much of Minnesota has for weeks been barren of snow, or nearly so. The unseasonably warm temperatures—combined with precipitation that at times has come in the form of rain, not snow—have created uncertain ice conditions on many Minnesota lakes. Contributing to this likelihood, the hours of sunlight are increasing noticeably, and with every day’s passage the angle of the sun’s rays becomes less acute. Now, warm air brought by

the jet stream, plus more direct radiant energy, will together drive a predictable warm-up and exit from winter.

Traditional winter recreations have surely suffered, including ice fishing, snowmobiling, and skiing. It’s been a record year for modified or cancelled winter events, from ice fishing tournaments, to ski races, to pond hockey tournaments, as well as ice-and-snow-dependent community winter festivals.

I am by temperament inclined toward old sayings—aphorisms, they’re called—and an apt one for the character of this winter is the observation that “It’s an ill wind that blows no good.” Meaning, what might be bad for some, may be good for others.

The unseasonable weather has been a boon for some wildlife. Most obvious is the whitetail deer. Last winter was brutal for them. There was as much as a foot and a half of snow on the ground in many places by Christmas. The temperature pattern last winter was significantly colder, too. The combination of deep snow and cold that lingers deep into spring is a prescription for not only direct deer mortality, but also weakened does that fail to bear healthy fawns, as well as enhanced predator pressure. After two difficult winters in a row, Minnesota’s whitetails have been dealt a winning hand this winter.

One of the creatures that actually benefits from a snow-rich Minnesota winter is the ruffed grouse, the most popular upland game bird over the Central and Northern regions of the state. When snow is soft and deep, grouse burrow into

and roost within the snow cover. This white blanket insulates them from the coldest temperature extremes, and they leave this hideaway usually only at morning and evening to feed on buds, catkins, and what may remain of wild fruits or berries.

Just as important as moderating those extreme temperatures, the snow hides grouse from most predators; especially avian predators like owls and goshawks. This has not been that kind of winter, leaving ruffed grouse more exposed to the elements, both climatic and predatory. If there is a bright side, it may be that the widespread scant snow cover and warmer temperatures find other predatory targets—like mice, squirrels, rabbits, and other bird species—more active, visible, and available as a buffer to predation pressure on grouse. Hopefully.

This has also been a great winter for survival of wild turkeys and ring-necked pheasants. Unlike ruffed grouse—which in winter can be found “budding” in the tops of aspen trees, and feeding on buds, twigs, and catkins of hazel, birch, and ironwood—wild turkeys and pheasants are primarily ground feeders, and do best when snow depths are minimal. Both feed on waste grain, as well as available wild foods. But turkeys have proven to be especially hardy and adaptable as their population has spread northward in Minnesota. Wildlife photographer Bill Marchel has even found them taking a page from the ruffed grouse playbook, feeding on buds in aspen trees.

A winter like this one can “pull a fast one” on a

creature whose appearance changes radically to adapt to winter. The snowshoe hare, larger relative of the cottontail rabbit, transitions to a white winter coat to better conceal itself from such predators as the eastern gray wolf, lynx, fox, coyote, owls, and goshawks. But with this winter’s sparse to nonexistent snow cover, a seasonal adaptation that is normally an asset can become a potentially dangerous liability.

While the mild winter weather has hampered many ice anglers, one silver lining is the probability of seeing little or no winter kill of fish on the state’s 10,000-plus lakes. Without deep snow and a thick layer of ice, aquatic plants can produce oxygen even in winter. The late ice-up in many areas, and the almost certain prospect of an early ice-out, mean that few if any of our waters are likely to become oxygen-depleted and a cause of fish mortality.

One not-so-welcome effect of the mild winter is the reported premature reemergence of ticks. Most ominous, the reemergence of deer ticks, which are the primary carriers of Lyme’s disease, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, anaplasmosis, and other similarly unpleasant and dangerous tick-borne illnesses.

Maple sap has begun flowing earlier than normal, too. As reported this week by Outdoor News Editor Rob Drieslein, one maple syrup processor in the Mille Lacs Lake area began tapping trees at the end of January, which for him was roughly three weeks earlier than any previous season.

All in all, a topsy-turvy winter that no one was quite expecting.

Olander beats buzzer for win

Izzy Olander made a three point shot in the final seconds to give the Staples-Motley girls basketball team a 64-62 win over Lake Park-Audubon on Feb. 16.

The Cardinals also lost 43-38 against Osakis on Feb. 13.

Against Osakis, the Cardinals played great defense in the first half, leading to a 24-16 lead, but Osakis scored the first 15 points of the second half when they got hot from the outside.

Schultz leads Cardinal scorers

Alex Schultz scored 21 points in a 86-57 loss against Park Rapids on Feb. 12 and 19 in a 55-50 win against Lake Park-Audubon on Feb. 16. The Staples-Motley boys basketball team also lost 72-45 against Detroit Lakes on Feb. 13.

Against Lake Park-Audubon, the Cardinals were behind 28-24 at halftime. Schultz broke the team out in the second half by scoring three straight 3-point shots. That opened the rim for the Cardinals, with

Avandre Brandt, Noah Larson and Noah Rutten following up with long shots.

Team results
Staples-Motley 57, Park Rapids 86
Scoring: Alex Schultz 21, Noah Larson 10, Grant Bestland 8, Eli Rutten 6, Avandre Brandt 6, Conner Kuhns 3, Logan Robben 3
Staples-Motley 60, Lake Park-Audubon 55
Scoring: Schultz 19, Rutten 13, Kuhns 11, Larson 8, Brandt 5, Bestland 2, Robben 2



Sixth grade basketball

Staples-Motley sixth grade boys basketball teams played in scrimmages during halftime of the boys basketball game on Feb. 5. (Staples world photos by Mark Anderson)



Be Safe

Stay clear of downed power lines

NEVER TOUCH A DOWNED POWER LINE.

Always assume it is energized and call 911 immediately.

POWERFUL STORMS can damage power lines. If you see a downed power line:

- Stay at least 50 feet away from it and assume it is energized. The ground may also be energized making the entire area extremely dangerous.
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- If a power line falls on your vehicle while you are in it, stay inside your vehicle until help arrives.

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Staples-Motley High School honor roll

Staples-Motley High School recently announced the First Semester honor roll.

A Honor Roll Grade 12

Keller Anderson, Isabel Birkholtz, Alex Black, Brooke Hansen, Emali Jimenez-Kloeckl, Dalma Kovacs, Emery Lorber, Isabella Olander, Francesco Piovesan, Lauren Rutten, Steffany Sullivan, Cole Tetlie, Ashlyn Vogel, Gabriel Ritter, Kyra Stangle, Gabrielle Case, Nil Cordoba, Kenzie Erickson, Elliana Moulton, Richard Page, Sabina Moe, Logan Zimmerman, Carson Trantina, Eli Smith, Gaberial Koval, Oden Trif, Shantell Bennett, Addisyn Cichos, Caden Dobson, Margherita Cesetti, AJ Nienow, Andrew Salcido.

Grade 11

Sawyer Ferdon, Laken Hines, Paula Rauwerda, Miranda Schotzko, Jade Storry, Heidi Zimmerman, Corinne Olson, Tamara Streli, Orianza Apuzzo, Steven Petrich, Lilly Tyrrel, Martina Lopez Matarredona, Benet Robinson, Ellen Lange, Jack Carlson, Skyler Self, Axel Mertens, Brianna Mitchell, Jamie Weinandt, Jessica Lundquist, Massimo Pili, Peyton Mithun, Logan Robben, Dylan Lawrence, Brooklynn Huwe.

Grade 10

Sadye Anderson, Summer Anderson, Brynn Bestland, Abby Brichacek, Audrey Brownell, Isabel Cole, Ana Garcia Millan, Riley Reese, Annie

Schlosser, Pamela Lawrence, Eli Rutten, Cecily Moe, Colbe Tappe, Livia Trif, Raina Mikhaeil, Elijah Greenwaldt, Geoffrey Decamp, Skye Larson, Alexis Opelia, Emmalee Dobson, Avery Japke, Owen Carlson, Isabelle Dobson, Gabriel Kroll, Charlotte Wunderlich, Turner Beachy, Cedrik Mills, Jameson Harvey, Carson Mertens.

Grade 9

Mabel Haehnel, Mad-dock Harvey, Bella Hines, Thomas Johnson, Ronnie Noska, Justin Olson, Madison Perius, Mia Pesta, Kate-lyn Schotzko, Evan Schultz, Chloe Trantina, Tyson Turner, Allison Dukowitz, Carter Sarbaum, Corben Berg, Hannah Cole, Jacob Hansen, Maria Halvorson, Paige Warren, Isabelle Becker, Brooke Bendson, Kylie Wilson, Reece Headley, Jocelyn Lenk, Joseph Opelia, Madelyn Kist, Daniel Zimmerman, Emersen Bettis, Marie Casillas, Caden Kramer.

B Honor Roll

Grade 12

Christian Bachmann, Bailey Weiland, Reuben Mathison, Eli Carlson, Devon Fishman, Brayden Salcido, Camden Anderson, Madalynn Beto, Cory Watland, Anna Brown, Zachary McIlravy, Kyanna Burton, Kaitlyn Maitland, Brendan Macheel, Olivia Vogt, Amy Rollins, Genevieve Groetsch, Kaitlin Schaefer, Aiden Stevens.

Grade 11

Benjamin Tyrrell, Logan Samborski, Olivia Lorber,

Kierra Zivkovic, Katterra Barnhart, Dustin Converse, Trentan Zetah, Alexander Schultz, Grant Bestland, Gavin Chenoweth, Tucker Braith, Violet Dahlvang, Kendra Shoup, Henrique Dos Santos, Hayden Rutherford, Olivia Opheim, Israel Ritter, Kristofer Taylor, Marissa Heifort, Dillan Robben, Anika Mollner, Alexander Helstrom, Drake Dukowitz, Shannafaye Arthur, Jacob Becker, Naila Mikhaeil, Ivan Lozano, Blaine Plattner, Zackery Hruza, Sophie Albie, Elizabeth Larimer, Audrey Zimmerman, Tristen Drevlow, Jackson Braith, Jaden Radermacher, Ryan Gosch.

Grade 10

Alexander Harren, Ava Birkholtz, Noah Larson, Luke Bjerga, Huntington Kleinschmidt, Conner Kuhns, Josie Jennissen, Mason Albertson, Avandre Brandt, Parker Hammer, Addison Fonteyn, Alexander Holmberg, Skylar Tepley, Reid Judd, Andrew Paklonsky, Elliot Allen, Peyton Jares, Natalie Miller, Kiya Pope, Mason Michael, Katriane Beach, Ashton Anderson, Wyatt Lahr.

Grade 9

Zanna Graves, Lilly Davis, Suhaila Mikhaeil, Gavin Stevens, Joshua Cushing, Loudon Krotzer, Kyleena Rudlang, Jonathan Faulkner, Samuel Olsen, Bali Minoletti, Charles Simkins III, Gracie Wolpert, Landon Thotland-Quenzer, Hailey Richardt, Chase Blue, Tyler Pruitt, Leighton Bettis, Josiah Burton, Atlas Mills, Jasmine Isley.

SPARKS event a success



Staples-Motley SPARKS board/leaders

Leaders of the Staples-Motley SPARKS mentorship program posed for a photo following their recent 'Dinner in the Woods' event at Central Lakes College in Staples. From left: Board members Rynell Schock (Board Chair), Laurie Paskewitz, Gail Honek, Kim Prestridge, Erich Hep- pner and Rosie Blessing; and Program

Coordinator Julie Mertens. Mertens, who will be leaving the position June 1, was honored with the 'All For the Kids' award for her years of leadership, which featured a pottery art piece made by Lowell Bayer- kohler of Staples. Missing from the photo was board member Blake Gerard. (Sta- ples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Enjoying food and fellowship

Approximately 90 people enjoyed the 'Dinner in the Woods' event at Central Lakes College in Staples Feb. 10. Hosted by Staples-Motley SPARKS, the event was 'a night to celebrate mentors and students in schools.' Pictured above, a table of mentors (including Staples residents Don-

na Selvey, far left, and Anne Converse, far right) enjoy a meal catered by the Clarissa Ballroom. Seven new mentors were garnered at the event, with others expressing interest in the program. For more information on becoming a SPARKS mentor, email sparksmentoring@gmail.com.

Motley-Staples Middle School honor roll

Motley-Staples Middle School recently announced the First Semester honor roll.

A Honor Roll Grade 8

Gage Bjerga, Andrew Black, Natalie Brant, Beau Carlson, Bryson Dump- prope, Jada Ellingsen, Kain Erickson, Leah Greenwaldt, Ryan Heifort, Molly Hoem- berg, Sarah Kroll, Lyndon Laney, Chloe Larson, Jaxon Macheel, Clara Maros, Jadalynn McKenna, Keira Mevissen, Maci Mithun, Josiah Mumm, Ally Pesola, Addison Potter, Kana Reese, Lydia Roelofs, Alyce Scheler, Anika Tureson, Brooklyn Winter, Kalee Winter.

Grade 7

Garrett Bjerga, Eli Bounds, Millinda DeWald, Elaina Elfstrum, Brock Graton, Lexa Graves, Pres- ton Hangge, Aleea Holst, Liam Jennissen, Kennedy Judd, Caleb Kopp, Aubrey Lang, Levi Larsen, Alex Leach, Roxy Mertens, Jack- son Odden, Kaylee Perius, Taylee Reese, Owen Roline, Nadia Santos, John Schot-

zko, Cooper Tappe, Eva Weber.

Grade 6

Caleb Bestland, Emma Borash, Lily Brichacek, Naudia Djuren, Maggie Grunewald, Piper Hanson, Meredith Hoemberg, Aubree Hove, Ryan Macheel, Lucille Maros, Berke- ley Nelson, Nora Nelson, Payton Nelson, Chadia Schultz, Elise Trif, Jocelyn Vogt.

Grade 5

Malakai Bestland, Pais- lee Boozell, Ashlynn Born- trager, Brooke Georges, Harrison Grunewald, D'Kota Herold, Katherine Hoppe, Ryleigh Johnson, Mia Kriesel, Elizabeth Kroll, Rylan Kuhns, Porter Lehner, Timothy Lind, Mat- thew Michel, Jr., Isaac Nor- ring, Alexis Odden, William Rassler, Parker Sharpe, Camrik Tappe, Makenna Warner, Anna Zolotoryova.

B Honor Roll

Grade 8

Jayci Borash, Adalyne Brenny, Connor Buss, Jesus Gallardo, Gauge Holst,

Jasmyne Hove, Carter Kist, Karter Lynch, River Munger, Brooke Reisenauer, Scarlett Stracek, Vance Vejtasa.

Grade 7

Chloe Badger, Logan Bendson, Jessica Dukowitz, Hannah Holker, Ella Judd, Cameron Martin, Rylee Mevissen, Abby Miller, Sawyer Storry, Ryder Thompson, Henry Zimmer- man.

Grade 6

Tenley Bartylla, Easton Bitzer, Odin Davis, Layla Dumpprope, Katelyn Erick- son, Addyson Holst, Addi- son Macheel, Levi Mumm, Nathan Nelson, Kade Potter, Leiten Rychner, Aubrey Vogle, Madisyn Zetah.

Grade 5

Evan Alexander, Kallie- mae Corey, Kaitlynn Dahl- vang, Tyler Daly, Castiel DeWald, Joseph Faulkner, Talia Graves, Nathan Huwe, Logan Jares, Taylin Lind, Charlie Maros, Levi Mitch- ell, Lylianne Nurnberger, Wyatt Patterson, Taija Shequen, Terriann Warner.



Lincoln Area Business Assoc. donates

The Lincoln Area Business Association (LABA) recently made donations to area organizations. Above: Lakes Area Pregnancy Support (LAPS) Executive Director Dan Nichols (right) and PJ Bolstridge, Staples LAPS Center Director, accepts a \$2,000 dona- tion from LABA, sponsoring the annual LAPS fundraising banquet at Timbers Event Center in Staples April 12. (Submitted photo)

“Who’s on First?”

Brothers Lee and Gary Paskewitz performed the Abbott and Costello com- edy classic, “Who’s on First?” at the recent Staples-Motley SPARKS ‘Dinner in the Woods’ event at Central Lakes College in Staples. The event also included a silent

auction, a catered meal, music by pianist Geoffrey DeCamp, games, and the op- portunity to hear about the Staples-Motley SPARKS mentorship program and oppor- tunities to volunteer.



Frosty's ribbon cutting

The Staples Chamber of Commerce held several ribbon cuttings for new businesses in 2023. Pictured above, at Frosty's, the bar/entertainment club at the

Batcher Building in Staples, from left, Josi Longbottom, Kathleen Ferrel, Colleen Frost, Adam Frost, Jamie D'Ambrogio and Chris Bremmer. (Submitted photo)



Monte Azul Mexican Bar and Grill ribbon cutting

The Staples Chamber of Commerce welcomed Monte Azul restaurant with a ribbon cutting. Front row from left, Connie Fingelson, Santos Amaya, owners Sandy and Ricardo Lopez and William Rodriguez; back row,

Josi Longbottom, Jaamie D'Ambrogio, John Jewison, Jordan Goodwater, Kathleen Ferrel and Melissa Wyman. The restaurant is on 2nd Ave. NE in Staples. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



M Craftique ribbon cutting

Staples Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting at M Craftique in Staples, from left, Josi Longbottom, Kathleen Ferrel, Marlo Corona, Jamie D'Ambrogio, Jordan

Goodwater. M Craftique is on Highway 10 in Staples, and can be found on facebook at Marlo's Crafts & Treats or email at shop@mcraftique.com.

Todd County septic replacement

Submitted by Todd County Planning and Zoning

Todd County Planning and Zoning has applied for funds through the Clean Water Partnership for septic system replacements as a continuation of the existing program.

The Clean Water Partnership provides loans to Local Governments to in turn provide low interest loans to local land owners for non-point source pollution reductions measures. If funded, these loans will be available to eligible land owners for replacement of noncompliant, failing, or outdated septic systems. Loans will be issued on a first come, first serve basis to land owners that meet the criteria of the program. Eligibility is very simple, the land owner's property must have value of 3 times the cost of the septic system and the land owner's property taxes must be paid up to date. In addition, there will be a \$100 application fee. At the time of application, land owners must have a septic design and a bid for that system.

The major difference between the new funding as compared to the previous cycle is that the interest rate of loans has increased slightly and the term limit has been shortened. Previously, loans were set at 1.5 percent interest paid over 10 years. Now, loans will be paid back at 3 percent inter-

est over 7 years. The loans will continue to be paid back as a special assessment of property taxes, two payments per year with the first and second half.

As Planning and Zoning waits for funding to arrive, they ask land owners to contact their office to express interest in the program. Having a list of potential applicants allows us to gauge the work load for this program. If all funds are exhausted during the loan period, additional funds could be applied for by Planning and Zoning. Having a waiting list of potential applicant provides justification for additional funding.

In addition to low interest loan funds, Todd County has grant funds for eligible land owners. Grant funds are income based and require submittal of tax documents for verification. Todd County aims to cost share approximately 75 percent of the system cost if those that qualify. Cost share payments depend upon the amount of grant funding available and how many land owners apply for funding.

If you have questions about this potential funding program or would like to express your interest, contact Planning and Zoning. They will provide prioritization of funding to those that inquire about the program in advance. You can contact the Planning and Zoning Office at 320-732-4420.

CLC participating in dental day

The Central Lakes College Dental Assisting Program is joining the ranks of dental professionals across the state in providing free care to children whose families cannot afford to pay for the care. Give Kids a Smile Day will be held on Friday, April 19 at CLC's Dental Assisting Lab, 501 W. College Dr., Brainerd. Community members can start scheduling appointments now: 218-855-8254 or clcdental@clcmn.edu.

The Minnesota Dental Association is sponsoring this statewide outreach effort, called Give Kids a Smile, because dentists are committed to providing all children with dental care and helping eliminate barriers to care throughout Minnesota. The CLC Dental Assisting Program has been hosting Give Kids a Smile events for many years in the community as a way to provide free dental care to local children who need it.

"This is a special way to reach children in need of dental care. Left untreated, tooth decay can have devas-

tating effects on young children, affecting their overall health and even their success in school. We are so happy to be able to help," said Katie Thalberg, CLC Dental Assisting Program Director.

Regular dental check-ups are critical to keeping children's teeth and gums healthy, but a major barrier for too many families is the lack of access to affordable dental care.

Clinics across the state will open their doors for this program on various dates. Patients seeking appointments should be age 18 and younger and accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Information on specific services that will be provided will be outlined when an appointment is scheduled.

The Minnesota Dental Association is the voice of dentistry in Minnesota, representing practicing dentists. It is committed to the highest standards of oral health and access to care for all Minnesotans. Learn more at: www.mndental.org

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Visitors guide coming soon

cover Staples has helped bring in snowmobile clubs, motorcycle clubs, corporate

events, weddings, construction crews and car clubs to Staples. "We are trying to attract similar groups and more," she said, including bus tours.

Other tourism projects coming up include a new visitors guide, area brochure, a map for visitors, and a tourism video.

Kroll said the Staples Railroad Days event draws more than 2,000 people to the city so Discover Staples is helping to keep that event strong.

In other news, the council

- Approved election judges for the presidential primary: Mary Brauch, Lisa Fontaine, Cindy Lindaman, Thomas Good, John Jewison, Amanda Denniston, Patrick Doyle, Lori Bates, Paula Johnson, Trisha Larson, Diane Johnson, Kathy Robben, Linda Arndt, Janet Kiley, Dale Williams, Brenda Halvorson, Bonnie Madson and Jessica Stregre
- Accepted donation of \$44,000 from Staples Relief Association and \$500 from Julie and Norman Krause for fire equipment.
- Approved temporary liquor license for Sacred Heart Area School for May 4 event.



Daniel Douts, Agent
812 4th Street NE
Staples, MN 56479
Bus: 218-894-1717
daniel.douts.f27q@statefarm.com

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DEMENTIA
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Dementia Caregiver Support Groups

Staples | Wadena | Long Prairie

For all caregivers, family members, and friends, who are caring for someone with dementia

Locations		
Staples: Faith Lutheran Church, 9-10 am	Feb 27	Jul 23
Wadena: Immanuel Lutheran Church, 11 am-12 pm	Mar 26	Aug 27
Long Prairie: Great River Regional Library, 2-3 pm	Apr 23	Sep 24
	May 28	Oct 22
	Jun 25	Nov 26
		Dec None

Learn more at dcan-mn.org or call (320) 640-6726



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