

Winkels elected new school board chair

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples-Motley School Board held their yearly organizational meeting on Dec. 6.

The board elected Bryan Winkels as the new board chair, replacing Bruce Lund. The board usually changes the chair each year.

Brad Anderson was voted to be vice chair; Greg Frisk the clerk and Chad Longbella the treasurer.

The board kept most of the committee assignments the same as last year.

Superintendent Shane Tappe said the facility committee will be a part of a possible building referendum, and will also be responsible for overseeing other building issues and maintenance projects. Mary Freeman and Greg Frisk were approved to be on the building committee.

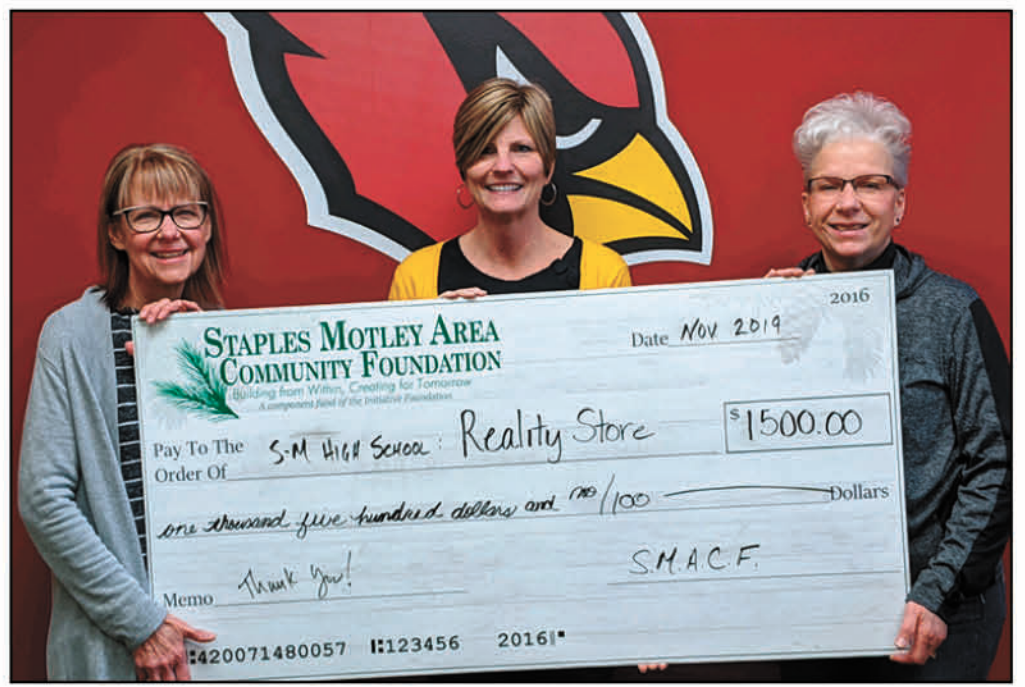
The board kept the school board salaries the same, currently \$3,377 per year.

The board confirmed other yearly appointments: school attorneys Pemberton Law of Fergus Falls, and also Kennedy and

Graven; Staples World as the official newspaper.

The board affirmed their current schedule of starting board meetings at 6 p.m. at the District Office board room.

Regular meetings are scheduled for the second to last Monday of each month, except for January, February and December, when it will be on Tuesdays. Board work sessions are tentatively scheduled for the first Monday of each month, if the board has a topic to discuss that month.



Staples-Motley Reality Store

The Staples-Motley Community Foundation approved a \$1,500 grant to the Staples-Motley High School Reality Store, represented by Penny Olsen, Julie Polak and Liz Koskiniemi. The Reality Store is a role-playing simulation

for all juniors and seniors to teach them about making financial choices and life choices when they leave school. This year's event will be March 18. (Submitted photo)

Community foundation passes \$250,000 mark for local grants

The Staples Motley Area Community Foundation concluded their fall grant cycle this November. In 2019, SMACF awarded 14 grants to community organizations totaling over \$25,000. Grant recipients included the City of Motley for their new city pavillion, Staples Motley Beyond Poverty for community clean-up, and Kinship Partners for the expansion of the Lunch Buddy program at the school.

"The foundation is an incredible resource for our region," said SMACF Board Treasurer, Nick Trout. "Since 1999 we have awarded over \$250,000 in grants to local organizations."

A notable program that received a grant is the Back to School Fair organized by Faith Lutheran Church. The fair provides backpacks full of school

supplies to children in the area prior to the start of the school year.

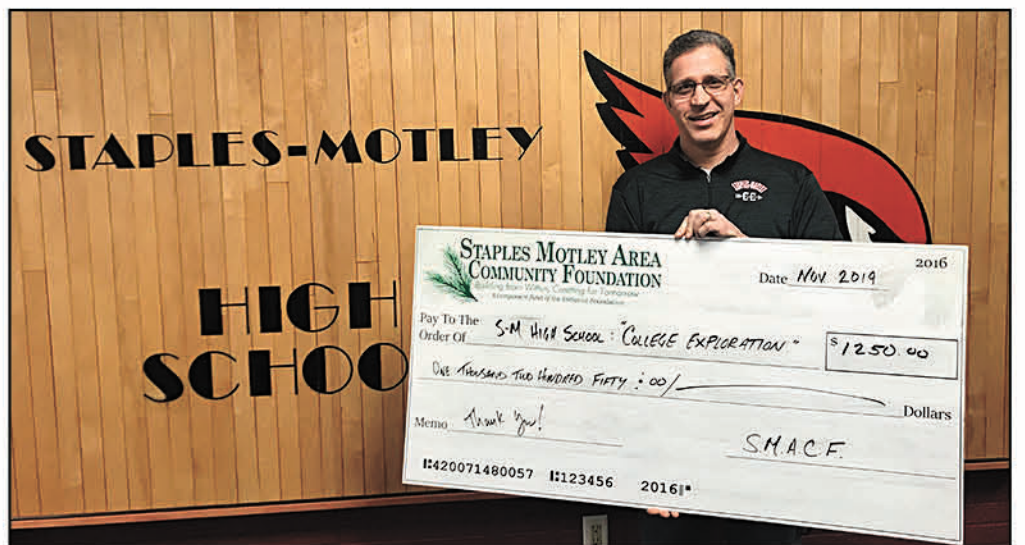
"The Back to School Fair committee is grateful for the support and the resulting impact of the Staples Motley Area Community Foundation," said Jeanie Hayek, an organizer of the Back to School Fair. "With the help of the grant, we were able to make a huge difference in the lives of 90 area children and families that were served in August 2019."

"We want to drive real community growth," said SMACF Board Chair Katie Heppner. "Maybe you're part of a local group that always talked about hosting a community event, but hasn't because of the expense. Or you want to start a community support program, but need funding to get it off the ground. That's what we are here

for. We want to help make those dreams a reality in our area."

Looking ahead to 2020, the SMACF board is excited to continue awarding grants and seeing the local impact. The board is also adjusting their grant cycle process to encourage new applicants. Government, education, and non-profit organizations can submit grant applications at anytime, with grant reviews and awards happening twice a year. All current grants will be reviewed April 15th, and again on October 15th.

You can find more information about the Staples Motley Area Community Foundation on their website at www.staplesmotley-foundation.org. If you have questions or would like to get involved, please contact them at smacf@ifound.org.



Staples-Motley college explore event

Staples-Motley High School Counselor Steve Jennissen shows the donation from the Staples Motley Area

Community Foundation for college exploration events, part of the

Single rental home destroyed by fire

A fire destroyed a rental house Jan. 5 located east of Staples in Becker Township, Cass County.

The Staples Fire Department responded to the fire at 6:08 p.m. at the Richard Beach property. The rental was located off the Warner Rd. a couple hundred yards into a wooded area. Another rental unit located approximately 75-100 yards away reported the blaze

and was not threatened. No one was home at the time of the fire and no injuries were reported.

Cause of the fire is unknown and destroyed the 1,000+ square foot structure. According to 1st Assistant Chief Wayne Storry, Staples firefighters remained on the scene until 9:30 p.m. Mutual Aid was provided by the Motley Fire Department.

Todd County Commissioners seek advice on watershed plans

by Karin L. Nauber

The Todd County Commissioners held their regular meeting January 7, 2020, the first topic of discussion being that of the county's watershed plan.

Commissioner Randy Neumann added an item to the agenda seeking fellow commissioners advice on whether or not Todd County should join the One Watershed One Plan (OWOP) or create another agreement with the Sauk River Watershed District (SRWD).

Neumann said he was against the OWOP because it would add another layer of taxation.

He said that the Douglas County Commissioners were not in favor of it either.

Chairman David Kircher said that they needed more information.

Neumann said that if Todd County joined the Long Prairie Watershed District it would be the same thing, they would still have to put money in to fund it.

Kircher asked what the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) would do if the county didn't join the OWOP?

Neumann said he didn't know.

Commissioner Rod Erickson noted that they had a lot of unanswered questions - too many to make a decision.

County Auditor/Treasurer Denise Gaida asked if they could have someone present information to them?

Neumann said he could ask, but it was kind of "agreed" that the presentation could be one-sided.

Todd, Pope, Douglas and Stearns counties are the ones involved in the current SRWD.

Coordinator Chris Pelzer asked if the board would like her to check with the other counties to see what their thoughts were and why.

"This is another layer - another taxing authority," said Neumann.

Commissioner Barb Becker asked if they had an option to not join the OWOP?

Erickson asked, "If we join one, does the other go away?"

No one had an answer to either question.

Kircher said, "It's my understanding that the

See **TCC** on page 10a

Weather

This Week's Forecast

Date	High	Low	Cond.
Jan. 15	11°	-13°	Snow
Jan. 16	0	-3	Sunny
Jan. 17	18	0	Snow
Jan. 18	9	-11	Cloudy
Jan. 19	-2	-18	P. Sunny
Jan. 20	-2	-11	Sunny
Jan. 21	6	-3	M. Sunny

Last Year, 2019

Date	High	Low	Cond.
Jan. 15	28°	22°	Cloudy
Jan. 16	21	10	P. Sunny
Jan. 17	19	12	M. Cloudy
Jan. 18	2	-10	Cloudy
Jan. 19	-16	-22	Sunny
Jan. 20	0	-20	Sunny
Jan. 21	25	10	Snow

Average Temp.:
H = 17° Low = -2°

Snow for Week: 2"

Total Snow: 36"

Compiled by
Date Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

City of Staples
Summary Budget:
7A

Obituary

Rita VonFeldt



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Thank you for subscribing!

JCI Staples attends JCI MN Annual All State Convention

Several members of JCI Staples recently attended the JCI MN Annual All State Convention at Hilton Minneapolis Bloomington to celebrate successes of 2019.

Members in attendance were JCI Staples 2019 Chapter President Samantha Krause, JCI Staples 2019 Chapter Secretary and Individual Development Vice President Paige Lenk and JCI Staples general members Ashley Hanson and Cassandra Schulke.

JCI Staples took seventh Place in the Parade of Chapters and also took home several awards. For their Local Personal Skill Development Project

"Friendsgiving," in which they gathered in November along with special guests Sally and John Gorton and discussed the original Staples Jaycees and things they had done for the City of Staples, they received Gold Single Project Entry.

They also submitted a Local Community Empowerment Project, "Breakfast with the Elves," for which they received another Gold Single Project Entry. This project included assisting with an event held at the Staples Community Center at which they cooked and served breakfast items to various members of the community.

Members in atten-

dance also received various awards. Cassandra Schulke was recognized for her participation in the First Timers Program, for members of the organization whom are attending their first convention. Ashley Hanson was awarded the 2019 Annual All State Gold Outstanding New Jaycee. Hanson was also the Onto Write Up Competition winner and will now advance to JCI USA Annual Convention where she will compete in the Write Up Competition representing JCI MN.

Paige Lenk received Silver Outstanding Jaycee

See **JCI** on page 3a



At the JCI state convention

Some members of JCI Staples attended the JCI MN Annual All State Convention Jan. 10 - 12 in Bloomington. Pictured, from left, are Paige Lenk, Ashley Hanson, Cassandra Schulke and Samantha Krause. (Submitted photo)

Funds available to promote economic development in Motley

North Central Economic Development Association (NCEDA) has \$177,901.89 in funds to lend to businesses to promote economic activity in the region. These funds are designated for current business owners to grow or expand their business and are designated for

use in Motley.

Interested parties should contact Stephanie Barney at 218-894-3233 Ext. 6, or via email at sbarney@regionfive.org. To learn more, visit: <https://www.northcentraleda.org/motley-ldo>.

Law enforcement reports

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

Jan. 8 - The MPD issued citations to Tamara Cole, 51, for driving with a revoked license, and no proof of insurance.

Jan. 7 - The MPD arrested Rebecca Sather, 35, per her probation officer, for refusing to provide a Preliminary Breath Test (PBT) sample. According to the report, the subject then assaulted her husband in the MPD's presence and was subsequently charged with domestic assault.

Jan. 7 - The MPD issued a citation to Rebecca Plautz, 23, for failure to yield.

Jan. 6 - The MPD was advised by employees at Orton's in Motley that a male subject had been making prank calls to their store and harassing employees with sexual comments. The MPD obtained the phone number of the subject and

called him. The subject apologized and stated that he was drunk at the time, was trying to order a pizza and didn't think he had said anything inappropriate. He stated he would no longer call there.

Jan. 2 - 8 - The MPD issued speeding citations to Travis Bare, 25; Barry Labine, 54.

Jan. 5 - The MCSO paged out the Motley Fire Department to assist the Staples Fire Department for a house fire in Cass County, at the 11000 block of Cty Rd. 32 SW in Motley.

Pillager High School students recognized by MSHSL



Sadie Hopman



Paul Freelove



Eric Peterson



Sam Bennett

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

Sadie Hopman and Paul Freelove are juniors at Pillager High School who were nominated for the ExCEL Award. Sponsored by the Minnesota State High School League,

ExCEL is a recognition program designed for Minnesota high school juniors. Students who are active in fine arts and/or athletics, who show leadership qualities and who are model citizens in their community are eligible for the award.

Hopman, the daughter of Shawn and Amy Hopman, participates in Volleyball, Basketball, Band, Track, NHS, Student Council, and HS Musical.

Freelove, the son of Rob and Anne Freelove, participates in Band, Track, Foot-

ball, Choir, NHS, Jazz Band, Chamber Choir, All-State Choir, One Act, Speech, and HS Musical

Sam Bennett and Erik Peterson are seniors at Pillager High School who were nominated for the AAA Award. Sponsored by the Minnesota State High School League, AAA is a recognition program designed for Minnesota high school seniors. Students who are active in fine arts, athletics, who show leadership qualities, who are model citizens in their

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

Bennett, the daughter of Greg and Becky Bennett, participates in Cross Country, Softball, Choir, NHS, Student Council, and HS Musical.

Peterson, the son Paul and Nancy Peterson, participates in Band, Football, Basketball, Baseball, NHS, Student Council, Choir, Chamber Choir, and HS Musical.

Motley June Fest meeting

The Motley June Fest Committee will meet on Monday, Jan. 20, at 7 p.m., at the Motley City Hall.

Anyone wishing to help with this festival is invited to attend. This year's Motley June Fest will be held on June 20.

Veteran's News

David A Anderson
Wadena County Veteran
Service Officer

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Board of Veterans' Appeals surpassed last year's record-high output for decisions.

The Board officially dispatched 95,089 decisions for veterans and their families in fiscal year (FY) 2019, the largest number of decisions in the Board's history that is 5,000 more decisions than the goal and 11 percent more than the Board's decision output in FY 2018, the previous record high.

"It was also a historic year for hearings held," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "The Board held a record 22,743 hearings in FY 2019, a 38 increase compared to the number of hearings held in FY 2018."

This was in addition to implementing Appeals Modernization, undergoing a reorganization with addition of new leaders across the organization, taking over all hearing scheduling and testing virtual tele-hearings.

The Board's success is a result of strong collaboration and customer experience across the department with the Secretary, Deputy Secretary and Chief of Staff leading the way along with VA's administrations, offices and programs areas. (Source VA news release October 9, 2019)

See your local County Veterans Service Officer if you have any questions. You can contact your local VSO at 218-631-7617 or by email at david.anderson@co.wadena.mn.us.



Construction continues at Orton's BP in Motley

The extensive remodeling project at Orton's BP convenience store in Motley is still underway. Pictured above on Jan. 7, Eric Wensmann of Heltemes Electric in Wadena, does electric work on the outside of the building. Abe Forseman (not pictured), with 3D Construction and Insulation in LaPorte, was there that day as well, working on the insulation for the new addition,

located between Orton's existing store structure and the car wash. Other changes include transitioning from the BP brand to a Holiday Station store. The site will continue to be owned and operated by Orton Oil Company. Completion of the project is expected to be a few months down the road. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

WELCOMING HOME TO MOTLEY...



Jean
Beautiful son of Misty & Ian
Born 11/7/19 in Staples.

TO STAPLES...



Genevieve
Beautiful daughter of Stacy & Ben
Born 11/19/19 in Staples.



Himalaya
Beautiful daughter of Kripa & Bryan
Born 11/19/19 in Staples.



Hudson
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Born 11/27/19 in Staples.

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DEADLINES
for all classified ads is **12 noon Friday** to be published in the Staples World.
For publication in Saturday's Staples Square Shooter the deadline is **5 p.m. Wed.**

Looking back

75 YEARS Ago - 1945

Jan. 18, 1945 - Raymond Thomson, six-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Thomson of the Poplar district, was the victim of a terrible accident which occurred at the Thomson farm just at noon Tuesday. Raymond was with his father on a load of hay. He jumped down from the rear end of the hay rack, holding a short handled pitch fork in his hand. As he did so, he jumped on one of the tines of the fork, which penetrated his abdomen and came out through his back.

Compiled by Dawn Timbs

Mr. Thomson pulled the pitch fork out of the little fellow and rushed him to the Staples Municipal hospital, where an emergency operation was performed. It was found that his abdomen had been punctured and the bowel was also perforated. These two were sewed by the attending physician, and at the present time he is resting easily and getting along as well as can be expected, although he still remains in a very critical condition.

Jan. 18, 1945 - One of the most noted improvements at the Staples Municipal hospital in the past two weeks has been the laying of a new floor covering throughout the entire hospital with the exception of the corridors. In four days, four men, working almost a 24-hour shift, laid a new covering in 20 rooms, including wards, private rooms, clothes closets, bathrooms, utility rooms, the office, and doctors' room.

50 YEARS Ago - 1970
Jan. 15, 1970 - Dr. T. J. Lelwica and Dr. William Mennis announced today that effective Jan. 1, Dr. John Muus and Dr. James Thompson have signed contracts to become full time partners in the Lakewood Clinic.

Drs. Muus and Thompson came to Staples last August 1, following their tour of duty with the Public Health Service in North Dakota, and were employees of the medical facility. With the signing of the contracts, it means that Dr. Thompson and Dr. Muus will continue their medical practice in this city, along with Dr. Lelwica and Dr. Mennis, thus assuring area residents of four physicians and surgeons, all under the age of 35.

Jan. 15, 1970 - A young Philbrook family was left homeless and lost all their possessions as fire swept through and completely destroyed their mobile home early Wednesday afternoon, Jan. 7.

The family was Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Brown and their three children, Jody, age 6; Rock Allen, age 5; and Tami, age 3-1/2.

Jan. 15, 1970 - Raymond Pelkey of Staples was among the first place winners in the snowmobile races held at Donneybrook in Brainerd last weekend. Pelkey took top honors in the 2-1/2 hour endurance race in the 0-295 class stock. He was driving a Moto Ski. Pelkey won many trophies in races last season

JCI continued from page 1a

JCI looks to provide development opportunities

and was also awarded a Bronze Key for her work as the Competitions Program Manager in 2019 for JCI MN.

To be a part of a Jaycees Event or become a member of the organization, contact 2020 JCI Staples Chapter President Paige Lenk at 218-414-0912. JCI Staples is an organization of active citizens ages 18 to 40 who are engaged and committed to creating an impact in their communities. The Jaycees provide development opportunities that empower people to create positive change.



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our Jan. 15, 1970 edition. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photo? Email your answers and where you are from

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

and reported that in the coming weeks, he will be participating in the big race in Wisconsin and also at one in Winnipeg.

25 YEARS Ago - 1995

Jan. 19, 1995 - With the exception of one or two incidents, Staples Police and Todd County sheriff's departments reported things were quiet in the past week.

One exception was a bomb scare telephoned in Friday afternoon to the Staples campus of the Brainerd Staples Technical College. The person, who called in at approximately 1:30 p.m. indicated a bomb was about to go off in the building. School authorities alerted police and ordered the building evacuated.

Police Chief Kyle Huber reported police and technical college custodial workers were involved in a search of the building, but found nothing. Meanwhile classes were canceled for the remainder of the day at the school. Huber said Monday the bomb scare is still being investigated.

Jan. 19, 1995 - Nicole Bloomquist, a fifth grader in Mary Sperley's classroom at Staples Elementary, was the champion of the school's National Geography Bee last week. She was the winner from a group of nine finalists. Cole Brenny took second place.

The nine finalists also included Reid Trisk, Sarah Miller, Kristina Fitcher, Gabriel Anderson, Peter Swenson, Adam Greig, and Jenewa Dukowitz.

"I'd just like to say that I think all nine of these students are champions," Principal Steve Stansberry said.

Jan. 19, 1995 - Prior to the beginning of the Motley City Council's reg-

ular meeting in January, City Clerk Pat Crawford presided over the swearing in of the city officers who were elected in the November general election.

Sworn in were Mayor Bill Postel and council member Dale Holmberg, both of whom were re-elected and took the oath of office for new terms. Also sworn in was Larry Olson, who is new to the council. He works as a teachers aid at the Motley Staples Middle School and part time at Herberger's in Brainerd.

This is Postel's ninth two-year term as mayor. "This will be my 17th year," Postel told the Staples World before the meeting.

Holmberg has been on the City Council for just over a year. He was appointed Oct. 1, 1993, after council member Ken Koltes resigned.

10 YEARS Ago - 2010

Jan. 21, 2010 - Staples City Council members got a preview of the new city council chambers Tuesday night at the Jan. 12 council meeting. They had carried the flags, their name plates and other items from the old council chambers to the new after adjourning a regular council session.

The new council chambers are in the center of the new city hall, separating the city offices from the city library space. The council includes Mayor Chris Etzler; and council members JoEllen Einerwold, Stan Carlson, Roy Miles, Joel Quance, Don Flaten and Rob Schmiege.

Jan. 21, 2010 - Vandalism to the Staples Northern Pacific depot building was discovered by Staples Police about 9 p.m. Saturday evening. Several items inside the depot lobby were damaged. One of four newly restored windows and its new storm window were broken when someone threw a potted plant through the glass. Several potted plants were tossed around the lobby area including the one through one of the renovated windows. A magazine rack and wall clock in the lobby were both damaged. A lock on a south door leading upstairs was broken and the vandals went both upstairs and down to the basement. The Staples Historical Society is offering a \$500 reward for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for this act.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the Jan. 1, 1970 edition of the Staples World featured Floyd Lund of rural Staples pictured with a large Northern he landed while fishing the waters of the Third Crow Wing on Sunday, Dec. 21. Lund speared the Northern about 9 a.m. that day. It tipped the scales at 21 pounds and 6 ounces.

Gary Schimpp of rural Staples recognized Lund, whom he described as his "friend and neighbor." He noted that Lund lived near the Leaf River which he often fished, just south of the Thomastown Covenant Church. Schimpp recalled that Lund once told him the story of a 37-pound walleye he speared near there. Thanks for participating in our mystery photo.

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) open enrollment period

The United States Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency has opened a general and continuous CRP sign up period. The enrollment period for general CRP practices began on December 9, 2019 and will remain open until February 28, 2020.

CRP is a conservation

program that is administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA). Land owners who are accepted into the program receive an annual rental payment in exchange for enrolling their land into a conservation planting. Landowners may also receive cost share dollars and other sign up incentives for installing

the conservation plantings. There are opportunities to enroll tree plantings, prairie plantings, pollinator plantings, food plots and many more practices through CRP. CRP contracts are based on a 10-15 year contract period.

Currently there are 22 million acres enrolled into CRP Nationwide. The 2018

Staples Police report

On Dec. 27, Staples Police assisted Motley Police with an out of control subject who had left a group home. The subject was transported to Lakewood ER by ambulance for an evaluation.

On Dec. 29, Staples Police responded to a noise complaint. Police spoke with a subject who was upset about their vehicle being plowed in, and had been yelling at a plow truck operator. All parties were advised on the incident.

On Dec. 30, Staples Police assisted the Todd County Sheriff's Office with a one vehicle rollover on County Rd 7. Police assisted with rolling the vehicle upright so the driver could get out of the vehicle. The driver was transported to Lakewood Hospital by ambulance.

On Dec. 30, Staples Police assisted Wadena County Sheriff's Office with a domestic. Craig Wicht, 55, was arrested after investigation.

On Dec. 30, Staples Police received a request to return a phone call to a party regarding a vehicle. Police spoke with the reporting party who was inquiring if the police had towed a vehicle from private property on the 200 block of 4th Street NE. Police spoke with the local towing company, the party who plows the parking lot in this area, and also the businesses in the area, and learned that the vehicle had not been towed due to a complaint. Police advised the reporting party to have the registered owner check to see if the vehicle had been repossessed, and if not, to report it as a stolen vehicle.

On Dec. 31, Staples Police responded to the 400 block of 3rd Avenue NE for a person sleeping in a vehicle covered by a coat. Police made contact with the subject who advised they had to pull over after working a night shift.

On Jan. 1, Staples Police responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle complaint on the 500 block of Warner Road NE. Police made contact with the vehicle and after investigation, charged the occupant with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of small amount of marijuana, and for underage possession of alcohol. Another juvenile was also charged with being in possession of a vaping device. Another juvenile was found to be in possession of marijuana wax and drug paraphernalia, and charges are pending for this juvenile. Also assisting was the Todd County Sheriff's Department.

On Jan. 1, Staples Police responded to the 500 block of 5th St NE for a report of a suicidal subject. Police made contact with the subject, who was taken to Lakewood Health System for an evaluation.

On Jan. 2, Staples Police assisted the Minnesota State Patrol with a one vehicle roll over just east of US Hwy 10 and Co Rd 83.

On Jan. 4, Staples Police received a report about a dog at large that killed

some chickens in the 300 block of Dakota Ave SE. Police spoke to both the owner of the chickens and the dog, and they agreed to handle the matter. Police issued the owner a verbal warning for dog at large.

On Jan. 5, at 3:30 a.m., Staples Police assisted Becker County in locating a juvenile runaway who was driving eastbound on Highway 10. Police stopped the vehicle just before Motley and made contact with the subject. Police were assisted by the Wadena County Sheriffs Office, who transported the subject back to Wadena to wait for his parents.

On Jan. 5, Staples Police responded to a domestic on the 1400 block of 8th St NE. After investigation, Lavender Hangge, 34, was arrested for domestic assault.

On Jan. 7, Staples Police responded to a report of a disturbance on the 900 block of 5th Street NE. Upon investigation, police learned that a window had been broken at the Ramsey Apartments, on the east side of the building. The incident is under investigation.

On Jan. 8, Staples Police assisted State Patrol at Lakewood ER with an individual who was being evaluated before being transported to jail. Police stood by while the subject was in the hospital, and cleared when state patrol transported him to jail.

On Jan. 8, Staples Police were assisting the Minnesota State Patrol while at the Lakewood emergency room on an unrelated matter. While in the emergency room, police observed a suspect who was found to be in violation of a Domestic Abuse No Contact Order order, as they were observed with the protected party of the order. The suspect, Nicholas Kasten, 20, of Motley, was arrested for the violation of the order, and transported to the Todd County Detention Center. Also assisting was the Todd County Sheriff's Department, who assisted with the transport of the arrested suspect.

On Jan. 10, Staples Police conducted a traffic stop. After investigation, police arrested Levi White, 35, and Kyre Hatcher, 33, for possession of methamphetamine for probation violation.

On Jan. 12, at 1:18 a.m., Staples Police located a juvenile on the 200 block of Dakota Ave. SE. Police learned that the juvenile had left a residence due to an argument with a family member. The juvenile was released into the custody of their mother.

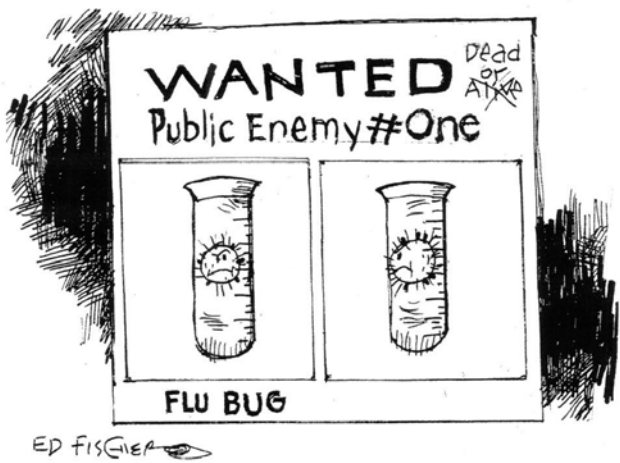
On Jan. 12, at 2:03 a.m., Staples Police responded to a report of a disturbance on the 200 block of Wisconsin Ave. SE. Police spoke with the parties involved, and later transported one of the subjects involved to another residence to stay. The subject was advised not to return to the location of the disturbance. The complainant did not wish to pursue any criminal charges as a result of the incident.

Contact: Russell Kleinschmidt, 320-732-6618 ext. 3

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JAN 24-25
7:30 PM NIGHTLY
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Time of the year for SAD

From the National Institute of Mental Health

Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) is not considered as a separate disorder. It is a type of depression displaying a recurring seasonal pattern. To be diagnosed with SAD, people must meet full criteria for major depression coinciding with specific seasons (appearing in the winter or summer months) for at least two years. Seasonal depressions must be much more frequent than any non-seasonal depressions.

Symptoms of the Winter Pattern of SAD include:

- Having low energy
- Hypersomnia
- Overeating
- Weight gain
- Craving for carbohydrates
- Social withdrawal (feel like "hibernating")

There are four major types of treatment for SAD: Medication, light therapy, psychotherapy and vitamin D.

Younger adults have a higher risk of SAD than older adults. SAD has been reported even in children and teens. SAD is diagnosed four times more often in women than men.

The causes of SAD are

unknown, but research has found some biological clues:

- People with SAD may have trouble regulating one of the key neurotransmitters involved in mood, serotonin. One study found that people with SAD have five percent more serotonin transporter protein in winter months than summer months. Higher serotonin transporter protein leaves less serotonin available at the synapse because the function of the transporter is to recycle neurotransmitter back into the pre-synaptic neuron.
- People with SAD may overproduce the hormone melatonin. Darkness increases production of melatonin, which regulates sleep. As winter days become shorter, melatonin production increases, leaving people with SAD to feel sleepier and more lethargic, often with delayed circadian rhythms.
- People with SAD also may produce less Vitamin D. Vitamin D is believed to play a role in serotonin activity. Vitamin D insufficiency may be associated with clinically significant depression symptoms.

Tips to boost mental health

- Take time to laugh. Hang out with a funny friend, watch a comedy or check out cute videos online. Laughter helps reduce anxiety.

- Go off the grid. Leave your smart phone at home for a day and disconnect from constant emails, alerts and other interruptions. Spend time doing something fun with someone face to face.

- Spend time with a furry friend. Time with animals lowers the stress hormone cortisol and boosts oxytocin, which stimulates feelings of happiness.

ness. If you don't have a pet, hang out with a friend who does or volunteer at a shelter.

- Take 30 minutes to go for a walk in nature. It could be a stroll through a park or a hike in the woods. Research shows that being in nature can increase energy levels, reduce depression and boost well-being.

From the Southern Ohio Medical Center (Suggested by the Staples Motley Beyond Poverty SOS Forum Committee)



Owl's ID may not be elementary

I find the most nerve-racking driving to be during that period of low light in early morning or early evening, the time when it is neither truly dark nor daylight. There is not sufficient natural light, and headlights are less effective. Twilight is one name for it, though we most often associate that term with evening. More inclusive is the scientist's term, crepuscular, for a period that is neither day nor night, a time when darkness is approaching, or is departing.

Inside the Outdoors



Mike Rahn

It's a time when I've had more than a few near-misses with deer on the rural roads I often drive, as well as a couple of actual collisions. Though some think of deer as nocturnal, they are most active in the times of fading light that leads to darkness, and the increasing light that leads to day. One particular stretch of lowland aspen, birch, and alder, offers a high probability of encountering deer at these times, and the ever-present possibility that one will dart out into my path. Thus my anxiety, and my habit of staying below the legal speed limit here.

Another crepuscular creature is the owl, although there is no such thing as "the owl" in Minnesota. There are several owl species that are either year-round residents, or that visit us during seasonal shifts, generally in winter. Just this week, while driving through "deer alley" before sunrise on the way to work - on the lookout for roadside movement, with deer in mind - a shadowy blur arrowed across the road at treetop level.

The bird was in sight for only a few seconds, its wingbeats slowing as it pitched into a glide - broad wings spread - then disappeared into bare treetops beyond. A birder more serious than me might have known its identity, based on size, profile, or perhaps wingbeat. Though I am keen on birds of all kinds - I have excellent binoculars, and a good bird book - I don't have expert credentials.

By the process of elimination I concluded that it was an owl, having seen enough hawks to know that would be an unlikely ID. Wing size in proportion to body suggested this. In the same way that World War II fighter pilots could recognize enemy "bogies" by profile and size, by this bird's profile "owl" seemed clear to me.

Timing was further evidence. While there are owls that hunt by day, the reverse - hawks that hunt by night - seems not to be

the case. Hawks' eyes are not exceptionally large because day hunters do not need the light-gathering power that night hunters do. Owl eyes, on the other hand, are said to be so disproportionately large that there is little room in their eye sockets for eye-movement musculature, requiring that they turn their heads to see in a different direction, rather than shifting the focus of their eyes only.

The larger eye mimics the principle that allows some camera lenses and binoculars to be used under very low light conditions. Larger lenses simply gather more light. Wildlife photographers carrying telephoto lenses approaching the size of a bazooka are doing this not to impress you, but to be able to capture images under low light conditions.

My best owl suspects, based on that brief overflight moment, were the great gray (we're at the southern edge of its range), a great horned, a barred owl, or a northern hawk owl. The snowy owl often slides down out of Canada in winter to hunt here, as well. The smaller Minnesota owls, like the long-eared, the northern saw-whet, and the eastern screech owl, seemed unlikely choices, given the more massive body of the bird I had seen.

Of these larger varieties, the great gray seems least likely. With a body up to 30 inches in length, and

a wingspread of four feet and more, these dimensions didn't match the bird I had seen. The snowy and great horned owls are smaller than the great gray, but still on the upper end of the size scale. (Hedwig, a female snowy owl, is messenger and companion to Harry Potter in the book and film series.)

The best prospects seemed to be the barred owl, or the northern hawk owl. Their bodies - about 18 inches, give or take, and wingspan of two feet or slightly more - are a better match. The northern hawk owl is less common in Minnesota, and - like the snowy owl - is more often seen during winter, when it drops down from farther north to hunt here.

The northern hawk owl has a body shape and flight habit more hawk-like than other owls, thus the name. It also hunts during the day, as well as during periods of low light, and is not a true "night owl" hunter. I do remember that in that pre-dawn moment my brain formed the unspoken question: "Hawk, or owl?" So I'll go with that. Though less likely to be seen here in Minnesota - except at this season - I'll cast my vote for the northern hawk owl, an unusual and beautiful example of that family.

No doubt it was about to take up its station in the top of a bare tree, there to wait for an ambush opportunity

Business leaders can help communities in 2020

By Quint Studer

In August, the New York Times ran an article on the Business Roundtable's new statement on the purpose of a corporation. The point of this official statement—signed by leaders of companies like Amazon, Walmart, Pepsi, and Apple—was that corporations shouldn't just advance shareholder interests. They should also commit to investing in employees, dealing fairly and ethically with suppliers, supporting the communities in which they work, and so forth.

As someone who works to revitalize communities across the U.S., I applaud these leaders for their desire to redefine the role of business in the community. Their statement supports what I've felt for years: When business leaders play a pivotal role in shaping their communities, everyone wins.

Corporate leaders and CEOs are well positioned to make a huge impact on the future of their communities. Not only do they have the financial wherewithal to drive progress, they have the influence, the social capital, the expertise, and the smarts to do so. They are the people Gallup Chairman and CEO Jim Clifton calls

"tribal leaders." They know how to get things done. And we really need them to work shoulder to shoulder with government leaders, employees, and citizens to create vibrant communities where people want to live, work, and play.

Right now, many communities are struggling with a leadership void. In part, it's because their "pillars"—institutions like banks, hospitals, businesses, and newspapers—used to be locally owned. Now, many have been bought by larger corporations. This means the leaders who run these organizations may be in the community for only a short period of time. It's no longer a given that they'll retire there. And this creates a vacuum in long-term leadership planning.

That's why it is good to see these CEOs sign the new Business Roundtable statement. It speaks to the need for local business leaders to step up to the challenge and fill that void. Drawing on my experience in community revitalization, if you're a corporate leader, there are several places I believe we could use your help:

Be a hybrid investor. We all know what pure philanthropy is: funding a new foundation, sponsoring a piece of public art, or

giving financially in some other way. This is always deeply appreciated. However, hybrid philanthropy is another great option that pays off for the investor and the community. This means making a local investment that does yield a return—just not as much of a return as you might get with other investments.

A hybrid investor might build a residential complex downtown; contribute to a co-op space; or invest in a new, local company in their community. When you make the first move, it's a confidence-builder. Things start to pop. It also helps gets wealth off the sidelines. And it sends a powerful message that it's okay to take a smaller financial return when the real ROI is a better community for everyone.

Support an entrepreneurial ecosystem. A strong small business presence is the economic engine that drives most communities. You can strengthen this ecosystem in many ways. For example, you might join other leaders in town to fund a new business challenge. You might help a promising entrepreneur pay start-up costs or offer a lease with rent that moves up and down with revenue. Even simple things like buying from a new local business or sending strong job candidates their way can help.

Mostly, you can use your social capital to bring small business owners together and help them form meaningful connections and collaborate on issues that impact everyone (like tackling the talent drain, how best to create a vibrant downtown, how to create opportunity for young people, etc.). What you're doing is helping galvanize the army of citizens who happen to be small business owners with the purpose of working toward revitalization.

Share your skills and expertise with other leaders (especially small business owners). Helping new ventures to get off the ground is only the

start. Thriving communities are ones in which local businesses can be successful long-term. That means they need to offer plenty of opportunities to teach leadership fundamentals and other vital business skills.

If your chamber offers training and development sessions, get involved. Lead a workshop or share company resources. Open up your corporate training to local small businesses. Or be a mentor: In *The Coming Jobs War*, Jim Clifton writes, "The heroes America needs for this moment in history will come from those who guide, advise, encourage, and mentor small business to success."

Get involved in raising civic IQ. Informed citizens are the "boots on the ground" that make things happen. But until they understand what's going on and how they will benefit, they'll never get on board with revitalization plans. Civic education helps people understand the why behind growth initiatives. It gets more people to buy in until, eventually, a community achieves the critical mass that allows progress to happen faster.

The easiest way to educate is to bring in speakers. In Pensacola we do this via our CivicCon series, which regularly brings in experts in community-building. There are many ways business leaders can help. For example, sponsor a speaking event, offer up a venue, or share your company's resources (IT talent or social media staff).

These are only a few suggestions. There are many others. Take stock of your gifts and resources. Think about what you might have to offer. Then, reach out to local community leaders and ask what you can do to help. We all need strong, vital, vibrant communities that work well for everyone, and we can all play a role in building them. If there is a way we can help, we have a human responsibility to make it happen.

Staples World

Established in 1890. USPS 518-760
©2019 RMM Publications
Published Wednesdays by RMM Publications
Office located at 224 4th Street NE
Periodicals postage paid at Staples, Minnesota 56479.

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

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

Publisher.....RMM Publications LLC
Rick Gail, Mike Kremer, Mark Anderson
Managing Editor.....Mark Anderson editor@staplesworld.com
Advertising Rep..... editor@staplesworld.com
Photo Tech/production.....Janice Winter jwinter@staplesworld.com
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Reporter.....Dawn Timbs dtimbs@staplesworld.com
Front Office..... office@staplesworld.com

Subscription Rates:
Local: (Todd, Wadena, Morrison, Cass Counties) \$41 per year
Website: \$37 per year
Minnesota: \$46 per year - Out of State: \$51 per year
Foreign: \$61 per year Student Rate: (Sept. through Apr./in-state) \$31
There is a \$5 charge for address change from local to out of state.

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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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Quote of the week

A successful man is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown at him.

— David Brinkley



Locked in on a victory

Dalton Wells takes control of his match against Wadena-Deer Creek. Wells won his match with a pin. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Wrestlers come out on top in WDC dual

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples-Motley wrestling team came up with five pins in a 40-27 win against Wadena-Deer Creek on Jan. 7.

Jason Trantina and Dalton Wells worked hard to gain their pins, while Will Danilyuk, Sam Jennissen and Owen Bjerga had quick pins. Other winners were Logen Weite, 10-0, and Hunter Martin with a forfeit.

"We wrestled really well against WDC," said Coach Mark Carlson. "The kids have been putting in the work and it showed with a great team win."

The Cardinals placed sixth in the nine team Bertha-Hewitt/Verndale/Parkers Prairie tournament on Jan. 11. Bjerga won the 160 pound weight class and Conner Dobson was second at 145 pounds.

"Conner had a good weekend, going 3-1 with three pins," said Carlson. "Conner is really coming on and improving every day, exemplifying our motto of getting one percent better every day."

Bjerga wrestled well,

pinning Adam Zosel from Benson in the finals. Zosel was 19-0 and is the ranked ninth in the state at 160. "Owen was controlling the match and winning 11-3 before cradling Zosel up and pinning him in the 2nd period," said Carlson.

Another notable was Will Danilyuk at 138, going 2-2 and placing 3rd.

The Cardinals also competed in the Buffalo Invitational on Jan. 4, where Bjerga claimed the 170 pound championship with a 18-3 technical fall in the final match.

Team results

Staples-Motley 40, Wadena-Deer Creek 27

106 double ff
113 Jason Trantina W fall

120 Rafael Caudillo L fall
126 Dalton Wells W fall
132 Dustin Converse L fall

138 Will Danilyuk W fall
145 Conner Dobson L 7-3
152 Sam Jennissen W fall

160 Logen Weite W 10-0
170 Owen Bjerga W fall
182 Hunter Martin W ff
195 double ff
220 Emmitt Winkels L fall

285 Cole Winkels L fall



Top award

Owen Bjerga was voted Outstanding Wrestler at the BHVPP tournament.

Buffalo Invitational

126 Dalton Wells 5th place; 138 Will Danilyuk 6th place; 145 Conner Dobson 6th place; 152 Logen Weite 4th place; 170 Owen Bjerga 1st place; 195 Emmitt Winkels 5th place

Bertha-Hewitt/Verndale/Parkers Prairie Invitational

106 Chase Mikel 8th; 113 Jason Trantina 5th; 126 Dalton Wells 6th; 138 Will Danilyuk 3rd; 145 Conner Dobson 2nd; 152 Logen Weite 7th; 160 Owen Bjerga 1st; 195 Emmitt Winkels 6th; 285 Cole Winkels 4th

Cardinals go from high scoring to cold

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples-Motley girls basketball team had their highest scoring game of the season in beating Aitkin 77-49 on Jan. 6, but then suffered cold shooting in two losses, 57-51 at Pillager Jan. 7 and 63-46 at Crosby-Ironton Jan. 9

Against Aitkin, the Cardinals picked up fast after a slow start.

"Defensively we were able to contest shots, get steals, rebound and limit them to one shot per possession," said Coach Brian Smith. "Offensively we shot well and were able to grab 13 offensive rebounds, we also forced Aitkin into 17 first half turnovers."

Addy Lorber and Kaitlyn Smith both hit two first half 3 pointers, while Tabetha Allen had 8 points and 11 rebounds in the first half.

"In the second half we had a little let down on defense but offensively kept firing," said Smith. Lorber added two more 3's as did Haley Cichos, Smith also hit one more second half three. Allen finished with 12 points and 15 rebounds (10 offensive).

Alix Peterson finished with 10 rebounds.

"Addy Lorber really stole the show though with 20 points including four 3's," said Smith

Two Cardinals scored their first varsity points, 9th grader Aften Robinson and 8th grader Lauren Rutten both hit lay-ups off steals, and Robinson added a free throw to her total.

Against Pillager, the Cardinals started out strong and got a 10-3 lead. But Pillager turned up the pressure to force 12 first half turnovers and take a 29-23 lead at half.

Staples-Motley played well in the second half but struggled making outside shots. "We were more aggressive offensively and did a better job limiting turnovers however Pillager continued to pressure us and we didn't shoot the ball very well," said Smith. "All season our ability to shoot the 3 has helped us out, but in this game we only hit one 3-point basket which hurt us."

Each team scored 28 in the second half. "One of our team goals is to win the second half in each game and we came close to doing that," said Smith.

Crosby-Ironton is undefeated in conference play, and the Cardinals were unable to match that level, although they shot well from the free throw line, hitting 77 percent.

Team results

Staples-Motley 77, Aitkin 49

Scoring: Addison Lorber 20, Tabetha Allen 12, Alix Peterson 11, Haley Cichos 10, Kaitlyn Smith 9, Bella Martin 5, Kalla Erbe 4, Aften Robinson 3, Lauren Rutten 2, Elizabeth Danilyuk 1

Shooting
Overall 27-72 37.5%
2 pt fg 18-47 38.3%
3 pt fg 9-25 36%
FT 14-22 63.6%

Staples-Motley 51, Pillager 57

Scoring: Peterson 19, Allen 9, Lorber 8, Smith 7, Cichos 6, Martin 2

Shooting
Overall 15-52 28.8%
2 pt fg 14-40 35%
3 pt fg 1-12 8.3%
FT 20-33 60.6%

Staples-Motley 46, Crosby-Ironton 63

Scoring: Peterson 11, Erbe 10, Lorber 7, Smith 6, Danilyuk 5, Allen 5, Robinson 2

Shooting
Overall 16-50 32%
2 pt fg 12-34 35.3%
3 pt fg 4-16 25%
FT 10-13 76.9%



Using the single leg takedown

Jason Trantina grabs a leg and toples his opponent from below during the dual match with Wadena-Deer Creek.

Trantina earned a pin in the match to get the Cardinals off to a 6-0 team lead.



Heat of the battle

Emmitt Winkels pushes off a shot attempt in the dual match against Wadena-Deer Creek.

Road losses to top teams

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team went on the road against two quality teams and came home with two losses, falling to Breckenridge 83-51 on Jan. 7 and to Crosby-Ironton 60-42 on Jan. 10.

The Cardinals shot under 50 percent on free throws in each game.

Team results

Staples-Motley 51, Breck-

enridge 83

Scoring: Sivert Klefsaas 15, Adam Oberlander 14, Izaiah DeMars 7, Isaiah Schultz 5, Issac Kronenberg 3, Josh Schimpp 3, Max Strickland 2, Ben Olander 2

Staples-Motley 42, Crosby-Ironton 60

Scoring: DeMars 10, Schultz 9, Klefsaas 5, Kronenberg 4, Oberlander 4, Strickland 3, Chandler Braith 3, Schimpp 2, Olander 2

Walthall wins 200th

Staples native Chad Walthall passed a coaching milestone Jan. 10, 2020, recording his 200th college coaching victory at Minnesota State University Moorhead.

With four Dragons scoring in double figures, the men's basketball team took an overtime win against

Bemidji State Jan. 10.

Walthall is one of two Dragon men's basketball coaches to reach 200 wins at MSUM, joining Dave Schellhase (298 wins at MSUM).

The Dragons improve to 9-6 overall and 5-4 in the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.

Youth wrestlers win tournament

The Staples-Motley Youth Wrestling team took first place at the Fergus Falls Youth Duals Tournament on Jan. 11. The Cardinals beat West Central 64-12, then beat Morris Area 61-15, and beat Fergus Falls 41-37 in the finals. Luke Bjerga secured the championship match when

he pinned his opponent in the first period.

This is the fourth year of the youth team attending this tournament. The first year, Staples-Motley placed 7th, then 5th, last year 3rd and now they are tournament champions.

Fergus Falls was the first dual tournament of

the team's season. Their remaining schedule is as follows:

- Cloquet Tournament - Jan. 25
- Anoka Tournament - Feb. 2
- Staples Tournament - Feb. 16 (Eight team tournament at the Staples-Motley High School gym)

- NYWA Region Tournament, Fosston, March 29
- NYWA State (if the team qualifies), Rochester, April 3-5

Staples-Motley will host their individual youth wrestling tournament on Sunday, Jan. 19, with wrestling starting a noon.



Tournament champions

Staples-Motley youth wrestlers who placed first in the Fergus Falls tournament. Wrestlers on the team roster are (not in order, with grade listed): Bennett Sonenstahl - K; Maxx Carlson - 2; Camrik Tappe - 1; Cooper Tapper - 3; Garrett Bjerga - 3; Gage Bjerga - 4; Beau Carlson - 4; Jackson Odden - 3; Liam Jennis-

sen - 3; Eli Greenwaldt - 6; Jackson Schouville - 5; Riley Reese - 6; Colbe Tappe - 6; Luke Bjerga - 6; Zach Tabatt - 5; Tayden Weishair - 2; Andrew Dobson - 4; Justin Olson - 5; Elijah Ward - 3. Coaches are Dan Bjerga, Chris Dobson and Shane Tappe. (Submitted photo)



Todd County Commissioners Minutes

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DECEMBER 30, 2019

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 30th day of December, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kneisl. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Becker,

Public Notices

NOTICE BYRON TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING

Byron Township will hold their regular monthly meeting Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Leader Community Hall.

Beverly Hoemberg, Clerk Byron Township 2-3pnc

NOTICE FRESHWATER ED. DISTRICT NO. 6004 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Notice is hereby given that the Freshwater Ed District No. 6004 of Wadena, MN hereby requests proposals for CTSS Service in Wadena, MN, for students attending a Level IV site until 3:00 p.m. on February 7, 2020.

All proposals shall be clearly identified as a CTSS Proposal for the Freshwater Education District.

The proposals must be presented to the designated contact for Freshwater, Lori Murdock, at the following address:

Lori Murdock Freshwater Education District 2222 Industrial Drive Wadena, MN 56482

No formal proposal opening will take place.

Proposals will be evaluated on the criteria as set forth within the RFP. Details/requirements for proposals are available on the Freshwater website www.fed.k12.mn.us.

The Freshwater Board reserves the right to reject any/or all proposals, waive formalities, and to select the agency and options that best meet the needs of the board and its employees.

Inquiries and clarifications should be directed by telephone or email to Freshwater's contact as follows:

Lori Murdock 218-631-3505 Ext. 1042 lmurdock@fed.k12.mn.us

Clerk of District #6004 2-3pnc

the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the agenda as presented.

Consent Agenda

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

To approve the Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for December 17, 2019 as presented.

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Becker and seconded by Erickson the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 400488 through 400504 in the amount of \$22,875.15 and (Regular) 52761 through 52860 in the amount of \$99,990.05 for a total of \$122,865.20.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number

(ACH) 800330 through 800343 and (Regular) 706197 through 706246 for a total amount of \$43,933.32.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 600100 through 600104 and (Regular) 515584 through 515601 in the amount of \$22,071.34.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To renew the Hands of Hope Lease Agreement for January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

Public Works

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the 2019 Road and Bridge Budget Carryover of \$107,562.50 for previously approved plow truck purchase.

County Attorney

On motion by Becker

and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the 2020 Contracts for City Prosecution with the Cities of Grey Eagle, Eagle Bend, Clarissa, Bertha, and Hewitt.

Planning & Zoning

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve to take no action, by doing so, the \$1,000 assessment would remain in place on parcel 11-0043800 for failure to complete the restoration order.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve to take no action, by doing so, the \$1,000 assessment will remain in place on parcel 15-0079700 for the 2020 tax year.

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

approve to remove the \$1,000 assessment from parcel 03-0038000 for the 2020 tax year and acknowledgement that the violation has been completely satisfied.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve to remove the \$1,000 assessment from parcel 03-0036200 for the 2020 tax year and acknowledgement that the violation has been completely satisfied.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kircher, the following was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve to remove the \$1,000 assessment from parcel 20-0015100 and acknowledgement that the violation has been completely satisfied.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve to take no action, the \$1,000 assessment will remain in place on parcel 22-0007500 for the 2020 tax year.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kircher, the following was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve to take no action, the \$1,000 assessment will remain in place on parcel 27-0007201 for the 2020 tax year.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve to take no action, by doing so, a \$1,000 assessment would remain in place on parcel 19-0076400 for failure to complete the restoration order.

Administration

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To appoint Chris Pelzer as MIS Director as part of her Coordinator job responsibilities.

On motion by Commissioner Erickson, the following resolution failed for lack of a second:

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE 2020 COUNTY AUDITOR TREASURER SALARY

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are responsible for setting the compensation of county employees, elected officials, appointed officials and board members, and;

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners have considered the salaries of elected officials in other comparable counties; and

WHEREAS, the County Auditor Treasurer is not on the County Comp worth Springsted pay scale; and

NOW, THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve setting the County Auditor Treasurer salary with an increase of eight percent (8%) at \$90,076.32 for 2020.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Becker, the following resolution was introduced and failed by Roll Call vote with Commissioners Becker and Neumann for and Commissioners Erickson, Kircher and Kneisl against:

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE 2020 COUNTY AUDITOR TREASURER SALARY

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are responsible for setting the compensation of county employees, elected officials, appointed officials and board members, and;

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners have considered the salaries of elected officials in other comparable counties; and

WHEREAS, the County Auditor Treasurer is not on the County Comp worth Springsted pay scale; and

NOW, THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve setting the County Auditor Treasurer salary with an increase of 15 percent (%) at \$95,915.00 for 2020.

On motion by Becker and seconded by Neumann, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by majority Roll Call vote with Commissioners Becker, Erickson, Kneisl and Neumann for and Commissioner Kircher against:

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE 2020 COUNTY AUDITOR TREASURER SALARY

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are responsible for setting the compensation of county employees, elected officials, appointed officials and board members, and;

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners have considered the salaries of elected officials in other comparable counties; and

WHEREAS, the County Auditor Treasurer is not on the County Comp worth Springsted pay scale; and

NOW, THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve setting the County Auditor Treasurer salary with an increase of 11 percent (%) at \$92,578.00 for 2020.

Commissioner's Report The Commissioners reported on meetings attended. See TCC on page 9a

2020 Todd County Budget Summary

On a motion by Becker and seconded by Neumann the following was adopted by unanimous vote:

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE 2020 TODD COUNTY BUDGET

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

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners have had an opportunity to discuss the operations costs and revenues of the County for fiscal year 2020;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby approve the following as the 2020 Budget for the County of Todd, Minnesota and directs that it be forwarded to the County Auditor.

LEGAL NOTICE

TODD COUNTY BUDGET SUMMARY STATEMENT FOR BUDGET YEAR 2020

The Todd County Budget Summary Statement is Published in accordance with Minnesota Statute 375.169. The complete budget is available for public inspection at the Todd County Auditor/Treasurer's Office during normal business hours.

Table with 3 columns: REVENUES, 2019, 2020. Includes categories like Property tax, State General Purpose Aid, Licenses & Permits, etc.

EXPENDITURES

Table with 3 columns: General Government, Public safety, Highway/Construction, etc.

Budget Balance 0 750,000

STATE OF MINNESOTA, COUNTY OF TODD

I, Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor/Treasurer, hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of the resolution of the County Board of said County with the original record thereof on file in the Auditor/Treasurer's Office of Todd County in Long Prairie, Minnesota as stated in the minutes of the proceedings of said board at a meeting duly held on December 17, 2019, and that the same is a true and correct copy of said original record and of the whole thereof, and that said resolution was duly passed by said board at said meeting.

Witness my hand and seal this 17th day of December, 2019, Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor/Treasurer

City of Staples Summary Budget 2020 The purpose of this report is to provide summary 2020 budget information concerning the City of Staples to interested citizens. The budget is published in accordance with Minn. Stat. Sec. 471.6965. This budget is not complete: The complete budget may be examined at City Hall, 122 6th St NE. The City Council approved the budget on December 10, 2019.

Table 1: Governmental Funds 2020 Adopted Budget. Columns: 2018 Actual, 2019 Budget, 2020 Adopted. Rows: Budgeted Governmental Funds, Revenues, Expenditures, etc.

CITY OF STAPLES Table 2 Enterprise Funds 2020 Adopted Budget

Table with 7 columns: Community Center, Sewer, Water, Electric, 2020 Adopted Budget, 2019 Adopted Budget, 2018 Actual. Rows: Operating Revenues, Operating Expenses, Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses), etc.

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Your ad will appear Wednesday in the
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Both publications and Internet for One Price!

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Use form below or click on www.staplesworld.com
Deadline: Friday at Noon

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

SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT
208 Storage

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

209 Business Services

Permit to Carry Class
Ed Jose
New: \$75 Renewal \$55
Multi-State
Call 218-371-2151

Wadena counties, \$40 plus \$2.95 tax. Staples World Office. tfx

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

REAL ESTATE
601 Wanted To Rent
DEER HUNTING LAND around Staples. Don Slagter: 320-444-4881 or email: dcslagter@gmail.com. cl3-5p

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

Eastwood Inn - MOTLEY/WADENA: Monthly rooms available. Inquire at: 218-352-6386. 3c

Pullman Townhomes
3 bedroom
\$1,100 per month
2 bedroom
\$950 per month
Rent includes: **Double attached garage, heat, water, sewer and trash**
218-296-1247

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

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

BRUTGER
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Income guidelines apply.

NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS

Sunny Pines Apts. in Motley
Tenant must be income eligible, 62 years or older, handicapped or disabled. Heat, water, sewer, electric provided.

MOTLEY, MN. Call Rosie Talberg, Manager at: **320-468-2303**

The Fine Print

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

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

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

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

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SERVICE DIRECTORY

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Serving - Staples - Motley - Pillager
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LPS Inc.
Long Prairie Sanitation
Long Prairie, MN
218-631-3101 888-878-5578

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•Residential
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*Thomas Sellnow is a Real Property Law Specialist certified by Real Property Section of Minnesota State Bar Association.

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SW 2020 changed wk #3



Obituary

Rita VonFeldt

Rita (Carpenter) VonFeldt, 74, of Broomfield, CO, died January 8, 2020 at her home.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Inurnment will be at Fort Logan National Cemetery, Denver, CO.

Rita was born August 17, 1945 in Chester, MN to William and Opal (Monk) Carpenter. She married Theodore (Ted) VonFeldt on Nov. 6, 1965 at Saint Pius X Church in Rochester. She was a mother, business owner and worked at John Marshall High School in Rochester.

Rita is survived by her husband; two daughters, Dawn Williamson, Dallas, TX and Cheri VonFeldt, Erie, CO and one son, Teddy VonFeldt, Winston Salem, NC; one sister, Emily Kohler, Motley and



five grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Les Carpenter and Stacie Carpenter and one sister, Ruby Ferguson.

Memorials may be made to the charity of your choice in Rita's name.

Arrangements are by Kramer Family Funeral Home, Denver, CO.

w3p A00006B2020JA15

Hello World

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:

Born to Michelle and Marcus Meiners of Clarissa, a baby girl, Mallory Rae weighing seven pounds, four ounces on January 3, 2020.

Born to Lenore Sheets and Daniel Mertens of Staples, a baby boy, Juneau Sherman weighing seven pounds, 14 ounces on January 3, 2020.

Born to Julia and Larson Davick of Pillager, a baby boy, Cooper John weighing seven pounds, 11 ounces on January 4, 2020.

Born to Gretel and Glen Dierkhising of Park

Rapids, a baby girl, Amariah Aguilos weighing seven pounds, 11 ounces on January 4, 2020.

Born to Stacey Ahedo and Alex Aviles of Long Prairie, a baby girl, Eliana weighing seven pounds, three ounces on January 7, 2020.

Born to Corrina Schmidt and Dustin Maurer of Staples, a baby boy, Samuel Alan weighing eight pounds, three ounces on January 8, 2020.

Born to Jennifer and David Arms of Baxter, a baby boy, Michael Norbert weighing eight pounds, on January 8, 2020.

Student Achievements

TRISTAN PFAFF, Motley, was named to the Dean's List at Alexandria Technical & Community College for Fall Semester 2019. To qualify, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

KYLE ZETAN, Motley, was named to the Dean's List at Alexandria Technical & Community College for Fall Semester 2019. To qualify, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

TATUM WILLIAMS, Staples, has been named to the Fall Semester Dean's List at the University of Jamestown, N.D.

NICHOLAS JOHNSON, Verndale, has been named to the Fall Semester Dean's List at the University of Jamestown, N.D.

JENESSA IVERSON, Staples, has been named to the 2019 Fall Semester Dean's List at the University of Minnesota Duluth's College of Liberal Arts (CLA). To qualify, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.50 and 12 graded credits.

KIERSTEN JOHNSON, Pillager, has been named to the Dean's List for Fall Semester 2019 at the University of Minnesota Duluth. To qualify, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

JENNIFER NORTH, Pillager, has been named to the Dean's List for Fall Semester 2019 at the University of Minnesota Duluth. To qualify, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

Todd County Commissioners Minutes

TCC continued from page 7a

Auditor-Treasurer's Report

The Auditor-Treasurer reported on meetings attended and projects in progress including the upcoming Township Officers candidate filing period and Presidential Nomination Primary pending court proceedings.

Coordinator's Report

The Coordinator reported on meetings attended and projects in progress including an update on the grant funding for the Rock Wall project.

Adjourn

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

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS

Vendor Name	\$ Amount
AMERICAN SOLUTIONS	
FOR BUSINESS	\$6,035.27
CENTRAL STATES	
WIRE PROD INC	2,819.75
COMPASS MINERALS	
AMERICA	18,784.55
INTERUM INC	
JOHNSON CONTROLS	3,513.51
MORRISON CO PUBLIC	
HEALTH SERV	2,327.14
TODD CITY MIS DEPT	2,000.00
UPPER MIDWEST	
PUMPING LLC	2,950.00
WATCHGUARD VIDEO	25,981.00
WHEELCO TRUCK	
AND TRAILER PARTS	2,533.41
107 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	40,741.20
TOTAL	\$122,865.20

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS

Vendor Name	\$ Amount
DHS - SWIFT	\$10,409.66
PERISH/ALAN	3,054.02
RONALD MCDONALD	
HOUSE - MPLS	3,550.00
SHELLEY FUNERAL CHAPEL - L. FALLS	4,100.00
TODD COUNTY AUD./	
TREASURER	15,096.10
59 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	7,723.54
TOTAL	43,933.32

Vendor Name \$ Amount

LUTHERAL SOCIAL	
SERV OF MN-ST PAUL	\$2,120.00
-GUARDIANSHIP OPTIONS	
LUTHERAL SOCIAL	
SERV OF MN-ST PAUL	2,720.70
WEST CENTRAL	
REGIONAL JUV CTR	5,431.00
PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	11,799.64
TOTAL	22,071.34

On a motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held December 30, 2019 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on January 7, 2020.

Witness my hand and seal:

David Kircher,
County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County
Auditor-Treasurer

3pnc

96% print!

A Harvard study of the newspaper industry found that only a bit more than 3 percent of newspaper reading happens online. The same study shows a print audience of well over a hundred million readers each week.

Sure, just about everybody checks newspaper sites online these days, but they don't spend much time there. On average, readers spend much more time with a print newspaper. More than 30 times more time is spent with a print newspaper than a newspaper website.

We're here for you.
Yesterday ... today ... tomorrow.

* Niman Journalism Lab at Harvard, in a 2009 study of 2008 readership. While the numbers have shifted slightly since the study, the proportions remain about the same.

Staples Area Church Directory

<p>Staples</p> <p>Staples Alliance 1512 8th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2891 Associate Pastor Zach Jones Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. WEDNESDAY AWANA 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Assembly of God 914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples 218-894-1081 Pastor Roy Miles Discipleship Classes 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. Evening Prayer 6:00 p.m. WEDNESDAY Wednesday times are for Sept. - May Soulight (Kids Program) 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. Youth Group 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Church of Christ 27343 490th St., Staples 218-894-2609 Pastor Barry Klein Website: www.stapleschurchofchrist.org Bible School (youth and adult) 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. WEDNESDAY: Teen Youth/Adults Bible Study 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>First Congregational Church, UCC firstcongourstaples@gmail.com 204 5th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2571 Worship 9:30 a.m. Fellowship, refreshments following service</p> <p>Faith Lutheran 430 12th Street. NE., Staples 218-894-1546 Pastor: Carl Larson Sunday Worship Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School and Coffee Fellowship 10:05 a.m.</p> <p>Sacred Heart Church 310 4th St. NE, Staples Church 218-894-2296 Pastor Fr. Gabriel Walz Youth and Young Adult Ministry Coordinator: Monica J. Simmons 218-414-0081 cell/text MASS: Thursday and Friday 8:30 a.m. Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 8:30 a.m.</p> <p>Seventh Day Adventist 421 Dakota Ave. SE, Staples 218-894-0033 Saturday Worship 10:45 a.m. Sabbath School 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Thomastown Covenant 15940 251st Ave., Staples 218-894-3923 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. WEDNESDAY 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Trinity Lutheran 1000 4th St., NE, Staples 218-894-2372 Rev. Robin Collins Sunday Divine Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Class 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p>United Methodist 310 5th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2248 Pastor Greg Leslie Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. (Nursery Available for Sunday Worship) Sunday School (for grades K-12 and adults) 9:15-10:15 a.m.</p> <p>Aldrich</p> <p>Balsamlund Lutheran 19550 490th Street, Aldrich Eric Clapp 701-261-2394 (cell) Sunday Worship 8:15 a.m. Sunday School 8:30 a.m.</p> <p>Cushing</p> <p>Bethany Lutheran 25430 Bison Rd. Cushing, MN 320-749-2140 Pastor Carl Larson www.bethanylutherancushing.org Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. Sunday School and Coffee Fellowship 9:30 a.m. Pancake Breakfast 11:45 a.m. 2nd Sunday, each month</p> <p>Lincoln Evangelical Free 1354 320th St., Cushing 218-575-2449 www.lincolnefree.org Facebook Lincoln E Free Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Senior Pastor: Donald Reigstad Pastor: Jim Brown Youth Coordinator: Joe Reigstad SUNDAY Sunday School for all ages 9:00 a.m. Worship Gathering 10:00 a.m. WEDNESDAY Praise & Prayer 4:30 p.m. Kids' Club 6:00 p.m. Jr./Sr. Forge Youth Group 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Leader</p> <p>Swan Valley Lutheran Leader 218-397-2470 Sandy Knight, Synodically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Leaf River Township</p> <p>The Old Country Church Leaf River Twp., Wadena County Rd. 6 Info. 218-837-5690 .. Open by arrangement</p>	<p>Motley</p> <p>Motley Free Methodist 33 Wellwood St. E Motley 56466 218-352-6888 Pastor Jim Johnson Sunday Worship 9:00 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. WEDNESDAY Kids Club 4:00-5:30 p.m. Youth Group 5:30-7:30 p.m.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>St. Michael 1st St. and Birch, Motley 218-894-2296 Pastor Fr. Gabriel Walz MASS: Tuesday 6:30 p.m. Wednesday 8:30 a.m. Saturday 7:00 p.m. Sunday 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>United Methodist 847 3rd Ave. S. Lane, Motley 218-352-6466 Pastor Greg Leslie www.motleyum.net Sunday Worship Service 9:00 a.m. Monday AA meeting 8:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Hewitt</p> <p>Church of the Nazarene 114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146 Hewitt, MN 218-924-2028 Pastor Wayne Hoffart Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m./6 p.m. WEDNESDAY Prayer 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS) 524 Front Street, PO Box 116, Hewitt, MN Pastor Robin Fish Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>United Methodist Church Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN Pastor Kenneth Uhren Sunday Services 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Verndale</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Family Life Church 402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale 218-445-5568 VerndaleFLC@gmail.com Pastor Amos Self 218-371-7189 Children's Pastor Kenneth Kjeldergaard SUNDAY Discipleship Classes 9:00 a.m. Prayer 9:20 a.m. Coffee / Fellowship 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Celebrate Recovery 6-8 p.m. WEDNESDAY 6:00 p.m. Meal 6:30 p.m. Groups</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Verndale United Methodist 10 3rd Ave. SW, Verndale 218-445-5108 Pastor Jill Pawlowski Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Central United Methodist 5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar) Pastor Chuck Horsager, 218-639-4225 Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m.</p>
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"How Long Does the Meaning and Practice of Celebration Continue?"

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

As of the writing of this devotion, the Christmas Advent Wreath was just put away for another year. To be honest, each year, I experience a mixed feeling of sadness and gratitude when the expressions of Christmas are being packed away.

It is a significant tie in for me that we celebrate the coming of the Messiah as he began in human form as a child, even a baby preceded by the womb. Then, we see how much richer our experience of the meaning of Christmas was (is) when we see it through present day children's eyes and lives: the message of the Christ-child through our children. Powerful. Simply powerful and amazing.

Then, the New Year's season follows on the heels of Christmas. We are even now in the midst of beginning a unique year numbered 2020. People have already been picking up on the "2020" vision of launching innovated goals and approaches to engaging the potentials of this new year.

We have in our home, a china cabinet that houses three levels of the ongoing Christmas message throughout the year. The bottom two shelves carry the "It's a Wonderful Life" village. The top shelf bears the full manger

scene. I write, "ongoing Christmas message" because our family (and continuing with my "empty-nest" beloved wife) has allowed me to keep those scenes there year round!

People have differing opinions on how to celebrate special seasons and there is delightful room for everyone. "Variety continues to be the spice of life."

In all of it, we are given life-giving direction of one common theme in Scripture that is called for in all of our lives. The apostle Paul in Romans 14:5-6a (TNIV) says, "Some consider one day more sacred than another; others consider every day alike. Everyone should be fully convinced in their own mind. Those who regard one day as special do so to the Lord..." What is the common theme? Living life "as to the Lord." We live daily life for Him! We are made to live moment by moment with an intentional consciousness of Him!

In light of God being the generous Creator of everything spiritually and physically (see James 1:17), everything on any given day points to Him. This starts with every breath and heartbeat that we so often unconsciously experience!

So, how long does the meaning and practice of gratitude celebration continue? ALWAYS!!!

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:

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

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Women of Today depot donation

The Staples Motley Women of Today donated \$500 to the Staples Historic Depot to renovate one of the windows in the depot. Tom Kajer of the Staples Historical Society gave the group a presentation on Staples history before they passed the check. Kajer said with this

donation, all the window renovations are now paid for.

From left, Stacy Harthan with daughter Ensley, Valerie Nanik, Sarah Frisch, Janet Kiley, Liz Koskiniemi and Tom Kajer. (Submitted photo)

TCC continued from page 1a

Kircher voted board chair, Becker vice chair

OWOP is what the state wants. My concern is if we don't join, what happens to our BWSR funding?"

He added that he wanted to know the bare facts.

Pelzer will be checking with the other member counties to get their positions on the OWOP.

In other business

- The board nominated and voted for Commissioner David Kircher to serve as the board chair and Commissioner Barb Becker to serve as vice chair.

- Minnesota Statute Chapter 375.12 requires that annual letting of bids for publication be held for the publication of the official proceedings of the Todd County Board meetings and notices.

The board approved the resolution designating the Official Newspapers for 2020 as the Staples World, Independent News Herald and Long Prairie Leader with the bid of \$10.50 per column inch. This is an increase of 30 cents per column inch from last year.

- Minnesota Statute Chapter 375.12 also requires that annual letting of bids be held for publication of the extra proceedings of the Todd County Board meetings and notices. This was also approved for the three newspapers at a rate of \$7.80 per column inch which has been the same amount for several years.

- The board approved adopting the 2020 Todd County Board of Commissioners Board Protocol.

- The board approved to continue to hold their meetings on the first and third Tuesday of every month at 9 a.m. in the Todd County Historic Courthouse and work sessions as

designated by board chair or three members of the board as deemed necessary.

The commissioners also approved that the March 3, 2020 board meeting will be rescheduled to March 2 and the November 3 board meeting will be rescheduled to November 2 due to elections being held on the regular meeting dates. The year-end board meeting is scheduled for December 29.

- Approved the Commissioner's Committee Assignments for 2020. This information is available on the county website at: www.co.todd.mn.us.

- Per Minnesota State Statute and Auditing Standards, the designation of depositories, investments and electronic funds transfers shall be approved by the governing body annually.

The following are the county approved places to invest or deposit funds:

- American Heritage National Bank
- Minnesota National Bank
- Unity Bank
- US Bank
- MAGIC Fund

Discussion was held regarding a previous resolution that stated the county could not deposit funds outside of the county. Commissioners added a clause to this resolution that would supersede the previous resolution.

- Adopted a resolution appointing membership to the Todd-Wadena Community Corrections Executive Committee and Advisory Board. Filling the roles will be Kircher and Becker.

- The Todd County Sheriff's Office has selected to participate in the 2020-2021 Snowmobile Safety Enforcement Grant, with

the board approving participation in the grant program.

The grant total is \$11,136, with the amount of \$5,568 for each year. The grant covers expenses for enforcement, supplies and equipment for snowmobile activities in Todd County.

- Approved the Northern Pines Purchase of Service contract renewal for selected services. The cost is approximately \$10,000 less than last year.

- Approved a resolution of financial commitment of Solid Waste Facility Capital Assistance Program Grant and Bonding Project. The county would be asking for \$5,943,250 from the CAP grant. The county's share would be roughly \$3,545,750. (These numbers came from the work session discussion with Representative John Poston held on December 19, 2019.)

- On December 30, 2019, the board approved combining the MIS director role with the coordinator position to oversee the budget and planning of technology projects.

In order to fulfill the daily supervision and tasks of the MIS department, the role of MIS supervisor has been reviewed with Personnel Committee and presented at a work session.

According to Pelzer, the job description has been submitted to Baker Tilly for review and has been determined to be a Grade 11.

This restructure will create a cost savings of approximately \$20,000.

The board approved the request to recruit for MIS supervisor and post position internally.



Speech team third at first meet

Front row left to right: Zachary McIlravy, Jack Tyrrell, Samantha Mrazek, Ari Brings, Jaydon Friedel, Connor Judd, Mason Birkholtz. Second row: Katie Niemi, Lilly Niemi, Brooke Ferdon, Cyril Johnson, Iain Sams, Caden Mrazek, Luke Bates, AJ Nienow, Keegan Best-

land, Emery Lorber, Laken Hines. Back: Torii Nienow, Coach Heather Sams, Isabel Birkholtz, Grace Allen, William Dolezal, Alex Brings, Jacob Schmitz, Keegan Harvey, Micah Larson, Coach Brian Sams. (Submitted photo)

Staples-Motley Speech team results

The Staples-Motley Speech team placed second at their first meet of the season held Jan. 11 in Pequot Lakes. The AA teams of St Cloud Tech placed second and Stillwater High School placed third.

Winning medal for the SM team were: Micah Larson, 5th place in Creative Expression; Jack Tyrrell, 3rd in Discussion; Cy Johnson, 6th in Drama; Jaydon Friedel and Connor

Judd, 4th in Duo; Samantha Mrazek, 2nd in Ext. Reading; Alex Brings, 1st in Great Speeches; Ari Brings, 2nd in Great Speeches; Luke Bates, 1st in Humor; Caden Mrazek, 2nd in Humor; Jaydon Friedel, 6th in Prose; Caden Mrazek, 5th in Storytelling.

Earning ribbons for Excellence were Iain Sams and Cy Johnson in Duo; Brooke Ferdon in Discussion; Ari Brings in Drama; Torii Nienow in Informa-

tive and Samantha Mrazek and Torii Nienow in Prose.

We are encouraging those thinking about joining the speech team to do so. Speakers are needed especially in Poetry, Extemp. Speaking and Original Oratory, however all are welcome in any category.

The team's next meet is Jan. 25 at Little Falls High School.

Veterans News

David A Anderson
Wadena County Veteran Service Officer

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recently completed an aggressive initiative to process home loan funding fee refunds to veteran borrowers, issuing more than \$400 million in refunds.

The refunds are the culmination of a multi-year internal review of millions of VA-backed home loans spanning almost two decades.

"VA staff worked diligently throughout the summer reviewing 130,000 cases, an average of 16,000 loans reviewed per week," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "This effort included loans dating back nearly 20 years. Our administration prioritized fixing the problems and paid veterans what they were owed."

The VA's Loan Guaranty Service (LGY) program identified more

than 130,000 loans where a refund was potentially due. While some funding fees charged were found to be attributable to clerical errors, most fees were charged correctly. The exception was for those veterans whose exemption status changed following the issuance of a disability rating after the closing of their loan. Letters were mailed notifying veterans who were eligible for a refund.

VA has made several program and systems changes to provide veterans and lenders with the most up-to-date information possible on a veteran's funding fee exemption status. The changes include:

- Enhancements to veteran-focused communications to better inform about the loan funding fee and when it may be waived as part of the loan transaction.

Policy guidance directing lenders to inquire about a veteran's VA dis-

ability claim status during the loan underwriting process and obtain an updated Certificate of Eligibility no more than three days prior to loan closing if the veteran had a disability claim pending.

System and procedural changes to ensure regular internal oversight activities, swiftly identify veterans eligible for fee waivers and potential refund case.

Veterans who believe that they are entitled to a refund of the VA funding fee are strongly encouraged to call their VA Regional Loan Center at 1-877-827-3702 to find out if they're eligible. (Source VA news release October 8, 2019)

See your local County Veterans Service Officer if you have any questions. You can contact your local VSO at 218-631-7617 or by email at david.anderson@co.wadena.mn.us.



SM Junior Spelling Bee contestants/winners

Pictured above are the contestants that qualified to participate in the Staples-Motley Junior Spelling Bee held Jan. 8. Front row, from left, Suhaila Mikhaeil, Tristan Harvey (champion), Emmitt Djuren (runner-up), Chloe Trantina, Emersen Bettis, Lilith Tester, Joshua Cushing. Back row: Charles Simkins III, Gavin Cowels, Evan Schultz, Jacob Cushing, Serenity Hange, Paige Warren, Ayden Blue, Carter Sarbaum. In right photo are the top five contestants, four of whom will go on to compete at the District Spelling Bee Feb. 20. Front row, from left: Tristan Harvey (champion), Emmitt Djuren (runner-up), Chloe Trantina (third place). Back row: Carter Sarbaum (fourth place) and Gavin Cowels (alternate). (Submitted photos)



TCHC Foundation awards six scholarships

The Tri-County Health Care Foundation of Wadena recently awarded scholarships to six area students pursuing a health care career.

One student received a \$1,000 Auxiliary Scholarship, which was established to encourage and promote qualified individuals from the hospital's service area to pursue a health care career. The recipient must

be entering the second year of schooling in a health-related career.

- Kate Schmidt of Wadena, is the 2019 Auxiliary Scholarship recipient. She is pursuing a Forensics degree at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, North Dakota.

Five students received a \$2,500 Davis Family Scholarship, created by Gary and Brenda Davis to assist

students at all levels of nursing to give back to the community, inspire others to pay it forward and encourage qualified individuals to pursue a health care career in nursing.

Recipients included:

- Dannette Nevala, Wadena, registered nurse degree at M State, Wadena
- Ashley Hull, Staples, registered nurse degree, M State, Wadena

- Magaen Kveton, Wadena, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, North Dakota State University

- Charles Peeters, Menahga, registered nurse degree, M State, Wadena
- Luke Funk, Staples, registered nurse degree, M State, Wadena

For more information about scholarships offered by the Foundation, visit TCHC.org/foundation.

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