

Staples sewer meter rates set to go up

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

A proposal for an increase to monthly wastewater meter service charges was presented at the Nov. 26 Staples City Council meeting. Even with the increase, Staples sewer bills will be somewhere in the middle compared to other cities in the area.

The proposal, presented by Public Works Direc-

tor Doug Bendorf, shows the current monthly rate rising from \$16 to \$22 for the smallest meters, a 3/4 inch meter. As the meters get larger, the monthly service charges also get larger. For example, a four inch meter now has a \$450 monthly service charge, but that will go up to \$620 under the proposal.

The rate increase will help pay for the new wastewater plant that the city is planning to build.

Bendorf said there will be no increase on consumption services. A chart showing the average monthly sewer bill projected for Staples will be \$46, about the same as Long Prairie and Henning, but less than Sauk Centre and St. Augusta. Wadena has a slightly lower average bill while Park Rapids and Pelican Rapids both have lower sewer bills.

Bendorf said the original sewer plant was built in 1964 and was updated in 1992. He said the plant is considered unsafe conditions for operators. "It would be tough to find people to work in these conditions now," he said. The new plant, which will cost around \$16 million, will have the latest technology to make the job safer.

"The new plants are amazing, technology has come a long way," said Bendorf.

The proposed changes will be on the final city budget that will be voted on at the Dec. 10 city council meeting.

Wellhead protection

George Minerich of the Minnesota Department of Health reviewed the Staples Wellhead Protection Plan at the Nov. 26 Staples City Council meeting.

He said the city has high vulnerability areas in the northwest and northeast areas, where items in the ground soak into the soil and get to the groundwater relatively quickly.

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Community Thanksgiving dinner



Nearly 400 people enjoyed Thanksgiving dinner at Faith Lutheran Church Nov. 28. The free meal, in conjunction with Care Ministries, included the traditional turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, stuffing, cranberries, sweet potatoes, an assortment of pies, hot apple cider, coffee and more. Guests were seated at beautifully decorated tables, complete with cloth napkins, and a prayer was offered prior to the meal being served. Table by table, guests were invited to go through a buffet line where they were served by volunteers (of all ages) from the church. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Thankful for family

Members of the Yates/Frutiger/Pauley families (all related) enjoyed celebrating together at the Community Thanksgiving Dinner at Faith Lutheran Church in Staples. They were seated in the cozy Fireside Room at the church, where they enjoyed fellowship as well as

a wonderful meal. Pictured, from left, are Billie Yates, Brody Yates-Frutiger, Becky Pauley, Riley Frutiger, Ronald Frutiger, Wyatt Frutiger, Rorie Yates and Leon Yates, all of Staples. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

SEDA begins business retention goal setting

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Using a recently released survey of local businesses, the Staples Economic Development Authority (SEDA) is starting to set goals for business retention and expansion (BRE).

The Wadena County Business Retention and Expansion Strategies Program was released in October. At the Nov. 26 SEDA meeting, the board reviewed the results of the study and also looked at local statistics before coming up with possible goals for Staples.

The project is sponsored by the Economic Alliance, Wadena County, Sourcewell and the Initiative Foundation.

Wadena County study

The process included surveys of 97 businesses in Wadena County, including 28 in Staples. The study also included the Todd County portion of Staples. The results were compiled by University of Minnesota Extension.

Most of the businesses were locally owned and staffed. Around 93 percent of workers travel no longer than 30 minutes to their jobs. "This suggests that Wadena County businesses are drawing from a highly localized labor force, where most employees live in or near the cities," stated the study.

Many businesses reported an increase in the number of employees over the past three years. The biggest increase is in unskilled manufacturing. The businesses surveyed expected to add more employees over the next three years, but not at as high of a rate.

A group of Wadena County BRE Task Force members set strategies and priority projects based on the data. Task force members from Staples included

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Weather

This Week's Forecast

High	Low	Cond.
Dec. 4 31°	14°	M. Cloudy
Dec. 5 30	7	M. Cloudy
Dec. 6 18	10	Sunny
Dec. 7 32	22	Cloudy
Dec. 8 26	6	M. Cloudy
Dec. 9 10	-1	M. Cloudy
Dec. 10 15	11	P. Cloudy

Last Year, 2018

High	Low	Cond.
Dec. 4 25°	18°	Cloudy
Dec. 5 24	16	Cloudy
Dec. 6 22	14	Cloudy
Dec. 7 28	19	Cloudy
Dec. 8 19	0	Sunny
Dec. 9 27	11	P. Cloudy
Dec. 10 35	12	Sunny

Average Temp.:
H = 32° Low = 18°

Snow
Nov. 26: 3.5"
Nov. 30 - Dec. 1: 12"
Total snow: 17.5"

*Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher*

Public Notices
City of Staples ordinance: **9A**

Obituaries
Marjorie Fieber
Audrey Zimmer



Thank you for subscribing!

Court reverses school restraining order against Johnson

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Minnesota Court of Appeals ruled that two harassment restraining orders (HROs) against Dave Johnson of Staples

were not backed by the proper legal evidence, and the orders were reversed. The restraining order granted to the Staples-Motley School District was reversed by Judge Michelle Ann Larkin. A related HRO

against Johnson granted to Paul Anderson of Staples was also reversed.

The appeals court decision stated: "The district court must base an HRO on testimony and documents properly admitted

as evidence. The district court therefore abused its discretion by issuing the HRO on behalf of the school district based solely

JOHNSON
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Holiday lights on display at Pine Grove Park in Staples

As part of the 'Staples Elfing Christmas 2019' a drive through North Pole Holiday Lights event takes place at Pine Grove Park in Staples every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 5 - 9 p.m. through the end of December. There are over 25 different light displays this year and Christmas music will be broadcast as people drive through the park. Hot chocolate will be available and wreaths will be for sale as well. Proceeds will ben-

efit local events.

This event is organized by the City of Staples Parks and Recreation Department, along with the Staples Host Lions and Sisters with Sass. Over 200 hours have gone into the hanging of the lights. The Holiday Lights drive through event is made possible by the generous donations of several area businesses. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



New bridge over icy water

Construction of the new bridge at County Rd. 26 and Quartz Rd. in rural Staples is now complete and officially opened on Nov. 7. Construction has come a long way since the photo below, taken Oct. 15, by Staples World Managing Editor, Mark Anderson.

The bridge was closed to traffic on Aug. 12, 2019, a date Dave Noska said he remembers like a book because, "It affected my business big time," he said. Noska owns 'Don and Dave's Store' located on the west side of the Long Prairie River. Customers living on the east side of the bridge had to shop elsewhere during that time, unless they chose to drive the seven-mile detour. Noska himself lives on the east side of the river, so for the past few months his usual 4 mile

trip to work became a 9.8 mile trip.

He's glad the project is now complete, and relieved to see many of his regular 'east of the river' customers back at the store. "I guess I didn't do anything wrong," Noska laughed. Although the process was a bit of a hassle, Noska said the new bridge is beautiful and the project was a necessary one.

Red Stone Construction out of Mora was the main contractor, with Ideal Construction of Staples doing sub-contract work. Noska went on to note that the old bridge, which was wooden, was 50 years old. At 73, he's not sure he'll be around for the next new bridge, but he plans on enjoying this one for several more years yet. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Law enforcement reports, Motley area

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

Nov. 26 - The MPD issued a speeding citation to Suzanne Paterson, 19; and issued a citation to her passenger, Jaquan Sanders Smith, 20, for small amount of marijuana.

Nov. 26 - The MPD issued citations to Delbert Wol-

beck, 58, for driving after revocation, uninsured vehicle, unregistered vehicle, failing to obtain a new driver's license and a cracked windshield.

Nov. 23 - The MPD received a report of a gas drive-off in the amount of \$56.21 at Orton's Motley BP.

Nov. 22 - 23 - The MPD issued speeding citations to Jesse Abraham, 38; Blake Pierre, 20; Danell Haugen, 50.

Nov. 22 - 23 - The MPD issued hands free violation citations to Alexis Close, 29; Ann Taaffe, 34.

Nov. 22 - The MPD received a report of a cell phone found near the Country Terrace Apartments in Motley. It was brought to city hall for safe keeping.

Nov. 22 - The MCSO responded to a possible domestic at an apartment in Motley.

Council accepts Smieja's resignation, now seeking to fill two positions at city hall

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

They didn't want to do it, but after heartfelt discussion, the Motley City Council accepted, with regrets, the resignation of City Clerk/Treasurer Lacey Smieja.

It was a decision made at a special meeting Nov. 25, with all members of the council present.

In her resignation letter, dated Nov. 14, Smieja noted that her last day as a full-time employee with the City of Motley would be Dec. 14, 2019. "I want to thank my co-workers and the residents of Motley for a wonderful three years," she said. "I have learned a lot and I think a lot has been accomplished during my tenure with the city. I wish everyone well and wish the best for the future of the city."

Mayor Al Yoder said it saddened him to see Smieja go, adding that she has done a lot for the city. "Thank you for your time," he added.

Council members Steve Johnson and Pat O'Regan expressed similar feelings; and council member Jace Carlson asked if the council had to accept her resignation?

Mayor Yoder said that, yes, they needed to honor her request.

Carlson proceeded to ask Smieja if instead of resigning, she'd consider staying on in another capacity.

Smieja went on to explain that at this point in her life, she needed flexible, part-time work. With two young children and a husband who has a heavy workload, she needed to be home more, Smieja explained.

However, she was willing to stay on and help during the transition time, Smieja told the council.

In addition to the clerk/treasurer position that will soon be vacated, the city is also needing to fill a front desk position at city hall.

Darci McGillivray, the city's administrative accounting assistant, gave her resignation about the same time Smieja went on maternity leave, but assisted on a temporary basis while Smieja was out. Ken Swecker was hired in August to provide temporary help with front desk duties during that time as well.

At the special meeting, Hutchison said she hoped Smieja would consider working part-time, at least until they were able to hire a new person. She noted that January is a busy time, with the audit, in addition to regular ongoing duties of the clerk-treasurer, including payroll.

McGillivray was also in attendance at the special meeting and although she has a full-time job elsewhere, indicated she would be willing to offer some temporary help like she did during Smieja's maternity leave.

After more discussion, Smieja said she would be willing to extend her resignation date to Jan. 3, 2020, with the understanding that she would have a flexible work schedule. The council proceeded to approve a motion for Smieja to work part-time as needed, receiving the same pay rate as well as holiday pay.

The council also approved hiring McGillivray on a temporary part-time basis, at \$23.24 per

hour, plus mileage.

Getting both of these positions filled as soon as possible was a priority for the council. Council member Hutchison said she would like to use the search services of David Drown & Associates, like they did prior to hiring Smieja. She thought that Sourcewell might be able to cover 50 percent of that fee. Mayor Yoder thought that was a good idea, but also stressed that time was of the essence. He felt advertisements needed to get into the papers right away, especially for the front desk position.

The council proceeded to approve posting the administrative accounting assistant position in three newspapers (Morrison County Record, Staples World, Brainerd Dispatch) as well as with the League of Minnesota Cities. It will be a part-time position (20 - 25 hrs. a week) with the hiring range being the minimum to midpoint of pay-grade four, dependent on experience. The council also set up a hiring committee for both positions, which includes the council as well as Smieja, Bruce Brotherton, Public Works Director; and Police Chief Jason Borash.

Lastly, the council approved a motion to follow up with Sourcewell and/or David Drown & Associates (DDA) regarding the full-time City Clerk/Treasurer position. If Sourcewell is unable to cover half of the cost, or if DDA is unable to help the city with this search, then they will proceed to advertise on their own in the same manner mentioned above.



Barn quilt at Bethany Lutheran Church

Artist Encantado Zarate posed with his artwork, The Trinity, which he created for Bethany Lutheran Church of Cushing. It has since been erected in front of the church on Bison Road in Cushing. The church's barn quilt was paid for through

an Action Grant from Thrivent Financial. It will be included in the Central Minnesota Barn Quilt Trail, which lists barn quilts displayed in portions of four different counties. (Submitted photo)

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Lunch with Santa

The Motley Lions will host a 'Lunch with Santa' event on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., at Motley City Hall.

COAL IS GOOD, COAL IS GREAT

A new coal retail and sales operation is establishing with an expected start up Nov. 25th, 2019:

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SEDA continued from page 1a

Local business goals

Economic Development Director Melissa Radermacher and City Clerk Diane Archer.

Identified strategies were:

1. Developing the Wadena area workforce
 2. Retaining businesses through transition planning, business planning and economic development resources
 3. Expanding opportunities for housing, child care and entrepreneurship
 4. Connecting businesses and connecting the dots (improving chambers, civic and commerce, community promotion and related community factors)
- Five priority projects were listed in the study:
1. Improving community promotions
 2. Cultivating entrepreneurship
 3. Employee cooperative training
 4. Entrepreneur business planning
 5. Promoting "out of the box" child care solutions.

Local statistics

The SEDA reviewed survey results from Staples area businesses. Categories that had very high results included attitude of employees and employee productivity.

When asked for an overall opinion of Staples as a place to do business, 49 percent said above average and seven percent said excellent. When asked about Staples as a place to live, those positive numbers rose to 50 percent above average and 16 percent excellent.

The businesses rated retail factors in Staples, giving the highest scores to a feeling of safety, quality of merchandise, knowledge and friendliness of personnel and customer service. The lowest ratings were for the factors of a variety of businesses, group advertising and a variety of places to eat, although the survey was completed before the Los Corrales Mexican restaurant was open in Staples.

The survey asked about community features that have an impact on business in Staples. Outdoor recreation had the highest score, with other high scores going to meeting/conference facilities, lodging, community atmosphere and natural environment. The lowest scores, although they were still in the positive range, went to historic atmosphere, transportation and historic sites.

When asked about community factors that affect business, Staples respondents rated union presence, fire department, police, highway accessibility, health care facilities and higher education at the top.

The lowest rated factors included property taxes, proximity to raw materials, air service, proximity of suppliers and proximity to major markets.

Setting goals for Staples

After reviewing the survey, the SEDA started generating ideas for possible business retention and expansion.

Economic Development Director Melissa Radermacher said in the county survey, child care was one of the highest rated in importance and one of the lowest in availability. Staples also had similar scores. She said the county BRE group is working on this issue with the Rural Child Care Innovation Program (RCCIP), offered through First Children's Finance, a nonprofit. SEDA Board member Rachel Johnson said Staples needs almost 300 slots for day care to keep up with demand, and said even with the county efforts, it should be a priority locally, also.

Radermacher said the lack of child care hurts businesses and the effort to attract a workforce. "We have a lot of underemployed or unemployed people at home because they can't find daycare," said Radermacher. "We need to get creative on how to support that."

SEDA Board member Doug Case said that Central Lakes College in Staples has graduated many machine trades students, but the community has a relatively small number of machine shops. "Those are high end jobs, good jobs," said Case. He suggested finding ways to get more manufacturing businesses in the Staples area.

Other ideas generated as possible goals included aligning marketing efforts with chamber and LEAP, promoting empty buildings in industrial park and downtown, get people who work in Staples to live in Staples, downtown revitalization, Batcher Block project, promoting recreational opportunities, lessen tax impacts, developing positive culture of business in town, more collaboration, and attracting skilled labor.

The SEDA will continue working on the goals at future meetings. The board voted to cancel their December meeting, which was scheduled to fall on Christmas Eve, and will have their next meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 28, at 5 p.m. at the Staples Police Department.

In other news, the SEDA approved joining MNCAR Commercial Real Estate Association to help develop available buildings and land in Staples.

75 YEARS AGO - 1944

Dec. 7, 1944 - At the meeting of Troop 61 of the Boy Scouts, Monday evening of this week, seven Tenderfoot Scouts were invested and initiated into the organization by Scoutmaster O. F. Peterson. New Scouts admitted were James Markfelder, James Randgaard, James Johnson, Larry Brollard, Vernon Otto, Jerry Koplin, and Billy Burke.

Dec. 7, 1944 - Monday evening, while in regular session, the Staples Lions club members had

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Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
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a surprise in the form of a personal "thank you" from a sailor who had received some of the cigarettes which the club has been sending to servicemen for the past year or more. The sailor, Seaman Mario Iaconetti, had been confined to a hospital in Hawaii, and it was while there that he received the cigarettes bearing "Greetings from the Staples Lions Club, Staples, Minnesota."

Seaman Iaconetti was enroute to his home at Richfield, New Jersey, and was on the first section of Northern Pacific No. 2. Noticing that this was Staples, he was reminded of the cigarettes, and while in the St. Charles hotel while the train stopped in Staples, he came to the club room and personally thanked the members of the club for the cigarettes he had received.

It was a surprise to the members of the Staples Lions club to have this sailor "drop in" on them, and it also gave a feeling of confidence to the club that the time, effort and contributions received to the cigarette fund by the people of Staples and this community, were really doing good.

Dec. 7, 1944 - The headline in the News of Motley reads, 'Charles Farber Captures 61 Germans Alone.' The article went on to tell how Cpl. Charles E. Farber of Motley, with the Second Armored Division in France, was alone on outpost, facing a gang of armed Germans too surprised for the moment to shoot. He knew that if he yelled for help they might open up on him, so Farber decided on a bold plan for action. He glared at the leading Jerry. "Any more of you in there?" he demanded. The Germans nodded and called out something in German. By twos and threes, more and more Nazis poured out of the bushes. Farber counted 61, everyone fully armed. Farber kept up his bluff and one by one they dropped their guns.

50 YEARS AGO - 1969

Dec. 11, 1969 - Vern Seipkes, Rehabilitation Coordinator for the Department of Education,

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, presented certificates to five Staples business firms last week. These businesses and employers included Matt Shea of Scharf Chevrolet-Buick Inc.; Robert Peterson of Peterson Furniture; Don Gilbertson of Batcher's Department Store; Harold Giza of Giza Plumbing and Heating; and P. W. Anderson of Anderson Our Own Hardware. These employees are cooperating with Mr. Seipkes and the local school district in providing work experience to senior high students with physical, emotional, cultural and mental problems.

Dec. 11, 1969 - Mueller Motor Co. of Staples advertises the price of its Maverick still at \$1,995; and the Torino being 'The lowest priced hardtop in its class.'

Dec. 11, 1969 - Christmas shopping ad for Batcher's Dept. Store in Staples: New Crush panty hose, 77 cents per pair; 3 lb. box of Brach's Christmas Chocolates, \$1.94; and with a purchase of \$10, a free colored picture of your child with Santa. (In just one minute... Polaroid, of course!)

25 YEARS AGO - 1994

Dec. 8, 1994 - Michael Kotula of rural Browerville dropped his snowmobile into 12 feet of water on Horseshoe Lake last Thursday. The ice was approximately 1 to 2 inches thick at the time, according to the Todd County Sheriff's Office. Kotula was alone at the time of the 5:45 p.m. accident and was able to make his way back to shore. He was not injured. Kotula was attempting to put his fish house on the ice. The machine went through about 30 feet from shore.

Dec. 8, 1994 - Lorrrie and Wendel Toedter of Staples were the lucky winners of \$200 in Staples Dollars in

the Staples Area Chamber of Commerce Giveaway. Lorrrie was in Perry's Ben Franklin when their name was drawn and announced on KSKK radio. Her winning entry had been deposited at Coast to Coast.

10 YEARS AGO - 2009

Dec. 3, 2009 - The annual National Honor Society induction program was held Nov. 25, at Centennial Auditorium in Staples. The seven seniors inducted into the NHS chapter a year ago conducted the ceremony. They included Kaytlin Roth and Ryan Carter, who were emcees, Gemma Shaffer, Kelly Hagenson, Katlynn Ullring, Emma Motl and Abby Edin. The 11 new seniors and six juniors inducted include Abby Smith, Skye Coughlin, Abby Becker, Katie Stone, Celeste Harlow, Kaylee Martin, Kelly Reese, Ashley Lisson, Lonna Dumpprope, Sam Duberowski, Skylee Svendsen, Philip Smithley, Alek Paskewitz, Ryan Detloff, Mary Beth Hoyt, Brandon Haglin and Ryan Bart.

Dec. 3, 2009 - Pillsbury Junction, located at Hwy 210 and Cty Rd. 1 South in Pillager, has new owners and a new look.

Mark and Laurie Pagnac purchased the gas station / convenience store last September and since that time have given the store a face-lift and have made changes to the outside of the store as well. The Pagnacs also own the Clark Station and bakery in Staples.

Dec. 3, 2009 - Crosslake author and columnist Mike Holst has released "The Magic Book," his newest fiction novel and fifth overall. Holst is originally from Staples and a graduate of Staples High School. He will be in Staples Sunday, Dec. 6, at the Sacred Heart Area School craft show. Keeping



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our Dec. 4, 1969 edition. Do you know who this person is 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.

with his tradition of Minnesota stories, the story takes place in St. Paul.



And the answer from last week is...

Last week's mystery photo published in the Nov. 13, 1969 edition of the Staples World featured six employees of the Lakewood Clinic Staff who would be on hand to assist with the open house festivities of the new medical center in Staples. Pictured are Mrs. Norman (Kathy) Card (seated) and back row, from left: Phyllis Miner, Mrs. Howard (Ruth) Olsen, Mrs. DeLyle (Katie) Johnson, Mrs. Allen (Margie) Anderson and Mrs. Leroy (Marge) Hajek.

Mike Hajek of Staples correctly identified all except Miner, whom he guessed was Mary Ann O'Keefe. Margie Anderson of Verndale (one of the nurses in the photo) recognized all except Miner, noting that this was pretty much the clinic staff in its entirety at that time. Ann Converse and Peggy Sauer identified all, stating that Phyllis's last name is Neissus. Thanks for participating in our mystery photo.

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Do you have a family member with memory loss who lives in a care facility?

The University of Minnesota is examining the effects of an educational program to support family members with a loved one in a care facility. It will be led by a trained coach. Learn more about participating in this free study by contacting Professor Joe Gaugler at 612.626.2485 or gaug0015@umn.edu. To learn more visit the website:

sph.umn.edu/research/projects/residential-care-transition-module/

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Library circulation is up

By testing tritium levels, the study determined that the groundwater brought up by the Staples well is decades old. "It's not that long ago, but it's perfectly safe to drink," said Minerich.

Levels of nitrates are low and arsenic is below detection level in the main well, but the emergency well has arsenic right at the detection level.

"You have good quality water, it is safe to drink," said Minerich.

But because the well is

near an area of heavy traffic for trains and Highway 10, there is a chance that a highway spill or derailment could eventually lead to pollutants getting into the groundwater.

The study showed higher than expected levels of chloride and bromide in the groundwater, which Minerich said is from road salt washing off the highway.

"In the future you could look at a new well site away from the highway and away from the railroad," said Minerich.

Library report

Staples Librarian Cathy Perish gave her annual report to the council,

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which included statistics from 2019. Library circulation was up an average of five percent this year, and the library continues to be busy with internet and wi-fi users.

The library held 59 programs so far in 2019 with 1,766 people attending them. Programs included a ventriloquist, magic show and the Teddy Bear Band. In February, the library hosted 230 students from Staples-Motley and Sacred Heart schools. Storytime and Adult Book Club are monthly programs and the library also offers technology help for adults, in the form of one on one tutoring.

Great River Regional Library has removed all fines on children's materials as of June, 2019, but the program runs out at the end of the year. Items not returned in that time will be charged with processing fees.

The library added a Print 2 Go service, a wireless printer that allows patrons to print from any device. Customers could even print from home and come to the library to pick up their copies.

In other news, the council approved a conditional use permit for Robb Brown to operate a gunsmith business at his home at 720 5th Street NE in Staples.

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Local journalism and the need for solutions

From PEN America study on local journalism (pen.org)

Local news plays an indispensable role in American civic life as a trusted source for critical information, a watchdog for government and corporate accountability, and a building block of social cohesion. As such, local journalism is a cornerstone of American democracy, serving as a driver of civic engagement and a guarantor of government integrity.

While the appetite for watchdog reporting has never been greater—or more urgent—the business model for local news has collapsed. With the rise of the internet, the behavior and circulation patterns of news audiences have shifted, and powerful tech giants have siphoned the ad revenue that long subsidized local accountability reporting. Meanwhile, local newspapers, TV stations, and radio stations are being bought and consolidated into ever larger, often national media conglomerates in an effort to maintain financial viability. And a new generation of media owners—private equity and hedge fund investors—are reducing editorial and reporting staff to cut costs and increase profit margins. These pressures have diminished the quantity and quality of local news available to communities.

Given its importance, the plight of local news should be the subject of

national conversation. While media reform advocates and academics have been sounding the alarm for over a decade, most Americans do not yet realize that their local news sources are on the brink of collapse. In fact, polling suggests that a majority think their local outlets are doing well financially, and only a small minority pay for local news.

This report calls for a radical rethinking of local journalism as a public good, rather than as a commercial product. The revitalization of local news will require concerted action from the media industry, tech giants, philanthropists, and the government, working in tandem to acknowledge and uphold the vital role that local journalism plays in our civic life.

Why Local News Matters

The U.S. media landscape is composed of overlapping “news ecosystems”: interconnected networks of print newspapers, digital news sites, television stations, and radio programming that, combined, represent the full spectrum of professional journalism that communities have access to. This report focuses on local news ecosystems, those that predominantly serve a specific town, city, or region. Studies indicate that Americans deeply value and trust their local news sources—more than their national ones. At a time when political polarization is growing and

fraudulent news is proliferating, trusted sources of information and analysis are more precious than ever.

Local news outlets play a vital role in safeguarding community health and welfare by:

- serving as a source of critical information
- amplifying local issues, including public health crises, to the regional and national level
- holding local government and corporate actors accountable
- building social cohesion by fostering a sense of belonging and shared experience

Local news also drives civic engagement. With its loss, studies show citizens are:

- less likely to vote
- less politically informed
- less likely to run for office

Studies demonstrate that, with the decline of local news—and of watchdog journalism in particular:

- Government officials conduct themselves with less integrity, efficiency, and effectiveness.
- Government corruption and costs increase: salaries, taxation, and county deficit spending go up, and federal funding goes down.
- Corporate malfeasance, such as environmental degradation, goes unchecked.

These costs and benefits are not abstract—they are rooted in the very foundations of American democracy.



Letter to the Editor

Wreath Time, 'Tis the Season

For the past couple of years Evergreen Hill Cemetery, Staples, started selling wreaths for the graves as its only fundraiser for maintenance/upkeep of the cemetery... All proceeds go directly to the cemetery and no one is paid for the making of the wreaths or in the placing of them on the graves. These wreaths are strictly made for purchase for placement on the

graves. These are not sold for residential or business placement, nor are they in any way intended for that use.

When wreaths are purchased they stay until the selling deadline and then are all placed at one time on the graves by cemetery volunteers.

It's unfortunate that there's confusion that it's a competitor of the Staples Lions Club Wreath Sales, which is just not so - two different reasons for wreath sales. In fact, I believe that the two entities share members of the

organization with members on the cemetery board, so I would hope anyone thinking that it's competition could certainly talk with those people, and see that it's for the common good and not contrary to each entity's efforts.

Small communities survive by working together for the good of all.

Happy Thanksgiving and have a blessed and grateful Holiday season.

Kathy Odden
Staples, Minn.

Building community for the common good

By Julie Tesch
President, Center for Rural Policy and Development

Do you know what the bedrock of any town is, rural or urban? Community.

In this age of technology, it is very easy to isolate yourself. You can be listening to a podcast on your phone while you are emailing for work and playing a game at the same time. If you wanted, you could chat with friends and family without ever having to say a spoken word. Just message them on any communication app or email and you don't have to have any actual face-to-face contact. While this all sounds like genius to some people, especially introverts, we're starting to recognize that this trend is disintegrating our sense of community.

Living in a rural area can at times be challenging. In some rural areas there just aren't a lot of people to talk to or be involved in organizations with, so the internet is a fabulous way to connect with people around the world without having to leave your rural home. Again, this sounds great until you realize that you don't know your neighbors and very few people are volunteering for com-

munity organizations.

And yet we rely on those activities. Suddenly, the church is closing, the exercise classes are cancelled, and the Girl Scout troop is no longer. Why? Because there is nobody to lead them. Not because of lack of people but for lack of interest. In a larger community, you can typically rely on the fact that “someone else” will handle those volunteer projects. In rural areas, that “someone else” just might be you.

Rural areas rely more on the public good to get the job done. Just the sheer lack of population makes citizens of rural areas more likely to be involved in community, church and fraternal groups. Somebody has to organize the town parade, right?

The problem is that fewer people are stepping up to help the community. We are so into ourselves and our phones that we aren't thinking of the common good of those right around us. Before we realize it, that parade we take our children to every year is gone. Why? Because nobody stepped forward to organize it.

There are plenty of people in rural areas with plenty of talents to offer, and you're probably one

of them. Why not see how you can get involved? Maybe it's volunteering at your local library or taking part in raking leaves for the elderly. There is always someone to help if you look hard enough.

Now, I'm not asking you to plan the town parade, but I bet somewhere there's a niche where you and your special skills with a computer or music or art or heavy lifting would fit right in. The only way rural America is going to continue to survive is if we all offer our talents to make sure that our communities are thriving.

A town can receive all the government support, all the economic development funds and all the construction projects it wants, but that town will not flourish unless the residents of that town are connected with each other.

In our research, we hear time and again that people are moving to rural areas because of the feeling of community. We need to continue to foster that feeling in our rural areas so that we can have rural communities in the future for our children and grandchildren to enjoy.

So, what do you say, can I sign you up to rake leaves for your neighbors?

Rural hospitals could regionalize adult care

By Al Cross
Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues

As rural hospitals seek new ways to survive, a commentary in *The Journal of Rural Health* suggests that one new model could regionalize adult health care in much the same way it has been regionalized for perinatal care, the care given before and after the birth of a child.

“Regionalization of health care is not a new approach,” note the authors of the commentary, which could spark debate about ways to save rural hospitals.

The survival of rural hospitals is a real concern. Since 2010, at least 113 rural hospitals in the U.S. have closed, according to the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research at the University of North Carolina.

Mosby's Medical Dictionary defines health-care regionalization as “the organization of a system for the delivery of health

care within a region to avoid costly duplication of services and to ensure the availability of essential services.”

“It may be a critical tool for the survival of rural community hospitals,” write the commentary authors, Catherine Clary and Dr. William Kanto of Augusta University in Georgia, and Nikki King and Tim Putnam of Margaret Mary Health in Batesville, Ind., 40 miles west of Cincinnati.

They explain that perinatal regionalization, which designates hospitals according to their ability to care for mothers and infants and uses those levels to determine where they should be best cared for, has resulted in “the decline of neonatal mortality and improving other perinatal statistics.”

“Just as not all perinatal services could be provided in every community hospital, today there are specialized life-saving services (such as stroke, cardiovascular and trauma) available that cannot be fully supported by every rural hospital,” they write. “However in an organized system of care, treatment can be initiated in the rural hospital and patients appropriately transferred, insuring universal access to these services and improved patient outcomes.”

They also argue that specialized regionalization of adult care could free rural hospitals to expand some services, allow “vibrant telehealth” consultations that could allow patients to stay in their home facility with continuing support; and, if the partnership is with an academic medical center, provide opportunities for strong continuing education programs.

They say such a model

would include systems and protocols developed by the hospitals, and a strong telemedicine component; result in a growing respect and trust among the providers in the region that would lead to improved care and patient satisfaction; and make sure transferred patients would be returned back to their local hospital as soon as medically possible. That way, “The patient's family incurs less expense and travel time,” they write.

Also, prompt transfer demonstrates the specialty hospital's confidence in the rural hospital and providers, increases the patient and clinical volume of the rural hospital, and allows for post-discharge care to be conducted by local providers, they write: “The local hospital is the nexus for the continuing care for the patient; local providers are available to answer questions about medications, rehabilitation, and follow-up care, reducing the chance for error and confusion.”

They add that being able to return a patient to their home facility is easier if the rural hospital has a “swing bed program,” which allows a hospital bed to be used as an acute-care bed or a skilled-nursing bed, like in an advanced nursing home.

The authors conclude, “The survival of rural hospitals is an essential component in providing health care to a rural community, and rural hospitals are integral to the economic development and future growth of the community. With adult regionalization, patients receive required tertiary care, but the community hospital is supported through its use for rehabilitation and continued wellness.”

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

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

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

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

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

Keep public notices in newspapers!



An Elfing Christmas in Staples has begun

A variety of activities will take place during the second annual 'An Elfing Christmas' in Staples throughout December. These include:

- Breakfast with the Elves on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. - noon at the Community Center. In addition to breakfast, enjoy crafts, games and free hay rides. Free swimming from noon - 3 p.m.
- Hot Chocolate Bar at the Stomping Grounds coffee shop in Staples Saturday, Dec. 7.
- Free swimming at the Community Center from noon - 3 p.m.
- Luminary Walk at Veterans Park in Staples Friday, Dec. 6, at 5 p.m.
- Festival of Trees Dec. 13 and 14 at the Staples Community Center. Find your favorite tree and cast a vote.
- Grinch's Snow Day Friday, Dec. 20, 3:30 - 6

p.m. at the Staples Community Center. Watch the new Grinch movie or play BahHumBug games, enjoy swimming, crafts and snacks.

- Santa Mail - Use the ELF mailbox and get a return letter from Santa. Located at the Community Center through Dec. 7; and at Staples City Hall Dec. 8 - 23.
- Elfing Bingo, Dec. 7 - Dec. 23.
- North Pole Lights Display at Pine Grove Park in Staples will be held every Friday, Saturday and Sunday in December from 5 - 9 p.m. Proceeds will benefit local events.

The City of Staples Parks and Recreation Department is an organizer of this event, with several service organizations volunteering their time. It is made possible through the financial sponsorship of many area businesses.

Local Manager of Community Solutions appointed to state council

Putting children first - Q&A with Anna Gruber



Early childhood advocate

Anna Gruber, left, Sourcewell Manager of Community Solutions, is one of nine individuals recently appointed to the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care by Minnesota Governor Tim Walz. Submitted photo)

The voices of local educators, early childhood providers and families will be represented at the State Capitol. Sourcewell Manager of Community Solutions Anna Gruber is one of nine individuals recently appointed to the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care by Minnesota Governor Tim Walz.

Gruber shares what this means, not only for her but, for children and families throughout Sourcewell's service area.

Q: What exactly is the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education

and Care?

A: This group was initially called the Early Learning Council and developed by former Gov. Mark Dayton to ensure all children were school ready by 2020. Renamed to the Council on Early Childhood Education and Care, this group is charged with providing counsel to the Governor's cabinets regarding children and fulfilling the duties required by the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007.

Q: How were you selected to this Council?

A: The process involved

an online application to the Advisory Council. From there, the Children's Cabinet processed, interviewed and selected finalists from across the state of Minnesota.

Q: What will you do as part of this group?

A: As a part of this group, I will be active in improving the lives of children in Minnesota through supporting engagement that improves outcomes, promotes equity and bridges the opportunity gap for our next generation of leaders. We know that this work is not only incredibly important to the future of our state, but also cannot be accomplished by any one person or agency. I look forward to working together with a group of statewide leaders committed to serving our children.

Q: How does this align with what you - and your team - have done with early childhood initiatives?

A: At Sourcewell, our Community Solutions team has actively engaged in serving children through our Regional Family Child Care Licensing Model, which promotes the success of children from infant to school age in family, in-home childcare settings.

Our Education Solutions team is also actively involved in the engagement of children through a vari-

ety of early childhood and school-age programs and services. Both teams will provide incredible perspective and knowledge. Also, as a mother of three small children - two of which are early childhood aged - I'll have the ability to bring a personal lens to the table.

Q: What unique attributes or perspective do you hope to bring to the council?

A: I hope to join other leaders throughout the state in bringing a perspective of not only professional experiences and connections, but personal - whether we're parents, family members, friends, or mentors; we all interact with children and have an interest in serving our youngest leaders.

Gruber's term runs Nov. 18, 2019 to Jan. 2, 2023. In addition to the nine appointments made by the Governor; four members of the Minnesota Legislature, two from the House of Representatives and two from the Senate, sit on the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care, along with the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Health and the State Head Start Director, appointed by the Minnesota Department of Education.

Cardinal Calendar

Staples-Motley School events

December

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

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

'It's a Wonderful Life' live radio play in Staples

Lamplighter Community Theatre will present a live radio play, "It's a Wonderful Life," at Landmark Inn in Staples Friday, Dec. 13, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 14, at 2 and 7 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 2 p.m.

This heartwarming holiday treasure is a recreation of the original Lux Radio Theatre broadcast from 1947. It features a cast of actors and actresses of all ages.

The play is directed by Fred Rogers, the Artistic Director of the MN Folklore Theatre in Walker. He is an award-winning director who brings 45 years of experience with him to Staples.

The Landmark Inn is located at 631 3rd Ave. in Staples. For online ticket information, visit www.lct-staples.com.

Annual Radiothon to End Child Abuse

The Annual Radiothon to End Child Abuse will be held December 5 and 6, 2019 on KIK-FM 100.7 and COOL 94.3 in Alexandria and KWAD/KNSP, 1430 AM and Superstation K-106, 105.9 FM in Wadena.

Ending child abuse and neglect is a complex challenge. Todd County offers services for child protection, child welfare and Parent Support Outreach. Todd County Child Services Unit receives many reports, including child maltreatment reports. These reports come from all economic, racial, social, ethnic and religious groups, and could be your friends, neighbors and relatives. Thankfully, most of these reports are concerns that have not resulted in child protection action, but the number of reports represents the needs and concerns in our community.

Todd County established the Todd County Prevention, Education, Awareness, Communication and Equality Council in 1990 (P.E.A.C.E.) Through the joint efforts of the Todd County Child Protection Team and the Todd County Collaborative they work to coordinate events. Through these events educational information is distributed hoping to increase public awareness about the serious effects of child maltreatment and positive parenting techniques to prevent child abuse and neglect. In the past we've done outreach with students, discussed children's need to be safe, hired speakers to train professionals, give public talks and are currently funding Circle of Parents to establish a parenting support group.

We partner with Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota and surrounding counties to participate in the Annual Radiothon to End Child Abuse, with KIK-FM 100.7 and COOL 94.3 AM in Alexandria and KWAD/KNSP, 1430 AM and Superstation K-106, 105.9 FM in Wadena, to raise funds to strengthen prevention efforts statewide and locally. Tune in at noon Thursday, Dec. 5 through noon on Friday, Dec. 6 and participate in the 2019 Radiothon to End Child Abuse. With generous contributions from the Radiothon, individual donors and businesses in our area, we have been able to offer quality programs to educate parents and the community at large about the benefits of providing a safe, nurturing environment for our children. All families need hope to grow strong and healthy. Through your participation and donations, you can help to provide that hope.



Staples Host Lions donation

The Staples Host Lions recently donated \$300 to go toward the Envirofest which Staples-Motley students in sixth grade attended this past September. Pictured above, from left, are Lion Mike Gold, President of Staples Host Lions;

sixth graders Lizzy Tangeman, Chyanne Taylor, Jerry Russell; and Staples-Motley Middle School science teacher Laurie Trout. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Mark Your Calendar

December 17

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

FRIENDLY INN BINGO!

EVERY SATURDAY

(unless bad weather)

218-575-3295

Located 6 miles south of Staples 1-1/2 miles east of Staples on #203

D & W's Country Boutique

1ST ANNUAL

Craft Sale

Fri., Dec. 6

12 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 7

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

7627 120th St. SW, Staples, MN

*Variety of vendors
*Each with a different creativity.
(visit Facebook event calendar)

Thank you...
for reading the
Staples World

Staples/Motley Catholic Youth Ministry presents:

Festival of Creches/Nativity Sets

"No Room at the Inn"

Share your creche/nativity set and be part of our exhibit by calling 218-414-0081. Viewing is: **Saturday, Dec. 14**, at St. Michael Church, Staples, MN

Main Exhibit, 2-6 p.m. \$5/ person \$15/ family

Sacred Mass/ Blessing of the Creches, 7 p.m.;

Closing, 8-10 p.m. with live music, hospitality and Christmas Sing-along!

For the benefit of CARE Ministries, St. Michael Building Fund and Sacred Heart stained glass windows fund.

COZY THEATRE

WADENA, MN

Screen 1: **"FROZEN II"**
Held Over 3rd Week!
Fri. thru Thurs. Dec. 6 - 12
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:10 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:10
Matinees Sat. & Sun. Dec. 7 & 8 at 1:15 pm

Screen 2: **"KNIVES OUT"**
Held Over 2nd Week!
Fri. thru Thurs. Dec. 6 - 12
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:15 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:00
Matinees Sat. & Sun. Dec. 7 & 8 at 1:00 pm

Screen 3: **"A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD"**
Held Over 3rd Week!
Fri. thru Thurs. Dec. 6 - 12
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:15 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:15
Matinee Sun. Dec. 8 at 1:30 pm

Screen 4: **BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

FREE CHRISTMAS MATINEE!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH
AT 12:00 & 2:00 PM

"ABOMINABLE"

Sponsored by Wadena Merchants

Tuesday Bargain Night - All Seats \$5.00
Matinee Admission All Seats \$6.00
www.cozytheatre.com

Staples Historical Society

"Christmas at the Depot"

Sunday, Dec. 15, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Bring in the Holiday Season with

- *Colla Voce Girl's Choir
- *Santa Claus
- *Apple Cider and Cookies

Staples Historic Depot

First Ave. NE/ 4th St. NE, Staples, MN

Friendly Rider

Cheap and Great Gift idea!

Buy your special someone a book of tickets or a pass.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Wadena County



Cardinals win again

Pictured, Haley Cichos controls the ball in Staples-Motley girls basketball season opener. The Cardinals also won their second game of the year, 58-51, at Long Prairie-Grey Eagle. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

DNR fur registration

Local trappers are reminded that the pelt of each bobcat, fisher, pine marten, and otter, the carcass of each bobcat, and the head of each pine marten and fisher taken must be presented, by the person taking it, to a DNR registration station before the pelt is sold or removed from the state, and no more than 24 hours after the season closes for pine marten and fisher (December 31), and no more than 48 hours after the season closes for bobcat and otter (January 28).

As in previous years, official DNR registration stations, dates, and times have been set up for registration, and are listed on pages 55-58 of the 2019 Minnesota Hunting and Trapping Handbook. Bobcat, fisher, pine marten, and otter taken by local trappers may be registered between noon and 7:00 p.m. on December 31, and between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. on January 28 (bobcat & otter only) at the Brainerd Area DNR Office (1601 Minnesota Drive) or Sauk Rapids DNR Office (940 Industrial Drive, Suite 103, Sauk Rapids). These species may also be registered at the Little Falls area wildlife office between noon and 4:30 p.m. on December 31, and between 3 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. on January

28. Furs can be registered at other times throughout the season, by appointment only, with any DNR area wildlife office, including those listed above.

Trappers are reminded to remove the pelt from the carcass for every furbearer they take before bringing it in for registration, and the pelt must not be frozen. In addition, the entire carcass of the bobcat and head of pine marten and fisher must be surrendered at the time of registration. Trappers will also need to present their site validation coupons for fisher, pine marten and otter.

To speed up registration, trappers are asked to bring written information for each animal to be registered: species, sex, method of take (including type of trap), date taken, and county, township and range where taken. Include your MNDNR number (a 9-digit number located in the upper half of your license in large print). To aid in recording this information prior to registration, copies of fur registration forms can be obtained from the Little Falls wildlife office (call 320-616-2468, ext. 222) or can be downloaded from the DNR's webpage at http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/rec-recreation/hunting/trapping/fur_registration_form.pdf.

Bow hunting is the ultimate challenge

By Ray Gildow

For Mitch Albers, a bow-hunter who lives in the western suburbs of the twin cities, bow hunting is a whole lot more than harvesting a deer. For Albers, who has been bow hunting most of his life, hunting with a bow is the chance to spend quality time in the woods when other hunters are not usually around. He often hunts until the last week of bow season and that can mean hunting in pretty harsh conditions, but he has the gear for staying long hours in the stand and has the patience to wait for just the right shot at the right deer.

The area Albers hunts is full of wildlife; turkeys, coyotes, badgers, eagles and skunks to name a few. "I just enjoy being in the woods and watching all the animals that walk by and also the large number of deer that move through the area especially during the rut. The biggest thrill is waiting for that big buck knowing that everything

has to be just right in order to even get a shot off," said Albers.

Most hunters will agree that bow hunting is often done by the best deer hunters. It is much more difficult to get a shot at a deer at 15-25 yards than it is to see one and shoot it at 100-150 yards with a rifle. Albers feels that bow hunting success is often determined by the number of days spent in the woods. "The occasional bow hunter can get lucky, but is not likely to have as much success as the hunter who spends more quality time in the woods", said Albers who usually hunts about 25 days a year.

Albers starts his bow hunting preparation in the spring. He goes to the areas where he will hang his stands and makes sure his shooting lanes are brushed out and clean. He establishes a walking trail for approaching his stands and tries not to ever disturb the rest of the area. During the hunt, he shows every morning before going to his stand, he uses

How (or how not) to run a duck stamp program

The Federal Register could well be the least-read publication in print. Its role is to make official the rules and regulations issued by the IRS, the Department of Labor, and other federal agencies. It's certainly the most boring. There are no photographs, political cartoons, want ads, or advertisements; just black text so small you'd reach for your "cheater" eyeglasses if you tried to read it.

I'm familiar with the publication only because part of my "day job" is finding regulatory news for my employer. Every now and then, though, the Federal Register contains something of interest to the outdoors person. Just before Thanksgiving it published a notice about the expanding status of the "electronic federal duck stamp program," which understandably caught my eye.

For most of my long hunting life, the federal stamp required of those who hunt ducks and geese—the "duck stamp"—was obtained either at a U.S. Post Office branch, or from a merchant who sold hunting licenses. The revenue—the price is now up to \$25—is used to purchase and lease wetland habitat for protection within the National Wildlife Refuge system. Many of these refuges permit hunting on selected lands and waters within their boundaries.

In 2005, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service began a three-year pilot program with eight states—including Minnesota—to offer the duck stamp electronically. Under this program, when my hunting buddy and I would stop at Fleet Farm or another sporting goods outlet before the season to purchase our small game hunting license and stamps, we didn't receive the physical federal stamp, but instead a temporary "endorsement" that enti-

tled us to hunt these game birds.

This endorsement is valid for 45 days while the hunter awaits the arrival of the paper stamp. That paper stamp is to be signed on its face and carried along with the hunter's license. One benefit of this electronic approach was that it became unnecessary for a license agent to physically stock stamps, and it was easier to avoid running short, or having leftovers. Mine arrived after about three weeks this year. If you purchased yours on the very eve of the waterfowl opener, and only hunted the earliest part of the season, you might never have it on your person while in your duck boat or blind. If you're a more serious waterfowl hunter, you'd have it while the mid and late season birds were still flying over your decoys. Both types of hunter make their contribution to the cause.

This year's stamp features a fully-plumed drake wood duck. In the misty background, within stems of cattail, is a wooden decoy of the same species. Fans of collectible decoys will recognize it as a rare example from the Mason Decoy Company of Detroit, Michigan. Continuing a long tradition of Minnesotans dominating the federal duck stamp competition, this composition was painted by Freeport, Minnesota, artist Scott Storm, who topped a field of 150 artists.

Minnesota also has a duck stamp. To hunt ducks or geese within our borders it's necessary to spend an additional \$7.50 beyond the small game license and the federal stamp. The proceeds from our state stamp are used to finance waterfowl habitat management—specifically, Minnesota's shallow "game lakes"—and waterfowl research. This began in 1977, when the Minnesota Waterfowl Association spearheaded legislation to create the state duck stamp program.

In 2007, rather than raise the price to cover costs, someone conceived the idea of letting hunters pay the conservation fee and have only a "validation" appear on their Min-

nesota small game hunting license. They could skip receiving the physical stamp, and save 75 cents.

In hindsight, it seems that someone with a basic understanding of consumer behavior might have predicted what would happen. As reported recently by Minneapolis Star-Tribune outdoor writer Tony Kennedy, today only about 13% of state duck and goose hunters opt for the added small charge to get the actual physical state duck stamp.

Whether by coincidence or otherwise, artist interest in the Minnesota duck stamp contest has fallen, too. From contest entries numbering 200 or more in heyday years, the DNR is fortunate now to get much more than a dozen entrants. You can almost hear an artist asking the rhetorical question: "Why go to the trouble of creating artwork when 87% of Minnesota waterfowl hunters won't see it?" And if few see it, there will be less demand for the limited edition prints that historically were the artist's payoff.

There are other factors that can't be ignored. Minnesota has far fewer duck hunters than in peak years. Still, roughly 75-80,000 Minnesota hunters purchase a license and hunt waterfowl each year. But if little more than 10,000 of them will see the winning artist's work—given the small number that choose to receive the pictorial stamp—the promotional value for an artist is negligible.

It's true, too, that there is now less demand for limited-edition wildlife art, including waterfowl and waterfowl hunting subjects. The genre exploded in the 1980's and 1990's, and a fair amount of mediocre art no doubt diluted interest in the good work. As sexist as it may sound, the greatest interest in wildlife art has been among males, and there are only so many dens, offices, man-caves, and garages where wildlife art is welcome. The better wildlife artists have survived, able to secure commissions for original work, without major reliance on the print market.

The soft wildlife art market notwithstanding,

I would argue that interest in the Minnesota duck stamp program—interest among both hunters and artists—could have been better maintained if the state had chosen to handle our program like the federals: you pay a fee, get a stamp, and have it in your possession when you hunt. At least then, more than a mere 13% of our waterfowl hunters might have had reason to ask: "What do you think of this year's state duck stamp?"

But does it really matter? To a sentimentalist like me, it does. Over a period spanning well over four decades, duck stamps were my admission ticket to the hunt. They were saved and collected, year over year. I've even framed and hung some that were of special significance. When I signed my duck stamps (still required with the federal stamp), I'd walk a fine line between making my signature visible enough to satisfy a conservation officer or federal warden, and not defacing the image more than was absolutely necessary. "What's the subject this year?..." was one of every season's anticipations.

As if to challenge the old saying that "two wrongs don't make a right," next year digital designers will be able to enter the Minnesota duck stamp contest. That's how desperate is the effort to stimulate interest in our competition and encourage more entries. Contestants will be able to create entries on an electronic device, rather than with a brush, pen, or other art instrument held by a hand and guided by a discriminating eye and intimate knowledge of a bird. A hobbyist-designer reportedly convinced someone with enough influence in the Minnesota Legislature that this should be allowed, and so it will.

Every year I tell the clerk who is processing my small game license, "Yes, I want the actual state duck stamp." But if a digital designer using a computer "app" is awarded the honor of having their image on the next Minnesota duck stamp, I just might respectfully decline.

Crow Wing park closing Dec. 7-11 for deer hunt

During a special hunt to prevent overpopulation of deer and protect resources on Dec. 7-11, 2019, Crow Wing State Park will be closed to all visitors. All available hunt permits for this special hunt have been

assigned.

"We allow occasional deer hunts to protect the natural resources in our state parks," said Tavis Westbrook, Natural Resource Program coordinator for Minnesota State

Parks and Trails. "If deer populations become too high in an area, they can negatively impact native plant communities. Deer hunts are an effective tool to maintain a balance between plant and animal

life."

Details on which areas of each park will be affected by the special deer hunt can be found in the "Visitor Alert" boxes on the individual park Web pages at www.mndnr.gov.



Patience leads to big reward

Albers with his 2019 Buck (Submitted photo)



Pre-Thanksgiving meal at Central Lakes College

Students and staff at Central Lakes College in Staples enjoyed a free turkey dinner Nov. 26. Pictured above, from left, are students Derek Becker, Little Falls; Hunter Brannen, Rice; William Dobmeier, Bertha; Christian Weiss-Borg, Park Rapids. In lower photo, from left, are staff members Robbie Lange, Jill Albie, Peggy Thorn, John Reese, Jeff Klehr, Nate Peterson, Debbie Sterriker. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



R5 participates in Aspen Institute's Rural Development Hubs report

The Aspen Institute Community Strategies Group (CSG) interviewed staff at Region Five Development Commission (R5DC) as part of their research that identified "Rural Development Hub" intermediaries as effective community and economic development partners in rural America. CSG has now published the final report of this research, with support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

The report, titled "Rural Development Hubs: Strengthening America's Rural Innovation Infrastructure", offers value and insight for the entire country. It focuses on the role - and aggregates the wisdom - of a set of intermediaries, like R5DC who are doing economic and community development differently in rural America. Rural Development Hubs are main players advancing an asset-based and inclusive wealth-building approach to rural community and economic development in this coun-

try. The recommendations that emerged from CSG's Hub interviews can help investors, policymakers and other decision-makers who have questions about rural America.

"Our organization has been fortunate to learn and grow beside some of the nation's best economic and community development practitioners", shares R5DC's Executive Director Cheryal Hills. "In this report we are classified as a 'Unicorn Regional Organization' which is fitting given that we are quite unique as a unit of government who also staffs a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, both committed to regional prosperity for ALL people. The CSG's report has been the first to accurately record this complex mix and the rural relevancy."

To read more about rural development hubs and view the summary report, visit: <https://www.regionfive.org/wealth-works>. View the full report at: <http://as.pn/ruralhubs>



Dishing up turkey and all the trimmings

Student Senate members and staff at Central Lakes College helped serve a turkey dinner at the Staples campus Nov. 26. Pictured above, freshman Hunter Brannen of Rice (far right) goes through the lunch line. From left, are Curtis Jelinski, Student Senate Secretary; Mary Fischer; Wade Hofius, Student Senate Treasurer; Abby Klein, Student Senate President; and CLC President Hara Charlier. In lower photo, CLC President Charlier visits with students while helping serve the free meal. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Veteran's News

David A Anderson
Wadena County Veteran Service Officer

retary Robert Wilkie. "By updating the rating schedule, Veterans receive decisions based on the most current medical knowledge of their condition."

The complete list of updates to the rating schedule is available online. Claims pending prior to August 11, will be considered under both the old and new rating criteria and whichever criteria is more favorable to a Veteran will be applied. Claims filed on or after August 11, 2019, will be rated under the new rating schedule.

Updating the rating schedule for conditions related to infectious diseases, immune disorders and nutritional deficiencies, enables VA claims processors to make more consistent decisions with greater ease and ensure veterans understand these

decisions. VA remains committed to improving its service to veterans continuously and staying at the forefront of modern medicine as it has for decades.

Since September 2017, VA has updated the schedules for dental and oral conditions, conditions related to the endocrine system, gynecological conditions and disorders of the breast, the general rating formula for diseases of the eye, skin conditions and the hematologic and lymphatic systems. (Source: VA News Release Aug. 12, 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.

CALL NOW & SAVE ON YOUR NEXT PRESCRIPTION

Drug Name	Qty (pills)	Price*
Viagra 100mg	16	\$48.00
Cialis 5mg	84	\$150.00
Levitra 20mg	30	\$130.00
Spiriva 18mcg	90	\$190.00
Advair 250mcg/50mcg	180 ds	\$205.00
Premarin 0.625mg	84	\$95.00
Symbicort 160mcg/4.5mcg	360 ds	\$215.00
Januvia 100mg	84	\$260.00

All pricing in U.S. dollars and subject to change without notice. We accept Amex, Electronic Checking, Personal Check or International Money Order. *Prices shown are for the equivalent generic drug if available.

World Health Link
1-866-237-5131

Mailing Address: World Health Link, PO Box 42 Station Main, Winnipeg, MB R3C 2G1 Canada

CODE MC11

Christmas shopping? Consider a Gift Subscription to the Staples World

Gift cards available.
224 4th St. NE
Staples, MN

Staples World

Santa is Waiting for YOUR Letter

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

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

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

SQUARE SHOOTER DEADLINE
Square Shooter advertising deadline: **5 p.m. Wednesday**

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



Hello World

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:

Born to Azalie Metteer and Joseph Chaput of Sebeka, a baby girl, Emberleigh Marie Louise weighing seven pounds, six ounces on November 24, 2019.

Born to Kelly and Kyle Gerwing of Little Falls, a baby boy, Watson Phillip, weighing eight pounds, 10 ounces on November 25, 2019.

Born to Tina Rausch and Matt Peterson of Browerville, a baby girl, Cienna Rae weighing eight pounds, 10 ounces on November 25, 2019.

Born to Miranda Schmidt and Dustin Peterson of Staples, a baby girl, Leilani Ann weighing seven pounds, one ounce on November 25, 2019.

CLC's Cultural Thursday event to focus on deaf culture

Community members and students are invited to Central Lakes College's event, Cultural Thursday: A Crash Course in Deaf Culture. The event, which is free and open to the public, will be at noon on Thurs., Dec. 5 in the Chalberg Theatre, CLC's Brainerd campus.

The presenter will be Emily Smith-Lundberg, who serves as a deaf mentor for the Minnesota Lifetrack Deaf & Hard of Hearing - Family Services. She is founder and director of Dreams and Inspirations - Deaf and Hard of Hearing Camps & Retreats, which sets up many different types of retreats with the deaf and hard of hearing commu-

nity. Smith-Lundberg is also a co-director of Camp Sertoma, a youth camp for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Camp at Confidence Learning Center. Smith-Lundberg was the former governor-appointed board member of the Minnesota Commission of Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing Minnesotans.

"We are extremely fortunate to host Emily for this presentation, as she has a great deal of expertise to share," said CLC's American Sign-Language instructor Tanya Hoting-Mrazek.

For more information on this or other Cultural Thursday presentations, contact Tracey Kloelck-Jiménez at 218-855-8183.

A-1 4-H Club meeting held

The A-1, 4-H club met Nov. 3, 2019 at the home of Lexi Tweeter, Club President. Business included picking a day for ringing bells for the Salvation Army; it was decided we will be ringing Sat., Dec. 14; 9 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. at Coborns in Long Prairie. Other business: voted on yearly donations for agencies in Todd County. We will also adopt a family living in our county for Christmas.

There will be no club meeting in December. We will meet in January for an ice skating party.

If you're interested in information about 4-H, contact Nathan Braatan: MN Extension office, Todd County; 1-320-732-4438.

Obituaries

Audrey Zimmer

Audrey (Griep) Finn Zimmer, 89, of Staples passed away November 29, 2019 at the Lakewood Care Center in Staples.

Visitation will be held Tues., Dec. 3 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. with Rosary at 7:00 p.m. at the Taylor Funeral Home in Staples. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 a.m. Weds., Dec. 4 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Staples with visitation one hour prior to the service.

Interment will be at Evergreen Hill Cemetery, Staples. w49x A00006B2019DC04



Marjorie Fieber

Marjorie Fieber, 98, of Madison passed away November 30 at the Madison Lutheran Home.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m., Weds., Dec. 4 at St. Michael's Church, Madison with Father Brian Oestreich officiating the Mass. Visitation will be held at the Zahrbock funeral home in Madison after 4:00 p.m., Dec. 3 with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m. with Sister Kay Fernholz. Visitation will also be held in the church on Wednesday before the Mass.

Marjorie Helen Fieber was born July 8, 1921 to John and Isabella (Maier) Griep at the Long Prairie hospital. They lived in Long Prairie until 1924 then moved to Browerville until 1933 and then moved to Staple. She graduated from Staples High School in 1939. She attended St. Cloud Business school after high school. In her early teen's she met Larry Westin at the Staples ice skating rink. He laced up her ice skates and they started dating. They dated all through high school and eventually were married on Feb. 12, 1941. Larry was in the Army Air Corp. at the time and was committed to Europe when the war broke out at the end of 1941. They had been living in Mt. Clemens, Michigan and Marge moved back to Staples to live with her parents. During their marriage they had four children, John, Jeffrey, Susan and Kenneth. After the war they lived in Staples where Larry worked for the railroad and Marge was a housewife. She also filled in as a bookkeeper on the railroad and later worked as secretary for the Principal at the Staples High School. In 1965, Marge and Larry took over the insurance agency that Marge's father had started. Marge was active at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church and especially the church circle. She liked playing cards, doing crossword puzzles and traveling. In July of 1976, Larry passed away after 35 years of marriage. Marge kept busy with a secretarial job at Goedker Realty in Staples. She eventually met Gerald Fieber and they were married on April 23, 1983 and moved to Madison. They were married for 36 years



before Jerry passed away in August 2019. She made many friends in her new home of Madison and Jerry's family made her feel at home. While in Madison she was active in the Catholic Aid, was a communion distributor and was a member of two bridge clubs. Some of her other activities included sewing, quilting and counted cross stitch. Marge was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary. She belong to a bowling league for many years.

Marge is survived by her four children, John (Cleone) of Blaine, Jeff (Mary) of Yellville, AR, Sue (Jim) of Hibbing and Ken (Elaine) of Fredericksburg IA; seven grandchildren, Debbie and Lisa Westin, Jennifer (John) and Brian (Linda) Stark, Crystal Raehal, Angie (Scott) Mellick, and Alan (Shannon) Westin; six great-grandchildren, Barbara, Josh, Julian, Will, Lyndee and Emme; two step-daughters, Bernie (Mark) Schubert, Canby and Colette (Gery) Bruening, Caledonia; six step-grandchildren; two step-great-grandchildren; four sisters-in-law, Theresa (Lambert) Eischens, Granite Falls, Ruth Pearson, Staples, Arlene Skov, Motley and Orma Fieber, Goodwin S.D. and many nephews, nieces and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Larry; second husband, Jerry and his two sons Duane and Kenny; four sisters, Esther Ludwig, Alyce Cain, June O'Neil, Audrey Zimmer, of Staples (who died the day before her sister) and their spouses; two brothers-in-law Charles and Robert and one sister-in-law, Lillian.

Arrangements by the Zahrbock Funeral Home, Madison. website: zahrbockfuneralhome.com.

w49c A00006B2019DC04

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance
1512 8th St. NE, Staples.....218-894-2891
Associate Pastor Zach Jones
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday School.....10:30 a.m.
Sunday School.....11:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
AWANA.....6:00 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Lincoln Evangelical Free
1354 320th St., Cushing.....218-575-2449
www.lincolnefree.org Facebook Lincoln E Free
Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Senior Pastor: Donald Reigstad
Pastor: Jim Brown
Youth Coordinator: Joe Reigstad
SUNDAY
Sunday School for all ages.....9:00 a.m.
Worship Gathering.....10:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Praise & Prayer.....4:30 p.m.
Kids' Club.....6:00 p.m.
Jr./Sr. Forge Youth Group.....6:00 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Hewitt
Church of the Nazarene
114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146 Hewitt, MN
218-924-2028
Pastor Wayne Hoffer
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....10:45 a.m./6 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Prayer.....7:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS)
524 Front Street, PO Box 116, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Robin Fish
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.
United Methodist Church
Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Kenneth Uhren
Sunday Services.....10:30 a.m.
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.

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

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

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

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

Verndale United Methodist
10 3rd Ave. SW, Verndale
218-445-5108
Pastor Jill Pawlowski
Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.
Central United Methodist
5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar)
Pastor Chuck Horsager, 218-639-4225
Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.
Sunday School.....10:30 a.m.

A few Underlined or Starred Verses in my Quiet Time Bible

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

There are several delightful ways to read through the Bible. Some have a "Read through the Bible" guide in one year. Others may take two or three years to read through the Bible. I like to often take a different translation of the Bible to go through. I respect those who do not mark their Bible. I underline, star and make occasional notes in the margin as I'm going along to indicate personal application to my own life story that God is writing on my life. Other notes connect with the struggles, temptations or sins that the writer is reflecting on.

In one of those Bibles, here are simply a few of the verses that were either underlined or starred from the Old Testament:

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." Genesis 1:1

"Jacob served seven years for Rachel and they seemed to him but a few days because of

his love for her." Genesis 29:20

"Joseph prepared a chariot and went up to Goshen to meet his father Israel; as soon as he appeared before him, he fell on his neck and wept on his neck for a long time." Genesis 46:29

"You shall have no other gods before me." Exodus 20:3

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Psalm 119:105

"He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed." Isaiah 53:5

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Santa is Waiting for YOUR Letter



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

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

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



Todd County Commissioners Minutes

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS NOVEMBER 5, 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 5th day of November, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kneisl. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda

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

Consent Agenda

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

To approve the Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for October 15, 2019 as presented.

To approve the hiring of Brian McCann as the Planning and Zoning Specialist at Grade 7 Step 1.

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the October 2019 Auditor Warrants number (ACH) 900470 through 900522 in the amount of \$4,061,138.78, (Manual) 514 through 514 in the amount of \$793 and (Regular) 234384 through 234553 in the amount of \$2,784,588.70 for a total of \$6,846,520.48.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 400411 through 400427 in the amount of \$27,126.95 and (Regular) 52413 through 52518 in the amount of \$410,388.02 for a total of \$437,514.97.

On motion by Becker and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 800184 through 800196 and (Regular) 705944 through 706008 for a total amount of \$42,476.34.

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) 600061 through 600068 and (Regular) 515469 through 515492 in the amount of \$59,791.96.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the 2020 County Fee Schedule to be effective January 1, 2020 per the attached document.

Todd Wadena Community Corrections

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

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL 2019 COUNTY FUNDING FOR TODD-WADENA COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

WHEREAS, state funding has not kept pace with Todd-Wadena Community Corrections' (TWCC) basic general operating expenses, and;

WHEREAS, TWCC has relied heavily on using its fund balance to cover general operating expenses which has now placed its balance dangerously low, and;

WHEREAS, TWCC lacks the financial ability to properly fund a vehicle replacement schedule and its current vehicle fleet stability which would otherwise project operat-

ing expenses to fall under two months by the end of FY2019.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby approve the transfer of funds in the amount of \$31,000 from Fund 01-General Revenue to Fund 75-Community Corrections to support the financial stability of the Todd-Wadena Community Corrections fund balance and projects.

Ditch/Ag Inspector

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Acting as Ditch Authority, to approve a Minor Maintenance project on CD15 to clean approximately 2,450 feet of ditch that is on parcels 02-0018300, 02-0018400, and 02-0022300. Corbin Pickar Excavating, Inc. will do the project at a cost not to exceed \$4,900.

Planning & Zoning

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the 2020-2021 Feedlot Program Delegation Agreement and Work Plan.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To authorize acceptance and use of the Riparian Aid Funding in the amount of \$112,471.

Solid Waste

On motion by Becker and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To set the 2019 Solid Waste Fall Board meeting for November 26, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Transfer Station.

Administration

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To initiate a video first interview for all County Coordinator candidates to be moderated by HR Manager Sara Ogren and the videos provided to all of the County Commissioners for review.

Auditor-Treasurer's Report

The County Auditor-Treasurer reported on meetings attended and projects in progress including the upcoming real estate tax payment deadlines and Special Elections being held this day for Sauk Centre and Swanville School Districts.

Commissioner's Report

The Commissioners reported on meetings attended.

Recess

Chairperson Kneisl recessed the meeting until November 19, 2019.

AUDITOR WARRANTS

Table with columns: Vendor Name, \$ Amount. Lists various vendors and their amounts, including American Heritage Bank, Big Stone Excavating, Golden Shovel Agcy, etc.

Table with columns: Vendor Name, \$ Amount. Lists various vendors and their amounts, including Than \$2,000, Central Specialties Inc, Long Prairie Oil Co, etc.

COMMISSIONERS WARRANTS

Table with columns: Vendor Name, \$ Amount. Lists various vendors and their amounts, including Big Stone Therapies, Inc, Browerville Truck, etc.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS

Table with columns: Vendor Name, \$ Amount. Lists various vendors and their amounts, including Anoka County Corrections, DHS - MSOP - MN Sex, etc.

On a motion by Becker and seconded by Kircher, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held November 5, 2019 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on November 19, 2019.

Witness my hand and seal: Gary Kneisl, County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

NOTICE CITY OF STAPLES ORDINANCE NO. 523 ADD TO 7.1.02 AND AMEND 5.6.06 H.D.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STAPLES ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. Sec. 7.1.02. License Required. Subd. f. is added as follows:

Subd. f. Brewer Taproom Licenses

1. Definition. A brewer taproom license shall mean a license authorizing the on-sale of malt liquor produced by a brewer for consumption on the premises of or adjacent to one (1) brewer location owned by the brewer. Unless otherwise stated, the definitions of Minn. Statutes, Chapter 340A, as the same shall be amended from time to time, shall apply herein.

2. Issuance of license. Brewer taproom licenses may be issued to the holder of a brewer's license under Minn. Statutes, Chapter 340A.301, Subd. 6 (c), (i) or (j). Said license may be issued and is subject to the conditions outlined in the City Code, Section 7.1.02, Subd. f (3).

3. Conditions of License. a. The annual license fee for a taproom license, as established in the fee schedule set by ordinance by the City Council, shall be paid.

b. The license shall be valid on all days of the week consistent with the hours of sale provided in Section 7.1.08, Subd. e.

c. A brewer may only hold one (1) brewer taproom license under this section.

d. The only alcoholic beverages sold or consumed on the premises of the taproom will be malt liquor produced by the brewer upon the brewery premises.

e. No taproom shall be located across a public right-of-way such as a street or alley from the brewery location.

f. All other provisions of this article shall be applicable to such licenses and licensees unless inconsistent with the provisions of this section.

Subd. g. Off-Sale Malt Liquor License.

1. Definition. A brewer licensed under Minn. Statutes, Chapter 340A.301, Subd. 6 (d), (i), or (j) may be licensed for the "off-sale" of malt liquor produced and packaged on the licensed premise in accordance with Minn. Statutes, Chapter 340A.301, Subd. 7 (b). Unless otherwise stated, the definitions

of Minn. Statutes, Chapter 340A, as the same shall be amended from time to time, shall apply herein.

2. Conditions of License.

a. The annual license fee for an off-sale malt liquor license, as established in the fee schedule set by ordinance by the City Council, shall be paid.

b. Off-sale of malt liquor may only be made during the hours that "off-sale" of liquor may be made, except that malt liquor in growlers only may be sold at off-sale on Sunday until 10:00 p.m.

c. The malt liquor shall be packaged in sixty four-ounce containers commonly known as "growlers" or in seven hundred fifty (750) milliliter bottles. The container or bottle must be sealed in the manner as described in Minn. Statutes, Chapter 340A.301, Subdivision 6 (d).

d. The malt liquor sold at off-sale, except growlers sold on Sundays, must be removed from the licensed premise before the applicable closing time.

e. All other provisions of this article shall be applicable to such licenses and licensees unless inconsistent with the provisions of this section.

SECTION 2. Sec. 5.6.05. Zoning Districts and District Provisions Subd. g. B-1 Business District

2. Permitted Uses.

F. On-sale, off-sale, brewer taprooms and microdistillery liquor establishments.

NOTICE CITY OF STAPLES ORDINANCE NO. 523

Add to 7.1.02 and Amend 5.6.06 H.D.

SECTION 3. Sec. 5.6.06 Subd. h.D.

No private detached garage used or intended for the storage of passenger automobiles shall exceed (900) square feet nor have any access door or other opening exceed the height of nine (9) feet. Permanent foundation or slab shall be required. The garage must be of same or similar finish and be of homogeneous design with the principal structure.

SECTION 4. Effective Date. The ordinance becomes effective from and after its passage and publication.

Enacted by the City Council of the City of Staples this 26th day of November, 2019.

ATTEST: Diane Archer, City Clerk 49pnc

Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

The following individual who was convicted of a crime in Todd County has applied for relief from the Minnesota Board of Pardons. The application will be considered at the meeting of the board scheduled for December 16, 2019, commencing at 9:00 a.m., at the Minnesota Senate Building, St. Paul, MN:

- Wojcik, Daryl Assault in the Fifth Degree Convicted: 4/3/2000

Victims of this individual have a right to be present at the meeting, submit an oral or written statement to the board summarizing the harm suffered as a result of the crime, and make a recommendation to the board as to whether a pardon should be granted or denied. To submit an oral or written statement, or to obtain scheduling information, call the Board of Pardons at 651-361-7171. The meeting is open to the public pursuant to Minn. Stat. Ch. 13D.

49pnc

PUBLIC NOTICE

An aeration system will be in operation on Lake Shamaineau from December 10, 2019 to March 31, 2020 at 3501 Pine View Blvd., Motley, MN. Please use caution on thin ice.

49pnp

PUBLIC NOTICES: Your Right to Know

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

'I have one word of advice for you... are you listening?'



INVEST OK, the 'one word' in this case isn't 'plastics' - but it is just as important... the word is 'YES' to public notices in your newspaper! Public Notices are crucial to open government! A full 80% of people surveyed in September of 2011 responded YES - governments should be required to publish public notices in newspapers. Be sure your government representatives know you agree!

Statistics based on July & September 2011 surveys conducted by the National Newspaper Association and the research arm of the Reynolds Journalism Institute at the Missouri School of Journalism. Response rate was 42.5%. Error margin of plus or minus 5%.



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

Both publications and Internet for One Price!

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

Deadline: Friday at Noon

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

Classified Ad Order Form

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Classification # _____

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

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

TOTAL enclosed _____

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

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

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

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

The Fine Print

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT

205 Help Wanted

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

Full-time Employment

Todd-Wadena Community Corrections

Todd-Wadena Community Corrections seeks one full-time Corrections Agent. This position includes assessment, investigative services, and supervision of individuals referred and/or directed through the Court and/or Criminal Justice System. Minimum qualifications include Bachelor's Degree in Corrections, Criminal Justice, Criminology, Counseling Psychology, Education, Law, Law Enforcement, Psychology, Social Work, Sociology or a Human Services related field; successful completion of a 400 hour internship or commensurate volunteer/paid experience as a Corrections Agent/ Security Caseworker; valid MN driver's license and auto insurance; and reliable transportation.

Excellent communication and organizational skills are essential, as well as the ability to establish and maintain working relationships with a variety of people. Must pass agency background check requirements and be able to meet physical requirements as specified in the job description. Convictions, continuances or stays for crimes other than minor traffic offenses may disqualify the applicant from being hired.

Starting salary range is \$20.91 - \$31.41 per hour. This position is contingent on grant funding.

Contact Katherine Langer, Director, at 320-732-6165 or kathy.langer@co.todd.mn.us for an application packet. Submit cover letter, resumé and completed application to Katherine Langer, Director, Todd-Wadena Community Corrections, 221 First Avenue South, Suite 200, Long Prairie, MN 56347. Position will remain open until filled.

cl48-49c "EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER"

MOREY'S® Senior Level Accounting Professional

Morey's Seafood International is looking for a Senior Level Accounting professional with a Bachelor's Degree. 5-10 yrs. accounting experience required. Experience in a manufacturing environment is a plus. Cost accounting skills needed. 3-5 years Supervising Accounting Personnel preferred. The position is located in Motley, MN.

We offer competitive wages, benefits, and much more! Come join our valuable team of employees! Send Resume by e-mail, or fax at: E-mail: awalz@moreys.com Fax: 218-303-4347

cl49-50c EOE

HELP WANTED: Administrative/Accounting Assistant

The City of Motley is accepting applications to fill the position of PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE/ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT. A high school diploma or equivalent is required. The hiring range for this position is \$13.38 - \$15.22, dependent on experience. The position is 20-25 hours/week. A resumé, cover letter and City application are required.

Application forms and a full list of hiring requirements can be found online at www.cityofmotley.com, or at City Hall. All application materials must be received no later than 3:30 p.m., Thurs., December 19, 2019, and can be emailed to: cityofmotley@brainerd.net, dropped off at City Hall during office hours, or mailed to: City Hall at 316 Hwy. 10 S., Motley, MN 56466, Attn: City Clerk.

Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

cl49c EOE

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mcan STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

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The 2x4 Network is a program of the MNA, phone 800-279-2979

Staples World DEADLINES

Newspaper deadline for copy and advertising: 12 noon Fridays

mcan Minnesota Classified Advertising Network

EMPLOYMENT COMMERCIAL APPLICATORS Competitive wage and benefits, meal allowance, paid lodging. Traveling position for railroad vegetation control, 60-80 hours/week. RAW (Cooperstown, ND) 888/700-0292 info@rawapplicators.com www.rawapplicators.com	HEALTH FARMERS, LANDSCAPERS OR GARDENERS did you or a loved one use Roundup Weed Killer and were diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma (Cancer)? You may be entitled to compensation. Call Attorney Charles Johnson 800/535-5727	MISCELLANEOUS MOBILEHELP America's premier mobile medical alert system. Whether you're home or away. For safety and peace of mind. No long term contracts! Free brochure! Call today! 855/610-5151
SEED/FEED/GRAINS SEED TREATMENT for soybean White Mold and SDS! Ask your seed dealer for Heads Up Seed Treatment. Cost effective, proven results. www.headsupST.com or 866/368-9306	MISCELLANEOUS DONATE YOUR CAR truck or boat to Heritage For The Blind. Free 3-day vacation, tax deductible, free towing, all paperwork taken care of 844/220-9501	SAVE ON YOUR NEXT PRESCRIPTION World Health Link. Price match guarantee! Prescriptions required. CIPA certified. Over 1,500 medications available. Call today for a free price quote. 866/237-5131 Call now!
FARM EQUIPMENT GOT LAND? Our hunters will pay top \$\$\$ to hunt your land. Call for a free info packet & quote. 866/309-1507 www.BaseCampLeasing.com	VIASAT SATELLITE INTERNET Up to 12 Mbps plans starting at \$30/month. Our fastest speeds (up to 50 Mbps) & unlimited data plans start at \$100/month. Call Viasat today! 877/446-9168	DISH NETWORK \$59.99 For 190 channels! Add high speed internet for only \$19.95/month. Call today for \$100 gift card! Best value & technology. Free installation. Call 855/562-4309 (some restrictions apply)
YOUR AD HERE! One phone call & only \$279 to reach a statewide audience of 1.7 million readers!!! 1-800-279-2979	A PLACE FOR MOM The nation's largest senior living referral service. Contact our trusted, local experts today! Our service is free, no obligation. Call 844/347-2104	Make Some Noise! One phone call & only \$279 to reach a statewide audience of 1.7 million readers!!! 1-800-279-2979

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

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

REAL ESTATE

602 Apartments for Rent

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

EASTWOOD APARTMENTS

in Motley MN. is now accepting applications for FUTURE 2-3 bedroom apartments

Laundry facilities available on site. garage included with apartment. All utilities paid. Applications are available at: 956 Hwy 10 S., Motley

For information and qualifications contact Nicole at 218-751-6881

An Equal Housing Opportunity

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

NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS

FOR SALE

309 Miscellaneous

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

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

312 Christmas Trees

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

WANTED TO BUY

501 Miscellaneous

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

DEER HIDES: Trade for knives, gloves; register to win 22 rifle. 218-445-5630 or 218-639-2822. 46-49p

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

FRONTIER TOWNHOMES

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

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

BRUTGER EQUITIES, INC.
 Income guidelines apply.

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

Eastwood Inn - MOTLEY/WADENA: Monthly rooms available. Inquire at: 218-352-6386. 49c

603 Houses for Rent

STAPLES: 2 bdrm. \$700/mo plus dep. Utilities not included. Leave message at 320-630-0585. 46-48p

STAPLES: RENT TO OWN house on 3.2 acres 2.3 mi. from CLC. 218-746-3817. 47-49p

CLASSIFIEDS

small ads BIG deals



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

SUBSCRIBE

And Save!

Please enclose check for:

- \$41 local (Todd, Wadena, Morrison, Cass Cty.);
- \$46 rest of Minnesota; \$51 out of state;
- \$61 foreign; \$31 Student (pint; in-state, Sept.- April)

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail check to Staples World, P.O. Box 100,
Staples, MN 56479
www.staplesworld.com to pay by credit card.

\$37 website only - www.staplesworld.com



Hanging of the snowflakes

Jesse Umland (left) and Jason Anderson, with the City of Staples Public Works Dept., helped put up the lighted snowflakes along 2nd Ave. are new this year. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs) Christmas decorations in downtown Staples Nov. 24.

*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY

SERVICE DIRECTORY

REESE
PLUMBING, HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
218-296-2201
Bryan Reese

NORTH POLE
DRIVE THRU LIGHTS DISPLAY
Pine Grove Park - Staples, MN
OPEN THANKSGIVING WEEKEND & ALL DECEMBER - ONLY \$10 PER CAR
FRI - SAT - SUN 5-9

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For All Your Electrical Needs
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229 Central Ave., Long Prairie
320-732-1919 • Toll free: 877-297-1125
*Thomas Sellnow is a Real Property Law Specialist certified by Real Property Section of Minnesota State Bar Association.
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Ben Busker 218-640-0794
busker@arvig.net

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SW 2019 changed wk #48



Solo performer(s)

Following his solo performance of "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus," Sawyer Thompson joined uncle Gary Timbs at the piano as Timbs sang, "Thank God for Kids."



A very merry Christmas tribute in song

The Schimpps and the Timbs presented their Christmas Concert Dec. 1 at Centennial Auditorium, singing and performing many familiar Christmas songs, gospel and other Christmas favorites. The concert was presented by the Staples Motley Area Arts Council.

Above: left to right: Sarah (Koopmann) Adair, violin; Gary Timbs, piano; Bob Anderson (hidden), acoustic bass; Dawn Timbs; Heather Thompson; Sawyer Thompson; John Koopmann, trumpet; Carmen Schimpp and Gary Schimpp.



Endearing harmonies

Carmen and Gary Schimpp have been singing together since their first date 60 years ago. The couple have been singing throughout their married life of 58 years and brought up their family at a young age in the familiar family harmonies known as The Schimpps.



Twice as nice

Sawyer Thompson at the microphone, his second performance with The Schimpps and the Timbs on the Centennial Auditorium stage.



Family Christmas show

Audience members were treated to a family Christmas show that went on despite nearly 12 inches of snow that fell over the weekend. The Sunday after-

noon performance provided a refreshing, thankful respite that started the new week on many thankful notes. (Staples World photos by Janice Winter)

JOHNSON continued from page 1a

Notice of trespass still in place

erty and events until July 23, 2020. The district court decision had been issued by a visiting judge at the Long Prairie Courthouse, Judge Timothy Churchwell.

Anderson had been a witness in the school's court hearing against Johnson, testifying that he had heard from a school employee who claimed Johnson made threats against the school. Anderson was also granted a restraining order against Johnson based on additional claims.

The appeals court decision on Nov. 18 amounts to a technicality because the restraining order in question had expired on Aug. 1. The reversal does not apply to a notice of trespass issued by the school on Aug. 12, which bans Johnson from school prop-

erty and events until July 23, 2020.

The restraining order issued to Anderson also expired Aug. 1. In the appeals court reversal, the court did not look into the veracity of Anderson's claims that Johnson had harassed him and issued a verbal threat to him in 2017, because the court felt the harassment claim was not backed by legal evidence and even if the threat claim were true, it did not constitute harassment under Minnesota state law. The appeals court decision said "Anderson did not testify that Johnson repeatedly passed by Anderson's home. Moreover, one verbal threat does not satisfy the statutory definition of harassment."

Neither the school district nor Anderson pro-

vided additional testimony to the appeals court hearing, allowing the case to proceed on its own merits. Johnson's lawyer submitted the appeal claiming that "the factual allegations were not proven."

Arrest reversal

Unrelated to the school restraining order, it was reported in the Nov. 20 Staples World that Johnson had been arrested for violating a restraining order. The HRO was not related to the school court case.

On Nov. 12, that restraining order was also overturned by Judge Daniel Benson in district court at Long Prairie. The decision stated "the allegations are not proven. It is ordered that the matter is dismissed."



Be Safe

Stay clear of downed power lines

NEVER TOUCH A DOWNED POWER LINE. Always assume it is energized and call 911 immediately.

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

- Stay at least 50 feet away from it and assume it is energized. The ground may also be energized making the entire area extremely dangerous.
- Never touch anything that is touching a downed power line. It is as dangerous as the line itself.
- If a power line falls on your vehicle while you are in it, stay inside your vehicle until help arrives.



It's only just begun

A few inches of snow fell in Staples just prior to Thanksgiving, and two days after the holiday, over a foot of snow hit the area. Above: Staples World Managing Editor Mark Anderson shovels around a fire hydrant along 4th Street NE in Staples Nov. 27, helping to keep it clear so its accessible to firefighters. At left, Mike Atzl, an employee at Northern Pines Mental Health Center in Staples, pours salt on the sidewalk along 2nd Ave., to help prevent people from slipping on ice. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

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