

Congratulations

Class of

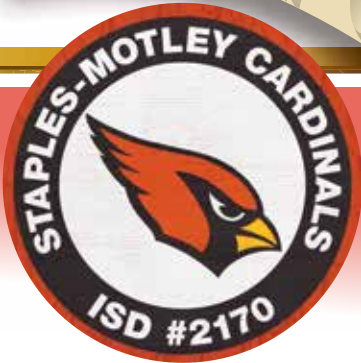
2026

Graduates



Staples-Motley High School
Pillager High School

Staples-Motley High School Commencement



Friday, May 22, 2026
7:30 p.m.

at the NEST

Staples-Motley High School
401 Centennial Drive, Staples
Class Colors Maroon and Gold

Class Flower Marigold
Class Song “Ho Hey” by the Lumineers

Class Motto “Chat GPT, give me a good class motto.”

*Number of
Graduates:*
74

*Information received as of press time

Congratulations

Congratulations!
Staples
218-895-3599

STOMPING GROUNDS
COFFEE SHOP
2026!
Avery Japke
and
Natalie
Miller

Blessings on the
2026 Graduates
Motley United
Methodist
Church

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

Congratulations,
Class of 2026!

Hwy. 10 • Staples, MN
218-894-3794

The Next Chapter Awaits...
we hope
it holds adventure,
opportunity and great
experiences for you!
We wish you much success
and a very bright future.
Orth Insurance Agency
227 4th St. NE, Staples | 218-894-2525
derek@danorth.us

Congratulations,
2026 Graduates!

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart;
do not depend on your
own understanding.
Seek His will in all you do,
and He will direct your path.”
-Prov. 3:56
Motley Free
Methodist Church
218-352-6888 • 33 Wellwood St. E.

Congratulations!
Class of 2026!

Edina Realty
Sandy Knosalla
218-296-1111
Edina Realty

GOOD LUCK GRADS!
The Future Belongs to You,
GRADUATES!
Congratulations,
Seniors!
Motley
Hardware
Motley • 218-352-6366


Congratulations
Class of
2026
BUSKER
CONCRETE
218-640-0794 • Staples

We appreciate
all the
graduates.
The future
belongs to you!
3M



Mason Albertson
Shawna Marsh, Paul Albertson
Welding career
Works at Lakewood Health System, Staples



Elliot Allen
Dale Allen and Jennifer Allen
Electrical Engineering
Works at Collin's Brothers Towing, St. Cloud



Ashton Anderson
Charlie and Lisa Anderson
Welding
Works at Morey's Fish Market, Motley



Sadye Danielle Anderson
MSUM, Biology
Works at Staples Dairy Queen



Summer Anderson
Sally Clem, Jeff Clem and James Buderus
MN State University, Mankato
Professional Flight
AA Degree CLC
Works at Artesian Homes



Katriane Beach
Jason Beach
CLC, AAS - Graphic Design
Works at Seasons AFC, Tri-County Stockyards, RnJ Cafe



Brynn Bestland
Ben and Melanie Bestland
MSUM, Psychology



Ava Birkholtz
Melissa and James Larson, Raymond and Stacy Birkholtz
Moorhead State, Social Work/ Health Therapist. Works at Silo Ice Cream



Mason Birkholtz
Dan and Traci
Welding



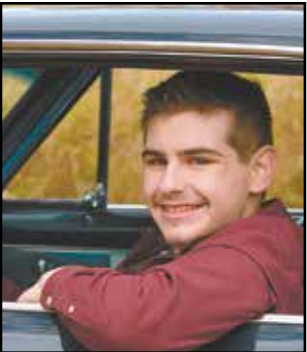
Avandre Jashaun Brandt
Tiffany Brandt, Jason Reaves
Undecided



Abby Brichacek
Tom and Aimee Brichacek
NDSCS, Wahpeton, ND,
Baking/ Pastry, AA Degree, CLC
Knotty Pine Bakery, Brainerd



Audrey Brownell
Loren and Kristy Brownell
University of Tulsa
Cross Country and Track



Trayce Buckmaster
Douglas Buckmaster



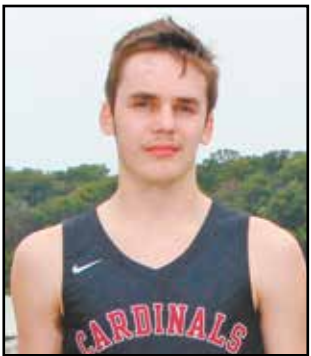
Owen Carlson
Kim Carlson and Charles Carlson
Minnesota Duluth, Marketing
AA Degree, CLC
Works at Lakewood, Pine Ridge Golf



Isabel Cole
Monica and Michael Cole
CLC, Associate Degree in Nursing
AA Degree, CLC
Works as CNA at Good Samaritan



Charles Dabbs
Jason Dabbs, Jennifer Dabbs
2-year technical college, lineman



Kody Dause
Chloe Denning, Jordan Denning



Geoffrey Decamp
Shelly Zaffke, Mark Decamp
CLC Brainerd, Music AFA, then MSUM
for Music Education
Works at Lakewood Health System



Henry Dorothy
Kristine and Robert
Carpentry Program, Apprenticeship



Emalee Dobson
Creig and Angela Dobson
MState, CLC
Dental Assistant and Dental Hygienist
Works at Playground Palace

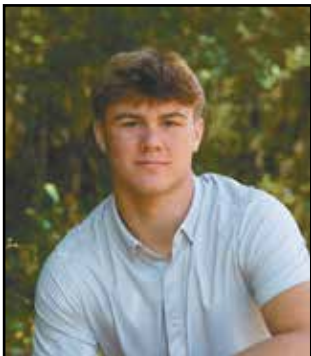
Congratulations.
Class of 2026

WEST

hair • Boutique

God's Blessings
and
Good Luck
CLASS of 2026

Trinity Lutheran Church
Staples • 218-894-2372



Riley Reese



Cecily Moe



Peyton Jares

Congratulations
ON YOUR
GRADUATION

ALBIE ELECTRIC LLC

Jamie Albie 218-838-0581

Best wishes for a great financial future!

1 FIRST INTERNATIONAL BANK & TRUST
Member FDIC

live first

Staples 218-894-1522 Motley 218-352-6284
www.firstintlbank.com



Isabelle Dobson
Jennifer and Christopher Dobson
Minnesota State Community/Tech.



Eli Dumpprope
Mandi Weishair, Mike Dumpprope
Work Construction
Works at Lakewood Care Center



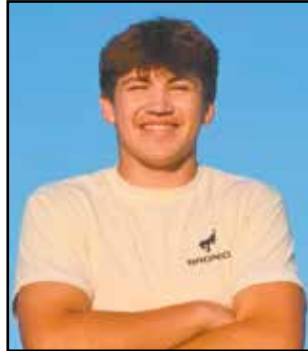
Enola Feela
Almedia Feela
Floral Design



McKenzie Fletcher
Sabrina Lenk, James Lenk
CLC, Nursing
Works as CNA at Lakewood



Addison Fonteyn
Christina Fonteyn, Jamie Fonteyn
Healthcare or EMT
Works as Home Health Aide



Adrian Gomez
Abbey Granby
MSUM or Work



Elijah Greenwaldt
Seth and Kerrie Greenwaldt
U of Mary, Civil Engineering



Parker Hammer
Wendy Hammer, Andrew Krotzer
Coast Guard



Alex Harren
Monica Dombrovski, Jeremy Dombrovski
CLC Brainerd, Chemistry
Works at Lincoln Gas & Bait



Jameson Harvey
Tamara and Nate Harvey
Gap Year, CLC Brainerd
Works at DQ



Zachory Harvey
Randy Harvey, Rebecca Harvey
College or Air Force



Alexander Holmberg
Tim and Christina Holmberg
Work
Works at Staples-Motley HS



Avery Japke
Stephanie and Rich Japke
CLC Brainerd for RN, then BSN
AA degree, CLC
Works at Stomping Grounds



Josie Jennissen
Steve and Sarah Jennissen
MState, RN, then BSN
Works at Motley DQ



Wyatt Jennissen
Paulette Emerson, Nicholas Jennissen
Work, College in fall



Reid Judd
Erin Judd and Todd Judd
Lake Superior College, Fire Technology
Works at Morey's Seafood



Huntington Kleinschmidt
Jessica and Russell
CLC
Works at Subway



Gabriel Kroll
Ryan and Renee Kroll
CLC, Electrician, then St. John's for Ministry, then Navy "Green to Gold"
Works at Holst Acres



Conner Kuhns
Jessi Neelan and Patrick Neelan
Electrician
Works at pig farm



Wyatt Lahr
Mike and Jackie Lahr
CLC
Works at Morey's Seafood



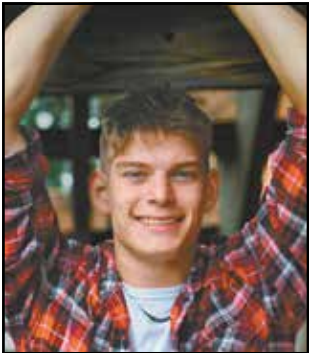
Gage Foss



Hunter Beedle



Kyra Wolpert



Noah Larson



Colby Tappe
Shane and Holly Tappe
SCSU
Biomedical Science/ Baseball



Skye Larson
Nichole and Justin Larson
MSU Mankato
AA Degree, CLC



Pamela Lawrence
Cory and Kayla Lawrence
MSUM, Elementary Education
AA Degree, CLC
Works at STEP



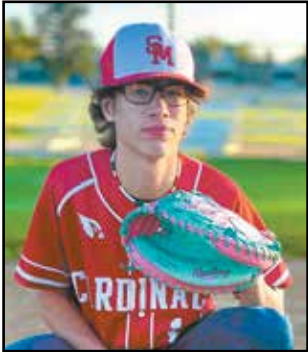
Mason Michael
Tasha Michael, Reid Michael
Alexandria Technical College, Air
Force



Raina Mikhaeil
Amanda and Reza Mikhaeil
MSUM, Psychology
AA Degree, CLC
Works at Tower Pizza



Natalie Miller
Daniel Miller and Amanda Turner
CLC Meat Cutting, Conservation
Works at Stomping Grounds, R&J



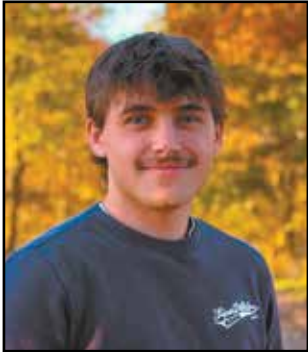
Xander Moench
Lacey Aguirre, Carl Moench
Work, Carpentry Apprentice
Works at Staples Community Center



Ember Munger
Jennifer Skeie and Jessy Munger
Gap Year, then Pursue Law Degree
Works at Staples DQ



Alexis Opelia
Lisa and Jim Opelia
MSUM, CPA program
AA Degree, CLC
Works at Fair Oaks Lodge



Andrew Paklonsky
Cheryl and Richard Paklonsky
Army National Guard, college for
Mechanical Engineering



Kiya Pope
Alisha Pope, Micah Pope
Vet Tech
Works at 2 Tall Tavern



Torrence Rodriques
Nicole and Ralph Rodriques
Get a Good Job, Live in a Just
Society



Eli Rutten
TJ and Amy Rutten
Trade work or Basketball
AA Degree, CLC
Works at Wadena DQ



Annie Schlosser
Kesha Holst, Christopher Holst,
James Schlosser
MSU, Business and Law
AA Degree, CLC
Works at Lakewood Assisted Living



Dravyn Smith
Elonda Nelson
Gap Year, Culinary Arts



Mariah Sullivan
Mathew and Rachel Sullivan
MSUM, RN, BSN
Works as CNA at Edgewood Vista



Skyla Tepley
Miranda Converse and Kyle Tepley
CLC Brainerd, Nursing



Ruby Thoe
Naomi Sullivan, Devan Thoe
Work, College
Works at DQ



Adelaide Toepper
Lisa and Thomas Toepper
NDSU, Psychology
Works at Target



Livia Trif
Shari and Gabriel Trif
UND, Engineering
AA Degree, CLC
Works at 1st International Bank and
Anchor North



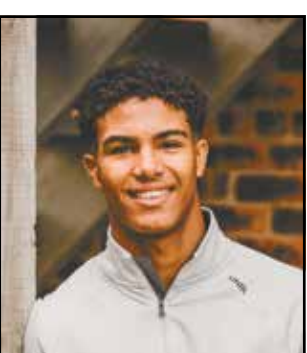
Teegan Vogel
Glen and Jenny Vogel
U.S. Army
Works at Staples-Motley HS



Luke Bjerga



Alaina White



Turner Beachy



Carson Mertens



Reed Olds
Brian and Tasha Olds
CLC
Conservation Officer Prep
Lakewood Health System

Class of 2026 Staples-Motley High School





Pillager High School Commencement



Friday, May 22, 2026 • 7 p.m.
Pillager High School

Class Flower *Lilacs*

Class Song *“Forever Young”*

by Alphaville

Class Quote

“Be strong and courageous.

For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

Philippians 4:13

Number of Students

Graduating:

85

*Information received as of press time



Congratulations Graduates!



Essentia Health

St. Joseph's–Staples Clinic | 301 2nd Ave NW | 218-894-7870

*Congratulations,
Class of 2026!*

•Raina Mikhaeil



Staples 218-894-3299

**THOMASTOWN
COVENANT CHURCH**

Blessings to our Graduates!

Congratulations

**Audrey Brownell, Summer
Anderson, Iva and Hunter**

15940 251st Ave, Staples

**Congratulations,
2026 Graduates!**



PHB Excavating, Inc

Phil Bjerga | Motley | 218-639-5007

Keep Climbing, Graduates,
and You'll Reach Your Goals!

Congratulations,

Riley Reese

**Williams Floral
& Nursery**

1010 2nd Ave. NE, Staples • 218-894-2188



Congratulations!

**Class
of
2026**

402 NE Clark Dr.,
Verndale
218-445-5568
office@
verndaleflc.org

Who wishes you Success?

We Do!

**CONGRATULATIONS
2026 GRADS!**

ERNIE'S



1230 Hwy. 10 E
Staples
218-894-1072



Trey Abersoll
Beth and Tate Abersoll
Enlist



Breana Ailts
LeRoy and Kathy Ailts
NDSU, Criminal Justice, ROTC



Landon Albertson
Kim and Ricky Albertson
Electrician



Isaiah Andrews
Brian Andrews, Mandy Miller
College or Culinary Arts School



Haleigh Awalt
Brent and Amber Johnson
UND, Nursing



Ella Barrett
Amber and Jeff Barrett
ATCC, Volleyball



Alexander Beach
Kelly Mattson
College or Travel



Wyatt Beach
Mindy and Eric Beach
Work



Cameron Berent
Chris and Stacey Berent
Firefighter



Haleyrose Blowers
Melonie Blowers
College, English/Writing



Christopher Bock
Alan and Sherry Bock
College, Agriculture



Mia Bowman
Jeff and Bonnie Bowman
Occupational Therapist



Keagan Boyer
Jenny and Justin Boyer
Work



Nathan Braaten
Jacqueline and Brian Braaten
Diesel Mechanic



Alexander Brandt
Michael and Holly Brandt
College, Baseball



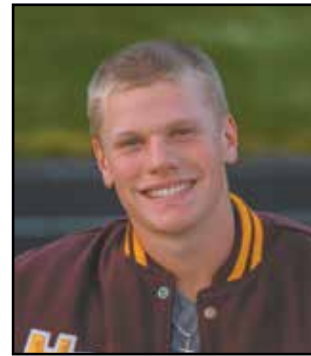
Brynn Bridge
Catherine and Lucas Bridge
Work



Isabella Brinkman
Tony and Kelly Brinkman
St. Scholastica, Music & Education



Alivia Brown
Kelly Brown
College



Andrew Brown
Kelly and Jason Brown
College



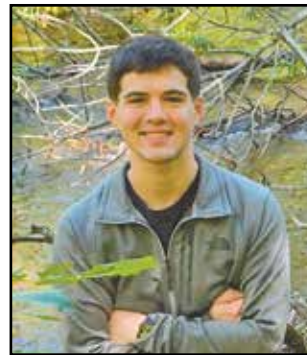
Earl Brown
Earl and Bridgette Brown
NDSU, Agribusiness, Football



Makenna Camacho
Holley and Chris Camacho
UMD, Pharmacy



Leah Carner
Leo and Brandi Carner
Work



Sawyer Colgrove
Tracee Colgrove
College



Gabriella Conklin
Stephanie and Adam Conklin
College, Sonography



Hayden Coventry
Jamie and Michelle Coventry
Aviation Mechanics



Colston Cremers
Thomas and Misty Cremers
College, Sports Management



Tyson Decker
Josh and Sarah Decker
Four Year College, Football



Alainna Dobson
Brandon and Kathy Dobson
UND, Biology, Pre-Med



Eric Duy
Craig and Heather Duy
CLC, Criminal Justice



Nicholas Emerson
Stephanie Bell, Ryan Emerson
Gap Year, College



Hannah Feustel
Robin and Doug Feustel
Medical School, Midwife



Maddison Franzen
Jake and Christina Franzen
BSN, RN



Emerson Gehrke
James and Angie Gehrke
Work



Will Giza
Mark and Jody Giza



Alexia Gottsch



Grant Grimsley
Brian and Penelope Grimsley
Pilot's License



Austen Hanson
Harley Hanson
College



Hailey Hanson
Eric and Heather Hanson
UMD, Psychology



Lucas Hoglin
Tim and Lisa Hoglin
Work



Nathanel Hollenbeck
Rebeca Nino, Mike Ninow, Graham
Hollenbeck
College



Madison Holsapple
Troy and Tina Holsapple
EMT/Paramedic



Hailey Horak
Kari and Mike Horak
Ag or Heavy Equipmen



Evan Hyatt
Destiny Rasmussen and Jeff Hyatt
Diesel Mechanic



Braeden Jensen
Krista Jensen
College, Track, State Trooper



Jacob Jensen
Leah and Kenneth Jensen
College



Congratulations
Class of 2026
Wishing success to
all the Grads!
Giza Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
218-894-2284 • Staples



**NATIONAL
INSURANCE
BROKERS**
VERONEN AGENCY
Staples & Verndale, MN
info@mynationalbroker.com
218-445-5562



GOOD LUCK GRADUATES!
STAPLES ACE HARDWARE
M-Sat., 7:30 am-6 pm
Sun. 9 am-4 pm
210 2nd Ave. NE
Staples • 218-894-1080



**God's Best and
His Goodness
for You!**
CONGRATULATIONS,
2026 GRADUATES!
• RUBY THOE
• CHARLES DABBS
Church of Christ
27343 490th St., Staples • 218-894-2609



*"May God continue
to lead and guide you."
--Numbers 6:24*



**CASINO
ASSEMBLY OF GOD**
10387 49th Ave. SW, Pillager casinoaog@brainerd.net

2026 Graduates
Makenna Camacho
Sophie Schromm
Cassidy Hintz

**Congratulations,
Class of 2026**



**Ideal
Construction
Company**
218-894-3105 Staples



**Congratulations
to all the graduates!**
Class of 2026
James Soule Auto Sales
623 2nd Ave., NW, Staples
218-894-3487



**JAPKE DECORATING,
CARPET & GIFT**
*For gifts and all your painting,
wall covering and carpeting needs.*

West Hwy. 10, Staples • 894-1551
**CONGRATULATIONS
to all Seniors!**



**2026
...
Shout
Out
to
Avery!**



Madelyn Jensen
Amanda and Tim Jensen
MSUM, Art



Raven Johnson
Rick and Tammy Johnson
Parentology or Art



Kalyn Karppinen
Sara and Dusty Karppinen
CLC, Volleyball, Bachelors Degree



Aidan Katke
Ginger Katke
Air Force, Reconnaissance, Welding



Kimberly Keefe
Jana and Craig Keefe
EMT, Nursing School



Aidden Knopik
Kris and Danielle Lambke
Work



Joseph Knosalla
Jess and Tia Knosalla
Work, Make Money



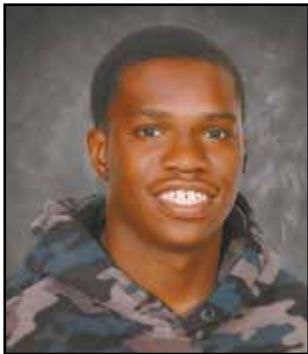
Warren Lambert
Darrel and Annette Lambert
CLC, CNC Tech., Machine Operations



Emma Lentner
Megan Lentner
College, Make Money



Tristan Loucks
Ashley and Reece



Zecharian Love
Ellis Love and Mariah Steele
Work



Jayden Lyons
Vanessa Parsons and Cody Lyons
CLC, Welding



Bailey Martin
Dan Martin and Terri Dingman
Work



Avah Meierding
Dawn and Tim Meierding
MState, Dental Program



Violette Metz
Kelly and Kevin Metz
Neurology, College Track



Ella Miles
Registered Nurse



Kayden Monson-Kempka
Nathan Kempka and Amy Monson
College



Lydia Moyer
Jason and Teresa Moyer
Gap Year



Zecheriah O'Connor
Jenifer Roman
Work, Start a Life



Gabriel Parrish
Mike and Steph Parrish



Brady Pliscott
Jeremy and Tamara Pliscott
Work



Taten Rardin
Mike and Emily Rardin
Excavation



Bryce Rowan
Liz Kelm
College



Bailey Rudrud
Ben and Ka'Trinah Rudrud
Move Across the Country,
Become a Teacher



Jack Schindele
Lana and Christopher Luchka
Make Money



Sophia Schrom
John and Bridget Schrom
College, Nursing



Miley Schwarz
Brittany Howe and Cole Schwarz
Unsure



Grace Schwegel
Michelle and Larry Schwegel
Work



Garrett Stang
Marie and Jason Stang
College



Trenton Thesing
Jennifer and Brad Thesing
Law Enforcement



Jonathon Tighe
Casie and Chad Tighe
College for a good job



Royce Veith
Anella Rush and Ryan Veith
NDSU, Music Performance



Chelsea Vieths
Bryan and Canndi Vieths
College, Business



Hannah Vieths
Bryan and Canndi Vieths
College in Duluth, Business



Ella Wachsmuth
Sean and Laura Wachsmuth
UMD, Psychology,
Outdoor Education



Caroline Williams
Julie and Damien Williams
College, Rescue Animals



Jasmynn Williams
Leroy and Suann Shepherd
College, RN, work in NICU



London Zapzalka
Mallori and Craig Sheik
Purdure University, Motorsports
Engineering



Samuel Zimmermann
Mike and Sarah Zimmermann
Diesel Mechanic or Truck Driver



Chloe Lee
Josh and Kristina Lee
Veterinary Technician

Congrats!
2026 GRADUATES

Lakewood
HEALTH SYSTEM

Wishing you happiness and prosperity in your future endeavors!

Daniel Douts Insurance Agency

State Farm

812 4th St. NE, Staples • 218-894-1717

Congratulations!

TO OUR 2026 GRADUATES:
**ADRIAN, IVA, PEYTON,
PARKER AND JAYDEN!**

Motley DQ
Nick and Staci
Schultz

Jon's FAMILY FOODS

Staples 894-3360

Keep Moving Forward
Graduates! Good Luck!

Congratulations!

--CLASS OF--
2026

Faith Lutheran Church
Staples 218-894-1546

Celebrate the class of 2026!
Special Congrats
to Eli Rutten!

KEMPE
hair & beauty salon
kit

(218)894-3414

Congratulations
Class of
2026

**Ken's Collision & Glass, SouthSide
Mini Mart, Southside Suds Car Wash**
218-894-3714 • Staples

Class of 2026
Best of Luck on the Road Ahead!

Magic Forest
Children's Center & Preschool

218-895-5330

MCNB MID-CENTRAL
NATIONAL BANK

Accounts are federally insured.
128 2nd Ave. NE, Staples, MN
218-894-3900

**Congratulations,
Class of 2026!**

The World is at your fingertips...

Congratulations,
Class of 2026!

Staples World

Good Luck Grads!

You hold the key for a successful future!

Lake Country Insurance, Inc.
Motley • 218-352-6622

Nikki Bjerga
REALTOR
218.296.0441
NikkiBjerga@edinarealty.com

Edina Realty

LakelandDental

**Special Honors to
Livia Trif**

920 US-10 E, Staples, MN
218-894-2201

Class of 2026 Pillager High School

