

Senior citizens, young citizens, new citizens exercise right, duty and privilege of voting

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Voters in the Staples area may encompass a variety of ages, backgrounds and viewpoints; but they all share a passion for their country, pride in their citizenship and the right to wear the "I Voted" sticker. The Staples World

caught up with a few voters recently and asked if they would be willing to share their thoughts on United States politics and the upcoming election. "Yes," was their unanimous response.

Longtime voters

Lillian Kahnke, 102; and Beatrice (Bea) Olson, 98, may be two of the oldest

voters in Staples; and possibly among the most up-to-date on current events.

"I read the Star Tribune every day and the Staples World every week to keep up on the news," Bea said. "I also received something in the mail which tells you about each of the candidates and that was helpful. We also have a TV here."

And Lillian? "She's sharp as a tack," Bea said of her friend.

Both women are residents at Lakewood Health System Care Center, where early voting was available on Oct. 25.

"I have always voted," Lillian said. Bea nodded in agreement, adding, "It's my duty, really. You can't

squawk about something you don't like if you don't do your part and vote. This year it was very important to vote," Bea said.

"I've always thought you should be interested in it," Lillian said of the voting process. "It could change your life."

Lillian was born in 1914, in the town of Fulda; but

grew up in Wagner, S.D., where her folks worked in agriculture. "When I was younger, we didn't have a TV; but we always read the town paper."

She attended country school and later married Carl, with whom she raised four daughters: Rosie, Clara, Mary and Susan.

See **VOTERS** on page 12a



They've cast their ballots

Bea Olson (left) and Lillian Kahnke, residents at Lakewood Health Center Care Center in Staples, are among the thousands of Minnesotans who were able to vote prior to election day. Olson, 98; and Kahnke, 102, said they have never missed an opportunity to vote. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

First-time voters

Staples-Motley High School seniors Grace VanAalst (left) and Zach Strickland, both 18, will be voting for the first time on Nov. 8. They are pictured reading an online article from the Wall Street Journal regarding the upcoming presidential election. (Staples World article by Dawn Timbs)

New citizen

Mike Withage (left) of rural Staples will be voting for the first time on Nov. 8. Originally from Canada, Withage became a United States citizen in December 2014. He is pictured with the judge who signed his document. (Submitted photo)

General Election is Nov. 8 Area races and candidates are listed

Although the presidential election has dominated the news, citizens have many other decisions to make on the state and local level when they go to the polls Tuesday, Nov. 8.

Staples residents may vote from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 8, at the Staples Community Center.

Motley residents can also vote from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Motley City Hall.

Townships and other cities may have different hours for voting.

How to vote

If you have voted in past elections in your district or registered to vote this year, you can simply show up at your polling place and give your name to the poll workers.

If you are not registered to vote, there are several ways to register on election day:

- ID with current name and address (valid Minnesota driver's license, learner's permit or ID; or a receipt for any of these).
- Tribal ID with name, address, photo and signature.
- Photo ID and a document with current name and address.

- Approved photo IDs, the ID can be expired (choose one): driver's license, state ID or learner's permit issued by any state; U.S. Passport; U.S. Military or Veteran ID; Tribal ID with name, signature and photo; Minnesota university, college or technical college ID; Minnesota high school ID.

- Approved documents, can be shown on electronic device (choose one): bill, account or start-of-service statement due or dated within 30 days of the election for phone, TV or internet, solid waste, sewer, electric, gas or water; banking or credit card; rent or mortgage; residential lease or rent agreement valid through election day; current student fee statement; registered voter who can confirm your address.

• A registered voter from your precinct can go with you to the polling place to sign an oath confirming your address. You cannot vouch for others if someone vouched for you.

• If you live in a residential facility, a staff person can go with you to the polling place to confirm your address.

• If you are registered in the precinct but changed names or moved within the same precinct, you only need to tell the election judge your previous name or address.

Criminal record

If you have a criminal record it does not affect your right to vote in Minnesota unless you are currently serving a

felony conviction sentence, including probation, parole or supervised release. Once you have completed release requirements, you can vote.

What's on the ballot?

In addition to voting for the next President of the United States, Minnesotans will vote for their member of the U.S. House of Representatives, their state Senator and Representative, as well as on a constitutional amendment. Some Minnesotans may also be voting for their local County Commissioner, Soil and Water Supervisor, City Officers, School Board Members, Township Officers, or local ballot questions.

In this area those include:

• **Staples-Motley School Board:** Incumbents Chad Longbella and Bryan Winkels will be joined on the ticket by Creig Dobson and Greg Frisk. The four will be vying for three seats on the board.

• **Staples City Council:** Mary Theurer and Doug Case are two incumbents seeking to retain their seats. Charles Tester, Rachel Johnson and Brian Fisher have also filed, making it a five person race to fill the four open seats. Chris Etzler, the current mayor of Staples, is running unopposed.

• **City of Motley:** Two council positions and the mayor's job will be open. Al Yoder and Amy Hutchinson have filed for mayor. Both are current council members but their seats are not up for election this year. Council incumbent Steve Johnson will be joined on the ballot by Nate Douglas and Robert Follis in a contest for the two open seats.

• **United District Hospital Board:** The board, which oversees Lakewood Health System, has eight candidates vying for the seven board seats open. Donald Sirucek and Susan Bartels filed for the Poplar Township seat. Other filings were Billy Haehnel, Meadowbrook Township; Barbara Peterson, Villard Township; Robert Mueller, Member at Large; Lana Hansen, City of Motley; Linda Dietrich, MooseLake Township; and Ronald Storbakken, Staples Township.

• **Wadena County Commission:** Incumbent

See **ELECTION** on page 10a

Hello, Readers,

On Nov. 3, 1998, former professional wrestler Jesse "The Body" Ventura wins the gubernatorial election. The Democratic-Farmer-Labor and Republican candidates split much of the vote, and Reform Party candidate Ventura, who had been mayor of Brooklyn Park and host of a radio talk show on KSTP in the Twin Cities, takes the prize. Ventura would later switch his affiliation to the Independence Party of Minnesota, and his administration would focus on education and tax reform. Although it is too soon to evaluate his accomplishments, it is safe to say that, for color, even Rudy Perpich pales in comparison.

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

Obituaries
Brad Irwin
Ron Petroske
Winifred Schmidt

Thank you for subscribing!



Adventure time at elementary fall festival

The orange orb, please ... Fiona the Human obtains a pumpkin to hurl at bowling pins during the Staples-Motley Elementary Fall Festival Oct. 28. Brynn Bestland was the cartoon character with Katriane Beach in the puppy costume behind her. See photos from other school and community fall festivals on page 11a. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



Sharing their viewpoints

Four candidates for the Motley City Council participated in a candidate forum Oct. 27 at Motley-Staples Middle School. Pictured seated, from left, are Amy Hutchinson, Al Yoder, mayoral candidates; Bob Follis, Nate Douglas, city council candidates. Council candidate Steve Johnson was unable to attend. Pictured at far left is Brenda Halvorson, Staples World general manager, who moderated the event. See full story with candidate responses on page 4b. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Innovation funding to benefit veterans groups

A number of local veterans projects are getting a shot in the arm thanks to innovation funding support from National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA).

Veterans service officers and other veterans group members from across the region accepted a check for \$50,000 designated for projects in Minnesota Region 5, which includes Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd and Wadena counties.

Todd and Wadena counties will administer the funds for all of the projects. A list of how the funds will be used includes:

- Randall Veterans of Foreign Wars, Curtis-Olson Post #9073 will use \$5,000 of the funding to move a veteran's memorial from its current location by the Randall water tower to a more visible location.

- Wadena County is using \$15,000 to construct a veterans' park.

- Cass County will receive \$5,000 for veteran's graves upkeep and headstone repair.

- Likewise, Todd County will use \$10,000 in funding to address gravestones and monuments in need of repair at the Grand Army of the Republic and United States Civil War grave yards.

- Crow Wing County will receive \$15,000 to help replace a van used for disabled vet-

erans in the Central Minnesota area.

NJPA City and County Solutions Manager Anna Gruber says, "The projects are a great example of collaboration from conversations happening across our region. It's inspiring to see counties thinking about how they can approach mutual concerns. We are proud to support these valuable projects."

NJPA's Innovation Funding was created to help public agencies in Region 5 fund initiatives aimed at creating collaboration and improving the region. The formula for the program promotes "outside-of-the-box" collaboration on projects that might otherwise not get off the ground.

These awards are not intended to support single individuals, organizations or communities. They are intended to support region-wide initiatives, consortiums and collaborations impacting many people and serving a greater public purpose. The projects are selected by members and NJPA provides financial and logistical support to ensure successful regional impact. This annual funding opportunity is in its third year, with \$307,000 awarded in 2014, \$411,933 awarded in 2015 and \$350,000 awarded in 2016.



Innovation funding helps veterans

County veterans organizations recently received Innovation funding from NJPA. Above; from left, Anna Gruber, NJPA City and County Solutions Manager; Pete Berscheid, Todd County Veterans Service Officer; David Anderson, Wadena County Veterans Service Officer; David Ludovissie, Wadena County Veterans Memorial Park Chairman; Kathy Marshik, Morrison County Veterans Service Officer; Teresa Sorenson, Todd County Veterans Service Officer; Paul Drange, NJPA Director of Regional Programs; Jeff Woodford, Cass County Veterans Service Officer; Bob Nelson, Crow Wing County Veterans Service Officer; and Kelly McAllister, NJPA Contract Administrator. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



The Wadena County Veterans Memorial displays large pieces of granite engraved with veterans' names. (Submitted photo)

Step Beyond hosting open house for women

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

Step Beyond will host an open house/open meeting, Wednesday Nov. 16, from 5-7 p.m. at Staples City Hall for any women interested in mentoring.

The open house will give Step Beyond the opportunity to share its purpose with members of the community.

The Step Beyond mentoring program forms caring and supportive relationships between women who live in the same community but are in contrasting life situations.

Participants in the pro-

gram say it's less of a mentoring program and more of a way to show support between people in the community. During the meetings participants do not separate themselves into mentors and mentees, they simply come together for socialization without judging.

Women in the group setting are careful when describing the type of person who would benefit from joining. They like to connect with women who've undergone life changes and are trying to move on from survival to sustainability in their lives. Those guidelines are

open to interpretation.

The Step Beyond motto is "Empowering Women to Thrive," with goals of helping women establish a sense of belonging in their community, improving mental health, happiness and life satisfaction.

The program is a function of Staples Motley Beyond Poverty but the group does not want to attach the stigma of poverty to the description because the program is non-judgemental in all aspects.

A typical Step Beyond meeting includes food, activities and conversations. Meetings are held in different locations and sometimes short trips to nearby locations have been selected.

The time commitment of joining the program is one monthly group meeting and weekly contact with mentors by phone calls or meeting for coffee.



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Coon Rapids man indicted for abduction, murder of girl

On Oct. 28, a Cass County grand jury indicted 25-year-old Zachary Todd Anderson on 19 counts in connection with the death of five-year-old Alayna Ertl of Watkins. The girl was found dead Aug. 20, in the Wilderness Park area north of Motley.

According to the crimi-

nal complaint, Anderson spent the night at the Ertls' home Aug. 19, after playing softball with Alayna's father. Alayna's parents reported her missing the morning of Aug. 20. The Ertls also reported their vehicle missing.

On a tip from Anderson's father, police found Anderson in his family's cabin 80 miles from Watkins, north of Motley in Cass County. They also found the Ertls' vehicle there, according to the complaint.

Anderson led police to Alayna's body, the complaint states. The complaint also states Anderson

sexually assaulted the girl.

The indictment includes eight counts of first degree murder, one count of second degree intentional murder, four counts of kidnapping, two counts of first degree criminal sexual conduct, one count of second degree criminal sexual conduct, one count of theft of a motor vehicle and two counts of interference with a dead body.

Bail was set \$3 million or \$1.5 million with conditions. Anderson's next court appearance is scheduled for Dec. 12, 2016.

Alayna Ertl would have celebrated her sixth birthday Oct. 31.

Pine Cones & Cinnamon

Christmas at the Cabin **NEW HOURS**

<p>Christmas decorating to home re-decorating-our cabin is full with everything on your list!</p> <p>The Furniture Shed is FULL of fun, new furniture!</p> <p><small>From Staples go: 2-1/2 miles E of Pillager on Hwy. 210; turn North on Shady Sylvan Shores Rd., go 2 blks., turn right on Wilderness Dr. Or 8-1/2 miles West of Brainerd. Signs posted.</small></p>	<p>THURS., NOV. 3 4 to 7 p.m.</p> <p>FRI., NOV. 4 9 a.m.-6 p.m.</p> <p>Sat., Nov. 5 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.</p>
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*** NOV. 8 ***

Election Night

-Busing-

Friendly Rider

will operate an additional 4 hours, until 10 p.m., in the City of Staples and the City of Wadena on election night,

Tuesday, Nov. 8

Polling locations are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

This bus service will be available for people to get to their polling locations within 5 miles of Staples and Wadena.

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Road right of way issues bring process questions

By Karin Nauber
Todd County reporter

Chris Mertens, Supervisor for Staples Township, brought several issues to the Todd County Commissioners regular meeting on Oct. 18.

In addition to several issues of buildings that are within the road right of way (ROW), there are also septic mounds within the ROW of a road which has been platted, but never created.

Some residents would like to vacate part of the road.

Todd County Planning and Zoning Director Tim Stieber said that a survey was needed.

Mertens said that he felt that planning and zoning should help with the survey. "Why should the township have to pick up the cost of a survey to fix county permitted (errors)?" asked Mertens.

Stieber said that the county permits the structure to meet the setbacks; however, a landowner may decide at the last minute they want to put it somewhere else.

"Surveys have to be done in certain situations," said Stieber. "People get angry because it slows the process down and costs a lot of money."

Stieber added that even if his department sends a staff person over, they don't know where the lines are and don't have surveyor equipment.

Mertens said, "So this has happened before? What do you do to correct it?"

Mertens said that in his mind, the township would just vacate the road as they have no plans to build it.

"But these were permitted through the county and I think the county should fix it," said Mertens regarding the structures and septic systems that are in the ROW.

Commissioner Randy Neumann said that the county surveyor could come in.

Mertens said that there were other issues, too and that the easiest thing to do would be to just vacate the road.

Commissioner David Kircher said, "I am not opposed to helping townships out, but we have to be cautious. This opens the door to other townships coming in. If we make a financial commitment, we are setting a precedent. We have to be cautious."

Neumann said that Stieber was correct when he had said earlier that the lines are off.

After further discussion County Attorney Chuck Rasmussen said, "You are claiming we permitted things that shouldn't have been permitted. So then because you claim that,

you say we should pay for it to fix it?"

Mertens replied, "Yes." Rasmussen said that he agreed with Kircher's comments.

Kircher noted that some planning and zoning records had not been kept accurately.

"There are people building without permits. That is why I don't like 'after the fact' permits," said Kircher.

Stieber said that they only issue those if they have a variance or other actions are taken.

"Honest to God, I don't know how they did it in the past," said Stieber.

Addressing Mertens, Kircher said, "I understand your problem, but we don't want to set a precedent."

Chair Barb Becker said that if the township would be willing to sit with Stieber and herself, they could see if they can work something out.

In other business the board:

- Because of the low interest rates right now the county approved the selling and reissuing of the county's General Obligation Bonds, Series 2011 originally valued at \$4,125,000 (Historic Courthouse Building Project). In doing so the county would save significant dollars in interest payments for the bond's duration. The current principal balance of the bonds at year end 2016 is \$3,040,000.

- The bonds were sold to United Banker's Bank and the net savings will be over \$130,000.

- Approved the reappointment of Chris Odden as county assessor.

- Approved Rachels Grove Preliminary Plat to proceed to final platting with condition that plat map be amended to correct street labeled as Douglas Street to be changed to Douglas Drive.

- Approved a subdivision request for the preliminary plat named "Camacho Addition" containing one residential lot located along the Long Prairie River and along County Rd. 28.

Stieber said that this request required an extensive survey and was one that Becker had brought to Stieber's attention.

He said the landowners (Christopher and Holly Camacho) were frustrated because they were having trouble meeting the requirements, but that they were able to work with them and get the issues resolved.

- A zoning amendment request to change the zoning district of the SE4 of the SE4 of Section 26 of Wykeham Township from R-10 to AF-2 for the purpose of allowing animal production greater than what is

allowed in R-10 Zoning was approved for Rudy Miller.

- Approved the appointment of Arnie Boie to serve as District 1 Planning Commission representative. Rin Porter, who is currently in that position, will remain for one or two more meetings to give Boie some training. The board thanked Porter for her service.

- Approved the Memorandum of Understanding with the National Joint Powers Alliance for contracting services at a cost of \$9,561.24.

- Approved the enrollment in NeoGov program at a cost of \$7,250. This will be a plus for the county as only one application will be necessary for health and human services employment instead of one for the Merit application and one for the county.

- Approved filling the county coordinator position at full-time.

Kircher voted against it saying, "I believe we should pursue a county administrator position. I believe that the coordinator's position doesn't fit. We need an administrator because of the size of our budget and staff."

Becker said that at their committee meeting, it had been agreed to hire a coordinator. The committee included Sheriff Don Asmus, County Attorney Chuck Rasmussen, County Commissioners Rod Erickson and Barb Becker, County Auditor/Treasurer Denise Gaida and County Coordinator Lisa Herges.

Herges encouraged the board that when they found additional applicants that they all participate in the interview process.

- The board met in closed session for approximately half an hour to discuss with their attorney, via telephone conference, an employee separation which is pending.



SHAS work-a-thon "cleans up"

Sacred Heart Area School held their third annual work-a-thon Oct. 19. Students raked leaves, picked up sticks and pine needles in the Staples city parks. Students asked community members for pledges toward their work to raise money for their school, raising over \$8,500 to meet and surpass their \$8,000 goal. The work-a-thon replaced the marathon where students in the past rode bikes or walked to collect pledges for the SHAS. "This work-a-thon teaches students both good citizenship and discipleship," said Principal Jim Opelia. "Great work, boys and girls."



Above: Second grade students, parents and teachers raked and cleaned at Northern Pacific Park. Middle: Eli Greenwaldt and Sam Zimmermann haul a load of pine needles at Pine Grove Park. Below: Fifth graders in RoAnn Trout's class cleaned Staples Veterans Park.



Reports increase of livestock on county roads

The Wadena County Sheriff's Office is asking all Wadena County farmers, ranchers and any livestock owners to check their fences and fence lines especially ones near public roads.

Since June 1, 2016 the sheriff's office has taken 48 calls of unsecured livestock wandering onto public roads, 30 of these calls have come since Sept. 1. It's the owner of the livestock responsibility to keep their livestock secured on their property, to make sure fences are in good condition and to keep their livestock contained inside the fence. If property is damaged or someone is hurt due to unsecured livestock, the livestock's owner can be held accountable.

The Wadena County Sheriff's Department's responsibility is to protect property and ensure the safety of the residents and visitors of Wadena County County.



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The first projected loser in November
(and the countless like him!)



We have assembled, petitioned, spoken, prayed So now vote!

By Gene Policinski

There are but a few hyper-politically charged days - now a mercifully few - remaining before the 2016 general elections.

Over nearly two years, the nation has been through an exhausting process of sorting through possible candidates, selecting nominees and now consider the final few - and lest we forget, for offices high and low, local and state and national.

In many ways, such a season means glory day, for our First Amendment freedoms. But first things first, so to speak. Vote on Nov. 8. Voting is the ultimate result of the constitutional protections of our core freedoms expressed in the First Amendment: the governed selecting those who, until the next election, are charged with governing on our behalf.

There is a reason we protect political speech above all other categories: It's one of the essential parts of how our nation works, even when for many, it's effectively "not working." The process remains the envy of the world, which periodically places it in the crosshairs of adversaries who would tear it down, now in ways we have not seen before.

Debate, discussion, disagreement and discourse are the ways we exchange our ideas in the public square - sometimes bitterly and angrily, to be sure. We also know from history that this oft-messy method has, over time, meant a continual renewal of our nation and its values, and improvement of the lives of our fellow citizens.

In more direct First Amendment terms, in less than a week, we will decide who responds to our petitions for change. Many of us over these long months of the 2016 presidential race have assembled to make our voices heard - either through actual assemblies and rallies, or through the increasingly common online communities formed by social media. For some, tenets of faith or prayers for divine guidance will help us in deciding for whom to vote.

Through it all the press - with more participants than ever before - has been there to report, record, repeat, reproach or repost what candidates and the public are saying to and about each other.

To the regret of many, it sometimes seems the press has been in the news during this campaign season as often as reporting it.

Witness the latest example. Former U.S. House Speaker Newt Gingrich's emotional criticism of Fox News's Megyn Kelly - and by extension, the news media in general - for being "fascinated with sex" over

substantive issues. He immediately paired that, without irony, to an inquiry as to why former president Bill Clinton's name isn't as synonymous with the term "sexual predator" as Gingrich claimed is the case with GOP candidate Donald Trump.

Add in Trump's outright attacks on journalists and news outlets in the harshest terms; the disdain earlier in the campaign from Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton's months-long-gap between press conferences, and criticism in polls and at rallies of the working press; Trump's earlier conflict with Kelly over his post-debate remark about "blood coming out of her wherever;" and his threat to use the presidency to weaken libel laws to make it easier for himself and other public figures to sue journalists and their news organizations.

Nov. 8 election results will - even if it takes a few weeks, thanks to some new version of the infamous "hanging chad" debacle of the 2000 presidential race - generally settle who gets into office.

Not so certain is the path for a free press. With or without Trump's promised assault on defamation law, traditional news organizations continue to shed staff as they face rising costs amid falling revenue. New media attract eyeballs, but for the most part, remained linked to the content produced by the aforementioned mainstream press.

Opinion and talk often substitute for news and information. Over the last 20 years, the once-feared "watchdog on government" has lost more and more "teeth" - and in the case of cable news channels, sometimes seems only to be barking for attention.

Many more than Trump challenged the veracity and motives of major media outlets. The data-dump website called "WikiLeaks" feeds the national daily news diet with alleged leaked private emails from the Clinton campaign amid rumors that it's at least assisted - if not directed - by a hostile Russian government.

Whether it's all of that, or Trump's promise to diminish press protections, or Clinton's expressed intent to reconstitute restrictions on contributions as a form of political speech, the future of free expression seems likely to remain "political" long after this year's ballots are counted - and perhaps, recounted.

Gene Policinski is chief operating officer of the Newseum Institute and senior vice president of the Institute's First Amendment Center.

Volunteers welcome in school in many areas

They say, "it takes a village," and we at Staples-Motley Elementary agree. We had so many wonderful parent volunteers in our building last Friday, Oct. 28, to help with the fall festival, it was awesome. Those special events are fun days for everyone, so thank you to all those who gave of their time to come in and make the day special for all of our students.

I would like to invite parents and grandparents who would be interested in volunteering for different events hosted at our school as well as for regular learning times in our classrooms.

A great volunteer opportunity would be to help during the lunch and recess times with your child. Come see who your children are playing with at recess and meet

Staples-Motley Schools



By Kathy Johnson
Staples-Motley Elementary Principal

some of their friends.

If you like playing math games, the teachers would love to have you join their class to play games which help kids develop needed math facts.

Teachers can always use extra help assisting students during literacy stations. Teachers work with small groups of students so they can take them where they are, push them to new levels and challenge them to meet their reading goals and become solid readers.

We hope this "village" can support our young learners and help us build a love for learning in all of them.

Thank you for your consideration to volunteer at Staples-Motley Elementary.

Letter to the Editor

To The Good Samaritan

My elderly mother had a physical therapy appointment Monday afternoon (Oct. 31) at Lakewood Health System. She sat on the bench inside the main entrance while I parked the car.

When I came in we went to PT and it was at that time that I asked her where her purse was. She said she must have left it in the

car, or, I asked her if she left it on the bench where she was sitting. She said "I don't know."

I went looking for the missing purse and no, it was not on the bench and no one had turned a purse in to the information desk. Out to the car I went and there was no purse in the car. Back inside I asked again if someone had turned in the purse - no. Back to the car for another look - no purse. Back to the information desk - no

purse. They took my name, mother's name and phone number in case it turned up.

What a sick feeling to think about all the information you carry - Social Security number, bank card, check book, medical cards, etc., etc., and now all the calls and reports that have to get done as soon as possible.

Well, thankfully, there is a Good Samaritan who made sure the purse got turned in to the right person; a Good Samaritan who took the extra step to find out that mother was still there and who made sure the purse was brought to the PT department.

Whoever you are, we are forever grateful to you and want you and our community to know how much we appreciate good people like you.

Jan Bartle
(and especially mother)
Motley, Minn.

Why is voting important?

"The vote is the most powerful instrument ever devised by man for breaking down injustice and destroying the terrible walls which imprison men because they are different from other men."

~Lyndon B. Johnson, 36th President of the United States

In order to gain an understanding of why voting is so important, let's take a look back at the history of voting rights.

Contrary to popular belief, the United States' Constitution did not originally guarantee citizens the "right to vote." The United States was created with the understanding that only certain individuals would make the decisions when it came to government.

There are several amendments to the U.S. Constitution which address the right to vote and who actually has this "right."

14th Amendment
All persons born within the U.S. are citizens and

guaranteed rights and privileges (1868)

15th Amendment
No citizen denied the right to vote based on race, color, or previous condition of servitude

This amendment was intended to give freed slaves the same privileges offered to the white majority in the United States. States were able to get around this amendment by creating Jim Crow Laws and other barriers to prevent minorities from voting.

Jim Crow Laws were requirements for individuals to pass in order to become eligible to vote. These included:

- Literacy tests: These tests excluded under educated Americans from voting. This was specifically focused towards African Americans.

- Grandfather clauses: A requirement which said if your grandfather was eligible to vote, then you are eligible to vote. This would exclude many African Americans whose ancestors were not eligible to vote because of slavery.

- Poll taxes: A fee would be required to vote. The intention is to stop lower income citizens from having a voice in government.

As you can see, the 15th Amendment did not accomplish what it had originally intended. Minorities still did not share equal rights when it came to voting in the United States.

19th Amendment
No citizen shall be abridged of their right to vote based on sex. (1920)

This amendment gave women the right to vote.

Generations of women worked tirelessly to gain suffrage. This is by far one of the most important amendments to the Constitution when it comes to voting, because it gave the right to vote to half of the population of the United States. If you are a female and reading this document, you have/will have the right to vote because a battle was fought for you in history.

From protesting and picketing to large rallies,

women ignored the resistance of opponents who many times verbally and physically assaulted them. Decades of protest and the will of women to never give up paid off, and today women can register and vote for the issues which they feel strongly about.

24th Amendment
No poll tax is allowed or failure to pay any other tax shall prevent a person from voting (1964)

This amendment eliminated some of the Jim Crow laws which were a result of the 15th Amendment.

26th Amendment
All persons 18 or older shall not be abridged of their right to vote. (1971)

This amendment was passed in 1971 after 11 unsuccessful attempts by U.S. Senator Jennings Randolph (D), WV. Randolph originally introduced the bill during his time in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The Vietnam War brought up the topic of why can 18 year olds fight and die for our country, yet they are not eligible to vote for the members of congress who send them overseas.

The amendment was also passed very quickly, because it was considered politically dangerous to be against giving troops the rights they deserved during the upcoming election in 1972. The potential for an opponent to rally voters against a candidate were too strong, not to support the amendment.

This amendment is the reason why 18 year olds and 17 year olds who will be 18 by the date of the next General Election are eligible to vote. Seventeen year olds are not permitted to vote in municipal or special elections however.

Voting Rights Act of 1965

Applied a nationwide prohibition against the denial or abridgment of the right to vote on the literacy tests on a nationwide basis.

Finally the barriers to vote were lifted for minorities.

Vote responsibly!

Step #1
Become an informed citizen.

Step #2
Cast an informed ballot!



Staples World

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The deadline is 5 p.m. Monday. 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.



Dance program explores history

Christopher Yeager will return to Wadena on Saturday, Nov. 12, at 7 p.m. with another program about American Social Dance at the Maslowski Wellness Center in Wadena.

Nowhere is the sense of history more keenly exhibited than in American social dances. From the daring displays of Ragtime to the exciting independence evidenced by Rock 'n Roll, Yeager's program will include demonstrations by the artist as well as opportunities for the audience to participate.

All ages are welcome. This year the program will go deeper into the social dances of the 60's. To get in the mood and to learn more about that era stop by the Wadena County Museum where the travel-

ing exhibit, "Coming of Age: 1968" is now on display.

Yeager, an artist listed on the roster of the Minnesota State Arts Board, has more than twenty five years of research and training in social and world dance styles. He is the founding director of the performing group "Dance Hall Days," showcasing American dance and music from Ragtime to Rock 'n Roll.

Christopher Yeager's dance program is one of more than a dozen free programs presented this year by the Wadena County Historical Society.

For more information call the Wadena County Historical Society at 218 631-9079 or email 603wchs@arvig.net.



Fun at storytime

Fall stories about colored leaves and pumpkins were featured at the storytime held at the Staples Public Library on Oct. 12, along with painting pumpkins. The next Reading Roundhouse Storytime for children preschool-grade 2 is 10:30-11:30 a.m. Nov. 9 celebrating Curious George's Anniversary. Registration required. Stop or call 218-894-1401 to sign up. Above left: Amelia and her grandmother Coral Cuppy. Right: Matthew Jewison with mom, Melissa. (Submitted photos)



Concordia College Orchestra in Staples

Orchestra students at Staples-Motley will perform Saturday, Nov. 5 in a joint concert with the Concordia College Orchestra, Moorhead. The concert starts at 7:30 p.m. at the Centennial Auditorium in Staples. Also performing will be members of several local choirs. A free-will donation will be taken. Orchestra students will be receiving free private lessons from Concordia string faculty on Saturday afternoon.

Above: Orchestra students rehearsing, left to right are: Stephanie Mitchell, Nick Franzen, Katie Benson, Morgan Dolezal, Scout Strickland and Macy Judd. (Submitted photo)

Goat producer workshop

The 2016 Todd County Area Goat Workshop will be Nov. 22 from 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Clarissa Ballroom. Registration will open at 10 a.m. and there is no cost to attend.

This workshop is intended for both dairy and meat goat producers who are interested in learning about overall goat nutrition, production, and management of goats. Ag business professionals who work with dairy and meat goat producers are also welcome to attend.

Speakers and topics

- Basic Goat Nutrition and Energy Requirements - Dr. Michael Schlegel, Purina Senior Nutritionist.
- Purina's Small Ruminant Research - Dr. James D. Caldwell, Purina Small Animal Research Scientist.
- Evaluating Goat Production Costs - Dr. Travis Hoffman, U of M and NDSU Extension Educator.
- Raising Youngstock-Newborns and Beyond - Amanda Long, NDSU Master's Degree student.
- Organic Trace Min-

erals - Dwight Kickhafer, Zinpro Key Account Manager, Northern Prairie.

- Veterinary Feed Directive Update - Jim Lunemann, Purina Livestock Production Specialist.

- Preparing Your Farm for the Next Generation - Brenda Miller, U of M Extension Educator.

- Livestock Investment Grant and Value-Added Grant - Kelly Anderson, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Livestock Specialist

- SARE Farmer-Rancher Grant - Wayne Martin, U of M Extension Educator.

RSVP to Brenda Miller by Nov. 15 to help get an accurate meal count. Contact: 320-533-4655, nels4220@umn.edu, or by mail:

U of M Extension
Brenda Miller
Historic Courthouse
215 1st Ave S, Suite 101
Long Prairie, MN 56347
Sponsors include: University of Minnesota Extension, Minnesota Farmers Union, Pro Ag Farmers Co-op, Purina, Unity Bank, Zinpro.

Mark Your Calendar

November 7-11

BOOK FAIR Nov. 7 - 11, Motley-Staples Middle School, noon - 6 p.m. daily. In addition, 'Donuts with Dad' and 'Muffins with Mom' will take place along with the book fair on Tues. and Thurs., 8 - 10 a.m. Sponsored by Motley-Staples Middle School Parent Teacher Connection.

WADENA WHIRLAWAYS SQUARE DANCE CLUB MTG Thurs., Nov. 10, 7:30 - 10 p.m., Wadena VFW. Tom Jacobs, caller; Donna Stone, cuer. For info., 218-894-1542.

BRainerd CHAPTER #738 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES MTG Tues., Nov. 8, Prairie Bay, Hwy 371, Baxter. Social time, 11:30 a.m., lunch, 12:30 p.m. Presentation by Delores Lasollett, AARP.

Staples City Council agenda

The Staples City Council will meet Tuesday, Nov. 8, at 8:01 p.m. at the Staples City Hall, 122 6th St NE, Staples. **Note change in time.**

Preliminary agenda items include:

- Consider request from Staples-Motley Basketball Boosters Inc. for permission to conduct a raffle on Jan. 17, 2017.
- Consider placing a sign on 6th St. SE with directions to the overpass for northbound traffic approaching the railroad crossing.

- Public Hearing at 8:05 p.m. to consider proposed assessment of delinquent utility bills.

- Discuss enforcement of Public Nuisance Ordinance.

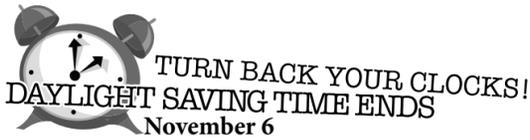
- Committee reports including Public Works Commission and consider deferment of Special Assessment on property owned by Jeanne Petron at 240 Park Road.

- Open forum.
- City administrator's report.
- Recess meeting to canvas results of city election.

Highway driving safety

Ray Gildow, host of Lakeland Currents will welcome Neil Dickenson, Public Information Officer of the northeast region with the Minnesota State Patrol. The show will air on Lakeland Public Television Friday, Nov. 4, at 8 p.m. With the Towards Zero

Deaths initiative, the MN State Patrol is actively educating the public about the chief causes of traffic-related fatalities and injuries. Together, they will discuss laws of the highway in Minnesota and techniques to make driving safer for all of us.



TEN HI
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Welcome Deer Hunters!
STOP IN FOR A BLOODY MARY & OFF-SALE SPECIALS
Month of November:
20% OFF select Off-Sale WINES!
FRI., Nov. 4
FREE JUKE BOX
SAT., Nov. 5
FREE JUKE BOX
NO MINORS AFTER 8:00 P.M.

COZY THEATRE
Wadena, MN
Screen Fri. thru Thurs. Nov. 4 - 17
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:00 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:00
Matinees Sat. & Sun. Nov. 5 & 6 at 1:15 pm
Special Advance Screening
Thurs. Nov. 3 at 7:15 pm in 2-D! Presented in Dolby Digital 3-D!

DOCTOR STRANGE
The 7:00 Shows on Fri. & Sat. Will Be Shown in 3-D. All Other Shows Will be 2-D.

Screen Fri. thru Thurs. Nov. 4 - 17
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 6:45 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:00
Matinees Sat. & Sun. Nov. 5 & 6 at 1:25 pm

HACKSAW RIDGE

Screen Fri. thru Thurs. Nov. 4 - 17
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:15 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:15
Matinees Sat. & Sun. Nov. 5 & 6 at 1:30 pm

Tells
Matinees and Tuesday Bargain Night
All 3-D Seats \$6.00 • All 2-D Seats \$5.00
www.cozytheatre.com

Deer Hunters
We're **OPEN**
5:30 a.m.
BOTH SATURDAYS
Nov. 5 and Nov. 12
Have a Hearty Breakfast
Sunday Brunch 10 AM
•Hunting licenses •LP gas
•Big game registration station
BRICKS TRAVEL CENTER 265 Hwy 10 W. Motley 218-352-6677

DEER HUNTERS!
Set your sights on a hearty breakfast...
Opening
Sat., Nov. 5, 4:30 am, Sun., Nov. 6, 4:30 am
"Breakfast Specials"
Hwy. 10 S., Motley
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Deer Hunters... WE'RE OPEN 5 AM
Sat., & Sun Nov. 5 - 6
Deer Hunters Scrambler Special 6 -11am
Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Specials
"For friendly service and a good meal, hit the Spot!"
The Spot Cafe STAPLES, MN
218-894-9928
MOTLEY
218-352-6262



Photography class at the care center



A number of residents at the Lakewood Health System (LHS) Care Center in Staples have been taking a photography class taught by Mary Noska, Registered Occupational Therapist at LHS. Pictured above Oct. 27, front row from left: Jeanne Brown, Ellie Welling, Sally Ross, Betty Tepley, Violet Wolhert. Row two: Bea Olson, Evelyn Tholl, Sandi Maki, Iras Chapin, Ted Sweep, Harvey Wright. Standing, Noska. In lower photo, Noska assists Iras Chapin with the camera, while Harvey Wright looks on. The care center owns

two cameras that the residents have been able to use. On Oct. 27, resident Bea Olson shared a number of photos she had taken the previous weekend outside when the weather had been unusually warm. Chapin also shared photos that had been taken recently at her great-granddaughter's wedding. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



WELCOMING HOME TO STAPLES...



Andrew
Beautiful son of Chelsey & Matt
Born 8/4/16 in Staples.



Emma Lynne
Beautiful daughter of Kelsey & Allen
Born 8/9/16 in Staples.



Miller
Beautiful son of Madison & Ethan
Born 8/11/16 in Staples.



Corban
Beautiful son of Marilyn & Kevin
Born 8/11/16 in Staples.

WE ARE SO HONORED TO BE A PART OF YOUR CHILD'S BIRTH.



Winner at library

On behalf of his wife Sandra, John Rohloff, left, accepts an iPad mini from Cathy Perish, library services coordinator for the Staples and Eagle Bend public libraries. Sandra Rohloff was one of three winners in the prize drawing held for Library Card Sign-up Month in September through Great River Regional Library. The iPad mini was purchased for the drawing by the St. Cloud Friends of the Library. The other winners are Corissa Johnson at the Becker Public Library and Alissa Tesmer at the Delano Public Library. (Submitted photo)

Retirement Party...
Together let us honor and celebrate the retirement of our beloved pastor
Steve Sveom
Sunday, November 20
Faith Lutheran Church
430 12th St. NE, Staples
*Worship Service at 10:45 a.m. followed by a program celebrating Pastor Steve and Toni, approx. 11:15 a.m.
*Lunch to follow in the Community Room.
Questions, call 218-894-1546 or email faithluthernstaples@gmail.com

Re-Elect Chad Longbella
Staples-Motley School Board

I have served on the board since November 1991 and would like to continue to represent you, the people of the district, and to work for the benefit of all the students to the best of my ability.

Your vote on Nov. 8 would be greatly appreciated!

*Paid for by Chad Longbella, 807 5th St. NE, Staples, MN 56479

Obituaries

Ronald Petroske

Ronald Petroske, 78, of Staples, passed away on October 23, 2016 at the Lakewood Health System Care Center, Staples.

Funeral services will be held November 7, 11:00 a.m., at the Staples Alliance Church. Friends may call one hour prior to services at the church.

Interment will be held at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery, Little Falls.

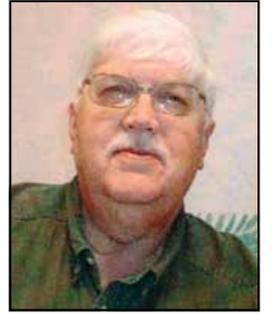
Arrangements are with Iten Funeral Home, Brownsville.

Ronald was born August 6, 1938, in Staples to Frank and Alice (Smith) Petroske. He graduated from Staples High School. He enlisted in the U.S. Army on August 25, 1955 and was honorably discharged on August 24, 1958. Ron married Helen Peterson on June 22, 1996 in Chisago City. For many years, he drove school bus in Staples and charter bus for Northwestern Transit, Motley. Ron was a John Wayne fan and enjoyed watching Western movies, traveling, camping, yardwork and woodworking.

Ronald is survived by his wife; children, Ron-



Brad Irwin



Brad R. Irwin, 63, of Aitkin died October 25, 2016 at his home.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held October 29 at St. James Catholic Church in Aitkin with Fr. David Forsman officiating.

Burial was at the Motley Public Cemetery.

Arrangements were with the Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home in Aitkin.

Brad was born on October 14, 1953 in Brainerd, Minnesota to Gene and Bettylou (Rosvold) Irwin. At the age of three they moved to St. Cloud where he attended schools through the second grade. The family moved to Motley where he finished his education graduating from the Motley High School in 1972. He attended college at the University of Minnesota Crookston, North Dakota State in Fargo graduating in 1976 with a BS degree in Agricultural Education. He taught school in Melrose in 1977 and went to work for the ASCS program until 1986. He married Renee Simons on June 7, 1980 in Fergus Falls. They lived in Fergus Falls for one year, then at West Lost Lake, Underwood where he was the director of the ASCS program. They moved to Glen Ullin, North Dakota in 1988 and worked in Farm Business Management. In 1988 they moved to Aitkin where he taught at Central Lakes College Farm Business Management. Brad returned to school and received his Masters Degree in Education from Southwest State University, Marshall. In 2008 he began teaching at the Aitkin High School Ag Education, industrial technology and physical science. Brad was an alternative education instructor at Aitkin Schools and Extension educator for Aitkin County. He taught one year at the Pierz High School. Brad was currently employed with Rain and Hail Crop Insurance Co. and had served as an Aitkin Township Supervisor and Aitkin Township Clerk. In high school and college he was in FFA and served as an FFA advisor for many years. He was a longtime member of the Riceland Chapter of the Minnesota Deer Hunters Association and Cattleman's Association. He was an avid deer hunter, fisherman, camper, archery, trapper, canoeist and outdoorsman.

He is survived by his wife; one daughter, Molly Irwin of Moose Lake; mother, Bettylou (Lionel) Stelck of Motley and sister, Lujean Vacura of Motley.

He was preceded in death by his father and grandparents.

ald (Mimi) Petroske, Jr., Keith (Deanna) Petroske both of Forest Lake, Troy (Vicki) Petroske of North Branch, Lori Griffith of Forest Lake, Jeff (Vicki) Petroske of Arizona, Kim (Tony) Curtis of Marine St. Croix, Kerry (Michele) Petroske of Cottage Grove, Staci (Anthony) Hutchinson of St. Paul, Amie (Greg Loghry) Johnson of Henning and Brent Johnson of Staples; 40 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

Ronald is preceded in death by his parents; one son, Keith Johnson; one sister, Rose Marie Adamek and one brother, Lawrence Petroske.

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Winnifred Schmidt

Winnifred "Winnie" Schmidt, 96, of Brainerd and formerly of Staples and Baxter, passed away on October 28, 2016.

A Memorial Service will be held Saturday, Nov. 5, 11:00 a.m. at Good Samaritan Society - Bethany, 804 Wright St. Brainerd.

Winnie was born to Daniel and Lillian (Vogtman) Hanson on November 16, 1919 in Staples, where she grew up. She graduated from Staples High School. She married Delbert Schmidt in 1940 and they made their home in Philbrook until 1952. Winnie was employed many years at Anderson Our Own Hardware in Staples. After retirement Winnie and Del enjoyed 14 winters in Harlingen, Texas. She moved to Excelsior Place in Baxter and in April of 2012 she moved to Good Samaritan Society - Bethany in Brainerd.

Winnie was one of the founders of the Friendly Hour Club in Philbrook, enjoyed many years as a member of "The Knitting Club" in Staples, knitting nearly 300 hats, donating them to the Marie Sandvik Center in Minneapolis. She crocheted over 50 afghans for family and friends. She took ceramic and oil



painting lessons during her winters in Texas. For many years she hosted the Schmidt family reunion.

She is survived by two daughters, Janetta Knapp, Karen (Peter) Nyvall and one son, Delbert D. (Nancy) Schmidt; seven grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; two sisters-in-law, Rosemary Hanson and Helen Hanson and many nieces, nephews and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 51 years; her parents; three brothers, Daniel, Wallace and Roger Hanson; two sisters, Eleanor Harry and Avis Leitch and one grandson, Brock Knapp.

Memorials are preferred to Good Samaritan Society - Bethany, Brainerd, Mn.

w44p A00006B2016NV03

Hello World

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL INCLUDE:

Born to Tony and Renee Paskewitz of Staples, a baby girl, Grace Elizabeth, weighing seven pounds, 10 ounces on October 24, 2016.

Born to Joseph and Jennifer Imholte of St. Joseph, a baby girl, Olivia Rose, weighing eight pounds, six ounces on October 23, 2016.

Born to Justin and Tanya Nelson of Staples, a baby boy, Brixton Finley, weighing eight pounds on October 27, 2016.



Auctioneer action at LHS Care Center

Auctioneer Daryl Larson gets the LHS Care Center crowd bidding at their annual activities auction. Care center staff Deb Pickar helps out keeping track of the resident's bids. Residents earn

points, by doing activities at the care center, points can be used as money for the auction. Prizes are donated by staff, volunteers and families of the residents. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



CARE community meal

The second community meal of the season, sponsored by CARE Ministries, was held at the Congregational Church in Staples Oct. 25, co-hosted by Thomastown Covenant Church.



Crossword Puzzle

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for 'Costume Party' and other items.

- Across: 1 Bikini blast, 6 Take in, 11 Jokester, 14 Anouk of film, 15 Biblical gift, 16 Trouble, 17 Universal opener, 19 Spanish uncle, 20 Compose, 21 Actress Russo, 22 Magic show units, 24 Kindle Fire fodder, 25 Pacifies, 26 British comic's talent, 29 Pass on, 30 Beside, 31 Actor Dennis, 32 Public order, 35 Lodging houses, 36 Kama, 37 Shirt brand, 38 Heating fuel, 39 Actor Jimmy, 40 Italian fountain, 41 Grippers, 43 Purple shade, 44 Actress Charlize, 46 Security for a debt, 47 Missy Elliott song, 48 Theatre name, 49 Detox place, 52 Cry at fireworks, 53 Autobiographer, often, 56 Sorority letter, 57 Deride, 58 Ticket category, 59 Yoga class need, 60 Row, 61 Dixie cakes, Down: 1 Metal fastener, 2 Two-wheeler, 3 Straw in the wind, 4 Funnyman Brooks, 5 Stein, 6 In a crowd of, 7 Physics unit, 8 Sitcom planet, 9 South African city, 10 Neck gland, 11 Barber's bottle, 12 Very similar, 13 Lip shine, 18 Zip, 23 The "I" of T.G.I.F., 24 Almost forever, 25 Tower, 26 Reagan pal AI, 27 Humerus neighbor, 28 Huge success, 29 Finishing strokes, 31 "Medicine woman" of TV, 33 Zero, 34 Polish language, 36 Blended fruit drink, 37 Pumped item, 39 Winter transports, 40 Electronic cable fastener, 42 Tablet holder, 43 Scene, 44 1400, 45 Stir, 46 Numbers game, 48 Law sch. exam, 49 Jar, 50 Cosmos star, 51 Sciences' partner, 54 His "4" was retired, 55 Nuptial agreement

Last Week's Answers: OGRE, TIPS, SY, ICED, FLAN, ARETE, LADE, TEDDY BEARS, KNIT, EIEIO, INN, ABE, NCO, POSTNOBILLES, FLEAS, LAG, ASSET, CURL, TUX, FEH, BATTERINGRAMS, HEX, IOS, LOOT, STEEL, NNE, ULTRA, LEGALEAGLES, OBI, ORR, STN, METRO, WREN, HASHBROWNS, MOTTE, ENSUE, MANA, ORSO, RARER, EYED

VOTE Steve Johnson Motley City Council For a great city that works for you! I'd appreciate your vote on November 8

Care Center NOVEMBER SPECIAL ACTIVITIES AT THE LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM CARE CENTER: Fri., Nov. 11, 9:30 a.m. Faith Lutheran Church; 10 a.m. Friendly Friday with Faith Lutheran; 2 p.m. Veteran's Day program (tentative)...

THANK YOU! To all the family and friends who came to my 90th birthday celebration making it one to remember! All of the cards and gifts are very much appreciated! I am truly blessed to know so many wonderful people! Audrey Tholl

The family of Richard M. Ziegler would like to express their thanks for the support and encouragement, kind words, cards, condolences, and many hugs we have received during this difficult time. Richard was a special person, and it is evident from the outpouring of sympathy and support that he was loved by a lot of people.

Prime Rate INN BARGAIN Stay Minneapolis South - Burnsville \$54.95 per night plus tax 1 or 2 Queen Beds Valid thru May 31st, 2017

Re-Elect Doug Case Staples City Council I will continue to do my best to move Staples forward. Please Vote Nov. 8 GENERAL ELECTION DAY

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples Alliance 1512 8th St. NE, Staples... 218-894-2891 Trinity Lutheran 1000 4th St., NE, Staples... 218-894-2372 Church of Christ 27343 490th St., Staples... 218-894-2609 First Baptist 903 River Street South, Pillager... 218-746-3768

God's plan By Pastor Robin Collins, Trinity Lutheran Church, Staples For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses: Central Building Supply, Longbella Drug Store, Ernie's Food Market, Staples Veterinary Clinic, Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank, Custom sausage making, Tower Pizza, Staples True Value



Notice of General Election

To the Voters of Todd County, State of Minnesota: Notice is hereby given that a General Election will be held in all polling places within Todd County on Tuesday the (8th) Eighth day of November 2016 for the purpose of electing candidates for the following offices listed below to wit: All polling places will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. unless legal notice is given by the Municipality stating otherwise. Contact your Municipal Clerk or County Auditor's office for polling place time and location information.

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer 215 1st Avenue South, Suite 201, Long Prairie, MN 56347 320-732-4414

43-44pnc

SAMPLE BALLOT

State General Election Ballot form for Todd County, Minnesota, November 8, 2016. Includes sections for Federal Offices, County Offices, City Offices, U.S. Representative, State Offices, Constitutional Amendments, and various local offices like Mayor and Council Members.

Vote front and back of ballot

Publisher's Note: The sample ballot on these pages is a combined ballot. Federal, state and judicial offices and the constitutional question will be part of the actual ballot for all precincts. However, the samples for county, city, special district, township and school districts represent the general circulation of the Staples World and the northern part of Todd County. The actual ballot you will receive will contain only the county, city, special district, township and school district and the questions that pertain to the specific county commission district, city, township or school district in which you are registered to vote.

SAMPLE BALLOT

State General Election Ballot form for Todd County, Minnesota, November 8, 2016. Includes sections for Town Offices, School District Offices, Court of Appeals, Special District Offices, and various local offices like Town Clerk and School Board Members.

Vote front and back of ballot

CITY OF STAPLES ORDINANCE NO. 510 INCREASING THE SALARIES OF COUNCIL MEMBERS AND MAYOR

THE CITY OF STAPLES DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Sec. 12.3.01 (Subd. a and Subd. b) of the City Code are hereby amended by deleting Subd. a and Subd. b in their entirety and substituting in lieu thereof the following: Subd. a Mayor The salary for the Mayor shall be \$370 per month plus \$25 for each special or adjourned meeting attended. Subd. b Council Members The salary for each Council Member shall be \$315 per month plus \$25 for each special or adjourned meeting attended. A new Subd. g. is added as follows: Subd. g. Attendance Policy The Mayor and Council Members will be permitted to be absent for a maximum of four meetings per fiscal year without salary reduction. Any absences

in excess of four meetings will result in a prorated reduction of salary for the month in which the absence occurred.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall be effective upon its passage and publication in accordance with law, and after the next succeeding municipal election and will take effect on January 1, 2017.

APPROVED: Chris Etzler, Mayor

ATTEST: Phil Lindaman, City Clerk

44pnc

NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION MAY TOWNSHIP

The General Election polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the May Town Hall, Tuesday, November 8.

Board of Canvass will meet on Tuesday, November 15, 7:00 p.m. at the May Town Hall.

Bianca Wyffels, Clerk May Township

43-44pnc

NOTICE BECKER TOWNSHIP MONTHLY MEETING

The Becker Township monthly meeting will be held Tuesday, November 15 at 7:00 p.m. along with the Board of Canvass meeting. There will be no meeting on November 8 due to elections.

Becker Township is a mail balloting township. Non registered voters can register and vote at the Walker courthouse or the Pillager City Hall on November 8. Contact the Auditor Treasurer's office at 218-547-7260 with any questions.

Mary Fitcher, Clerk Becker Township

43-44pnc

NOTICE FAWN LAKE TOWNSHIP REGULAR NOVEMBER MEETING

The regular November meeting will be held on Monday, November 7, 2016 at 7 p.m., instead of November 14, 2016. Questions, please call the clerk at (218) 531-0287.

Kelly Miller, Clerk

43-44pnc



Rehearsing a scene

Cast members of "Here Comes the Judge!" are pictured during a recent rehearsal. Front row, from left: Trenton Plopper, Macy Judd, Samantha Mrazek, Andrew Bates, Cade Bestland, Scout Strickland, Emily Cushing, Coleman Klimek, Kallee Abbas, Rachell Fisher, Jonah Johnson, Alex Erickson. Back row: Brian Sterriker, Sam Svendsen, Millie Klefsaas, Toni Brings, Sophie Roberts, Delaney Larson, Elijah Sams, Ryan Youngbauer. The Staples-Motley High School Fall Play will be performed at Centennial Auditorium in Staples Nov. 3 and 4 at 7 p.m.; and Nov. 6, at 2 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Staples-Motley High School fall play is Nov. 3, 4 and 6

Staples-Motley High School will present their fall play, "Here Comes the Judge!" at Centennial Auditorium in Staples Nov. 3, 4 and 6.

Performance times are as follows:

- Thursday, Nov. 3, 7 p.m.
- Friday, Nov. 4, 7 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 6, 2 p.m.

The play, written by Billy St. John, is under the direction of Justin Edin.

According to Pioneer Drama Service, "Judge Judy has never been this entertaining. Uncontrollable laughs abound when

the zany Judge Knott, who can go from lucid to loony tunes in a split second, presides over two cases. On one, a snooty department store manager accuses a lovable bag lady of shoplifting. In the other, three elderly 'golden gals' and a 'golden guy' accuse four punk rock teenagers of disturbing the peace. Before the judge can rule, his courtroom is taken hostage by Weasel, a dognapper, and his girlfriend, Delores, who have fled from an adjoining courtroom. In this time of crisis, some

of the feuding factions put their differences aside in order to defeat their zany captors; and, believe it or not, two romances blossom. Other clever roles include Tillie, the attractive stenographer, Donna and Hector, a high school reporter and photographer; Josephine, the poetry loving bailiff; Wanda, the window washer and a rock superstar in disguise. The verdict is in on 'Here Comes the Judge...' it's hilarious.

Tickets for the three performances will be available at the door.

NOTICE OF UNITED HOSPITAL DISTRICT REGULAR ELECTION

Notice is hereby given, that the regular election of the Hospital District will be held November 8, 2016 at which time the polls will be open in the following voting precincts at the following polling places at the following times:

- Staples Township: 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- Villard Township: 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- City of Motley: 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- Moran Township: 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- Thomastown Township: 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- City of Staples: 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. (Staples Community Center)
- Meadowbrook Township: by mail
- Becker Township: by mail
- Moose Lake Township: by mail
- Poplar Township: by mail
- Motley Township: by mail
- Byron Township: by mail

That at said Regular Hospital District election the following matters will be voted upon: The election of one member to the Hospital District Board for a term expiring December 31, 2020 representing and from each of the following cities and townships:

- Staples Township
- Villard Township

City of Motley
Poplar Township
Moose Lake Township
Meadowbrook Township

and, the election of one member at large on the Hospital District Board for a term expiring December 31, 2020 representing and from any of the government units of the Hospital District and the entire Hospital District which will vote for a member at large are:

- Staples Township
- Villard Township
- City of Staples
- Moran Township
- Becker Township
- City of Motley
- Meadowbrook Township
- Byron Township
- Moose Lake Township
- Poplar Township
- Motley Township
- Thomastown Township

By order of the District Board of Directors, United Hospital District, Staples, Minnesota

Hospital District Clerk
43-44pnc

NOTICE LAKE SHORE AERATION WARNING LAKE SHAMINEAU

Open water along the shore with thin ice around the edge on the South shores of Lake Shamineau. Starting November 15 and early months of 2017. For inquiries call 651-698-8246
42-44pnc

NOTICE VILLARD TOWNSHIP GENERAL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that a General Election will be held in the Election Precincts of Todd County Including: Villard Township at Township Hall in Philbrook, 31337 County 28, on Tuesday, the Eighth (8th) day of November, 2016 at which time the polls will be open from the hours of 7:00 o'clock a.m. to the hour of eight (8) o'clock p.m. Absentee Ballots can be acquired by calling the Todd County Auditor/Treasurer's Office at 320-732-4471.

On the ballot will also be the Villard Township Election of one (1) Town Supervisor and one (1) Clerk for four (4) year terms.

Board of Canvass will meet on Tuesday, November 15, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Eastwood Inn in Motley, followed by the regular November Township Board meeting. Note date change from 2016 posted calendar.

Note that Villard Township Meetings on the following dates will be held at the Eastwood Inn in Motley: Tuesdays, November 15, 2016; December 13, 2016; January 10, 2017; February 14, 2017; March 14, 2017; April 11, 2017 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Connie Mosack, Clerk
Villard Township
42&44pnc-ss45

NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2170 STAPLES MOTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS STATE OF MINNESOTA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the general election has been called and will be held for Independent School District No. 2170, (Staples Motley School District), State of Minnesota, on Tuesday, the Eighth (8th) day of November, 2016, for the purpose of electing three (3) school board members for four (4) year terms. The ballot shall provide as follows:

To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this:

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2170
(STAPLES-MOTLEY)
VOTE FOR UP TO THREE**

- Chad Longbella
- Bryan Winkels
- Greg Frisk
- Creig Dobson
- "write-in, if any" _____
- "write-in", if any _____
- "write-in", if any _____

Any eligible voter residing in the school district may vote at said election at the polling place designated for the precinct in which he or she resides. The polls for said election will open at 7:00 a.m (unless your municipality has published notice stating otherwise) and will close at 8:00 o'clock p.m. on the date of said election.

A voter must be registered to vote to be eligible to vote in this election. Any unregistered individual may register to vote at the polling place on election day.

Dated: Oct. 24, 2016

BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

/s/ Roy DiGiovanni
School District Clerk

43-44pnc

Q: What's your plan?

A: If you PLAN on leaving your car unlocked, PLAN on having it stolen.

Report Auto Theft: 1-800-359-HEAT AVCAM.org

**DOING WHAT WE SAY SINCE 1935.
SEE FOR YOURSELF.**

**SIGN-ON BONUSES — UP TO \$7,500 —
AVAILABLE IN YOUR AREA!**

Opportunities available in these divisions
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Team and Solo | Regional and Over-the-Road

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SCHNEIDER schneiderjobs.com
schneiderowneroperators.com
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**CVEC NOW HIRING
IN PLANT OPERATIONS**

Chippewa Valley Ethanol Company, LLLP is now hiring for plant operations. 12 hour rotating shifts which include day & night shift and every other weekend. This position will train in the ethanol process and assist in all plant operations. Possibility of advancement. CVEC is offering an exciting work environment with competitive wages and compensation package.

Send resume and applications to:

Human Resources
270 20th Street NW
Benson, MN 56215

or email:

mconnolly@cvec.com



CVEC is an Equal Opportunity Employer

WELCOMING HOME

TO VERNDALE...



Camron

Beautiful son of
Brandi & Jason
Born 8/8/16 in Staples.



Espen

Beautiful son of
Lisa & Ryan
Born 8/16/16 in Staples.

TO STAPLES...



Dakota

Beautiful son of
Cassandra & Max
Born 8/19/16 in Staples.

WE ARE SO HONORED TO BE A PART OF YOUR CHILD'S BIRTH.



218-894-1515
lakewoodhealthsystem.com

WOTE
Congressman Collin
Peterson

**Thank you for trusting me to
represent you in Washington DC.**



While there's a lot of dysfunction in Congress, I've always worked hard to break through the partisanship to find common ground on issues that are important to our country. With your help, I've been able to improve our rural hospitals, agriculture policy, small businesses and communities.

**I'm grateful for your past support and
ask for your vote on November 8th.**

Paid for by Peterson for Congress

ELECTION continued from page 1a

Area races and candidates recapped

Jim Hofer is being challenged by Ralph Miller in District 2. In District 4 the race is between Chuck Hor-sager and Murlyn Kreklau.

• **Todd County Commission:** Incumbents Barb Becker in District 1 and Rod Erickson in District 2 are running unopposed. In District 5 Delvin Durheim is challenging incumbent Randy Neumann.

• **Cass County Commission:** Incumbent Bob Kangas is running against John Warren in District 2.

• **Morrison County Commission:** Mike LeMieur is challenging incumbent Kevin Maurer in District 2.

• **State legislature:** In the races in District 9 for the state legislature incumbent Senator Paul Gazelka is being challenged by Jason Weirnerman. Meg Litts of Staples and John Poston, Lake Shore, are vying for the seat in House District 9A. Incumbent Rep. Ron Kresha will be running against Dustin Simmonds in House District 9B.

• **U.S. Congress:** David Hughes is challenging incumbent Collin Peterson in District 7. Stewart Mills is challenging incumbent Rick Nolan in District 8.

People living in cities and townships surrounding the Staples and Motley

areas will have these people on their ballots. Below are some of the area races.

• **Todd County Villard Township** - Town Supervisor Seat A, Rudy A. Bjerga Sr.; Town Clerk, Connie Mosack.

• **Wadena County Aldrich** - No candidates filed for Mayor; City Council or City Clerk.

• **Nimrod** - Mayor, Keith Frame; City Council, Aaron Frame, Kevin Milbradt, Coleman Rydie; City Treasurer, Jeannie Arthur.

• **Morrison County Randall** - Mayor, Danny L. Noss, Bob Riitters; City Council, James Chyba, Andrew Haider, Rick Turner, Brian Zilka.

• **Rosing Township** - Town Supervisor Seat C, Gary J. Rassler; Town Clerk - Treasurer, Anita Walker.

• **Scandia Valley Twp** - Town Supervisor Seat C, Ian Newkirk; Town Supervisor Seat D, Jeff Hardy; Town Supervisor Seat E, Brian Pantzke, Mike Rosvold; Town Clerk, Kathie L. Headley.

• **Cass County Becker Township** - Town Supervisor Seat 2, Mike Fitcher; Town Clerk,

Mary Fitcher.
• **Byron Township** - Town Supervisor Seat 1, Mariann Guentzel, Joanne Wolmutter-Cavin; Town Supervisor Seat 2, David Hoemberg, Liana L. McCoy; Town Clerk, No candidates filed; Town Treasurer, No candidates filed.

• **Fairview Township** - Town Supervisor Seat 2, Jim Weizenegger.

• **May Township** - Town Supervisor Seat 1, David J. Horn, Lloyd Ligneel; Town Clerk, Bianca Wyffels; Town Treasurer, Bridgette M. Brown.

• **Meadow Brook Township** - Town Supervisor Seat 1, Ernest Haehnel, (Corky) Carl Smith; Town Supervisor Seat 2, Donald A Ottenstroer; Treasurer, Robert McKimmy.

• **Pillager** - Mayor, Bret Mattheisen, Sue Van Hal; Council Member, Paul Odenthal, LeRoy Smith.

• **Poplar Township** - Town Supervisor Seat 1, Doug Shequen; Town Supervisor Seat 3, Troy Mevissen; Special Election for Town Clerk, Hope Johnson; Town Treasurer, Susan Bartels.

• **Sylvan Township** - Town Supervisor Seat 1, Greg Booth; Town Supervisor Seat 2, John Wulff; Town Supervisor Seat 4, Greg Bennett.

Kresha, Simmonds vye for House 9B seat



Ron Kresha

Incumbent Ron Kresha and challenger Dustin Simmonds will be on the ballot for the Minnesota House of Representatives District 9B.

Ron Kresha

1. Summarize your personal background and qualifications.

I began my career as a teacher, coach and technology director before I helped launch an online learning company in Little Falls. Eight years ago I transitioned to an online economic development firm where I am today. I'm married 22 years with five children.

2. What will your top priority be if elected?

As the vice-chair of Education Finance and the chair of the Child Protection Task Force, my priorities have always been helping children reach their full potential. If we focus on our children and improving generational success, we can see communities grow and prosper.

3. What are your views on the budget bill that was not passed this past session? What should have been done to get both sides to agree on the bill?

In the House we passed the tax bill, transportation and bonding bill with over 90 percent of the votes. That is strong bipartisan effort and speaks of the work done to get that bill passed. However, I cannot control the actions of the Governor and he chose politics instead of helping us get the tax bill passed. That is a lack of leadership. If reelected, I will continue to work with other legislators to pass good legislation. And I will continue to make the case to our Governor.

4. Should the legislature make changes to MNsure, the state health care exchange? Why or why not? What specific changes would you make?

We need to reduce the

MNsure tax by half, saving Minnesotans \$22 million, and use \$35 million in left-over MCHA funds to offset rising premiums. As I have done in the past, I will fight to reform the failed MNsure system and push for long-term solutions.

Dustin Simmonds

1. Summarize your personal background and qualifications.

I grew up in Little Falls, shared the struggles of my friends and family. I developed a desire for public service as I wanted to show people we have a future to be proud of here. I have dedicated my life to this mission of fighting for the people of our community. I was Chairman of the Little Falls Youth Task Force, Co-founder and Vice Chair of the College Democrats of Minnesota and Treasurer of the Young Democrats of America's Rural Caucus. This with my education at the University of Minnesota affords me a firm understanding of policy and political procedure.

2. What will your top priority be if elected?

The steps I will take to help you. Three priorities will keep us moving forward. First we will invest in our state's workers by dedicating more resources to ensuring workers in our rural areas are trained to respond to our worker shortage. Second, you will see our Local Government Aid back at 2002 levels to keep local taxes low and support our vital community services. Finally, our investments in our infrastructure will give Minnesota an economic edge. Keeping our roads and bridges safe allows our businesses to get their products to market, this includes doubling our efforts to expand broadband.

3. What are your views on the budget bill that was not passed this past session? What should have been done to get both sides to agree on the bill?

The end of the last session was a mess. We expect our leaders to come together and make the necessary choices to pass productive legislation. Our leaders failed that test this last session. We need new elected officials who prioritize their constituents over party allegiance. To paraphrase the words of JFK, we need to accept responsibility for the future, not fixate on placing blame for



Dustin Simmonds

the past. Republicans could have allowed the Metro to raise their own money for the light rail project in exchange for tax relief. This would have been a win-win for both parties, Democrats want to invest in infrastructure and Republicans want to lower taxes on business. Minnesota desperately needs both of these along with all of the other items in the bonding and tax bills. What is perhaps the most alarming part of this whole past session is the lack of lessons taken away from it. The people of Minnesota are calling for an end to the pettiness and lassitude. I promise to work to build bridges across the aisle because we aren't looking for the super right or left policies, we want policies that work. We are stronger together.

4. Should the legislature make changes to MNsure, the state health care exchange? Why or why not? What specific changes would you make?

We need to respond quickly as we see premiums increasing exponentially. We need bold new ideas to ensure Minnesota reclaims its role as a healthcare pioneer. Starting in 2017, Minnesota can begin providing innovative policy ideas to address the challenges of healthcare in our state. The governor has called for research into the creation of a Single Payer Health Care system in Minnesota. Providing that it looks to be a good deal for the people of our state, I support the creation of such a system. It would save our state nearly \$190 billion dollars over ten years, an average savings of \$1,362 a year. Challenging times demand bold and decisive action, FDR once said this country demands bold persistent experimentation. If it fails, admit it frankly and try again, but most importantly try something.

Cass County District 2 Commissioner race

The candidates vying for the Cass County District 2 County Commissioner seat, received a questionnaire from the Staples World.

A response from incumbent Robert Kangas was received, but no response from John Warren, who was contacted by mail and email.

Robert Kangas

1. I'm a lifetime resident of Cass County, 30 years as a township supervisor, 16 years as a Cass County Commissioner 40 years of service on Co-op boards.

2. Cass County has no debt, we've been able to keep county taxes at a level below all neighboring counties. We still provide services that are important to the taxpayers of Cass County like; highways, sheriff protection, veteran services and other services that are mandated by state, and federal laws.



Robert Kangas

3. We have programs in place to help those in need, we have a housing shortage for any growth, that's something that the private sector does. We are not a social country, state and federal funds are there to help.

Have You HEARD?
Presented by Steve Trebil, BC-HIS

CUSTOM MOLDED TO YOUR EAR

Just as eyeglass frames with prescription lenses must be properly fitted to the wearer's face, a hearing instrument's earmold must fit perfectly in the listener's ear. To get the fit that will literally place the sound of the hearing instrument in the ear, a hearing specialist will make a cast (known as an "impression") of the ear. After the working earmold is made from this impression, it will be adjusted to prevent any "feedback" problems that might arise from a loose fit that allows unwanted sounds to leak past the earmold and into the ear. Additional modifications may also be made to address any "occlusion effect" (muffled sounds) or any perception that the user's own voice is too loud.

The future of the hearing industry is bright. There is amazing technology already available in modern hearing instruments, and there are no limits to the technological advances that will be available in a few short years. To schedule an appointment, please call **PREFERRED HEARING** at 1-800-458-0895. You will find us at 17274 State Hwy 371, Brainerd. We are committed to providing expert and compassionate service as we work towards helping you hear at your very best.

P.S. An earmold can be canal size (tiny), half-shell size (medium), or even "full shell" size (large), depending on the wearer's type and degree of hearing loss and anatomy.

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CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT INTERNET AUCTION

NOVEMBER 10
Bidding starts to close at 10 a.m. CST

175+ items selling without reserve! loaders, dump trucks, excavators, backhoes, skid steers & more. 866.608.9283

Todd County TAX REMINDER

The **Second Half** of the **AGRICULTURAL REAL ESTATE TAXES** and **MOBILE HOME TAXES** are due on or before **November 15, 2016**. State law requires that the penalty be applied to the unpaid balance on November 16, 2016. These taxes are payable at the **Todd County Auditor-Treasurer's Office**, or by mailing to: **215 1st Ave. S., Suite 201, Long Prairie, MN 56347** with the envelope being postmarked **November 15, 2016**. Call our office at 320-732-4469 for details on internet payment or paying by credit card through Official Payment Service at 1-800-272-9829.

PLEASE BRING YOUR STATEMENTS OR STUBS WHEN PAYING YOUR TAXES.

Just a reminder - the drop off box is still located in the tunnel of the Historic Courthouse, just inside the street level doors across from the bank. This box is only accessible during business hours 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and is checked daily.

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

Wadena County appoints new deputy auditor/treasurer

By Rin Porter
Wadena County reporter

Auditor/Treasurer Judy Taves. The appointment was made effective immediately.

Bryniarski had been serving the county in the position of staff accountant since he was hired earlier this year.

The position of deputy auditor/treasurer has been vacant for more than a year.

In other business, the board

• Was introduced to new Social Services case aide Nicole Rubbelke.

• Accepted the resignation of eligibility worker Cheryl Hahn.

• Denied a request from an employee for time-in-service credit for an earlier period of county employment.

The November meetings of the county board will depart from the usual pattern of meeting on the first three Tuesdays of the month at 9 a.m. Instead, the board will meet at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 1; Monday, Nov. 7; and Wednesday, Nov. 16; and at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 29.

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Your smile is our style.

Dr. Dominic Gagnon is dedicated to providing gentle, personalized, and friendly dental care for children, teens, and adults.

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Prepared and Paid for by Gazelka Volunteer Committee, 10299 Edgewood Dr., Suite 100, Brainerd, MN 56405



Fall Festival volunteers

Members of the Motley-Staples Middle School Parent Teacher Connection (PTC) were in charge of the school's Fall Festival Oct. 27. They decorated the gymnasium and were in charge of a number of games and activity sites in keeping with the season. Pictured above from left are, row 1: Hillary Rubink, Samantha Simon, Nancy Simon, Tammy Radueg, Melissa Eckel, Principal Chris Halverson. Row 2: Cindy Braith, Connie Moe, Tina Richey, Nicholas Heifort, Tammy Woodwick. Row 3: Kathy Petrich, Kathy Broberg, David Simon, Amanda Burton. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Witches (and others) love food and fun

Halloween fun Oct. 26, at the Staples Nutrition Site included dressing for the occasion. Above, left to right: Fran Mertens, Dorothy Balken, Jeanne Huebner, Carol Olsen and Joan Doll. Lower left: volunteer Betty Lindbom and Jim Olson. Below: Pam Sather, Doreen Scott, Judy Petrie and Mary Ann Riewer also take on witch-like appearances. They're all smiles for the camera. The Staples Nutrition Site holds daily meals in the Senior Citizen's Room at the Staples Community Center. Call ahead to register for the meal. The nutrition site needs drivers for Meals-on-Wheels delivery in town. Interested? call Diane at 218-894-2556.



Fun and games

Students in grades four and five at Motley-Staples Middle School had the opportunity to wear costumes at the annual Fall Festival Oct. 27. Pictured above left, from left, are fourth-graders Noah DeWald, Anthony Mevissen, Gavin Chenoweth, Sawyer Ferdon. Above right, from left, are fourth graders Kendall Salter, Ellie Lange. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Halloween parade at SHAS

Above: Students in grades 1-5 at Sacred Heart Area School, Staples dressed in their costumes Oct. 26 for the school's Halloween parade.

Right: The kindergarten and pre-school party was held Oct. 28, where students were treated to activity stations, and snacks. Clockwise from left: Emmitt Hagerman (police officer), Mrs. Becker, Harley Andert, Michael Andert, Isaac Cole, Alex Leach and Sawyer Story making spiders out of mini donuts, pretzels and M&M's. (Staples World photos by Janice Winter)



Feline crunch

Cat teeth are not normally used for eating popcorn, but Torence Rodrigues enjoyed snacking with her costume teeth at the Staples-Motley Elementary Fall Festival. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

FALL FESTIVALS



15th Annual Fall Festival a success

At least 462 children (and a few adults) attended the 15th Annual Fall Festival at the Staples Alliance Church Oct. 31. "It was a great event, although attendance was down from last year," Pastor Paul Johnson said, noting that there were 650 visitors in 2015. The Fall Festival offers a safe, dry and fun place for children; and features a number of games, candy, desserts and prizes, donated by area organizations, businesses and individuals. At least 80 volunteers help to make the event a success each year. "This is our gift to the community," Johnson said of the festival, adding, "We want to bless the families in our community." Pictured above, volunteers Angie Johnson (left) and Giselle Hepokoski, keep track of the donated prizes. In center photo, children participate in a basketball game. In lower photo, Karly West, six, of Staples, gets her face painted by 12-year-old volunteer Ashriel Klippenes, Staples. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Super Mario Bros.

Bryson Dumpprope is Mario and Carsen Sweeney is Luigi in these video game inspired costumes at the Staples-Motley Elementary Fall Festival. The girl with the sucker in the background is Jaida Holst. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



Scary time skeleton band

A couple of third graders in costumes jammed along with a skeleton band at the Staples-Motley Elementary Fall Festival on Oct. 28. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



The walls are rising up.....

The Timberlake Hotel in Staples started taking shape, as in this photo, taken from 12th St. NE, shows the framework for walls which went up on Oct. 25. Other recent construction at the site included; paved drives, curb and gutter and concrete floor. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Fair farm rental agreement?

The U of M Extension will be holding free informative land rent meetings for landlords, farmers and agri-business people.

Farm land rental rates have started to go lower as corn and soybean prices continue downward in 2016. Determining a fair farm rent agreement is a challenge in today's economy. Current corn and soybeans prices are significantly

lower in 2016, compared to recent record corn and soybean prices and record farm land values.

Negotiating a fair rental agreement that satisfies the land owner and the farmer is a challenge. David Bau, Pauline Van Nurdan, Gary Hachfeld and Nathan Hulinsky, MN Extension Educators in Ag Business Management, will provide several exam-

ples; factsheets and worksheets - to determine a fair rate for both parties.

Topics covered will include local historic and projected farmland rental rate trends, current farm land values and sales and a worksheet that will help determine a fair rental agreement. Input costs for 2017 will be presented along with current 2017 corn and soybean prices. Worksheets will examine 2017 costs and what is affordable rent that a farmer will be able to pay in 2017, the rate of return to the landlord at current market values and examine flexible rental agreements.

- The meetings will be:
- Nov. 14, 9:30 a.m. City Hall, Long Prairie.
 - Nov. 14, 1:30 p.m. Cornerstone Restaurant, Melrose.
 - Nov. 15, 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Douglas County Public Works Bldg, Alexandria.
 - Dec. 9, 9:30 a.m. Morrison County Government Center, Little Falls.
 - Dec. 9, 1:30 p.m. City Hall, Foley.

For more information: contact Brenda Miller, Todd County extension, at 320-533-4655 or nels4220@umn.edu.

VOTERS continued from page 1a

Seek information and discuss issues, these voters advise

The Kahnkes farmed for awhile in Redwood Falls; and later settled in Ogema, where Carl managed a bar. Lillian helped manage the home "and when my husband was in the service during WWII, I worked at the Ben Franklin store." Lillian was also a member of the Auxiliary.

They would talk about politics around the dinner table, Lillian said, and for the most part were in agreement. "My husband and I always voted the same."

Bea, who was born in 1918 in Bay Lake, was taught the importance of politics at a young age as well. Her dad worked at Northwest Airlines and her mom was a homemaker. "They always voted," Bea said of her parents.

"We would always discuss the issues of the day at the dinner table," Bea went on. "I always remember hearing it said that one vote can make a difference; and we've certainly seen that demonstrated over the years."

Her family moved around quite a bit when she was younger, Bea said, adding, "We were in Excelsior the longest."

She later met and married Albert, who worked in the graphic arts field. Bea taught school up until the couple had children. "Our daughters Debbie and Cindy were born when we lived in International Falls."

The Olsons lived for some time in the Brainerd area before moving to Staples in 1968.

Although they shared a passion for politics, Bea said she and Albert respected each other's personal opinions. "I never knew how my husband voted," she said.

Both Albert and Carl have passed away, but if they were still living, no doubt they would have joined their wives in the early-voting line at Lakewood.

First-time voters

Zach Strickland and Grace VanAlst, both 18 and seniors at Staples-Motley

High School, will be voting for the first time on Nov. 8.

It's a constitutional right that neither takes lightly.

Between political science classes, avid reading, watching the presidential debates and discussing issues with their families and peers, Zach and Grace both feel ready to cast their vote.

"I took a government class with Mrs. (Onni) Sharp Anderson last year and that was really helpful," Grace said.

Zach is currently taking an online government class through the University of Northwestern in St. Paul. "This week we're tackling congress," he said.

As part of the curriculum for this course, Zach said he is required to read one article a day from the Wall Street Journal. "I've read editorials from both sides of the aisle, which I've found helpful."

He's had a tough time deciding who to vote for for president, but as far as candidates at the state and local level, "My mind is made up," Zach said.

Both Zach and Grace said that they found the articles in the Staples World which covered candidate forums to be very helpful. "I'm probably most familiar with the school board candidates, so I feel pretty confident on who I will vote for," Grace said.

Zach said he also had the opportunity to speak with District 9 Senator Paul Gazelka at an FFA event, of which he is a member. "I was able to ask him questions about various issues. I think it's great if you can talk with a candidate directly."

Grace considers herself a moderate. "Being a swing voter, it's a matter of weighing the options," she said.

For both Zach and Grace, their Christian faith affects how they will vote. "I'm looking for candidates that share my beliefs," Grace said. Although he usually leans right, Zach said that he likes to listen to everyone's viewpoint before making any deci-

sion. "They were painful to watch," Zach said of the presidential debates; but he tuned in to every one of them. "I've been following them since the primaries...I was very disappointed by all of the name calling."

Politics has been a main topic at her family's dinner table these past couple of months, Grace said. She mentioned that her mother, Janelle VanAlst, is a clerk for Bullard Township; and that is where Grace will vote for the first time.

"My family recently moved to a new house in Motley; but I'm registered in Scandia Valley Township, so that's where I'll be voting," Zach said.

He believes voting is a civic responsibility for all Americans, Zach went on. "It's really important to get involved in politics," he added, mentioning that he did some caucusing this past summer.

"I've been telling everyone to get out and vote," Grace said. Zach agreed, adding, "Even if you only feel comfortable voting for local candidates...at least do that."

New citizen

Mike Withage, 53, of rural Staples will be voting for the first time on Nov. 8, as a citizen of the United States of America. Born and raised in Alberta, Canada, Mike moved to the U.S.A. in July of 2004 to marry his wife, Pamela. The couple owns Puppies Up North in Thomastown Township.

"I had thought of becoming a U.S. citizen for a long time and finally pursued it," Mike said, adding that he became a citizen in December of 2014. "I'm so glad I did. I love our country and am proud to be a part of it."

Since that time, Mike said he's been busy keeping current with the political issues of the day in preparation for the upcoming election. "I've watched the debates on TV and read as much as I can."

Mike said the voting process in the U.S. is similar to that of Canada's. He hasn't voted anywhere since 2004; and he's looking forward to casting his first ballot in the United States. "People have the right to vote and I hope everyone gets out on election day," Mike said.

No matter the outcome of the presidential election, Mike said he hopes people will remain positive. "We have to carry a different attitude. I believe positive things are in store for the United States...Regardless of who is elected, God has the final say."



Re-Elect
Barbara Becker
Todd County Commissioner
Dist. 1 - Townships of Bartlett, Fawn Lake, Moran, Staples, Villard and City of Staples
I ask for your support on Nov. 8.
Thank you!

Prepared and Paid for by Barb Becker, 25089 430th St., Browerville, MN 56438

RE-ELECT
Mary Theurer
for
Staples City Council

- EXPERIENCED - Council member for 5 years
- SERVES on Public Works Commission, Insurance Committee and Charter Commission
- PROGRESSIVE

45 year resident of Staples
An active community member

✓ VOTE for Mary Theurer on Nov. 8
Thank you for your support.

Paid for by Mary Theurer, 323 6th St. NE, Staples, MN

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District 2170 School Board

Contact me at gregfrisk@yahoo.com

Paid for by Greg Frisk, 1810 Azalea Rd., Motley, MN 56466

Re-Elect JIM HOFER
Wadena County Commissioner-Dist. 2
Bullard, Aldrich, Thomastown Townships; Verndale, Aldrich City, City of Staples Annex

In a recent selective mailing my opponent has raised some issues which need clarification.

FACT CHECK - Wadena County Space Issues: For over two decades the commissioners have paid for study upon study, design for design, and not solved anything, regarding meeting the needs of a modern day county government. After a thorough study the commissioners made a unanimous decision to build an annex to house the county attorney's office and Wadena portion of Community Corrections, and to use existing budgets and fund balance, with no new levy. The agreement with Todd County calls for each county to provide space for appropriate staff. They have already done this for their staff.

FACT CHECK - Human Resource Director Position: The coordinator position was funded with funds from a vacant IT director position, eliminating the services of an outsourced HR Coordinator, and reducing fees for services of a labor attorney. **It was not new money.** After a thorough evaluation, the position was changed to HR/IT Director. Two positions were transferred from the Auditor Treasurer's office to create the new department. The \$330,000 budget he refers to was realigning existing budgets for the new department. **We have the same number of administrative staff as when I became commissioner.**

FACT CHECK - High Turnover - We have not had thirty resignations in Social Services. Although it is not the direct responsibility of a commissioner to micromanage departments, the number is significant enough that we are doing an **environmental scan** from an outside consultant to give our HR director the data needed to make recommendations to the commissioners.

FACT CHECK - Commissioner Salary and Benefits: I do not take the provided county insurance as I am covered under Medicare. I am given a \$300 per month cash in lieu benefit, just as my opponent accepted when he was a commissioner, as his spouse already is provided insurance under her negotiated contract with Wadena County. Most of the committees I am on are the same ones my opponent was on when he was commissioner. Any new committee is due to switching of assignments as determined by the Board Chair and then subject to a vote by all five of the county commissioners.

I hope this clarified some questions. I do believe I am a fiscal conservative looking for ways to be more efficient and yet, forward thinking.
Feel free to call me at 218-894-1152.

Vote Jim Hofer November 8
Each vote counts and is very important!

Prepared and Paid for by Jim Hofer, 104 Mini Drive, Staples, MN 56479

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Big plays for Cardinals

Above, Dalton Holmberg (2) and Mason Nyhus (8) team up to tackle a Pillager runner. Holmberg had this stop, a sack and busted up a fourth down play on this drive. At right, Matt Miller runs for a touchdown. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Cardinals knocked out of football playoffs

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

The Staples-Motley football team fell behind early then struggled in the second half of a 43-13 playoff loss at Pillager on Oct. 29. Pillager scored first on a punt return, then drove in for a touchdown and a 16-0 lead after their second interception of the first half. The Cardinals came back by passing down the field, with Josh Lombard completing throws to Mason Rychner, Matt Miller and Mason Nyhus, the last one bringing the team to the 2 yard line with 15 seconds left. But after an incomplete pass, they fell short on a run to end the half still at 16-0. Pillager put the game out of reach in the third quarter, taking the opening drive for a score and later scoring after a Cardinal fumble.

“Missed assignments and less than best effort periodically led to an out of hand third quarter,” said Coach Travis VanOver-

beke. “As teams progress deeper into the playoffs, the margin for error decreases, and our margin of error was a bit high on Saturday night.” Matt Miller scored twice for Staples-Motley, on a kickoff return and by catching a short pass and turning it into a long touchdown.

“It was prepped to be the biggest game in the area, but we didn’t respond to the hype well,” said VanOverbeke. Despite the disappointing loss, the coach said the Cardinals should feel good about their playoff run. “It was great to host a playoff game for the second year in a row, and it was great to get another chance against WDC. Our team played some of the best football I have seen from them this season, which was a nice change from week 7 vs. WDC and week 8 vs. Crookston. We were a much different squad against Pillager than when we played WDC,” said VanOverbeke.

“Our team has been through a lot this season and has learned a lot. I’m proud of our players and their efforts on a nice season.” Next year’s schedule in the Midwest District Blue Subdivision will replace Osakis and Frazee with Pillager and West Central Area. “It will look a little different,” said VanOverbeke.

Team results
SM 0 0 0 14 - 14
P 8 8 14 13 - 43
Rushing: SM 32-1, P 50-179
Eric Lisson 12-16, Matt Miller 2-7, Dalton Holmberg 6-5, Hunter Berggren 1-3, Mason Rychner 1-3, Josh Lombard 10(-33)
Passing: SM (Lombard) 13-25, 188 yards, 1 TD, 2 int.; P 3-11, 78 yards
Receiving: Miller 5-112 yards, 1 TD, Rychner 3-48, Holmberg 1-13, Mason Nyhus 1-12, Berggren 1-2, Lisson 2-2
Tackles: Alex Erpelding 17, Jacob Bendson 11, Holmberg 5, Jack Feitek 5, Trey Skeesick 4, Lisson 3, Derek Kennedy 2, Rychner 1, Lombard 1, Berggren 1, Hunter Carlson 1, Nyhus 1, Kyle Serich 1

Sweeney, Anderson make state CC meet

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

Kira Sweeney finished second in the section girls race and Emmet Anderson was fifth in the boys race, qualifying both Staples-Motley runners for the state cross-country meet. The girls team placed fifth, thanks to Taylor Yungbauer finishing her cross country career with a great race, right behind Addison Lorber and Amara Chenoweth. The boys finished seventh, and could have been in the top four but Hunter Klimek, who had been the team’s second runner much of the year, dropped out due to asthma problems. Ben Bartzak ran his best race to finish 20th.

Both state qualifiers had their fastest times of the year and accomplished a season-long goal. “I was confident, I ran against most of the runners during the season,” said Sweeney.

She ended up running much of the race by herself, as the state’s second ranked runner took off ahead of her. “It was a faster pace than a normal race,” she said.

Sweeney pulled away from the pursuit pack in the first mile, and spent the rest of the race wondering how close they were getting to her. “I could hear people shouting behind me, and could see them when I went around the corners,” she said. But she maintained her lead and finished nine seconds in front of the third place finisher. Realizing she had made it to state for the first time, Sweeney said “I was pretty excited, it felt good.”

Anderson said going into the race he was more nervous for the team than for himself. “(Coach) Bruce (Fuhrman) said I would get to state but I wanted the team to get there too,” he said.

He started out with the front pack and battled back and forth with a few of the runners before having a sprint to the finish line against the fourth place finisher. “It was painful, like every other meet,” said Anderson. “I was scared on that last sprint.”

But running 16:44 made it worthwhile. “I expected to go fast in this race, and it feels good to get to state,” said Anderson.

Both runners would like to improve their times at the state meet. Anderson said his state goal is to break 17 minutes again, with the ultimate goal to get around 16:30. Sweeney also thinks she can run faster at state, maybe break 19 minutes and finish in the top ten. She is currently ranked sixth in the state.

Coach Bruce Fuhrman said “Kira is peaking at the right time this season. Her competitive edge is shaping our entire program of young athletes and this impact will be seen in the seasons to come. She has not only worked hard in the physical training, but also in the mental preparation needed to have success in this sport. I am proud of her growth and season accomplishments.”

Fuhrman also commented on Anderson: “Emmet is one of those ordinary kids who accomplishes extraordinary things. He is a competitor and can build up a substantial lead on an opponent. He is a unique athlete in what he has accomplished as an 8th grader.” “I look for both team representatives to have a great showing in the state meet, and leave a mark to set goals for next season,”



State, national athletes

Kira Sweeney and Emmet Anderson are 8th graders headed to state. The runners were both all-conference and also gained national recognition this year. During the season the MileSplit USA web site recorded Anderson as running the nation’s second fastest 5k for an eighth grader, and Sweeney ran the ninth fastest 5k time in the country for an eighth grader. She is currently ranked sixth in the state. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Taylor Yungbauer

Ben Bartzak

said Fuhrman.

The state meet will be Saturday Nov. 5, at St. Olaf College in Northfield. The boys run at 10 a.m. and the girls start at 11 a.m.

Team results Section 6A meet

Boys results:
West Central 87, New London-Spicer 105, Albany 130, Holdingford 178, Melrose 178, Breckenridge-Wahpeton 183, Staples-Motley 190, Morris/Chokio-Alberta 229, Benson-Kerkhoven-Murdoch 241, Ottertail Central 266, Litchfield 276, Pierz 314, Royalton 316, Paynesville 331, Osakis 358, Long Prairie-Grey Eagle 425, Eden Valley-Watkins 430, St. John’s Prep 451, Sauk Centre 472, Pillager 58, Wheaton-Herman-Norcross 654
5. Emmet Anderson 16:44, 20. Ben Bartzak 17:40, 35. Tan-

ner Robben 18:08, 67. Jack Tyrrell 18:42, 70. Coleman Klimek 18:48, 71. Brayden Christensen 18:49

Girls results:
Eden Valley-Watkins 75, West Central 76, Albany 92, Morris/Chokio-Alberta 160, Staples-Motley 171, Osakis 183, New London-Spicer 229, Ottertail Central 259, Paynesville 266, Sauk Centre 16, Long Prairie-Grey Eagle 295, Melrose 298, Holdingford 305, Breckenridge-Wahpeton 349, Litchfield 416, Pierz 420, St. John’s Prep 421, Royalton 450, Benson-Kerkhoven-Murdoch 508, Wheaton-Herman-Norcross 530, Pillager 595
2. Kira Sweeney 19:18; 24. Addison Lorber 20:36, 36. Amara Chenoweth 21:12, 39. Taylor Yungbauer 21:22, 71. Kaitlyn Smith 22:44, 89. Natalie Kleiberova 22:44, 89. Mackenzie Wilds 23:26

Edin places fourth at state tennis meet

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

Izabella Edin earned a fourth place medal at the Class A State Tennis Meet on Oct. 28, winning her first two matches and dropping her final two.

“It was good, it was a lot of fun,” she said. “I love the competition atmosphere at state, and there were a lot of fans that came out to watch.” Those fans included quite a few teammates, four of whom stayed overnight with Edin and coaches Kayla Janson and Katie Edin.

On the first day, Edin breezed through the competition, winning 6-1, 6-0 and 6-1, 6-0.

On the second day, her diabetes started acting up. “It happens occasionally and it’s something out of my control,” she said. “My blood sugar was high and I was disoriented, in the first match I wasn’t sure

where I was or even who I was.”

Edin ended up losing 6-2, 6-3 in the semifinals.

In the second match the diabetes led to dehydration, which led to arm and leg cramps, limiting her serve and forehand. “When my blood sugar is so high, I can’t physically drink enough water to keep up,” she said. She lost the third place match 7-6 (7-1), 2-6, 2-6.

Despite the medical setback, Edin said the state tournament was a good way to end her senior year. The previous year she had played USDA club tournaments and was glad she went back to the high school league. “It was very good for me to play this year,” she said. “The girls were really great, I got to spend a lot of time with them, also the bonding with (coaches) Kayla and Katie is something I don’t get at USDA. It will be a highlight of my years playing tennis.”

Volleyball success despite playoff loss

The Staples-Motley volleyball team lost in the opening round of the Section 8AA playoffs on Oct. 27, falling to Park Rapids 6-25, 13-25, 13-25.

Despite finishing with a 5-22 record this season, the Cardinals showed improvement throughout the season and had some competitive matches against quality opponents.

“Many of the girls were able to reach goals they had set for the season,” said

Coach Gretchen Bestland. “In order to have players buy in to a strong work ethic to continue to move the program forward, you need to start seeing some of those successes, and we feel that we did.”

“Our playoff ranking and season wins and losses do not reflect the growth that we saw as a team and in individual players, not just on varsity, but on JV and C-team as well,” said Bestland.

Team results
Mackenzie Zetah - 3 Digs, 2 Kills
Ashley Vasquez - 2 Digs, 3 Kills
Camryn Banaka - 2 Digs, 6 Assists
Chelsea Nanik - 8 Digs, 1 Assist
Alex Davis - 3 Digs, 1 Kill
Jenna Trantina - 3 Digs
Paige Kittleson - 3 Digs, 1 Kill, 1 Block
Kiara Storry - 1 Ace
Serve, 1 Kill

Swimmers drop times, place at conference

The Staples-Motley swim team placed fourth in the conference meet against Detroit Lakes, Park Rapids and Perham/New York Mills.

“The team had some great time drops and we couldn’t be prouder of them,” said Coach Amanda Olson. “What a great way to wrap up the regular season.”

The team now has two weeks to get ready for the section tournament in Bemidji on Friday, Nov. 11 and Saturday, Nov. 12. Team highlights included:

The Medley Relay team of Emily Veronen, Lili Schneider, Autumn Nelsen, and Joelle Bounds, 4th place in 2:12. Mikayla Williams dropped 7 seconds in

her 200 Freestyle for a 3:03, while Cortnie Cottrell dropped 8 seconds for a 3:14.

Schneider was 7th with a new personal record and section qualifying time of 28.88 in the 50 Freestyle.

The 200 Free Relay of Schneider, Veronen, Nelsen, and Bounds was 5th in 2:02. Veronen was 3rd in the 100 Backstroke

with a 1:10.48 for all-conference honorable mention. Adriana Dickey (1:22) and Hannah Hinman (1:24) both set personal bests in their 100 Backstroke.

Schneider was 3rd in the 100 Breaststroke earning her an all-conference honorable mention with a new personal best of 1:17.91.



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Hunter or naturalist? Why not both?

It started as a spontaneous joke. My duck hunting partner and I had experienced a weekend of misadventure, including decoy-shy ducks, an outboard motor that had let us down, and poor shooting when we actually did have opportunities. Our tally of ducks harvested was small by any standard. As my partner and I were engaging in exploratory driving on duck country backroads, I made the suggestion that perhaps "We should reinvent ourselves. We should tell people that we're naturalists, but occasionally we like to harvest a duck or two!"

Inside the Outdoors



Mike Rahn

We both got a laugh out of it. But the more I thought about it, and reflected on

the way we spend our time when we go off for a weekend of "duck hunting," the more truth I saw in the concept. Some people associate "hunter" only with consumer or killer. Some people think a "naturalist" is someone who is interested in the workings of Nature, but from an academic or observer's standpoint, not as a consumer. To them, they are not one and the same. My longtime friend and I are as enthusiastic about duck hunting as anyone we know. The fact that we harvest fewer ducks than some is beside the point. Many our age, well into the sixth decade, have given up this physically demanding form of hunting, with its pre-dawn arising, confrontations with bitter fall weather, and attendant risks on waters that have been responsible for more than a few obituaries. Despite duck hunting together for going on four decades, we're always looking for that new wrinkle, the better solution to the old problem, and perfecting our methods, if

woefully – not our marksmanship. But our interests and appetites on these so-called duck hunting trips go beyond simply wanting to do a better job at the tasks of the hunt. For example, we are just as fascinated with the habits and majesty of the trumpeter swans common to the national wildlife refuge where we hunt, birds that cannot be hunted, but are symbolic of wildness, the mysteries of migration, and a great conservation success story. After a morning's hunt, Jim and I routinely spend part of the day driving around this massive refuge's lakes and flowages, and are as likely to train our binoculars on these swans as we are to look for concentrations of ducks that we could potentially hunt. While hunting, when a family group of these B-52-sized waterfowl passes near our blind, our attention automatically shifts to them instead of the ducks we hope will visit the plastic decoys bobbing on the water before us.

Bald eagles – strikingly handsome symbol of our nation – also call this refuge home, and our binoculars are likely to be "drawn" when we see these creatures, too. There was a time when eagles were threatened by such pesticides as DDT. But with its elimination, they have come back as a dramatic example of how Nature can rebound when human ingenuity is not dedicated to eradicating some forms of life – agricultural "pests," for example – at the expense of others. Jim and I have lost ducks to bald eagles here, ducks that we shot but had not yet retrieved. Intelligent birds that eagles are, they patrol the open-to-hunting waters on this refuge in search of easy meals in the form of ducks that may have been wounded but not recovered by a hunter. We don't begrudge the eagles the fly-by food service we've provided on one or two occasions. Humans can learn, too, and it's now less common for us to delay picking up a duck using the logic that we might disturb the next flight of ducks headed for our decoys. On these mid-day explorations after

the morning hunt we make note of where beavers have made new cuttings as they refurbish a dam, or in gathering woody foodstuffs to meet their survival needs during the coming winter. We ponder the uniformly gray coats of squirrels here, whereas just two hours to the southeast where I live, gray squirrel genetics are now often expressed in all-black individuals of the subspecies. These things, too, matter to us. Several years ago Jim and I happened to be grouse hunting in the vicinity of Deep Portage Conservation Reserve and Learning Center in Cass County. We had never before visited this important conservation education facility, and decided to go inside and have a look. Deep Portage is, by the way, a commonly-used facility for hunter education, including that sponsored by the Minnesota Waterfowl Association. It hosts archery programs and wing shooting schools, in addition to ecology and renewable energy programs, canoeing skills, and more.

Inside the Deep Portage headquarters, we encountered during their break a group apparently attending a Nature program of some sort. In the course of asking for directions, we shared that we were grouse hunters. It didn't take radar for Jim and I to detect disapproval, expressed in facial expressions and body language. It seemed to us that we were viewed as one might view a habitual and unrepentant sinner intruding on a church prayer service. Didn't we know that this facility in the deep and quiet woods was a tabernacle of Nature worship? Some who give it little thought seem to believe that hunter and naturalist are mutually exclusive labels. Not so; at least, not as my hunting partner Jim and I define the terms. Based on evidence ranging from primitive cave paintings to meticulously written journals, for most of our history humans have been both consumers of the fruits of Nature – including its creatures – and appreciators and admirers of its mysteries. Why should this not be true today?



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Meet the Motley City Council/Mayoral candidates

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

About a dozen people came out for the 'Meet the Motley City Council Candidates' candidate forum Oct. 27, at Motley-Staples Middle School.

The event was sponsored by the Staples Motley Area Chamber of Commerce, LEAP (Leadership Engagement Advocacy Positiveness) and the Staples World.

Participating candidates included Amy Hutchison and Al Yoder, both of whom currently serve on the council and are vying for the open mayoral seat; and Nate Douglas and Bob Follis, vying for the two open council seats. The third council candidate, incumbent Steve Johnson, was unable to attend the forum due to health issues.

Brenda Halvorson, LEAP member and Staples World general manager, served as moderator.

A series of questions were asked during the forum, addressing a variety of issues including industry, roads and the police department. Questions were provided by members of the public, as well as the forum sponsors. Candidates drew numbers to determine their speaking order.

Below is the list of the candidates, with a summary of their responses.

Amy Hutchison

COULD WE COOPERATE WITH STAPLES OR PILLAGER TO GET LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL BACK AT ERNIE CONVERSE PARK? Hutchison stated that there are plenty of kids in the Motley community (including her own sons) and that something like this, in a safe, protected environment, is needed. She noted having several contacts in both Pillager and Staples with which she would consult.

WHAT WILL BE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES IF ELECTED? Hutchison said she would like to focus on getting the community more united and to bring back that 'small town feel.' Hutchison believes that if residents are happy, industry will come to the town. "Let's show people this is a great place to live," she said.

MNDOT HAS THE SAY SO, BUT WE NEED MORE MARKED PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS ON HWY 10. That was an issue that drove her to be on the council in the first place, Hutchison said, adding that she has wanted to see a crosswalk put in for a long time. She's hoping that this might become a reality when the new Dollar General Store located on Hwy 10 is built.

HOW WOULD YOU GO ABOUT BRINGING MORE INDUSTRY TO MOTLEY? Hutchison said she feels the city is doing its best to offer incentives. She mentioned the JOBZ program, the revolving loan fund and Tax Increment Financing (TIF), that have been set up to promote industries.

CAN WE LOOK AT MORE COMMUNITY EVENTS? She would love to have the city council be involved in this area. Outdoor movie nights; and little league baseball and basketball are some of the things Hutchison would like to see happen in Motley.

IN RESPONSE TO THE STAPLES WORLD QUESTIONS, MANY OF YOU BROUGHT UP THE CONFIDENCE YOU HAVE IN YOUR CURRENT POLICE CHIEF YET ALSO NOTED HE CAN'T DO EVERYTHING HIMSELF. WOULD YOU BE IN FAVOR OF RAISING TAXES TO HIRE MORE OFFICERS AND TO MAKE SURE THEY RECEIVE THE TRAINING THEY NEED TO MAINTAIN THE SECURITY OF RESIDENTS? Hutchison said that the city's police chief, Ron Smith, "is an amazing asset to the city." She noted that there is money in the budget to hire another officer and she feels the city should do this to support Smith.

BUILDING A WALKING AND BIKING TRAIL SYSTEM TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE RIVERS WAS IDENTIFIED AS A SHORT-TERM PRIORITY IN THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL IN OCT., 2014,

ONE TO BE COMPLETED IN THE NEXT TWO - FIVE YEARS. THERE DOES NOT SEEM TO BE ANY PROGRESS TOWARD THIS GOAL. WHAT STEPS NEED TO BE TAKEN TO MAKE THIS SYSTEM A REALITY, HOW CAN YOU GET THIS INTO THE BUDGET AND WHAT SPECIFICALLY CAN THE COUNCIL DO TO MOVE THIS PROJECT ALONG? That has been a big priority for the council in the past, Hutchison said, adding that these efforts have gotten derailed. She noted that the city owns property by the Mill Pond Townhomes, as well as other property that could be utilized for this. Unfortunately, much of the land by the rivers is privately owned. She would like to see a bike path between Motley and Staples.

DESCRIBE THE STRATEGIES YOU WOULD EMPLOY TO IMPROVE MEANINGFUL COMMUNICATION WITHIN THE CITY, I.E., BETWEEN THE RESIDENTS AND THE COUNCIL AND EMPLOYEES, KEEPING EVERYONE INFORMED. HOW WOULD YOU FOSTER SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIPS WITH RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES? We (the council) are ready to get back to business and make our town great again, Hutchison said. She noted that at times the council seems divided; but they have to be and that makes them stronger. She is excited for the future of Motley, no matter the outcome of the election.

CLOSING STATEMENTS "This is my fourth year on the council...I have seen what works and what doesn't. Last year was very challenging and I want to help our community be united. We are ready to make changes." She went on to say, "I know I focus a lot on community; but I think that is what will bring people and business in. People want a close-knit community; and we are in a great location...centrally located."

Al Yoder

HOW WOULD YOU GO ABOUT BRINGING MORE INDUSTRY TO MOTLEY? Yoder noted that new businesses are not building in Industrial Park and the city needs to think of new possible locations. The city presently has good industries and there is not a lot of room on Hwy 10 for new businesses. His plan would be to talk with other cities to get their ideas. He previously spoke with the City of Pierz who said that they sold lots to new businesses for \$1 and now those lots are full. The increased tax base has since paid for the property.

WHAT WILL BE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES IF ELECTED? He agrees with Hutchison that if the residents in Motley are happy, industry will follow. Yoder also feels that the city needs to work with residents that live on the edge to town, outside of the city limits and thus have no say-so in city matters. Perhaps some sort of coalition between the two entities should be established. Other priorities for Yoder include building a sidewalk near the Dollar General; and getting the new well drilled for water supply.

HOW WILL YOU ELIMINATE ILLEGAL DRUG USE AND 'METH HOUSES' IN THIS AREA? Yoder said that he is very proud of the efforts that the Motley Police Department has already made in this area. "They keep on top of it," he said. Yoder went on to note that it's important to give the police department tools, such as keeping track of the amount of water and electricity used by residents. If reports show extreme amounts of usage, that's a sign of drug/meth usage. The more that drug users are harassed, the more likely they will leave, Yoder said.

DESCRIBE THE STRATEGIES YOU WOULD EMPLOY TO IMPROVE MEANINGFUL COMMUNICATION WITHIN THE CITY, I.E., BETWEEN THE RESIDENTS AND THE COUNCIL AND EMPLOYEES, KEEPING EVERYONE INFORMED. HOW WOULD YOU FOSTER SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIPS WITH RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES? The city has policies in place that need to be enforced, Yoder said. He suggested getting volunteers to help the elderly that need assistance with clean-

up efforts. He feels the council has made a lot of progress with communication and are cooperating with each other.

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU CAN DO ABOUT HAVING SOME MORE INDOOR ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN OR TEENS? It's unfortunate that the city does not have a community center, Yoder said, adding that Motley is primarily an elderly community. He noted that the City of Bowlus has a community center and he wondered why Motley couldn't have one. A community center could be used by all ages and would hopefully inspire interaction between the various age groups.

IN RESPONSE TO THE STAPLES WORLD QUESTIONS, MANY OF YOU BROUGHT UP THE CONFIDENCE YOU HAVE IN YOUR CURRENT POLICE CHIEF YET ALSO NOTED HE CAN'T DO EVERYTHING HIMSELF. WOULD YOU BE IN FAVOR OF RAISING TAXES TO HIRE MORE OFFICERS AND TO MAKE SURE THEY RECEIVE THE TRAINING THEY NEED TO MAINTAIN THE SECURITY OF RESIDENTS? Yoder believes that Motley does need more police officers; but understands that, "it's a fine line. Like (improved) roads, everyone wants them; but don't want to pay for them." Yoder also noted that additional work is needed on the budget to see what is available. He went on to say that city hall has been a mess; but he's hoping that the new city clerk/treasurer will help them "get back on track."

WHY CAN WE NOT FIX THE ROAD BY AUGERS GAS STATION THAT RUNS FROM HWY 10 TO THE EASTWOOD APTS AND HARMONY HOUSE? IT IS A MESS AND SHOULD BE PAVED. Yoder noted that streets near East River Road were recently paved. He understands that other roads also need improvements, but that this is very costly to residents. Yoder went on to address a comment made earlier by someone who said there was no new housing in Motley. He pointed out the new Mill Pond Townhomes, as well as a new apartment complex.

HOW WOULD YOU ENVISION A COMMUNITY CENTER BEING STAFFED? WHAT WOULD THE CITY'S RESPONSIBILITY BE? Yoder said he did not think the city could afford to staff a community center. He wondered if the elderly might volunteer their time in some way? Perhaps the community center would remain locked and people could sign up to use it, stopping by city hall for the key. It is definitely something to look into, as so many people would like to have a community center in town.

CLOSING STATEMENTS "I agree with Amy...it starts with a positive council...there is a professional way to disagree and we need to run the meetings professionally." Yoder went on to say that he would like to have the DNR clean up the area by the boat access in town, creating a usable space for people to sit by the water. He would like to continue working positively with the Staples-Motley School District. "My daughters go to Staples Motley schools and I'm proud of it," Yoder said. If he is elected mayor, he would also like to foster positive relationships with all of the businesses in town. "I've talked with all of the business owners and asked them what they need. It's important that they are acknowledged...we need to send them 'thank you' notes. The public will see that."

Bob Follis

DURING YOUR TERM, WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING MOTLEY RESIDENTS? WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT IT? Follis said that Motley is a perfectly-located city and that the council needs to make it a place that people want to come to. He would like efforts made to fill up Industrial Park with businesses; make it a destination.

WHAT WILL BE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES IF ELECTED? "The first thing we need to do as a city council is to find out what citizens want," Follis

said. He suggested sending out surveys; and inviting residents to attend meetings where they would be given the opportunity to voice problems and concerns.

HOW COULD THE COUNCIL WORK TOGETHER MORE EFFECTIVELY? Follis acknowledged that people will have different views on things; but if the council has a common goal, they should be able to find a way to work together toward it. "We haven't had any trouble so far with this group," he said lightly of the panel of candidates, after jokingly suggesting the council could "duke it out and see who comes out ahead."

THERE HAS BEEN NO NEW HOUSING IN MOTLEY IN YEARS. HOW DO WE CHANGE THAT? "I believe there are possibilities," Follis said, going on to mention the possibility of a high rise being built in town. He suggested finding a developer who was interested in working with the city on a housing project. Mobile homes have been frowned on in the past; but perhaps they might provide an answer to the housing dilemma. "If we had good housing, people would come here," Follis said.

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU CAN DO ABOUT HAVING SOME MORE INDOOR ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN OR TEENS? Follis said he agreed with Yoder that a community center is needed that would serve both the elderly and young people. In addition to wanting to work toward making a community center in town a reality, Follis said if he were on the council, he would want to address the need for additional street signs/lights along Hwy 10 to help slow down traffic.

WHAT DO YOU THINK WOULD BE THE BEST USE OF INDUSTRIAL PARK? Follis said that he thinks two different options could work. The first one, because of the location of the city, would be to bring some sort of industry related to transportation, such as the Burlington Railroad. The second, due to the ample amount of space, would be to put in a nice housing development or a water park. "When people come in to spend money, we'll have more for police officers," Follis said.

WHY CAN WE NOT FIX THE ROAD BY AUGERS GAS STATION THAT RUNS FROM HWY 10 TO THE EASTWOOD APTS AND HARMONY HOUSE? IT IS A MESS AND SHOULD BE PAVED. Follis wondered if this might be private property and perhaps that's why nothing has been done about it. Would the city have to buy the property, or get an easement? It's something to look into, he said.

BUILDING A WALKING AND BIKING TRAIL SYSTEM TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE RIVERS WAS IDENTIFIED AS A SHORT-TERM PRIORITY IN THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL IN OCTOBER 2014, ONE TO BE COMPLETED IN THE NEXT TWO - FIVE YEARS. THERE DOES NOT SEEM TO BE ANY PROGRESS TOWARD THIS GOAL. WHAT STEPS NEED TO BE TAKEN TO MAKE THIS SYSTEM A REALITY, HOW CAN YOU GET THIS INTO THE BUDGET AND WHAT SPECIFICALLY CAN THE COUNCIL DO TO MOVE THIS PROJECT ALONG? Follis said he agrees that this is a priority. He would also advocate for cross-country skiing on the trails, which would be a draw for the community.

CLOSING STATEMENTS. The Staples-Motley School District is one of the great assets to the community, Follis said. He feels the city needs to work with the school; and that perhaps more older people could volunteer at the school, such as at athletic events. He noted that Brainerd has 1,200 volunteers that work on various problems. "Let's bring the two generations together," Follis said, adding that the city council could help lead the volunteers.

Nate Douglas

MOTLEY HAS PROPERTIES WITH ABANDONED AUTOMOBILES, DILAPIDATED BUILDINGS, TRASH, ETC. HOW WILL YOU ADDRESS THAT? Douglas agreed that this is a problem in Motley. He was not sure on his own what a good solu-

tion would be, Douglas said; and believed it would be discussed as a group at city council meetings. He feels the best solutions will come when the council works together to figure things out; but not by arguing at meetings.

WHAT WILL BE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES IF ELECTED? Motley is a growing city and its roads are in bad shape... this needs to be addressed, Douglas said. He also feels that Police Chief Ron Smith needs more support from the city; and cited public safety concerns such as noise ordinance and animals.

THERE HAS BEEN NO NEW HOUSING IN MOTLEY IN YEARS. HOW DO WE CHANGE THAT? Douglas wondered about the possibility of grant money to help with this; or to figure out a way to market the community to young people. He apologized that he did not have a definite answer to that question.

WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST AS WAYS TO ENCOURAGE THE COUNCIL TO WORK TOGETHER? Communication is key, Douglas said. He also feels it's important to understand the issue being voted on; and then to move on once you have voted or decided to table an issue.

WHY ARE BARS NOT ALLOWED TO BE OPEN ON SUNDAYS AT LEAST DURING FOOTBALL OR OTHER SPORT SEASONS? Douglas said he believes it would be good for business to be open on Sundays. "There's not much else going on on Sundays," he said. He wasn't sure what the laws were, however; and would have to look into that.

IN RESPONSE TO THE STAPLES WORLD QUESTIONS, MANY OF YOU BROUGHT UP THE CONFIDENCE YOU HAVE IN YOUR CURRENT POLICE CHIEF YET ALSO NOTED HE CAN'T DO EVERYTHING HIMSELF. WOULD YOU BE IN FAVOR OF RAISING TAXES TO HIRE MORE OFFICERS AND TO MAKE SURE THEY RECEIVE THE TRAINING THEY NEED TO MAINTAIN THE SECURITY OF RESIDENTS? Public safety is his number one concern, Douglas said, adding that, "I'm all for supporting Ron (Smith). It would be terrible if something went wrong in town because of lack of officers," he went on. "I don't want to raise taxes; but I'd consider it."

BUILDING A WALKING AND BIKING TRAIL SYSTEM TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE RIVERS WAS IDENTIFIED AS A SHORT-TERM PRIORITY IN THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL IN OCTOBER 2014, ONE TO BE COMPLETED IN THE NEXT TWO - FIVE YEARS. THERE DOES NOT SEEM TO BE ANY PROGRESS TOWARD THIS GOAL. WHAT STEPS NEED TO BE TAKEN TO MAKE THIS SYSTEM A REALITY, HOW CAN YOU GET THIS INTO THE BUDGET AND WHAT SPECIFICALLY CAN THE COUNCIL DO TO MOVE THIS PROJECT ALONG? A biking trail is a great idea, Douglas said. He noted that this project got shelved in the past due to some staffing problems; but he urged the city to push forward and bring the project back to life.

DESCRIBE THE STRATEGIES YOU WOULD EMPLOY TO IMPROVE MEANINGFUL COMMUNICATION WITHIN THE CITY, I.E., BETWEEN THE RESIDENTS AND THE COUNCIL AND EMPLOYEES, KEEPING EVERYONE INFORMED. HOW WOULD YOU FOSTER SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIPS WITH RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES? Douglas feels there needs to be more festivals and neighborhood night-outs...ways for people to come together in positive ways. He would advocate for setting aside money for this in the budget. As far as council relations, he would stress addressing issues, voting and then moving on.

CLOSING STATEMENTS Douglas wanted to talk about an issue that hadn't been addressed during the panel...the city's water infrastructure and how to pay for it. He noted that the two factories in town use an enormous amount of water and that he has concerns about wastewater issues as well. Douglas believes these two factories should pay more for future developments of water infrastructure. He would like to be more involved with the city; and said he "would like to learn to art of disagreement on the council."

Motley area law enforcement reports

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

Oct. 23 - The MPD responded to a report of a screaming child at BRICKS Travel Plaza in Motley. The caller reported that people in two separate vehicles met at that location and a screaming child was being forced into the backseat of one of the vehicles. The responding officer learned that the child was being transferred from a vehicle driven by his aunt and uncle, to a car driven by his grandparents. The aunt said that the child had thrown a tantrum when he was told he couldn't have a teddy bear at the gift store. When the officer attempted to speak to the child, the child cried, yelled at him and later cursed. The child proceeded to leave the vehicle and go back to the store with his grandfather, who promised to buy him a toy. When the boy was told he could only have one toy, he began screaming again. The officer told

the grandparents they needed to remove the child from the store and take him home. On their way out, the grandparents stopped to purchase a stuffed animal and a plastic sword toy for the child. The officer told the grandfather that he should not have allowed the child to get out of the car and they were only encouraging his outbursts by buying him what he wanted. The child then screamed at the officer, "No they are not!"

Oct. 24 - The MCSO received a report that five mailboxes had been shot on the 28000 block of Bear Rd. in Cushing.

Oct. 22 - The MCSO received a report of a burglary that had happened on the 33000 block of Gumwood Ln. in Motley. Caller reported that there had been forced entry to three outbuildings on his property and several items had been taken, including outdoor motor; Clam icehouse, ice auger, lawn mower, fishing gear, wooden eagle carving, spring compressor, chainsaw.

