



Enjoying a free turkey dinner...

...compliments of the Staples Host Lions Club. The annual luncheon event was held Dec. 9 at the Staples-Motley High School cafeteria. Pictured above, from left, are Jiye Lee of South Korea, a foreign exchange student at SMHS; Brianna Mitchell, 10; and Alex Davis, Motley. Below, Bruce and Norma Knosalla had a good time at the event with their grandchildren Kenadie, two; and Lylah, five. See more photos on page 3a. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



School district earns clean audit opinion

Few issues found, corrective plans are in place

By Brenda Halvorson
General Manager

Despite three “material weaknesses” and two “significant deficiencies,” the Staples-Motley School District earned an unmodified or “clean” opinion on their annual audit report.

Mary Reedy of Clifton-LarsonAllen reviewed the 2016-17 fiscal year audit with the school board at a work session Dec. 11. It will be on the agenda for acceptance at the board’s regular

meeting Dec. 18. The fiscal year ended June 30.

Most of the issues Reedy reported had to do with the fact that the district has a limited number of people in the business office and that office has seen significant turnover in the past year, including in management.

A business manager who was hired in November, 2016, resigned the end of May, 2017. The superintendent resigned in April, effective June 30, 2017.

Jaime Boesen began her job as business manager the end of June and Ron Bratlie became the interim superintendent July 1.

With the comment on the limited number of staff Reedy noted bank reconciliations were not completed or reviewed on a timely basis, journal entries were approved by the same individual that entered the entry and data sent to the actuarial firm

See **AUDIT** on page 8a

Community Foundation seeks to fund project

The Staples Motley Area Community Foundation seeks to fund a major community project.

The foundation wants to partially or completely fund a major project that meets their mission statement of developing and strengthening community resources and enhancing the quality of life of individuals, families, and organizations in the Staples Motley area.

The public can help by sending ideas for a community project to the foundation for consideration. Projects can be added until Jan. 15.

The foundation will research several projects from the list. The project selected for funding will be announced in April. All community based projects in the Sta-

ples Motley area should be added to the list for consideration.

Anyone who has a project or has been dreaming of building something for the community but need help paying for it should send the idea to smacfound@gmail.com or text Mike Gold at 218-296-2355.

The foundation will consider projects from individuals, groups, non-profit or civic organizations.

The Staples Motley Area Community Foundation’s been supporting projects in the Staples Motley Area over the past 16 years and has given over \$230,000. The SMACF small grants are usually limited to \$2,000 and are given during two grant cycles each year.

Hello, Readers,

You’ve probably heard the saying that something is as impossible as “herding cats,” used in reference to a seemingly futile or difficult task. December 15 is Cat Herders Day. While the idiom that something impossible is “like herding cats” is a popular saying now, the phrase has relatively recent origins – one story has it that IT expert Dave Platt popularized the phrase when he said that “managing senior programmers is like herding cats.” And while cats are independent, solitary and easily distracted, many humans also share this characteristic.

Public Notices

Hazard mitigation: 7A

Obituaries

Angeline Bartylla
Darrel McAllister
Mildred Randall
John Weigel, Jr.



Seminar helps workforce collaborations

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

Around 80 people gathered in Staples on Dec. 8, to work on one of the most important topics facing the nation, workforce development. The annual Building the 21st Century Workforce Conference is a chance for educators and business people from throughout the region to gather, collaborate, and set goals for the Central Minnesota workforce.

The conference started with a regional perspective from Hara Charlier, President of Central Lakes College, and Cheryl Lee Hills, Executive Director of the Region Five Development Commission.

Charlier said this region is already ahead of much of the country. When she arrived at CLC last year, she realized a “profound level of partnership here” between industry and edu-



Education and industry meet in Staples

Central Lakes College President Hara Charlier talks about the college’s connections with industry at the 21st Century Workforce Conference on Dec. 8 at NJPA. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

cation.

She gave examples of industry giving input on curriculum and providing internships for students. She also gave the example of the Timberlake Hotel

sign being made at CLC for the Staples building. She gave another example of the ProStart program in high schools helping build momentum for a culinary arts degree to be started at

CLC. It takes many years for a full degree program to get started, but she thought it could happen if a need was demonstrated.

Hills said the solution to the workforce issue is a

mix of education, industries and the workforce. “We are just at the crux of the demand, we are not even into the real growth

See **WORKFORCE** on page 2a

School board hears facilities pros, cons

By Brenda Halvorson
General Manager

The facility options for the Staples-Motley School District have been whittled down to three and the next step is more discussion

with the community.

This was the consensus at the school board’s work session Dec. 11 as they discussed the most recent presentation by FJJ (Foster, Jacobs & Johnson, Inc.) the consulting firm hired to

help the district develop a long range facility plan.

They agreed to hold community meetings in January. The feedback will be brought to the first board work session in February.

At present the school district operates three buildings: a kindergarten through grade 3 elementary in Staples, a middle school with grades 4-7 in Motley and a high school with grades 8-12 in Staples.

At the Nov. 6 work session the board decided not to move forward with retaining three buildings. A one-building option would be a new pre-K through grade 12 building.

The two-building option had four scenarios with a pre-K to grade six either in Motley or Staples and either a new 7-12 high school or a renovation of the existing high school.

The board asked FJJ to research the pros and cons for each option from both educational and fiscal standpoints.

Estimated savings

The rough estimate of annual savings going from three buildings to two is \$530,000. Going to one building would see savings of about \$625,000.

The number for two buildings would change depending on whether the elementary school was in Staples or Motley because

of transportation costs.

Educational adequacy

Glenn Chiodo of FJJ explained they met with the superintendent and the principals in each building to develop the pro/con list as it relates to educational adequacy. Educational adequacy involves a set of guidelines that address things like space and technology needs for specific activities and grade levels. FJJ conducted an educational adequacy study for each building and found areas that need attention.

The list of pluses for a pre-K through grade 6 school in either Motley or Staples were similar, citing things like fewer transitions from building to building, team teaching and professional development, more effective use of special education space, siblings in the same building, more resources and offerings for students.

However, the Staples site had a few more pluses, such as less cost of transportation, 6th grade athletic accessibility, high

See **FACILITIES** on page 8a



Ice ready for skaters

Matt Miller shovels off the ice skating rink along 1st Street SW in Staples. The newly installed rink still needs another layer of ice before it is officially open, but people have been skating on it already. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Thank you for subscribing!



CEO program at workforce conference

Students in the Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities (CEO) program talk about their experiences at the Building the 21st Century Workforce Conference at NJPA on Dec. 8. Pictured, the students talk about their workplace visits with a photo from their trip to the Staples World office. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

WORKFORCE continued from page 1a

Conference encourages opening more options for students

zone yet," she said about workforce needs.

Hills also said today's youth are no longer persuaded by the same arguments of what career to follow. "They are so dead to commercialization," she said. If students feel like they are being commercialized or turned into a commodity, they will reject it, she said. Instead, young people want to get their information in different forms. They want to be trained in skills that can be used in a variety of jobs, not just trained for one specific job.

Charlier followed up on that topic, saying that educators should have a goal of talking to students and parents about getting a mix of credentials, which can be earned at two year colleges like CLC. With minimal training, students can get very good jobs. "All of these jobs are valuable, they pay a living wage and they can stay right at home," said Charlier.

NJPA is also playing a role in the workforce issue, beyond organizing the workforce conference.

Bart Graves, NJPA Education Solutions Career and College Readiness Consultant, was the conference organizer, and said NJPA is looking at reimbursing school districts for licensure fees to help high school students get the certificates they earn.

NJPA has a new resource guide titled Career & College Readiness, which was available for the conference attendees. Among the programs highlighted in the book are many programs available to Staples-Motley students and others in the region: Bridges Career Academies, Ramp-up To Readiness, Rural Minnesota CEP, Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities (CEO), Junior Achievement, Fuel Education, Project Lead The Way (PLTW), ProStart Culinary Program, and Technology Mobile.

Presenters

Mike Bjerkness, the Workforce Coordinator for the Brainerd Lakes Area Economic Development Corporation, gave statistics showing the need for workers will rise sharply

in the coming decade. He said housing, daycare and broadband will need to be addressed by all communities.

Other presentations were made by Mike Dietrich of Amatol, a company that sells industry skills programs, and by Jeremy Robertson of Fuel Education, a company that sells curriculum for career readiness pathways.

Breakout sessions included Technology in Education, with Katie Embree of NJPA, Business Engagement with Schools with Mary Gottsch of the Bridges Program, Job Shadowing/Apprenticeship/Work Experience with Mary Klamm, Work Ethics/Skills with Amy Sjoblad and STEM Instruction with Becky Best of CLC.

In the afternoon, attendees divided into five cluster meetings organized by career field: healthcare, agriculture/energy/hospitality, education innovation/middle school programming, business/IT, and manufacturing/transportation/robotics.



Education solutions help

At one of the breakout sessions, at the Building the 21st Century Workforce Conference, Bart Graves points out one of the metrics developed by GiANT Worldwide, a leadership program to develop healthy workplaces. The program is being offered to government employees in the region by NJPA.



R5 view

Region Five Development Commission Executive Director Cheryal Lee Hills speaks at the conference.

Changes sought on noise, ditches and easements

By Karin L. Nauber
Todd County reporter

During the public open forum prior their Dec. 6 meeting, Delmar Smieja talked to the Todd County Commissioners about ditches, noise, drain tiling and easements.

He said that things were changing so fast and townships were closing easements. He said the commissioners should make an amendment that would make all easements possible to be used, adding that he had to pay a hefty price to use the easements on his land.

He also addressed drain tiles and ditches.

He requested something that states the ditches and drain tiles should be maintained every five years.

"We shouldn't have to take our neighbors or family to court to get them to maintain their part of the ditch," he said.

Because of the refusal of people on the ditch, everything is too wet to get into it.

He talked about issues with County Roads 14 and 16 flooding because of poor maintenance and improper size culverts.

He also addressed the issue of noise from the large farms and the noise getting "greater and greater."

He played several recordings of noise from different facilities and at different distances.

He also played a recording of the noise in his trailer house which is a quarter of a mile away from one facility/farm, saying he couldn't sleep because of the noise.

Other locations have mufflers which help cut down on the noise and those mufflers are pointed upward, not outward. He said that he could hear the noise from this place at his nephew's place three miles away.

He asked the commissioners to consider putting in a noise ordinance with a decibel level or something in it.

"See what you guys can do," he implored the commissioners.

In other business:

- Approved a budget request to carryover \$22,000 from 2017 to 2018 within the elections department budget.

- "In an effort to maintain steady levy requests within the elections department from year to year, there's \$15,000 in the 2017 budget intended to be brought forward into 2018 for the larger General Election cycle expenses," Gaida said.

Along with that, she said that Todd County has been notified of the opportunity to purchase updated election equipment technology with grant funds matching assistance in 2018.

"Due to this anticipated grant opportunity, the elections department had set aside \$7,000 within the 2017 Budget with the intention of supporting these new equipment purchase expenses," she said.

- Along with the previous motion, the board also adopted the 2017 revision of the Local Election Equipment Plan for implementation in Todd County according to the resolution and plan documents.

The auditor/treasurer's office provided information to all of the voting

precincts in Todd County letting them know about the opportunity to upgrade voting equipment technology.

The county has to update the 2006 Local Election Equipment Plan to incorporate the voting equipment technology changes.

"Along with that, Todd County is striving to maintain the 2006 vision of precinct uniformity and is providing a three-year phase-in process for the new voting equipment technology to remain budget conscious," said Gaida.

She said that 30 of the township/municipalities responded with one saying they did not want to participate. Eight did not respond.

Gaida said they would be talking with those eight and the one that said "no" so that those municipalities understand fully what they are saying "no" to.

Kircher expressed his frustration that this would cost them more money again because of the changes in technology.

The voting equipment has not been changed in over 10 years. At that time, the purchase of the equipment was fully funded through a federal grant. The current grant is a state grant and will only pay a portion of the cost of the equipment.

Deputy Auditor/Treasurer Jolene Sabrowsky said that it's also been suggested to them by the state that this will be the last time they receive funding.

"It bugs me we have to spend money all the time when they change things," said Kircher.

According to information from the work sessions, the three-year phase in will cost the municipalities around \$3,000 per year.

- After hearing information from County Engineer Loren Fellbaum, the board approved to submit an application for an eligible construction project - County State Aid Highway 26 - to the Region Five Development Commission for possible inclusion into the Central Minnesota Area Transportation Partnership's 2022 Area Transportation Improvement Plan.

The project would include bituminous mill and overlay with aggregate shouldering from CSAH 21 to CSAH 7.

Fellbaum said that they could potentially receive \$440,000 or 80 percent of the cost of construction in the grant if approved.

- Approved Sheriff Don Asmus to purchase a jail security system from Accurate Controls Incorporated for the county jail.

This system consists of new computers and software to operate the jail doors and intercom system.

According to Asmus, "This system is needed as the current jail security system is no longer supported by the XP Program."

The cost of this system is \$12,620.71 and will be paid with funds earned through the inmate telephone and texting fees.

- The Todd County Sheriff's Office has chosen to participate in the 2018-2019 Snowmobile Safety Enforcement Grant. The amount of this grant is \$10,536 total with \$52 for each year of the grant.

This grant will cover expenses for enforcement,

supplies and equipment for snowmobile activities within the county.

- Approved the purchase of a Nexsan Assureon Storage Appliance from Information Systems Corporation.

According to MIS Director Chris Pelzer, Todd County's current imaging storage device has been in place for over five years and will reach end of life in June of 2018.

She said that promotional pricing is available if purchased before Dec. 27.

"This product allows for high level data protection and auditing, while also providing full replication for disaster recovery and availability," said Pelzer.

The Compliance Committee has reviewed this request and supports this purchase. The County Recorder Cheryl Perish also supports using Recorder Technology funds towards the purchase of this product.

"By using these two dedicated funds, which were established for technology, it alleviates the need for general fund dollars to be used for this purchase," said Pelzer.

The cost of the appliance is \$39,990 with \$13,330 coming from the Compliance Fund and \$26,660 from the Recorders Technology Fund.

The need for this equipment is that the vital records have to be kept forever.

"Now's the time to make the move. This product exceeds the requirements of protecting those files," said Pelzer.

She said it would be hard to say what the life expectancy of this machine will be, but they expect to get five years from it.

"Shortly after we bought the current one, it was discontinued, but will be supported through June 2018," said Pelzer.

- Authorized signing of the 2018-2019 Minnesota Pollution Control Agency County Feedlot Program Delegation Agreement.

According to Planning and Zoning Director Tim Stieber, "The revised rules adopted on Oct. 23, 2000, and updated in January 2015, require a delegated county to prepare a delegation agreement that describes the county's plans/strategies and goals for administration and implementation of the Feedlot Program. Staff have prepared a workplan that will also serve as a grant agreement between MPCA and Todd County."

The program will bring in \$67,443 per year for two years to support the Feedlot Program.

Stieber said they have found about 100 feedlots in the county that have at least 50 animal units. This is in addition to the nearly 700 that the state lists for funding.

He noted they also have found some with less than 50 animal units.

- Approved the final plat resolution for Pine Island Cove First Addition in Turtle Creek Township.

- Heard an update on the STEP program from Director Cory Lawrence. He said they've added seven new consumers for services and will be finishing this year in the black.

They're also working with four clients on a STEP On Into Employment program which will be a little like an internship program and will, hopefully, allow those clients to no longer require services from STEP, but allow them to be employed in mainstream employment.

Holiday Open House

Wed., Dec. 20

Stop in at either our Staples or Motley location to enjoy coffee, hot cider and treats 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

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EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Nursing roundtable

People associated with the nursing profession talk about connections to be made to help students attain their nursing degrees and certificates.

Live Nativity

INSIDE at
Faith Lutheran Church
430 12th St. NE, Staples

Sunday, Dec. 17, 5 p.m.

See the story of Jesus' birth portrayed by a host of players and live animals.

Narration, Bible reading and carols

**Refreshments Following the program*
**Free admission *Donations accepted*

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
~Christmas Eve Family Service...9 a.m.
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\$30

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Motley

Free advocacy training through Hands of Hope

Hands of Hope Resource Center will be offering a 56-hour advocacy training to those interested in volunteering with victim/survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and general crime.

The training is scheduled to start January 22, and is free to anyone willing to make at least a one year commitment to the program.

After training, advocates will be qualified to answer and respond to the Hands of Hope 24 Hour Hotline from their own home. Volunteer advocates provide support and make referrals to those who've been victimized in Morrison and Todd counties. If interested in this rewarding volunteer opportunity or for more information, contact Amanda at 320-632-1657.



Performing 'Schubert's Mass in G'

Hundreds attended the 2017 Community Christmas Concert in Staples, which featured Schubert's Mass in G presented by the Staples Area Men's Chorus, Staples Area Women's Chorus, Staples-Motley High School A Cappella Choir and Staples-Motley High School Orchestra. Above, Rob Freelove directs the musicians in one of the movements of the Schubert piece. The concert also included guest performances by the Central Minnesota Boys Choir and Colla Voce Girl's Choir. Following the performance, which was held in the high school gymnasium, audience members were invited to the cafeteria for coffee and cookies. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Staples Police look into child neglect report

Recent reports taken by the Staples Police Dept.:

Dec. 5; Staples Police received a report of child neglect. The incident is under investigation.

Dec. 6; Staples Police responded to the city of Motley to assist the MN State Patrol with a combative subject at a traffic stop. Also responding to assist was the Morrison County Sheriff, Todd

County Sheriff and Cass County Sheriff's Departments and the Pillager Police Department. Sherri Wolpert, 36, was arrested by the State Patrol.

Dec. 8; Staples Police responded to Lakewood Health System's ER for an uncooperative subject.

Dec. 9; Staples Police received a report of a domestic dispute that had occurred in the 1700 block

of 8th St. NE. Police investigated the incident and forwarded the report to Wadena County Social Services.

Dec. 9; Staples Police stopped a vehicle driving westbound in the eastbound lanes of Hwy 10. Police did not detect any impairment or medical condition and the driver was issued a warning.



Gingerbread edible art

Kids at the Staples Library gingerbread house building event spent part of their time building fancy creations out of graham crackers, icing and candy, and also enjoyed tearing the houses down while eating the candy. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Music to read by

Harpist Chris Ward entertained Staples Library visitors with her harp music on Dec. 7.



Baby's first Christmas

Xena Mason of Staples, right, enjoyed bringing her two-month-old baby Castiel to the Community Christmas lunch in Staples Dec. 9. Holding the baby is his aunt, Stephanie Mitchell, also of Staples. Castiel had the opportunity to meet Santa for the first time, his mother said. The event was sponsored by the Staples Host Lions.

At right, Ethan Honeymann, 8, of Staples chatted with Santa. He mentioned two things in particular that he'd like to receive for Christmas: a remote controlled car and a bicycle. "I learned how to ride a bike without training wheels last summer," Ethan shared. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Tips to stay warm and safe this winter

Submitted by Todd County Health and Human Services

Winter storms and cold temperatures can be hazardous, but if you plan ahead, you can stay safe and healthy.

Many people prefer to stay indoors during the winter months, but remaining indoors is no guarantee of safety. Make sure to winterize your home by installing weather stripping, insulation, and storm windows; insulating water lines that run along exterior walls; cleaning out gutters; and repairing roof leaks.

Have your heating system serviced professionally to ensure that it is working properly and ventilated to the outside. Also, have a safe alternate heating source and alternate fuels available. To prepare for power outages and other weather-related emergencies, make sure to stock food that needs no cooking or refrigeration and water that is stored in clean containers.

You should also get your car ready for the winter. Here are some tips for preparing your car:

- Service the radiator

and maintain antifreeze level

- Check tire tread. If necessary, replace tires with all-weather or snow tires
- Keep gas tank full to avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines
- Use a wintertime formula in your windshield washer
- Prepare a winter emer-

gency kit to keep in your car in case you become stranded. Include blankets, food and water, booster cables, flares, tire pump, snow shovel, ice scraper, a bag of sand or cat litter (for traction), compass and maps, flashlight, battery-powered radio and extra batteries, first-aid kit, and plastic bags (for sanitation).

to join us in celebrating the Christmas Season with Songs, Short Stories and Poems - all in the TRUE SPIRIT of Christmas, Saturday, Dec. 23, 10 a.m.

Bring your singing voice and listening ear so you can join us in song or just sit back and enjoy the Songs and Stories of Christmas.

Staples Seventh Day Adventist Church

The church is located on the corner of 5th St. and Dakota Ave., Staples; go south of the RR tracks on Hwy. 210 (6th St.) two blocks, turn west onto Dakota Ave. one block.

We'll warm up the apple cider and bake cookies - just to make sure you feel welcome.

Christmas shopping? Consider a Gift Subscription to the Staples World

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

Staples World

EARLY DEADLINES

Due to the Christmas Holiday the deadline for Dec. 28 Staples World is

Thurs. Dec. 22

Jan 4 Staples World is

Thurs. Dec. 29

Support your friends and neighbors. Fill your gift list right here.

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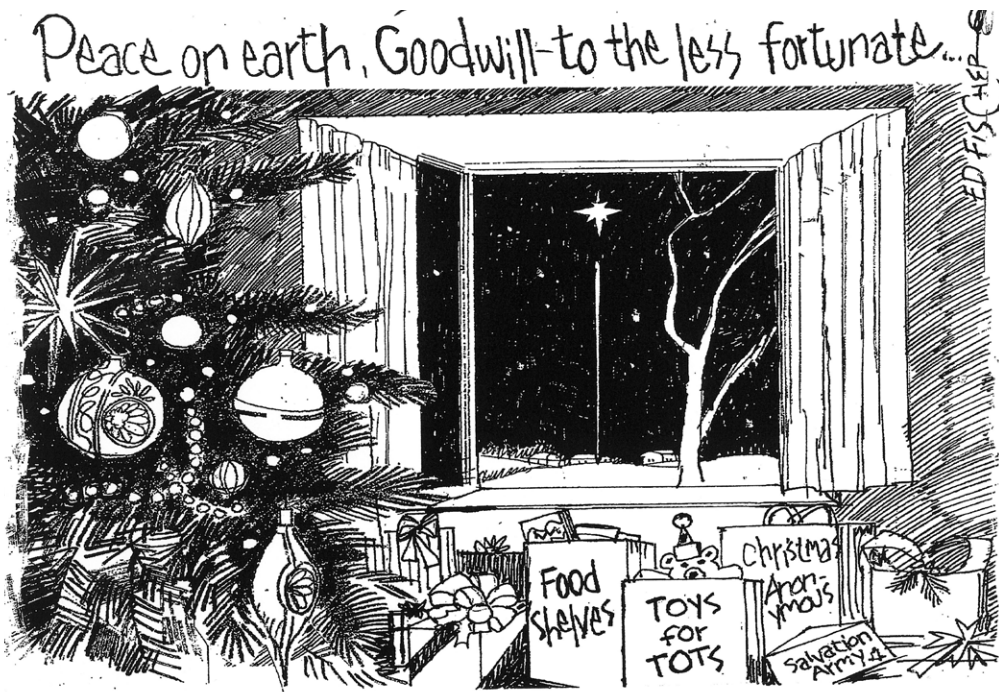
JOIN US FOR OUR

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15TH

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

REFRESHMENTS SERVED ALL DAY



Making the most of this special time of year

HO, HO, HO, Merry Christmas to all and to all a great musical program from the students of Staples-Motley Elementary!

We had a special guest visitor who joined us after the annual elementary Christmas program. Santa stopped by for a visit and posed for a few pictures with the students during our ice cream social put on by the Parent Teacher Connection.

It is so wonderful to gather together, sharing in the spirit of the season, with beautiful music, parents, grandparents and special guests. We love that you come to support the hard work of your children.

Teachers and students work to develop their talents and academics all year long. Our goal is to show students that they can and

Staples-Motley Schools



By Kathy Johnson
Staples-Motley Elementary Principal

should dream big! Having the support of families and the community is a blessing. It helps to bolster our efforts to give students all we can to boost them forward towards those dreams.

So thank you from all of us at Staples-Motley Elementary for your continued support and encouragement. Our wish for you this holiday season is that you can play some fun family games, curl up to read some good books, enjoy some holiday treats and make the most of this special time of year with your family and friends.

With the new year upon us, we know when we return to school on Jan. 3, we will be digging in deep, to finish out the school year, working hard towards those big dreams.

Have a blessed holiday season!

We can make it less profitable to traffic opioids

By John A. Cassara and Nathan Proctor

The president will now declare what many of us experience first hand, the opioid epidemic is a national emergency.

Frankly, with as many as 59,000 deaths in 2016, there doesn't seem to be any other possible description.

So many dedicated people in cities and towns, faith communities and schools, families and hospitals are fighting to save lives and help people escape addiction.

But there are also a lot of people working to keep illegal opioids on the streets.

With 2.6 million opioid addicts in the United States, the scale of drug-running operations is immense, as are the profits. It's not a mystery why the cartels build these operations, they do it for the money - and there is a lot of money to be had.

The Office of National Drug Control policy estimates that of the \$65 billion spent on illegal drugs each year, about \$1 billion, or 1.5 percent, is seized by all federal agencies combined. That means some 98.5 percent of the profits from trafficking remain in the hands of the cartels

and other narco traffickers.

We can and must stop that free flow of money, which, besides flooding our communities with cheap heroin, helps strengthen these criminal enterprises.

As the bipartisan Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control wrote in 2013: "(W)e have become convinced that we cannot stop the drug trade without first cutting off the money that flows to drug trafficking organizations."

There are simple steps we can take now that go after that money. For starters, we must get rid of anonymous shell companies - companies formed with no way of knowing who owns or controls them (known as the "beneficial owner").

As documented in the report "Anonymity Overdose," traffickers can hide and move drug proceeds through anonymous shell companies because starting such companies requires zero personal information.

One of the most dangerous chemicals associated with the opioid crisis is fentanyl - some 50 times more potent than heroin. Deaths from fentanyl overdoses are up 540 percent in the last three years.

Law enforcement agents have cataloged how fentanyl is often shipped to

the U.S. from China. Sometimes the drugs or drug making supplies are sent from, and addressed to, a set of anonymous companies.

These companies, which are not connected to the real owner (and sometimes not even connected to a real person), can open bank accounts, transfer money, and buy real estate. Law enforcement does not have access to who is behind these entities.

Requiring all companies formed in the United States to disclose their beneficial owners would enable law enforcement to more effectively follow the money trail to the top. Bipartisan legislation has been introduced in both chambers of Congress which would do just that, and we believe this is something Congress should enact as soon as possible.

As we ask ourselves what else can we do to stand against this epidemic, it's follow the money.

John A. Cassara is a former U.S. Treasury special agent, who spent much of his career investigating money laundering and terrorist financing. Nathan Proctor is a co-author of "Anonymity Overdose," and a National Campaign Director with Fair Share.

Making the most of apprenticeships

By Senator Amy Klobuchar

It's no secret that our workforce is one of our state's greatest assets. Minnesota is home to some of the best educated, hardest working people in the country. We have the numbers to back that up.

As of October, the unemployment rate here was just 3.3 percent, well below the national average. When U.S. News named Minnesota the third best state to live in earlier this year, they cited our outstanding labor force participation. And last year employment in Minnesota grew at a faster rate than in any of our neighboring states.

If we're committed to continue hitting those marks, we need to be committed to strong investments in our workforce. And apprenticeship programs offer one of the best investments we can make. Last month my office marked National Apprenticeship Week with meetings around Minnesota to assess what workforce initiatives are working and how we can do better.

There are many successful job training programs across our state.

In Rochester, the school district is partnering with local employers and Rochester Community Technical College to pair high school students with training opportunities in the region's highest-demand ca-

reer fields. They wrapped up their first year in June with 1,600 kids having already completed a course in the program. And as part of the Minnesota Apprenticeship Initiative, CentraCare in St. Cloud is helping equip the next generation of healthcare leaders with the high-demand skills they need for careers in the area. Further north, Mesabi Range's Advanced Welding Technology Program is going strong: 97 percent of their graduates get jobs after completing the two-year program.

We can and should be doing even more to expand opportunities like these.

Many parents or grandparents have heard of the Minnesota College Savings Plan, a '529' education savings account. With a '529' plan Minnesotans can save money to pay for college by allowing their savings to grow tax-free. Our state puts them to good use, too. More than 31,000 Minnesotans have one of these accounts.

But there's a gap in how the accounts are currently structured: '529' education accounts are not available to people who want to pursue an education outside of traditional four-year and vocational schools. That doesn't make economic sense, and it's not fair to a growing number of people.

That's why I am leading a bill to allow people to take advantage of these ac-

counts to pay for training or credentialing programs. So if your daughter or son wants to pursue a certificate in heavy machining for a job at a manufacturing plant nearby, you can save for that future tax-free the same way you could save for a four-year college.

I've also partnered with Republican Senator Susan Collins of Maine to boost apprenticeship opportunities with funding for states that create and expand tuition assistance geared toward participants in pre-apprenticeship and Registered Apprenticeship programs. And I am working to pass the bipartisan Apprenticeships and Jobs Training Act of 2017, which would provide a tax credit to employers that hire registered apprentices and support training and mentoring of new employees by more experienced workers.

Business leaders, educators and families are making a big difference by working together and bringing apprenticeships to more people. National leaders should be doing the same.

Note: For more information about available apprenticeship opportunities, visit: <https://www.dol.gov/apprenticeship/>

Sen. Klobuchar can be reached at 202-224-3244 or <http://klobuchar.senate.gov>.

Letter to the Editor

Palmer amaranth

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is information from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. See meeting information at the end.

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) has confirmed a new Palmer amaranth infestation in a conservation planting - this time in Todd County.

The MDA is investigating where the Palmer amaranth seed came from; however, officials believe the weed is limited to specific planting sites.

"There are several factors working in our favor that lead us to believe we can find, control and eliminate this new Palmer amaranth find," said Geir Friisoe, MDA's Director of Plant Protection. "The Todd County planting was seeded in late June; and with our cold overnight temperatures earlier this week, it's unlikely there is any viable seed on the plants. Also, thanks to local officials who were on the lookout for Palmer and notified us immediately, we were able to quickly find and identify the Palmer, and make a plan for eradication."

tion."

Palmer amaranth was first confirmed in Minnesota in 2016 in Lyon and Yellow Medicine counties. Because of swift action there to control its spread, a small number of plants were found this year at the 2016 sites.

With continued herbicide treatment next year, Friisoe stated he is optimistic MDA can completely eradicate the weed infestations in Lyon and Yellow Medicine counties, and he is confident the same can happen in Todd County.

Palmer amaranth can grow two to three inches a day, typically reaching six to eight feet or more, in height. Left uncontrolled, a single female Palmer amaranth plant typically produces 100,000 to 500,000 seeds. It's resistant to multiple herbicides, and can cause substantial yield losses and greatly increase weed management costs in soybeans and corn.

Because of the impacts it can have to Minnesota's crops, Palmer amaranth is listed as a Prohibited Weed Seed. This means no Palmer amaranth seed is allowed in any seed offered for sale in the state. It is also on Minnesota's Prohibited Noxious Weed Eradicate List. All above and below ground parts of the plant must be destroyed. Also, no transportation, propagation or sale of this plant is allowed.

The invasive weed is native to the southwestern United States and northwestern Mexico. It's been found in 28 other states, including Iowa, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

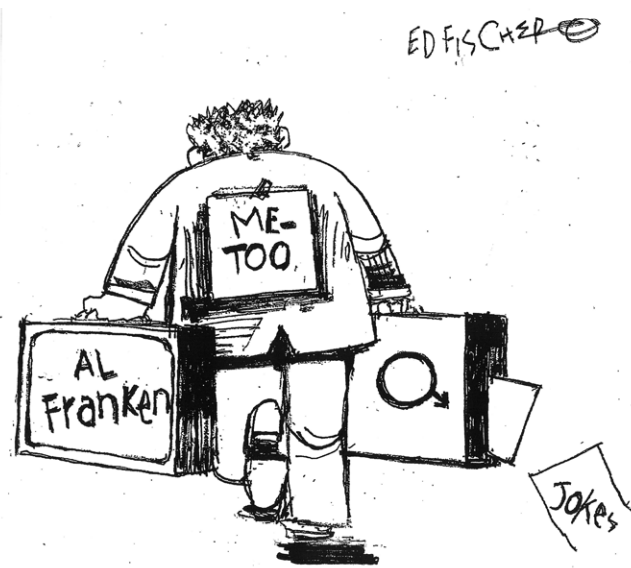
*** The above article written by the MDA needs to be taken seriously. Local farmers should be on the lookout for Palmer amaranth in their fields in order for us to keep ahead of the spread of this noxious weed. Farmers who are near areas where the pollinator pack seed has been planted and Palmer's been identified must be especially vigilant.

A special informative meeting will be held Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2018, at 1:30 p.m. at the Browerville Community Center, to answer questions farmers may have.

Local agronomist, Marcus Meiners is concerned with the potential spread of the Palmer by animals, birds and wind to adjacent fields that are currently in crop production. According to Meiners, once the weed gets on your property you are 100 percent responsible for eradicating it. The MN Dept. of Agriculture does have a fund set up to help eliminate the weed on CRP acres only. Questions like "Will the department of agriculture make an exception to assist neighboring farmers in eradicating the weed if it spreads to their fields?" and many others will hopefully be answered during this meeting.

The meeting is open to the public. Anyone interested in learning more about this weed and the affects it could have in your field should plan on attending.

David Asmus
Ward Township Chairman
Browerville, Minn.



Staples World

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Letters: Readers are encouraged to express their views by writing letters to the editor. Letters are verified for authenticity, so please include a name, address and phone number. Only the author's name and city will be published. Letters may be edited for spelling and grammar errors, libel, length and other factors. Private thanks, solicitations and libelous letters will not be published. Letters are printed on a space available basis. The editor reserves the right to reject letters.

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.

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



Mark Your Calendar

December 14, 19

STAPLES-MOTLEY HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERT Thurs., Dec. 14 and Mon., Dec. 19, 7 p.m., Centennial Auditorium, Staples. Choirs, Bell Choir, Christmas Brass, Chamber Orchestra.

December 17

CHILDREN & YOUTH CHRISTMAS PLAY AT STAPLES ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH Sun., Dec. 17, 10 a.m. All welcome.

ANNUAL 'BILL BERNDT COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT & SING ALONG' Sun., Dec. 17, 4 p.m., Motley United Methodist Church, 847 3rd Ave. So. Free. Featuring a variety of musical ensembles, soloists and instrumental performances from area musicians, including members of the Staples-Motley School choir and orchestra.

LIVE NATIVITY AT FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH, STAPLES Sun., Dec. 17, 5 p.m. See the Christmas story portrayed by narration, live animals. Carols sung; refreshments served. All ages welcome.

December 20

STAPLES ALL VETERANS AND COMMUNITY PARK ASSOCIATION MTG Wed., Dec. 20, 5:30 p.m., Timbers Restaurant and Event Center, Staples. Public invited.



Ace's Basketball Performance Team

The Aces basketball performance team, based out of Alexandria is one of the top half-time acts in the NBA and

NCAA. Dubbed the "World's Greatest Ball-Handling Kids" they are coached by Dr. Larry Novotny. (Submitted photos)

Alexandria Aces performing at GBB/BBB home game, Dec. 22

The Alexandria Aces will be performing at half-time of the Staples-Motley girl's basketball game in the Staples gym on Friday, Dec. 22.

Game time for the SMHS Cardinal girl's varsity game vs Aitkin is 5:45 p.m. It's "double header" night with the boy's varsity game vs Aitkin starts at 7:30 p.m.

The Aces team, made up of boys and girls ages five-12, has been around for 29 years. They've performed their amazing basketball wizardry for over five million fans at venues from coast to coast.

The Aces have been named one of the top half-

time acts in the NBA, having performed at more than 75 of their games, performed at 250 NCAA D-I games, the Final Four and at the NBA playoffs. They've appeared numerous times on ESPN's Top Plays of the Day, been invited to appear on America's Got Talent and at the White House. The Aces also hold the Guinness World Record for spinning a basketball.

The Aces' show, includes juggling, dribbling and spinning feats, appeals to all ages. ESPN announcer Dick Vitale said, "The Aces are awesome, baby. I just love to watch those kids."

This year, the Aces will be performing at the

University of Nebraska, Georgetown University, University of Maryland, the U.S. Naval Academy, University of Illinois, University of Minnesota, the SEC Conference Tournament, NCAA D-II Men's and Women's Championship games and many more events.

For more information on the Aces contact head coach/agent; Larry Novotny at acesalexandria@gmail.com, or at 320-815-1122.

For local information contact Heidi Smith, Staples/Motley Basketball Booster Coordinator, 218-820-0063.

SFA conference registration open

Registration is now open for the 2018 Sustainable Farming Association Annual Conference, Minnesota's sustainable agriculture showcase set for 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Feb. 10, 2018, at the College of Saint Benedict in St. Joseph.

SFA is compiling a day of farmer education and networking chockablock with relevant session topics, many chosen and led by SFA members. Planned sessions include:

- Soil Health for Small Acreage
- Deep Winter Greenhouses: How Do They Fit in a Sustainable Farming System?
- Livestock Health: To Vaccinate or Not to Vaccinate
- Telling Your Story to Sell Your Product
- Do I Really Need a Permit for a Potluck?
- Growing and Marketing Premium Minnesota Garlic
- Benefits of Grazing Public Lands: Ecological, Potential, Practicality

- A Tale of Two Farm Transitions
- Integrating Solar Energy Into Your Farm
- FSA Programs for Small Farms and Women Producers

Additional sessions are planned, as well as a Spotlight on Sponsors lunch, the end-of-day social with local food and drink, a full trade show and more.

Super Early Bird registration is available through Dec. 31 for current SFA members. Veggie Buds is returning - children ages three-12 may again enroll in this popular food-centric educational programming.

Returning is the pre-conference event, "Meet Your Farmers and Foodies Social & Jam Session," Feb. 9, from 7-9 p.m. at Minnesota Street Market, 27 Minnesota St W, St. Joseph. Bring the whole family, your instruments, or just drop in.

Info/registration: sfa-mn.org/conference or jerry@sfa-mn.org.

Dec. 15 deadline for wolf-livestock funds

Minnesota livestock producers have an additional three weeks to apply for grant money to help prevent wolf attacks. Due to a late harvest that kept producers in the fields longer than average, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture is extending the deadline for the Wolf-Livestock Conflict Prevention Grant applications to December 15, 2017.

The Wolf-Livestock Conflict Prevention Grants is a new program funded by the 2017 Minnesota Legislature. There is \$120,000 available to producers this fiscal year (July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018) and another \$120,000 available next fiscal year (July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019).

The grants provide reimbursement for costs of approved practices to prevent wolf-livestock conflicts. Eligible expenses for the grant program will include any or all of the following items:

- Purchase of guard animals
- Veterinary costs for guard animals
- Installation of wolf-barriers which may include pens, fladry and fencing
- Installation of wolf-detering lights and alarms
- Calving or lambing shelters
- Other measures demonstrated to effectively reduce wolf-livestock conflicts

Producers must live within Minnesota's wolf range, as designated by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, or on property determined by the Commissioner of Agriculture to be affected

by wolf-livestock conflicts. Any animal species produced for profit and documented to have been killed by wolves in Minnesota in the past is eligible. This includes bison, cattle, chicken, deer, donkey, duck, geese, goat, horse, llama, mule, sheep, swine and turkey.

The grant application must be emailed or postmarked by 5:00 p.m. on December 15, 2017. Work for this first grant cycle must be done and expenses reported by June 30, 2018. The application and more

information can be found at <http://www.mda.state.mn.us/grants/disaster/wolf/wolfconflictprevent.aspx>.

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COZY THEATRE
WADENA, MN
Screen 1: **STAR WARS: THE LAST JEDI** PG-13
Fri. thru Thurs. Dec. 15 - Jan. 11
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 6:45 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:00
Matinees Sat. & Sun. Dec. 16 & 17 at 1:00 pm
Special Advance Screening Thurs. Dec. 14 at 7:00 pm!
Screen 2: **"MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS"** PG-13
Fri. thru Tues. Dec. 15 - 19
ONE Show Every Night at 7:10 ONLY!
Matinee Sun. Dec. 17 at 1:30 pm
Screen 3: **"FERDINAND"** PG
Fri. thru Thurs. Dec. 15 - 28
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:15 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:15
Matinees Sat. & Sun. Dec. 16 & 17 at 1:15 pm
FREE CHRISTMAS MATINEE
Saturday December 16 at 12:00 & 2:00 pm
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•••• Christmas Hours ••••
Sun. Dec. 24 7am-2pm
Mon. Dec. 25 Closed
Tues. Dec. 26 7am-7pm
Happy Holidays

Wadena County Historical Society sets Holiday Tea

The Wadena County Historical Society will hold its annual Holiday Tea and Open House Thursday, Dec. 21 from noon-4 p.m. at the Wadena County Museum.

This year, in addition to freshly brewed tea and delicious holiday treats, the event will include live music, with singers from the Wadena Deer Creek Elementary school at noon.

Following at 1 p.m. Mario Arroyo, a local musician who plays pan flutes. Arroyo, originally from Quito, Ecuador has performed with his pan flutes all over the world. He records, produces and performs relaxing instrumental music with his own handcrafted bamboo instruments.

His music and instruments for other musicians is for sale in addition to giving lessons on playing the pan flutes.

The rest of the afternoon will include Christmas music played by area pianists on the museum's 100 year-old piano.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information call 218 631-9079 or email 603wchs@arvig.net.

School district tax levy, budget hearing, agenda

The Staples-Motley School Board will meet Monday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m. in the Staples-Motley High School media center.

The meeting will begin with the district's Truth in Taxation hearing on the proposed tax levy and budget.

The levy and budget will be approved at a special meeting at 7:30 a.m., Thursday, Dec. 21, in the district office.

Other agenda items on Dec. 18 include:

- Financial items include acceptance of the 2016-17 audit as presented at the Dec. 11 work session, approve a resolution directing administration to make recommendations in programs and positions, and approve credit reimbursement requests from Jolene Elfstrum and Melissa Holey.
- Personnel items include hiring JoMarie Michel as an elementary reading teacher in a temporary position.

ing teacher in a temporary position.

- Curriculum and policy items include approval of Minnesota School Board Association recommendations for two policies and adoption of the 2018-19 school calendar.

- Other items include adopting a resolution requested by Todd County to establish combined polling places for multiple precincts, approve a resolution of support for purchase and exchange of school trust lands in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, approve a resolution to fully fund special education services by state and federal government, discuss facility recommendations and discuss the superintendent position.

Other items include reports from the principals, superintendent, SMEA and school board committees.

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EARLY DEADLINES
Due to the Christmas holiday the deadline for the Dec.28 Staples World is
Thurs. Dec. 22
deadline for the Jan 4 Staples World is
Thurs. Dec. 29



Packaging Christmas gifts for kids

The Staples '93 Lions recently packaged gifts for over 280 area children, part of their 'Christmas for Kids' program. Funding for the gifts was made possible through donations from community businesses, churches and individuals. Pictured, from left, are Janet Opheim, Diane Danculovich, Liz Lindgren, Gail Honek, Rayma Miller, Amy Leindenfrost, Donna Shaw, Cindy Marsh. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Scandinavian fabric stars

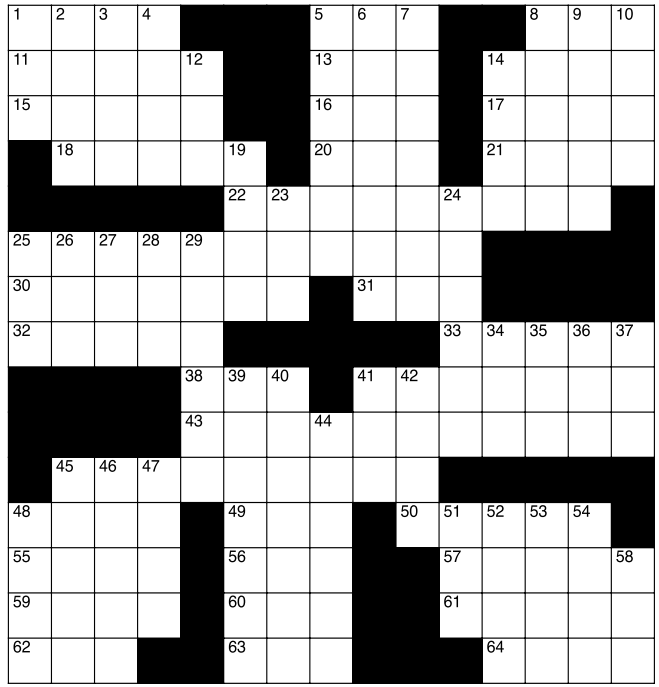


Mary Sperley of Staples (above right) taught students how to make Scandinavian fabric stars recently, one of the classes offered by Staples Public Library. Right photo, from left, are Jan Pankratz, LaVonne Sell-eck and Becky Lindgren.

Pictured left are Jean Meide, LaWanna Mares, Teneesa Mumm (holding baby Malachi) and Pankratz. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

Crossword Puzzle

Week 50



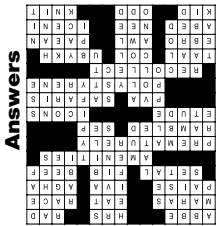
CLUES ACROSS

1. Inventor of the apo-chromatic lens
5. Time units (abbr.)
8. Cool!
11. NY football family
13. A way to consume
14. Competition
15. Monetary units
16. Plant in the daisy family
17. Ottoman military title
18. Small Polish village
20. Relatively insignifi-cant lie
21. Argument
22. Comforts
25. Early
30. Went on and on
31. Type of IRA
32. Short musical com-position
33. Images
38. Major component of wood glue (abbr.)
41. Observing expedi-tions

43. Used as a lightweight foam
45. Recall knowledge
48. Afrikaans word for "language"
49. Fried chicken guru
50. Caucasian language
55. A Spanish river
56. Used to pierce holes
57. Song of praise
59. In bed
60. Originally called
61. Iron Age Brittonic tribe
62. Young goat
63. Not even
64. Make from wool or yarn

CLUES DOWN

1. Current unit
2. Bleats
3. Soft creamy white cheese
4. Opposite of west
5. Young female cow
6. Deep, narrow gorges
7. Freestanding sculpture
8. Finger millet
9. Hurts
10. Unable to hear
12. Vast body of water
14. Volcanic island in Fiji
19. Not early
23. Wet dirt
24. Be characteristic of
25. Before
26. Tell on
27. Resembles the ostrich
28. Million barrels per day (abbr.)
29. War-torn city in Syria
34. Mode of transporta-tion
35. Metals and minerals are extracted from this
36. Trent Reznor's band
37. Midway between south and southeast
39. Vesuvius is one
40. Permitted
41. A type of corrosion (abbr.)
42. Tip of Aleutian Islands
44. Shouted
45. Jewish spiritual leader
46. Punched in the side of the head
47. Lout
48. Used to make furni-ture and ships
51. Spectrum disorder (abbr.)
52. A way to talk
53. American shoe company
54. Chinese ethnic group
58. Egg of a louse
- CW17A410



Hello World

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKE-WOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL INCLUDED:

Born to Kelsie and Randy Olson of Swanville, a baby girl, Raelin Marie weighing eight pounds, six ounces on November 30, 2017.

Born to Demi and Ross Dittberner of Parkers Prairie, a baby boy, Tyson Dean weighing 10 pounds, four ounces on December 1, 2017.

Born to Samantha Smith and Branden Chitwood of Little Falls, a baby girl, Layla LaRay weighing seven pounds, two ounces on December 3, 2017.

Born to Kara and Josh Kern of Verndale, a baby boy, Levi Loran weighing eight pounds, four ounces on December 4, 2017.

Born to Tina and Justin Boe of Deer Creek, a baby girl, Jocelyn Lee weighing seven pounds, 12 ounces on December 6, 2017.

Born to Maria Bautista Ubaldo of Verndale, a baby boy, David Orlando weighing seven pounds, 11 ounces on December 7, 2017.

Born to Caitlin and David Winkler of Bertha, a baby girl, Ella Rose weighing seven pounds, one ounce on December 7, 2017.

Born to Molly Nelson of Brainerd, a baby girl, Emalee Grace Rochelle weighing six pounds, 10 ounces on December 7, 2017.

Todd County Historical Society accepts donations

The Todd County Historical Society accepted several donations at their Dec. 4 meeting.

Barb Wieggers donated a 1854 Scandinavian Bible and a 1881 Norwegian Bible.

John Wolak donated several items including a pharmacy scale.

The museum manager noted that a large number of Lions attended the recent meeting held at the museum.

She noted that Brian Spandle treated one of the Minnesota Marching M'assadors trophies for \$85.

The Clarissa museum is putting up a new building and needs a collapsible gate. A motion was made and approved to donate the museum's.

A day trip to the Capitol in St. Paul and the History Center is being planned.

Rosie Motl brought in a book on the history of Todd County District 93.

The next meeting will be Jan. 8 at 1:30 p.m. at the museum

A potluck Christmas Party followed by music from Orv Dahlen concluded the day.

Obituaries



Angeline Bartylla

Angeline, "Angie" Bartylla, 76, passed peacefully in her sleep December 10, 2017 at the St. Cloud Hospital.

Services will be held Saturday, Dec. 16 at 11 a.m. at the Brenny Funeral Chapel in Staples, with Father Joe Korf officiating. Visitation will be one hour prior to services at the funeral chapel.

Interment will be at St. Isidore Cemetery in Moran Township.

Arrangements are with the Brenny Funeral Chapel, Staples.

Angeline was born September 16, 1941, to Joseph and Bernice (Tepley) Bartylla. She lived with her parents on the farm until their passing in 1979/80. After her parents died, Angie lived for a short time with her brother Robert and his wife on their farm. Angie eventually moved into the REM Central Lakes Group Home where she met Bob and Monica Frost, who came to care deeply for Angeline and eventually became her foster parents. Angeline lived with Bob and Monica for many years and was very happy as a member of their family. After Monica's passing, Angie developed health issues and she had to move to the REM Fernwood Group Home in St. Cloud. Bob lived nearby and continued to visit her often. Angie loved cats, dogs, horses and enjoyed many pets throughout her life. She enjoyed music, watching Westerns on TV and being outside in nice weather.

Angie is survived by two sisters, Virginia Chenoweth and Loretta (Bob) Altrichter; two sisters-in-law, Ethel Bartylla and Marvel Bartylla; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and foster parents; six brothers, Vern (Mayme) Bartylla, Lawrence Bartylla, Robert (Jean) Bartylla, Kenneth Bartylla, Henry (Joyce) Bartylla and Gilbert (Leone) Bartylla; one sister, Lorraine (Les) Proctor; three brothers-in-law, Jack Sklenicka, Kenneth Cleveland and Richard Chenoweth.

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Darrel McAllister

Darrel Alvin McAllister, 68, of New Braunfels, Texas passed away December 4, 2017.

A memorial service will be held Friday, Dec. 15, at 4 p.m. at Sunset Memorial Oaks Funeral Home Chapel, in New Braunfels with Father Christopher Richardson officiating. Visitation will be one hour prior to services at the funeral chapel.

Darrel was born Nov. 1, 1949 in Wadena to Alvin Arthur and Maurine Rebecca (Granger) McAllister. He married Pamela Lynn Becker in Brainerd, on March 1, 1969.

He is survived by his wife; one son, Troy (Sheila) McAllister; one daughter, Stacey McAllister; one brother, Todd McAllister; two sisters, Darlene Dumpprope and Jill (Doug) Shequen and three grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

w50c A00006B2017DEC14

John Weigel, Jr.

John R. "Bob" Weigel, Jr., 85, of Staples died December 11, 2017 at St. Benedict's Senior Community, St. Cloud.

Funeral services will be held Friday, Dec. 15 at 11:00 a.m. at the Lincoln Evangelical Free Church in Cushing. Visitation begins at 10:30 a.m. on Friday at the church.

Burial will take place at Wildwood Cemetery, Pillager.

Arrangements are by the Daniel Funeral Home, St. Cloud.

John was born November 3, 1932 in Lincoln to John and Charlotte (Mittelstadt) Weigel, Sr. He was employed by Camp Shamaineau near Motley for many years.

John is survived by one son, Richard Weigel of Boston, Massachusetts; one daughter, Melody Weigel of Waite Park; four grandchildren; two brothers, Don of Pillager and Bill of Vadnais Heights and one sister, Alice Dickson of Cushing.

w50c A00006B2017DEC14

Mildred Randall

Mildred (Millie) Eva (Kowalski) Randall, 89, passed away December 7, 2017, in Burnsville, following a battle with Parkinson's and Alzheimer disease.

A celebration of life was held Dec. 12, at the White Funeral Home in Burnsville.

Arrangments were with the White Funeral Home, Burnsville Chapel.

Millie is survived by five daughters, Karen Nelson of Staples, Ann Tess,

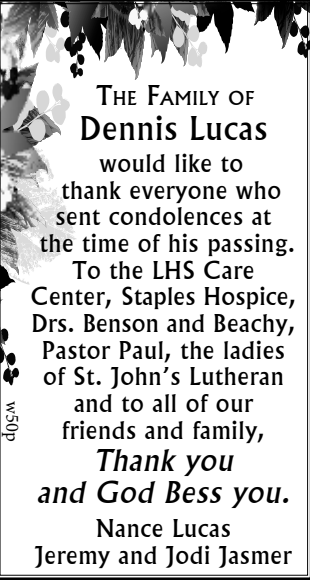
Jean Alaspa, Loretta (Jeffrey) Benedict and Brenda Sweet (Dale Boltz); 13 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; one brother, Richard Kowalski and many other family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Stephen and Edith Kowalski; husband, Bill; one daughter, Marlys; one infant son; three brothers, Donald, Clarence and Louis Kowalski and one sister, Delores.

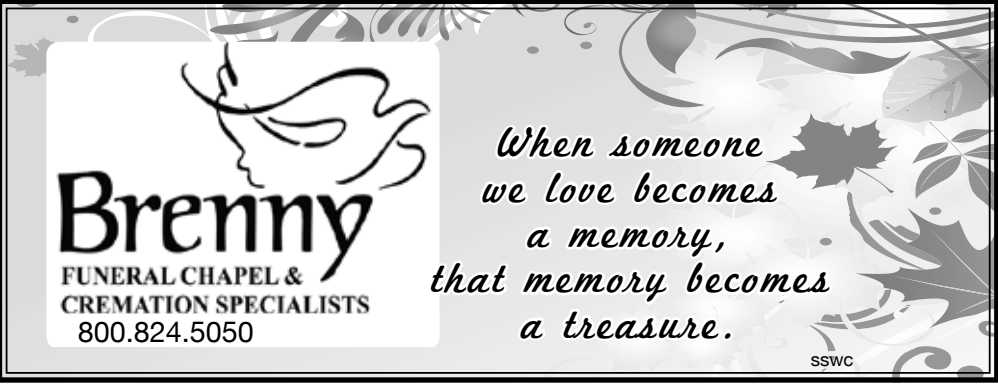
w50c A00006B2017DEC14

Student Achievements

EMILY JONES, Pillager, recently graduated Magna Cum Laude from Minnesota State University, Mankato, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology: Zoology.



THE FAMILY OF
Dennis Lucas
would like to
thank everyone who
sent condolences at
the time of his passing.
To the LHS Care
Center, Staples Hospice,
Drs. Benson and Beachy,
Pastor Paul, the ladies
of St. John's Lutheran
and to all of our
friends and family,
*Thank you
and God Bless you.*
Nance Lucas
Jeremy and Jodi Jasmer



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*When someone
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a memory,
that memory becomes
a treasure.*

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NOTICE
SECTION 00020 -
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Clarifier Rehabilitation
Staples, MN

RECEIPT AND OPENING OF PROPOSALS: Sealed proposals for the work described below will be received by the Administrator at the Staples City Hall, 122 6th St NE, Staples, MN 56479-2900 until 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 20, 2017, at which time the bids will be opened and publicly read.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The work includes the following:
A. Removal and replacement of specified parts of an existing clarifier structure.
B. Patching of existing clarifier cone.
C. Sandblasting and recoating of the clarifier structure and clarifier room.
D. Removal and replacement of sample lines and carrier pipes through clarifier wall.

COMPLETION OF WORK: All work under the Contract must be complete within one hundred eighty (180) calendar days after receipt of the Notice to Proceed.

MINIMUM CONTRACTOR QUALIFICATIONS: The Bidder shall have experience as a General Contractor in the successful completion of at least three municipal water plant projects within the last five (5) years.

OBTAINING CONTRACT DOCUMENTS AND BIDDING REQUIREMENTS: Plans and specifications and all contract documents may be obtained at the office of Bolton & Menk, Inc., 7533 Sunwood Drive, Suite 206, Ramsey, MN 55303, upon payment of \$50, (includes sales tax); non-refundable for each full set of specifications and accompanying drawings. Additional shipping charges will apply for delivery to any address not within the lower 48 states. Complete digital project bidding documents are available at www.questcdn.com. You may view the digital plan documents for free by entering Quest project #5411189 on the website's Project Search page. Documents may be downloaded for \$20. Please contact QuestCDN.com at (952) 2331632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in free membership registration, downloading, and working with this digital project information.

A copy of the plans and specifications may be inspected at the following locations:

- Office of Bolton & Menk Inc., 7533 Sunwood Drive - Suite 206, Ramsey, MN 55303.
- Office of Bolton & Menk, Inc., 1960 Premier Drive, Mankato, MN 56001.
- City of Staples, 122 6th St NE, Staples, MN 56479-2900.

PLAN HOLDERS LIST, ADDENDA AND BID TABULATION: The planholders list, addenda and bid tabulation will be available on-line at www.bolton-menk.com.

Bids will be received on a lump sum basis.

BID SECURITY: A certified check or a Bid Bond satisfactory to the City of Staples, Minnesota, in the amount of not less than 5 percent of the total Bid price submitted must accompany each Bid.

LABOR RATES - MINIMUM WAGE REQUIREMENTS:

This project is being funded by the City of Staples, Minnesota. The project is not subject to the provisions of Little Davis-Bacon Act.

PERFORMANCE AND PAYMENT BONDS: The successful Bidder will be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Labor and Materials Payment Bond each in the amount of the Contract.

The Bid, Agreement, and Bonds shall be conditioned upon compliance with all provisions of the Bid Documents.

PROJECT ADMINISTRATION: All questions relative to this project prior to the opening of bids shall be directed to the Engineer/Manager for the project. It shall be un-

derstood, however, that no specification interpretations will be made by telephone.

Address inquiries to:
Bolton & Menk Inc.
Attn: Paul Saffert
7533 Sunwood Drive - Suite 206
Ramsey, MN 55303
Tel: 763-433-2851 Ext. 2264
Fax: 763-427-0833
Email: paulsa@bolton-menk.com

OWNER'S RIGHTS RESERVED: The OWNER reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in a bid, and to make awards in the interest of the OWNER.

Date: December 3, 2017
Owner: City of Staples, Minnesota

/S/ Jerel Nelsen
Administrator

Published:
Staples World: December 7, 2017 and December 14, 2017

Finance and Commerce:
December 5, 2017 and December 12, 2017

NOTICE
CITY OF STAPLES
HAZARD MITIGATION
GRANT PROGRAM
PROJECT
AT DOWER LAKE

The City of Staples, in conjunction with the Minnesota Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEM) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has applied for a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Project for a Storm Shelter/Safe Room and Severe Weather Warning System at Dower Lake Recreation Area.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), EO 11988 and EO 11990, public notice is required of any federal actions that affect floodplains or wetlands. All necessary permits will be obtained prior to construction and completion of the project.

The objectives of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program are to prevent future losses of lives and property, to implement state or local Hazard Mitigation plans, to enable mitigation measures to be implemented during immediate recovery from disaster, and to provide funding for identified and approved hazard mitigation projects.

The City of Staples has scheduled a Public Meeting for Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at 5:15 p.m. at the Staples Community Center. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and its potential use in the implementation of long term hazard mitigation measure at Dower Lake Recreation Area. Public participation at the meeting is encouraged.

Tricia Jasmer,
City of Staples
Parks & Rec

50pnc

NOTICE
COUNTY PRINTING
TODD COUNTY -
MINNESOTA

Designation of
Extra Printing

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Commissioners of Todd County, Minnesota will receive sealed bids for the extra publication of the Financial Statement for the year 2017 as required by law until 4:00 p.m., Friday, December 29, 2017. Bids will be open at 9:05 a.m. on January 2, 2018 in the County Board Room.

This requires the extra publication for distribution of the Financial Statement to the remaining parts of the county not covered by the distribution of the official paper. The successful bidder will be required to furnish a performance bond in such an amount as may be determined by the County Board. The County Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids if in its judgment of the public interest so require pursuant to M.S. 279.07, and it waives any informalities therein.

Denise Gaida,
Todd County Auditor/
Treasurer

50-51pnc

NOTICE
COUNTY PRINTING
TODD COUNTY -
MINNESOTA

Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners of Todd County, will receive sealed bids until 4:00 p.m. Friday, December 29, 2017 at the County Auditor-Treasurer's Office. Bids will be opened at the County Board meeting on Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 9:05 a.m. in the County Board Room, for publication for the year 2018 as may be required by the County of Todd, a municipal corporation, as follows:

Designation of the
Official Newspaper

This requires the publishing of official proceedings by the Todd County Board, and other legal and public notices required by all Todd County Departments, publication of the financial statement and publication of the list of lands in Todd County, delinquent in taxes for the year 2017, which have not been attached to prior judgment.

The successful bidder will be required to furnish a performance bond in such amount as may be determined by the County Board. The County Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids if in its judgment of the public interest so require pursuant to M.S. 279.07, and to waive any informalities therein.

Denise Gaida,
Todd County Auditor/
Treasurer

50-51pnc

FILING NOTICE
RESIDENTS OF
MOTLEY TOWNSHIP

Affidavits of candidacy may be filed by appointment at the home of the clerk beginning Tuesday, January 2, 2018 and ending on Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. for the following offices: one supervisor for a 3-year term, and one clerk for a 2-year term. Filing fee is \$2.00. Call the clerk at 218-330-7887 for an appointment.

Ken Swecker, Clerk
Motley Township

50pnc

FILING NOTICE
FAWN LAKE
TOWNSHIP

Fawn Lake Township will be accepting filings for one (1) Supervisor for a three (3) year term, and one (1) Clerk for a two (2) year term.

Filing period for Fawn Lake Township offices will be held by appointment only, from January 2 until 5 p.m. on January 16, 2018 at the town hall. Please call the clerk at (218) 531-0287 to make an appointment.

Filing fee is \$2.00.

Kelly Miller, Clerk
Fawn Lake Township

50-51pnc

FILING NOTICE
MORAN TOWNSHIP

Notice is hereby given to the residents of Moran Township that filing for township offices will open January 2, 2017, and close January 16, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. The offices that may be filed for are: One (1) Supervisor for a three (3) year term, and one (1) Clerk for a two (2) year term.

Candidates may file at the clerk's office: 28316 410th St. Browerville, MN.

Teresa Wagner, Clerk
Moran Township

50-51pnc

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* Only \$19.99 (reg. \$34.99) plus \$5.99 shipping and handling to 48 contiguous states. Some restrictions may apply. IC: 85H-0926

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance
1512 8th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2891
Pastor Bob Hepokoski, Paul Johnson
Mark Shea, Pastor of Student Ministries
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 11:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

AWANA 6:15 p.m.

Assembly of God

914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples 218-894-1081
Pastor Roy Miles
Youth Pastor Julie Boone
Discipleship Class 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Evening Prayer 6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Sonlight & Youth 6:30 p.m.

Church of Christ

27343 490th St., Staples 218-894-2609
Pastor Barry Klein
Website: www.stapleschurchofchrist.org
Bible School (youth and adult) 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Teen Youth/Adults Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Congregational Church, UCC

204 5th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2571
Worship 9:30 a.m.
Fellowship, refreshments following service

Faith Lutheran

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

Sacred Heart Church

310 4th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2296
Church
Pastor Fr. Joe Korf
Youth and Young Adult Ministry Coordinator:
Monica J. Simmons 218-414-0081 cell/text

MASS:

Thursday and Friday 8:30 a.m.
Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 a.m.

Seventh Day Adventist

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

Thomastown Covenant

15940 251st Ave., Staples 218-894-3923
Pastor Nathan Hillman
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY 7:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran

1000 4th St., NE, Staples 218-894-2372
Rev. Robin Collins
Sunday Divine Service 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Class 10:15 a.m.

United Methodist

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

Aldrich

Congregational, United Church of Christ

One block S. of Hwy. 10, Aldrich
Pastor Dave Seaton 218-445-5831
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
Communion 1st Sunday of Month

Balsamlund Lutheran

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

Cushing

Bethany Lutheran

25430 Bison Rd. Cushing, MN 56003
320-749-2140
www.bethanylutherancushing.com.
Rev. Jean M. Megarden
Lay Pastor Bob Mueller
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.

Lincoln Evangelical Free

1354 320th St., Cushing 218-575-2449
www.lincolnefree.org Facebook Lincoln E Free
Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Senior Pastor: Donald Reigstad
Pastor: Jim Brown
Youth Coordinator: Kelly Gelle
SUNDAY
Sunday School for all ages 9:00 a.m.
Worship Gathering 10:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Praise & Prayer 4:30 p.m.
Kids' Club 6:00 p.m.
Jr./Sr. Forge Youth Group 6:00 p.m.

Cushing Baptist

26298 Bear Rd., Cushing
www.cushingbaptistchurch.org
Pastor Dan Holmes 320-749-2583
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible study 7:30 p.m.

Leaf River Township

The Old Country Church

Leaf River Twp., Wadena County Rd. 6
Info. 218-837-5690 Open by arrangement

Leader

Swan Valley Lutheran

Leader 218-397-2470
Pastor David Stevens
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

Maple Hill Lutheran

Pastor David Stevens
Leader 218-397-2470 (Rural Pine River)
Worship and Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Motley

Motley Free Methodist

33 Wellwood St. E
Motley 56466 218-352-6888
Pastor Jim Johnson
Sunday Worship 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Kids Club 4:00-5:30 p.m.
Youth Group 5:30-7:30 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran

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

St. Michael

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

United Methodist

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

Oylen

Oylen Alliance

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

Pillager

First Lutheran Church

717 River Street S, Pillager, MN 56003
218-746-3775
Pastor Hector Merced
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 8:30 a.m.

Casino Assembly of God

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

First Baptist

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

Hewitt

Church of the Nazarene

114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146 Hewitt, MN 56003
218-924-2028
Pastor Wayne Hoffert
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m./6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Prayer 7:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS)

524 Front Street, PO Box 116, Hewitt, MN 56003
Pastor Robin Fish
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Verndale

Verndale Alliance

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

Family Life Church

402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale
Church 218-445-5568
VerndaleFLC@gmail.com
Pastor Amos Self 218-371-7189
Children's Pastor Kenneth Kjeldegaard
Prayer 8:30 a.m.
Coffee & Fellowship 8:45 a.m.
Worship 9:10 and 11:00 a.m.
Prayer or Life Groups 6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

6:00 p.m. Family fellowship meal
6:30 p.m. Ministry Groups/Bible study

Hope Chapel Alliance

18126 County Road 7, Verndale
218-445-5643 or 218-472-3316
Pastor Neal Malcore
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Family Night 5:30 p.m.

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Battelt Township (LCMS)

17097 460th St. PO Box 37, Verndale
Pastor Robin Fish
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Verndale United Methodist

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

Central United Methodist

5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar)
Pastor Chuck Horsager
218-639-4225
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

God keeping His promise

Pastor Robin Collins, Trinity Lutheran Church, Staples

He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

-Revelation 22:20

Remember playing 'Hide and Seek' as a child? The person who is "it" cries out: "Ready or not, here I come." You hope your hiding place is good enough.

Remember Adam and Eve in the Garden? They sinned; tried to hide from God, hoping their hiding place was good enough. It wasn't. God sought them and found them. And yes, He did cast them out of the Garden, but not before promising to send ONE who would undo the work of the devil and take away their sin.

That's what Christmas, and also Easter, is about - God keeping His promise to send the ONE to cover mankind's sin; Christ Jesus, His Son. He did this by dying for our sin on Calvary's cross; rising

again, and ascending into heaven. But not before promising to come again.

That's one of the themes of Advent, this season before Christmas; Christ's promise to return in glory, to judge the living and the dead. The question is: are you ready?

Are you, like Adam and Eve, trying to hide your sin, or perhaps denying it? Then, no, you're not. You can't hide your sin from God. No one can. But the good news is that you don't have to. Jesus died for your sin. He has covered it with His blood. Hold fast to His promise of forgiveness. Hold fast to His Word. Then you too can say: AMEN. COME, LORD JESUS.

To God be the glory. Amen.

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:

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

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

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

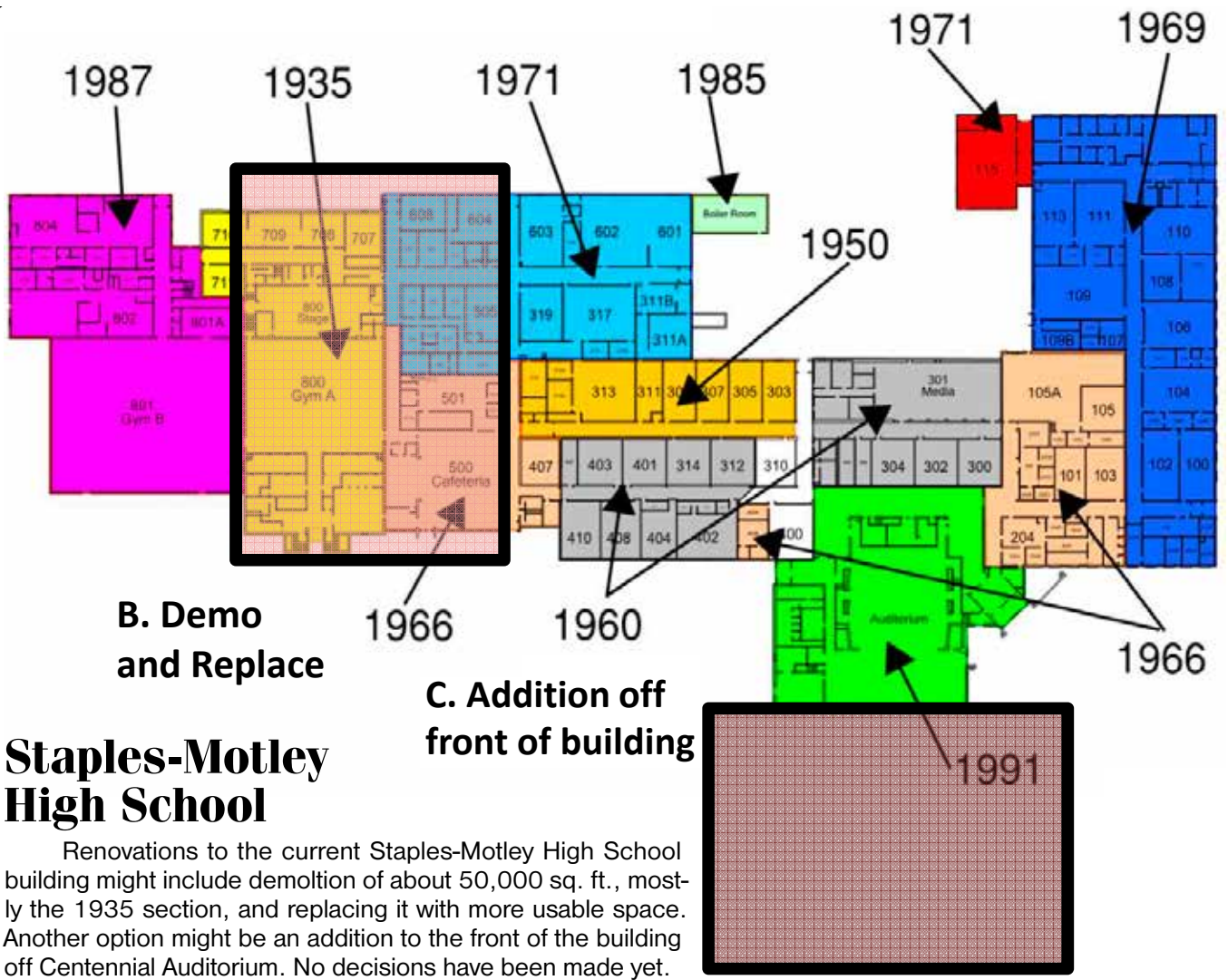
Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank
Fully Insured to \$250,000
Staples, MN 218-894-3900

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

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

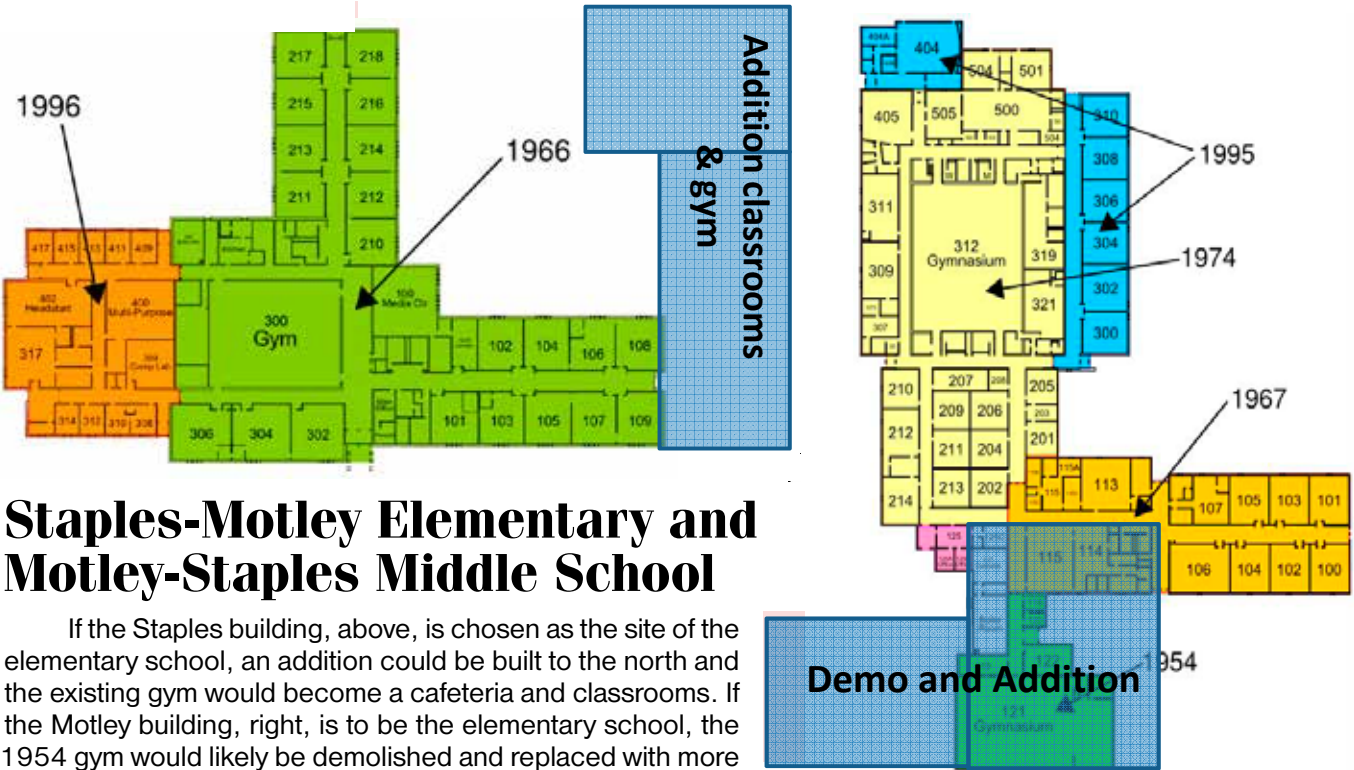
Tower Pizza
Pizza, Pasta, Salads, Sandwiches
Staples, MN 218-894-3299

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



Staples-Motley High School

Renovations to the current Staples-Motley High School building might include demolition of about 50,000 sq. ft., mostly the 1935 section, and replacing it with more usable space. Another option might be an addition to the front of the building off Centennial Auditorium. No decisions have been made yet.



Staples-Motley Elementary and Motley-Staples Middle School

If the Staples building, above, is chosen as the site of the elementary school, an addition could be built to the north and the existing gym would become a cafeteria and classrooms. If the Motley building, right, is to be the elementary school, the 1954 gym would likely be demolished and replaced with more cafeteria space and classrooms. (Illustrations courtesy of Foster, Jacobs & Johnson, Inc.)

FACILITIES continued from page 1a

New 7-12 high school building off the table, for now

school mentorship opportunities, gym and play area updates with green space. The minuses for the Motley option included transportation of more children and more parents having to travel farther, minimal athletic fields and green space, time complications for staff travel between sites and a larger degree of physical remodeling to accommodate K-6. The minuses for the Staples option included pre-K having to travel farther, students and parents from the east side of the district having to travel farther, loss of town ride for Motley, and more students in one building with discipline issues differing between age groups.

The pluses for remodeling the existing high school to accommodate grades 7-12 included the existing auditorium, good general classrooms in decent condition, staff of fine arts in one building, progressive pathways for electives for grades 7 and 8, all athletics under one roof, footprint of career and tech spaces, availability of enhancing special education classrooms and community center across the street.

The minuses included the issues with the 1935 building, unusable/wasted space behind the kitchen, athletic parking, short of gym space, HVAC issues, insufficient locker rooms, auditorium projects not completed, too many doors and no clear entrance, lacking student and family clinical service for social wellness and mental health and student kitchen needs.

Physical buildings
The items in favor of the pre-K through 6 option in Staples included:
• existing building has newer sections,
• larger green space and new active playground,
• room for expansion with land already owned,
• proximity to the high school,
• hot water boilers are better than steam, and
• curb appeal of build-

ing. The items in favor of the pre-K through 6 option in Motley included:
• have a school in each town,
• has a larger gym, and
• more existing square footage.

The minuses of the pre-K through 6 option in Staples included:
• currently only has a serving kitchen,
• lack of gym space,
• gym has asbestos tile,
• need for greater cafeteria space,
• pick up and drop off area, and
• lacks different learning spaces.

The minuses of the pre-K through 6 option in Motley included:
• square footage doesn't meet the educational needs,
• needs a larger cafeteria,
• mercury and asbestos issues with gym floors,
• lacks different learning spaces,
• greater HVAC issues and exterior updates,
• slowing growth of student population,
• curb appeal, and
• 1954 gym needs to be removed and replaced.

The pros of a new 7-12 building include savings on operation costs and community pride.

The cons include cost and tax implications, location may require land purchase and infrastructure costs, what to do with athletic fields and current buildings and loss of neighborhood school.

The minuses for a new pre-K to 12 building were the same.

The pluses for a new pre-K to 12 building included all one campus, savings on administration, teaching, maintenance and support staff, savings on operation costs and community pride.

The rough estimate of cost for a new building is \$80 million and that does not include a fine arts space like the current auditorium or outdoor athletic spaces.

AUDIT continued from page 1a

Students open enrolled out of district cause financial issues

was incorrect because there was no review process in place. Cash handling and making deposits in a timely manner were also mentioned.

The second material weakness dealt with financial statement preparation and was also due to limited number of staff.

The staff turnover led to the third material weakness related to recording all of the year-end entries.

One of the significant deficiencies dealt with the budget and how it is reported in the general ledger. The audit found that the district's approved original and final budget did not match and that some of the amounts were changed without proper approval of the board.

The second deficiency was the discovery that an authorized user on a bank account was no longer an employee of the district.

In all cases of the weaknesses and deficiencies the management agreed with the findings and implemented corrective plans.

One other issue was mentioned regarding the lunch program and verifying eligibility for free and reduced meals. Again, the business office has a corrective plan in place.

Reedy presented some charts showing the declining enrollment in recent years and the number of resident students who have enrolled out of the district compared to the number who have open enrolled into the district.

In 2012 the district had 1,257 students. In 2017 there were 1,151. Of those in 2017, 1,123 were resident students and 28 were open enrolled from other districts. Almost 325 students open enrolled out of the district in 2017.

"The biggest decrease has been in resident students," Reedy said. "You are losing a big chunk of your resident students."

Another chart showed that the district is spend-

ing more on instruction per pupil than other similar size districts.

About 70 percent of the district's expenses are for instruction, instructional support and pupil support services.

Reedy also pointed out that the district's policy was to maintain a general fund balance of 12 percent of the total assigned and unassigned expenditures and to not go below a minimum of eight percent. The audit shows the district is at 16 percent.

She also noted positive fund balances in the food service and community service funds.

Signature card

In other comments, Dave Hoemberg asked the auditor and the business manager why his name is not on the signature card at First International Bank & Trust.

He is the school district clerk and his contention is that his name is on the checks, so his name should be on the signature card.

Board chair Mary Freeman said the treasurer, the business manager and the chair are on the signature card.

Chad Longbella is currently the treasurer, but he had been the clerk for many years. He said his name was never on the signature card when he was clerk.

Bratlie thought the signature card at the bank was for who was authorized to make fund transfers, not for who signs the checks.

Hoemberg requested that someone check with the state auditor to determine the issue.

Reedy said it was a matter of board policy, not law, who had access to bank accounts, but she would check with the state auditor.

Freeman asked the policy committee to review the policy and report back to the board.

WE WISH YOU A WONDERFUL

Holiday Season

AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

Bobbi Adams, M.D.
Family Medicine Physician

Jennifer Arnhold, M.D.
OB/GYN

Steve Davis, M.D.
Family Medicine Physician

Dawn Dahlgren-Roemmich, CNM
Certified Nurse Midwife

Laura DuChene, M.D.
Family Medicine Physician

Dennis Faith, M.D.
Emergency Medicine

Beth Helgerson, M.D.
OB/GYN

Ben Hess, M.D.
Family Medicine Physician

David Kloss, M.D., FACS
General Surgery

Aaron Larson, M.D. Gerald McCullough, M.D.
Psychiatry Radiology

Heidi Olson, M.D.
Family Medicine Physician

Amadin Osayomare, M.D.
Emergency Medicine

John Pate, M.D.
Family Medicine Physician

Rachel Redig, M.D.
Emergency Medicine

Shaneen Schmidt, M.D.
Family Medicine Physician

Ryan Scott, D.O.
Emergency Medicine

Thomas Van Bruggen, M.D., FACS
General Surgery

Kevin Walters, M.D.
Family Medicine Physician

Matthew Yelle, M.D.
Family Medicine Physician

John Chase, FNP
Family Nurse Practitioner

Andrea Craig, PMHNP
Certified Nurse Practitioner

Robert Davis, PA-C
Physician Assistant

Tina Hulse, PA-C
Physician Assistant

Rose Lorentz, A-GNP
Geriatric Nurse Practitioner

Jamie Udy, FNP
Family Nurse Practitioner

Adam Weichelt, PA-C
Physician Assistant

Tom Weston, PA-C
Physician Assistant

Jill Wilkens, PA-C
Physician Assistant

TCHC.org

4 Deerwood Ave. NW, Wadena MN 218-631-3510

Tri-County Health Care

WADENA CLINIC



Wolhowe scores 1,000th career point

With 34 points in the Dec. 5 game against Crosby-Ironton, Claire Wolhowe achieved the 1,000 point mark for her varsity career.

The Staples-Motley girls basketball team had two learning games in which they played well at times but ended up with close losses.

They lost to C-I 64-52, then fell 43-38 to Holdingford on Dec. 7.

Against Holdingford, the Cardinals fell behind by ten points early after having trouble with pressure defense. But they figured it out and went on a 10-0 run to tie the game.

The same thing happened in the second half,

and the Cardinals found themselves down by 15. But a three point play by Tabatha Allen started their comeback, and in the last few minutes, Claire Wolhowe made two baskets and sunk two free throws to pull within three at 38-41. But that was as close as they got.

Team results

Staples Motley 52, Crosby-Ironton 64

Scoring: Claire Wolhowe 34, Kiera Dumpprope 8, Kiara Storry 7, Haley Cichos 2

Staples-Motley 38, Holdingford 43

Scoring: Wolhowe 18, Kaila Erbe 7, Tabatha Allen 6, Jenna Dvorak 4, Dumpprope 2, Kaitlyn Smith 1

Cardinals going to the basket for points

Left, Josh Lombard looks like he is about to feed the Cardinal on the wall, but instead he finger rolled the basketball into the hoop for a score against Verndale. Right, Max Giza gets fouled while shooting. His free throws contributed to his double-double in the game. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Cardinals win game with threes, lose by one big three

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team put up a lot of three point shots in their first two games, helping them beat Verndale 79-69 on Dec. 5, but a big three pointer against them led to an 85-80 loss to Wadena-Deer Creek on Dec. 8.

Against Verndale, two quick threes by Derek Kennedy helped the Cardinals to an early lead, but he was the only one making long shots, and misses by the rest of the team helped them lose the lead again.

Reid Busker made two late threes to give the Cardinals a three point lead at half-time.

In the second half, Griffin Webster made some deep shots late, and the Cardinals made enough free throws to hold on.

Max Giza battled throughout the game and finished with a double-



double of 15 points and 14 rebounds.

At Wadena-Deer Creek, the Cardinals shot much better as a team. Webster and Josh Lombard both hit shots inside and outside. The Cardinal defense also played well against some skilled WDC players.

The good play led to a 10 point lead late in the game, but missed shots, turnovers and missed free throws shrunk it to two in the last few minutes. WDC made a long three to take

a one point lead. Staples-Motley missed their next shot and did not get another chance.

Team results

Staples-Motley 79, Verndale 69

Scoring: Derek Kennedy 25, Griffin Webster 19, Max Giza 15, Reid Busker 9, Josh Lombard 7, Bentley Christensen 2, Zach DeMars 2

Staples-Motley 80, Wadena-Deer Creek 85

Scoring: Lombard 27, Webster 25, Kennedy 16, Javier Fernandez 5, Scout Strickland 3, Giza 2, Christensen 2



Ball handling skills

Kaitlyn Smith dribbles past the pressure defense. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Short shot

Right, Griffin Webster rises up to shoot over the Verndale defense.

Wrestlers improve at Paul Bunyan tournament

Spencer Miller and Owen Bjerga both reached the championship match of the Brainerd Paul Bunyan Tournament Dec. 8-9, but both ended up second after close matches.

At 132 pounds, Miller lost in overtime in the championship match, falling 6-4.

Bjerga was at 145 pounds and stayed close until the final seconds, losing 9-5.

“Both championship matches could have gone either way,” said Coach Dave Anglin.

The Cardinals were ninth out of 14 teams, but only had 11 of the 14 weight classes filled. “We improved from the week before, that’s a good sign that the kids put in the time and effort,” said Anglin. He said the Cardinals plan to bring a full team to the Big Bear tournament at Cass Lake-Bena on Dec 15 and 16.

Anglin pointed to good performances by Kyle Serich at heavyweight and Braden Tyrrell at 195, who beat a wrestler ranked sixth. He said Payton Bjerga and Blayne Dumpprope

did well in very tough weight classes.

Although James Ehresman did not win at this tournament, Anglin said his heart and desire are coming through. “He works hard and does a good job,” said Anglin.

Team results

Brainerd Paul Bunyan Wrestling Tournament

Team scores:
Frazee 202, Bemidji 182, Foley 168, Little Falls 142, Pierz Healy 113, Brainerd 112, White Bear Lake 104, Grand Rapids 100, Staples-Motley 80, Moorhead 73, Mound Westonka 73, Aitkin 43, Cloquet/Esko/Carlton 34, Chisago Lakes 34
106- Payton Bjerga 1-3, 6th place
113 - Sam Jennissen 0-2
120 - Conner Dobson 0-2
132 - Spencer Miller 3-1, 2nd place
138 - Blayne Dumpprope 1-3, 8th place
145 - Owen Bjerga 2-1, 2nd place
160 - Jonathan Lisson 1-3, 8th place
170 - James Ehresman 0-2
182 - Isaac Swendsrud 1-2
195 - Braden Tyrrell 2-2, 5th place
HWT - Kyle Serich 4-1, 3rd place

When it comes to attracting birds to your backyard, it’s hard to beat an ornamental crabapple tree. Not the kind that a youngster would pilfer sour-tasting fruit from, but tiny crabapples less than an inch or so across that turn a deep red as they wither in late fall and which many birds feed on as eagerly as we’d dig into an apple pie.

Robins load up on them in our trees as they prepare to migrate southward. Cedar and Bohemian waxwings stop by for them in the depths of winter. I’ve even seen chickadees, those seed, nut and suet-eating dynamos, perch on a gnarled branch and pick at the fruit.

On one particular morning it was a cluster of house finches. The house finch is attractive in an understated way. The males – as with most songbirds, the more colorful of the sexes – seem like an artwork-in-progress, left unfinished when the artist ran out of paint. Imagine one of the several species of sparrows, which are mostly some pattern of brown, buff and similarly muted camouflaging colors. Then dip your Audubon brush in a slightly watered-down red, and dab it on the bird’s upper breast, the top of its head and add just a dab or so on the nape of its neck. The result would be a pretty good representation of a house finch, even though finches and sparrows – very similar in appearance – are from different songbird families.

The dozen or so house finches were working over our heavy crop of withered apples, mostly in the upper branches where I had a bird’s-eye view from an upstairs window at exactly their level. They fed avidly for about a half hour, and then were gone. While you might find birds at your feeders at any hour, feeding in winter is often episodic, especially when it’s really cold. Feed, then retreat to sheltering vegetation to mini-

mize the loss of body heat; then feed again later in the day.

Another “house” bird that’s with us throughout the winter is the house sparrow, though when I was a youngster it was called an English sparrow, owing to its importation from Europe in the 1850s. Interested in songbirds from a very young age, I remember it also being referred to as a “weaver finch,” which goes to show that even bird experts – ornithologists, we call them – can be indecisive. Today they’re considered sparrows, and “house” is an appropriate adjective, since they are most at home in neighborhoods, and uncommon in forest, prairie, or other unsettled environments.

Its secret to success is associating with humans, from scavenging undigested grains left in the wake of horse-drawn wagons on the streets of New York City where it was introduced in 1851, competing with the pigeons for food on city sidewalks and outcompeting native birds to feed on the seeds of domestic plantings, or at your backyard feeder.

Ornithologists admit that telling finches and sparrows apart can be difficult, even for some experienced birders. Both eat seeds and grains, and have bills that are well-suited to breaking them. Finches’ bills are slightly finer, often smaller and more pointed, as finches tend to eat seeds and grains that are smaller. Nyjer thistle, about the size and color of an exposed pencil lead, is a favorite with finches, including the smaller goldfinch. Sparrows generally have a bill that’s larger and thicker than a finch, the better to crack larger seeds and grains, including sunflower seeds.

One of the ironies of both the human world and the animal world is that we applaud success or survival, yet we may dislike the behaviors that sometimes lead there. Behaviors like aggressiveness, bullying, and intimidation are generally looked down upon by people who are not into that themselves. House finches are social, gregarious, but not domineering. House sparrows, on the other hand, will take over a feeder and chase less aggressive songbirds away. For this reason they’re widely disliked, much

- o - Inside the Outdoors



Mike Rahn

- o -

Tactics for walleye fishing after first ice

By Ray Gildow

I know there've been 5,000 articles written about catching walleye in the winter time, but maybe I can help one angler try something not tried before and if it works, this article is well worth the effort.

This fall, like our last few falls, has been warmer than usual until about mid-October when the cold weather came in with a vengeance and it felt like January. This crazy weather must really have walleye and other fish confused as to what season it really is. Some of the brave souls that decided to fish in temperatures in the 18-26-degree range did very well late into the season but for most of us, that's just not an enjoyable way to fish. Most of us choose to wait for the ice to form and go fishing with some degree of comfort.

Historically, ice forms in the Midwest in November and safe levels are usually formed by early December. Last year the ice was slow developing and anglers had to wait for much of the month to have enough safe ice to go fishing. Fishing was not very good in 2016 because the ice just was not safe enough to get out until late December.

So, when it's safe to go fishing, here are some techniques that I've found successful for fishing walleye over the years. My first choice is a jig and a minnow or half a

minnow. Some days the fish like the minnow being jigged, some days they like it lying flat on the bottom with no movement at all. My second choice is a minnow under a bobber. Simple, old fashioned, but it still works. We call this dead sticking. Just let the minnow do the work and watch the bobber. Another good technique for catching active walleye is jigging with a Jigging Rapala. These come in many sizes, shapes and colors. I like to tip the Jigging Rapala with a minnow head to give the device a good smell. Another very good technique is to jig with very small jigging spoons. These come in many sizes, shapes, colors and weights. I also like to tip these with a minnow head for the attraction of smell.

And finally, one of the newest plugs from Rapala is the Shadow Rap. This is a new plug that's been used on bass, walleye and northern pike in the summer with a lot of success and I see no reason why they shouldn't work in the winter as well.

So, there are some tried and true techniques for catching those elusive walleye under the ice. Get out there and catch a few.

Ray Gildow, Staples, is the author of "Legends & Legacies, A History of the Nisswa Guides' League" and is owner of Gildow Guide Service. More information can be found at raygildow.com.



Battling for the ball

Kiera Dumpprope scrambles after a loose ball in the girls basketball game against Holdingford. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

No new outbreaks of CWD

No chronic wasting disease was detected in more than 11,000 precautionary samples from deer that hunters harvested this fall in north-central, central and southeastern Minnesota, according to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

"This is good news for Minnesota," said Lou Cornicelli, wildlife research manager for the DNR. "The results lend confidence that the disease is not spread across the landscape."

In all, 7,813 deer were tested in the north-central area, 2,529 in the central area and 1,149 in the southeastern area outside deer permit area 603, the CWD management zone. Researchers still are submitting samples from cooperating taxidermists so final results will be updated online at mndnr.gov/cwdcheck as they become available.

Given no deer with CWD were found in north-central and central Minnesota, the DNR will narrow surveillance next fall to

areas closer to the farms where CWD was detected. A fourth precautionary surveillance area will be added in fall 2018 in Winona County because CWD recently was detected in captive deer there.

Precautionary testing in north-central and central Minnesota became necessary after CWD was found in multiple captive deer on farms near Merrifield in Crow Wing County and Litchfield in Meeker County. It also was conducted in the deer permit areas directly adjacent to southeast Minnesota's deer permit area 603, the only place in Minnesota where CWD is known to exist in wild deer.

Minnesota's CWD response plan calls for testing of wild deer after the disease is detected in either domestic or wild deer. All results from three consecutive years of testing must report CWD as not detected before DNR stops looking for the disease.

Three years of testing are necessary because

CWD incubates in deer slowly. They can be exposed for as long as 18 months before laboratory tests of lymph node samples can detect the disease.

Proactive surveillance and precautionary testing for CWD allows the DNR to manage the disease by finding it early and reacting quickly and aggressively to control it. These actions were taken in 2005 to successfully combat bovine tuberculosis in northwestern Minnesota deer and in 2010 to eliminate a CWD infection in wild deer near Pine Island.

Without early detection, there's nothing to stop CWD from becoming established at a relatively high prevalence and across a large geographic area. At that point, there is no known way to control the disease.

Complete information about CWD and DNR efforts to keep Minnesota deer healthy are available on the DNR website at mndnr.gov/cwd.

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Motley's final 2018 levy up 2.89 percent

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

At their regular meeting Dec. 11, the Motley City Council approved the total levy for 2018 (\$368,567), a 2.89 percent increase from last year's certified levy of \$358,206. They also adopted the final budget for 2018 as presented.

The total certified levy includes sums of money from the following funds:

- General: \$186,668
- Fire: \$29,630
- Street Improvement: \$59,769
- Beaulieu Project Bond: \$40,000
- 2011A Street Improvement: \$20,500
- 2012A Street Improvement: \$32,000.

Prior to voting on the levy and budget, the public was given an opportunity to speak and ask questions. Motley resident Pat Koehler was the lone representative. Koehler expressed concern that her 2018 Proposed Property Tax Statement showed an increase of 18 percent from the previous year. She wondered why, as there had not been any major improvements to her property dur-

ing 2017.

City Clerk/Treasurer Lacey Smieja noted that the city portion of Koehler's tax increase is 2.89 percent. The remaining increase is from other sources such as county. In a later conversation, Smieja explained that all taxes are based on a homeowner's property value. If someone in Motley had a house that remained the same value from year to year, they would only see the 2.89 percent increase from the City of Motley from 2017 to 2018. However, if a person's house goes up in value during that time, they would see a larger increase than the 2.89 percent.

In other matters the council:

- HEARD a summary of a closed meeting held Nov. 13, regarding the performance review for Bruce Brotherton, Public Works Director. Brotherton received a total of 48.2 out of a possible 56 points. Mayor Al Yoder noted that this was a highly satisfactory rating and congratulated Brotherton on a job well done.
- ACCEPTED the proposal of National Joint

Powers Alliance (NJPA) to perform Planning and Zoning Services to the City of Motley. Their hourly rate is \$50, which may include "in-kind" hours to meet the budgetary needs of the city. As noted in their fee schedule, NJPA does not bill for ancillary costs including postage, mileage and time spent traveling to/from the city.

- DISCUSSED sending a letter to Ben Oleson with Hometown Planning, the city's previous Planning and Zoning Administrator, to thank him for his years of service with the city.
- DENIED a request from Bob Jenkins for a \$3,000 donation from the city for Music in the Park. The council noted that the budget has already been set for 2018.

- APPROVED sending a partial payment of \$241,457.04 to GM Contracting for work completed on the Motley Well Supply Project through Oct. 25.
- APPROVED sending checks to two residents that made special assessment overpayments.
- APPROVED a resolution setting fees and charges for 2018.

• APPROVED an agreement between the City of Motley and the County of Morrison for prosecution of certain criminal offenses occurring within the corporate limits of the city.

- APPROVED the Motley Fire Department's recommendation for the following officers: Chief, Todd Judd; 1st Asst. Chief, Kyle Frisk (an immediate appointment due to leave of absence for the 2017 1st Asst. Chief Chuck Gerads); 2nd Asst. Chief, Jace Carlson; Medical Officer, Nick Dille.

- HEARD monthly reports from all city departments.

- APPROVED a request from Smieja to spend up to \$5,000 to be used for improvements at city hall, including updating furniture and painting walls as needed. The funds are available in the 2017 budget.

- LEARNED that Mayor Yoder (who is a Morrison County Deputy) and Police Chief Ron Smith led an ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) Training at Trident Seafoods in Motley recently and that it went very well. They will be conducting



Expressing concerns

Lacey Smieja, left, Motley's Clerk/Treasurer, and Motley resident Pat Koehler look over Koehler's Proposed Property Tax Statement for 2018, which showed an overall increase of 18 percent since last year. Koehler had voiced concerns during the public hearing Dec. 11. Smieja explained that only 2.89 percent of that increase is from the city. Koehler's questions would best be answered by the County Assessor at the Board of Equalization meeting next spring. Pictured in back, from left, are council member Pat O'Regan; Mayor Al Yoder; and council members Amy Hutchison, Steve Johnson. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

more of these trainings in the future.

- SET next regular council meeting for Monday, Jan. 8, 6:30 p.m.

Leader native competes in Priefert World Series of Team Roping

Ron Wells of Springview, Neb., and his partner are competing in the Priefert World Series of Team Roping Finale XII, a nine-day event which started Dec. 9, in Las Vegas.

A native of Leader, Wells is competing as the heeler with his header partner, David Lien of Valentine, Neb. They qualified for the team roping world series with a second-place finish of 44.75 seconds at a qualifying team roping event April 22, in Torrington, Wyo.

A 2001 Sebekah High School graduate, Wells has participated in team roping competitions since his youth. He competed in 4-H Breakaway Roping, Little Britches Rodeo and Minnesota High School Rodeo. He participated in collegiate rodeo for Northeast Community College in Norfolk, Neb.

He qualified for National Little Britches Rodeo Finals in 1999, and he has competed in jackpot and open team roping competitions since 2005.

Wells qualified for this 2017 team roping world series event only 118 days after having a complete hip replacement surgery.

When not competing in team roping competitions, Wells manages a 400-head, 5,000-acre cattle ranch near Springview, along with his wife, Jordanne and three sons.

He is the son of Rex and Janine Wells and grandson of Ruth Boldan, all of Leader.

The Priefert World Series of Team Roping Finale XII action can be followed via RFDTV.com and exclusively on Rural Radio Channel 147 on Sirius XM Radio.



Team roping champ

Ron Wells of Springhill, Neb., ropes as a heeler in a team roping competition in Oklahoma City, Okla. Wells, a Leader native, will be competing in the Priefert World Series of Team Roping Finale XII in Las Vegas. (Submitted photo)



Singing songs of the season

Motley-Staples Middle School students presented their 'Christmas Choral Concert' Dec. 11. The event featured selections from fourth and fifth graders combined, under the direction of Mary Moen; and the sixth and seventh grade girls' and boys' choirs, under the direction of Nathan Thelen. Sandy Paskewitz was the accompanist. Pictured at top, a combined choir

closed the concert with, "We Wish You a Merry Christmas." In lower photo, Thelen directs an ensemble from the boys' choir in the piece, "Sansa Kroma." From right: Connor Anglin, Keegan Bestland, Luke Bates, Isaiah Schultz. Adding percussion, from left, are Jayma Lawson, Sabina Moe. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Law enforcement reports, Motley

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

Dec. 1 - 5 - The MPD issued speeding citations to Emily Miller, 18; Jeremy Yanta, 32; Derek Ellis, 39.

Dec. 5 - The MCSO and MPD assisted a Red Lake County Deputy with an

inmate who was being disorderly in the back seat of his squad car while being transported.

Dec. 5 - The MPD issued a citation to Harold Huff, 57, for driving after revocation.

Nov. 30 - The MPD responded to a report of suspicious activity at the 100 block of Morrison St. W. in Motley. Complainant

stated that someone tried to pry open the lockbox at his business to gain access to the keys inside.

Nov. 30 - The MCSO responded to a report of a fire at the 33000 block of E. Shamaineau Dr. in Motley. Scandia Valley Fire Dept. was at the scene and had the grass fire out by the time the deputy arrived.

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