

John Gorka, Dawn and Gary Timbs, featured at Old Wadena Rendezvous this weekend

This weekend on a scenic bluff overlooking the Crow Wing River, the sights, sounds and smells of a bygone era will once again come alive during the Old Wadena Society's 27th annual Rendezvous and Folklife Festival.

Held each year at the Old Wadena County Park, located just north of Staples, the event features a mix of re-enactors staging an authentic gathering of trappers or muzzle-loading "buck skinnners" along with a variety of folk music and demonstrations of folk arts, including a blacksmith, wreath making,



Gary and Dawn Timbs

rope braiding, pottery and several other similar crafts. This Old Wadena entertainment lineup includes several favorites from past

years. Headlining the Old Wadena stage are John Gorka on Sunday and Dawn and Gary Timbs on Saturday. As usual, every-

one will be under tents in case of inclement weather. John Gorka is back after a tremendous program a year ago. A transplant from New England, he told the Old Wadena audience that he moved to Minnesota years ago to escape the cold New England winters. A veteran singer/songwriter with 11 well-received albums, he's performed on stage for Austin City Limits and Mountain Stage.

The duet of Gary and Dawn (Schimpp) Timbs has performed on numerous stages around Staples and surrounding area



John Gorka

for approximately ten years. That's when Dawn returned to her hometown and with her came her hus-

band, Gary, a native of the Deep South, a veteran of Nashville and many other stages. They put their special touch on country, bluegrass and gospel favorites, as well as their original songs.

Curtis and Loretta, a popular performing duo will bring their amazing stringed instruments and talent to match, on Saturday.

New this year is the Erik Koskinen Band, a group with a blend of folk, country and blues sounds, not unlike music from Woody

See **RENDEZVOUS** on page 9a

SM school board denies grievance

By Brenda Halvorson
General Manager

In a special meeting Aug. 7 the Staples-Motley School Board denied a grievance

brought by two retired employees. Cindy Sorenson and Diana Reed, paraprofessionals at Staples-Motley Elementary School, both retired effective Jan. 2. Their resignations were accepted at the Dec. 19 school board meeting. Sorenson had worked for the school district for 24 years; Reed for 22 years.

The grievance they brought to the board is related to their retirement benefits. Their attorney, Samuel Felix of Karkela, Hunt & Cheshire in Perham, explained to the board that the women believe they are not being paid the full amount of their health insurance as stipulated in the support staff agreement.

The agreement reads that "Retirees who are not members of the district's group medical insurance shall have an amount equivalent to the cost of the district's single health insurance policy deposited in their HRA until they turn age 65, or qualify for Medicare, whichever is later."

Felix estimated that amount to be \$653 per month. In Reed's case that

See **GRIEVANCE** on page 3a

Hello, Readers,

Shortly after midnight on August 13, 1961, East German soldiers begin laying down barbed wire and bricks as a barrier between Soviet-controlled East Berlin and the democratic western section of the city. It was a response to the over 1,000 East Germans—including many skilled laborers, professionals and intellectuals—who were leaving every day. The wire was soon replaced by a six-foot-high, 96-mile-long wall of concrete blocks, complete with guard towers, machine gun posts and searchlights. Finally, in the late 1980s, East Germany, fueled by the decline of the Soviet Union, began to implement a number of liberal reforms. On November 9, 1989, masses of East and West Germans alike gathered at the Berlin Wall and began to climb over and dismantle it. As this symbol of Cold War repression was destroyed, East and West Germany became one nation again, signing a formal treaty of unification on October 3, 1990.

Public Notices

Tax forfeited land sale: 8A

Obituaries

Lillian Karger
Ron and Mary Tarnowski
John Turan

Thank you for subscribing!



Meeting Mickey Mouse at Disney World

Four-year-old Isaac Denniston of Wadena, along with his siblings and parents, enjoyed a 'wish trip' to Florida this past May, arranged by the Make a Wish Foundation and sponsored by Kruzin 4 Kids out of Wadena. The trip included a stop at Disney World. Isaac was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia at age two. Pictured above, from left, are Isaac's brothers, Gabe and Josh; mother, Amanda; sister, Zoey; Isaac and his dad, Jason; and Mickey Mouse. On Saturday, Aug. 19, 4 p.m., Kruzin 4 Kids will honor Isaac during a special event at the Elks Club in Wadena. The Denniston family is hoping to raise awareness for Isaac and other area children during September, Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. (Submitted photo)

Four year old Isaac Denniston granted 'Make A Wish' trip

Jason and Amanda Denniston of Wadena are hoping to raise awareness for their four-year-old son, Isaac, and the many other area children afflicted with cancer during 'Childhood Cancer Awareness Month' in September.

On Saturday, Aug. 19, at 4 p.m., the Kruzin 4 Kidz non-profit motorcycle club will make a donation to the Make a Wish Foundation Minnesota

in honor of Isaac, who was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) at age two. The event will be held at the Elks Lodge in Wadena.

Isaac has been through a lot during the past few years. Months before being diagnosed with ALL, he had endured a series of illnesses, one of which left him on life support.

Amanda shared that the cause of leukemia is not currently known.

Leukemia cells are white cells in the bone marrow that stop maturing, making them useless to the body, yet they continue to divide and multiply. Treatment for leukemia lasts a couple of years, due to the aggressive nature of the disease.

Isaac has sailed through treatment with not many issues, Amanda said,

See **WISH TRIP** on page 2a

Railroad Days will be filled with music

A number of music events are on the agenda for this year's Railroad Days in Staples, which runs Thursday, Aug. 24 - Sunday, Aug. 27.

Thursday

Kicking things off on Thursday is the annual Little Red Caboose Variety Show, which promises 'music, humor and more.' Mike

Schmidt will serve as Master of Ceremonies at the event which will be held at Centennial Auditorium beginning at 7 p.m.

Performers confirmed to date include country singer Eric Neznik and his wife Leah of Nashville (Eric is a Staples native); father/daughter duet by Mike Hajek and Jayme Carlson; The Klimek Sib-

lings Quartet; brothers Lee and Gary Paskewitz performing the Abbott and Costello comedy routine, 'Who's on First?'; a dance group; the Men's and Women's Area Choruses; black-light drum solo and more.

Co-sponsors for the event are Staples Motley Area Community Foundation and Lakeland Public

Television. Tickets are available in advance and at the door.

Saturday

Saturday's music lineup will feature a variety of performers taking the downtown stage, located in the parking lot near the First International Bank & Trust sign

See **RAILROAD DAYS** on page 2a

Bratlie asks for input during interim year

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

Ron Bratlie plans to get involved during the next year as Interim Superintendent of Staples-Motley schools.

There are two kinds of interim superintendents, Bratlie said. "Some schools just want them to sign papers, I could call them inactive," he said. "I want to be the other kind, absorb as much as I can and get out into the community as much as I can."

Bratlie is now working two days per week at the school and one day at home. By September he will be on site three days a week, but expects that to increase as things come up.

This will be Bratlie's fourth interim stint since retiring from Elk River in 2007. He was at Northland

in Remer, spent two years at Warren-Alvarado-Oslo and was at Cromwell-Wright for three years.

With that experience, Bratlie has an idea of what this job demands. "It's going to be fun, interesting and challenging," he said, breaking down the immediate challenges into "finance, facilities and future - the three F's," he said.

He has already gotten a start on the first challenge, finance. "Right now we are working hard to get ready for the auditors to come in and let us know what needs attention," said Bratlie. "We need to figure out where we are."

The second challenge, facilities is another specialty that Bratlie is interested in. He was looking forward to the school facilities report so he could get



Ron Bratlie

started on that issue.

He said he has been shown around the school by Building and Grounds Director Leroy Peterson. "The facilities are basically good, but it's like driving an old car: how much fixing do you do?" asked Bratlie. "We don't want to just put a band-aid on stuff," he said.

Finances and facilities

need to work together, said Bratlie. On this subject, he knows what he is talking about: in his 13 years in Elk River, he helped implement \$250 million worth of construction projects.

The third 'F', future, has a lot to do with technology. Bratlie said the chromebooks are in and ready to go for students to pick up at the open houses before school starts. "That will give them a big boost in technology," he said. To get ready for that, he said they are working on technology infrastructure improvements.

As far as academics, Bratlie said "We have strong teachers, strong staff and the extra-curricular activities are strong. We want to continue to grow in those areas."

Bratlie is learning more about the school as more

teachers and staff come in this summer. "I am very impressed with the people here, they are positive and helpful - it is encouraging," he said.

But his next goal is to get more input from the community on a variety of issues. He said he will get out into the community, go to athletic events and ask people about the school.

One concern Bratlie brought up is the open-enrollment statistics showing students leaving the district. Bratlie has seen the numbers and said he would like more input to help get to the reasons for the open enrollment.

"I want to help the school board by providing a vehicle to look down the road three to five years," said Bratlie. "I will help them put together a plan to move forward."

Citizens Against Drugs to share opportunities

Todd County Citizens Against Drugs (CAD) is planning two activities for local people to learn and give input. A brainstorming session is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 15, from 10:30-noon at the Todd County Government Center in Staples and a Meet and Greet event Friday, Sept. 8, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at Central Lakes College in Staples.

Brainstorming with CAD

CAD's goal is to prevent youth substance use. A brainstorming session will allow coalition members and others in the community to share their thoughts on how CAD can recruit, motivate, engage and sustain youth presence in the coalition's work. Youth are the backbone of CAD, and their presence is a priority.

Tuesday, August 15, from 10:30-noon at

the Staples Government Building (across from Nyhus Chevrolet)

Youth are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Refreshments will be served
RSVP by Aug. 14 to Connie at 320-732-2221 or email connie.burns@co.todd.mn.us.

Meet and Greet in Staples

Interested in learning what Todd County Citizens Against Drugs (CAD) has been up to lately? Would you like to offer input into CAD's Next Steps in the Staples area? Come to the Meet and Greet at Central Lakes College, Staples Campus, Room A167, Sept. 8, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. For more info, contact Connie Burns, Health Education Coordinator at 320.732.2221 or connie.burns@co.todd.mn.us.

Gas tank ignites, fire causes injuries

Jason Cherry was injured in a fire north of Staples.

On Thursday, Aug. 3, at 12:36 p.m., the Wadena County Sheriff's Office received a call of a garage fire on 263rd Ave. in Bullard Township.

When deputies arrived, the garage was fully engulfed in flames. The Staples Fire Department quickly extinguished the

fire but it was a complete loss.

Cherry, 37, the reporting party/property owner, was not found at the scene. It was relayed to law enforcement that Cherry had sustained burns and was transported by a friend to an area hospital. Contact was made with Cherry at the hospital and learned that he had been taking the gas tank out of a pickup

when somehow, the fuel in the tank was ignited.

Cherry sustained second degree burns on his back and arms. He was transferred to another facility by North Air Care, his condition was unknown.

The Wadena County Sheriff's Office was assisted on scene by the Staples Fire Department and Staples Ambulance.

WISH TRIP continued from page 1a

Family is thankful to see Isaac happy

adding that he has less than a year left of treatment. He does have severe neuropathy that affects how he walks. "Neuropathy feels similar to the 'pins and needles' sensation when your hands, legs or feet fall asleep."

In spite of all this, "Isaac is a happy and spunky little boy who loves to be outside," Amanda said.

Amanda and Jason are both graduates of Staples-Motley High School. Amanda is a clerk at the Staples Post Office and Jason builds boats for Brunswick in New York Mills.

When Isaac turned three, Amanda and Jason started an application process through Make-A-Wish, the organization that grants a wish to children with life-threatening medical conditions. Since Isaac is delayed verbally, his parents chose his wish for him. "We chose to go to Florida, so he could meet Mickey Mouse and swim in the ocean," Amanda said.

That trip became reality last May, thanks to the sponsorship of Kruzin 4 Kidz out of Wadena.

Isaac was joined on his Wish trip by his parents and his siblings, Josh, Zoey and Gabe. During the seven-day trip, the family stayed at Give Kids The World Village (GKTW). This is a resort for Wish families and other families with medically fragile children.

The resort features swimming pools,

splash pad, fishing pond, 24-hour ice cream parlor, carnival rides, arcade and mini golf. "Everything is inclusive, families do not pay a dime," Amanda said.

During the evenings, the Dennistons enjoyed their time at GKTW. During the days, they visited Disney World, Sea World, Universal Studios, Islands of Adventure and the ocean.

"The kids seemed to enjoy the ocean the most," Amanda said. "The whole trip was an unbelievable experience. We wish we could trade it all in to get our healthy boy back. Since we can't have that, seeing him happy is enough."

Amanda and Jason are "extremely thankful to Kruzin 4 Kids out of Wadena for sponsoring Isaac's wish. We are also thankful for everyone who chooses to donate to Kruzin 4 Kids and Make A Wish Minnesota. Other great organizations that have helped us during Isaac's treatment are The Princess Warrior Foundation, Kids of Valor and The Pinky Swear Foundation." One-hundred percent of the funds given to these charities goes toward helping a family in need.

The Dennistons are asking the community to "Go Gold" during September, Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. This can be as simple as wearing a gold pin or bracelet, or decorating your porch with gold lights and ribbons.



Sleefoot Family Band

The Sleefoot Family Band of Grey Eagle will perform during Railroad Days in Staples Saturday, Aug. 26, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Pictured back row from left are Breanna, Lucia, Gilbert, Jordon, Karen, Duane, Lydia, Monica. Front row: Martin and Felix. (Submitted photo)

RAILROAD DAYS continued from page 1

Stage location changed

off Hwy 10, between 4th and 3rd St. NE. The stage will face north.

• **Staples Sings Contest** begins at noon and will showcase the talents of local singers between the ages of 15 - 25. The singers will compete for the opportunity to represent Staples at the Minnesota Sings contest Sept. 24, in St. Paul.

• **The Sleefoot Family Band** from Grey Eagle is scheduled to perform from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Consisting of Duane and Karen Becker, along with their eight children, the band plays a variety of styles of music, including bluegrass, gospel, Irish and folk. Expect to hear guitar, fiddle, mandolin, banjo, bass, hammered dulcimer, harmonica, bohran and the tin whistle. The girls of the group are known for their clogging.

The family travels

the Midwest playing 150 - 200 gigs a year. They are excited to be playing at Railroad Days this year, Karen said.

• **Cabin 10**, a pop/funk teen band from the Twin Cities area, will take the stage from 4 - 5 p.m. Matthew Beachy, son of Dr. Arden Beachy of Staples, is the lead vocalist for the group.

"We've been together for three years," Matthew said in a recent phone conversation. He shared that the group got its start by competing at a high school 'Battle of the Bands.' Since that time, they've continued to hone their musical skills, including writing their own material and taking their songs out on the road. Their sound is similar to that of alternative rock band Blink-182, Matthew said. They are currently working on recording an album on

iTunes, projected to be released in the fall.

His songs are inspired by "things that happen in my life," Matthew said, mentioning relationships and other situations people connect with.

In addition to Matthew Beachy, the band consists of Spencer Cannon, brothers Sam and Owen Guindon, and Ricky Kruse.

The band came up with their name while attending Camp Ojibwe in Wisconsin. "That's our church camp," Matthew said, adding that it's "the best week of summer." During one of those weeks, the boys happened to be staying in Cabin 10, which would prove to be the inspiration for their group's name.

Cabin 10 has recently been on tour, performing at county fairs and a few towns along the way. They're excited to bring their show to Staples.

• **Street Dance featuring 'SSCB Band'** will be held from 8:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m. The event is sponsored by Twisted Sisters and Local Legends Liquor. The cover band hails from the Twin Cities area and according to their website, "With an exciting show and a no-frills, explosive stage performance, SSCB draws on experience from thousands of cumulative shows, tours and hard-won fans in their original acts, to rise above the monotony of the Minneapolis cover band scene." Band members include Will Caesar, Brandon Daly, Brady Trudeau, Layne Knutson.

Sunday

• **Wayne Renn** will host his concert from 4-7 p.m. at Lincoln Park on Staples' south side on Nebraska Ave. SW between 3rd and 4th St. SW. Expect to hear a variety of country music from Renn's band featuring his signature fiddle, guitar and vocals.



'Cabin 10' plays pop, funk

Cabin 10, a pop/funk band from the Twin Cities area will perform during Railroad Days on Saturday, Aug. 26, 4 - 5 p.m. Pictured, from left, are Matthew Beachy, Spencer Cannon, Sam Guindon, Owen Guindon, Ricky Kruse. (Submitted photo)

Customer Appreciation

Please join us for our Customer Appreciation events.

Tuesday, August 15

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

111 4th St NE • Staples

Serving Pulled Pork Sandwiches and More

Thursday, August 17

2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

96 Highway 10 S • Motley

Serving Desserts and More



27th Annual Old Wadena Rendezvous & Folklife Festival

August 12 & 13, 2017

Old Wadena Park, north of Staples, MN

Intimate performances in a beautiful setting on the Crow Wing River - visit www.oldwadenarendezvous.org

Entertainment Schedule

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12

Grounds open 10 a.m. each day
10:30 a.m. - 11:15 ... **Jake Kaehne**, Traditional Ojibwe flute

11:15 a.m. - noon ... **Dave Virnala**

Noon - 1:00 p.m.
Margo McCreary Puppet Show with Margo McCreary and Paulino Brenner

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 ... **Curtis & Loretta**

2:30 p.m. - 4:00
Dawn and Gary Timbs
Interactive Storytelling 11 am • Puppet Make It & Take It 2 pm

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 ... **Jake Kaehne**, Traditional Ojibwe flute

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Margo McCreary Puppet Show with Margo McCreary and Paulino Brenner

12:45 p.m. - 2:15
Erik Koskinen Band

2:30 p.m. - 4:00 ... **John Gorka**
Puppet Make It & Take It 1 pm • Interactive Storytelling 2 pm

Artisans: blacksmith, potter, wood carver, lace maker, tea leaf reader, rope maker, wreath maker, candle dipping, yarn maker, bee keepers, corn husk dolls, Blue Frog Traders.

Dick Oehlenschlaeger: naturalist interpretations of Old Wadena.

Crow Wing Muzzelers Club: Traditional Rendezvous Camp.

Food Vendors on grounds including Baby's Fry Bread.

Birchbark Canoe making demo.

SATURDAY Only: Learn about this ancient art central to the history of Old Wadena and the Crow Wing River. by Grant Goltz

Bees: Saturday and Sunday learn about bees and bee keeping. Observe the bees in a clear glass observation hive, talk with the beekeepers, Dan Kern and Brad Wegscheid

Friendly Rider

Ride free to the Rendezvous aboard a Friendly Rider bus from Staples and Wadena. Pick-up and drop-off at your home. Call 218-631-5730 to schedule your ride to Old Wadena. Saturday and Sunday service begins at 9:00 a.m. and runs until 4:00 p.m.

Old Wadena Park is located on the banks of the Crow Wing River. Directions visit: www.oldwadenarendezvous.org

Sponsors: Five Wings Arts Council, Wadena County, Operation Round-Up/Todd Wadena Electric Cooperative, Star Bank-Verndale, First International Bank & Trust, Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank, Unity Bank, Mid-Minnesota Federal Credit Union, Wadena State Bank



CLC law enforcement graduates

CLC Law Enforcement Skills program graduates, above; front, from left, Jason Sanderson, Mike Astle, Bren Fletcher, Jacob Revering, Carlos Hernandez, Dillon Houde, Justin Dzedzic, Travis Hanson; middle, Blake Petrich, Taylor Hershey, Caden Brose, Spencer Stack, Aaron Larson, Taylor Ebner, Zacharie Fritz; back, Scott Williams, Artise Torrence, Jacob Faschnig, Alex Ruikka, Tyler Lenz, Dustin Hines, Conner Collette; Dave Davis, CLC Law Enforcement Skills Coordinator, in bawk. (Submitted photo)

CLC law enforcement graduation held July 7

Twenty-two students graduated from Central Lakes College's Law Enforcement Skills program on July 7. These men and women completed two years of general education and Criminal Justice studies, and have been through an intense eight-week law enforcement training program. The Skills training program was extensive training in communication tactics/techniques, use of force, firearms and patrol practicals by vari-

ous active law enforcement professionals. Agencies included; the MN State Patrol, MnDNR, Brainerd Police, Crow Wing County Sheriff's Dept., Breezy Point Police, Pequot Lakes Police, Morrison County Sheriff's Dept., Little Falls Police and Stearns County Sheriff's Dept. have dedicated their time and knowledge to mentor the next generation of law enforcement professionals. "The training these cadets received is the foundation on which we hope

to bring community and peace officers together as one," said Dave Davis, CLC Law Enforcement Skills Coordinator. "The PPOE academic and skills program train students in compassion and ethics to support our community and be the elite officers each community cherishes to attain. We at CLC take pride in the outcome of our students and the achievements they will make in their career after leaving CLC."

Lakewood Pines Respite Suite open house is Aug. 22
Take a tour, learn about the suites

The public is invited to an open house for the newly renovated Suite Time Away Respite Suites located at Lakewood Pines (1702 Airport Rd. NW, Staples) on Tuesday, Aug. 22, 1 - 4 p.m. Use south entrance, near the garages. During the open house, attendees can meet staff, learn more about the suites, take a tour and enjoy refreshments. Renovations on the respite suite were recently completed thanks to donations

through Lakewood's Foundation. The suite offers temporary, short-term relief for those caring for a loved one. During their stay, the loved one is cared for by trained medical staff, which allows the caregiver to recharge and take a break. The suite is available for those 55 and older and provides varying levels of care and assistance. For more information, call 218-894-8466.

GRIEVANCE continued from page 1a

Issue is interpretation of contract intent

would total about \$53,000 before she turns 65. In Sorenson's case it would be about \$24,500. At present Reed is receiving \$218 per month and Sorenson is receiving \$216 per month, Felix reported. Bruce Lund, board vice chair, ran the meeting in the absence of board chair Mary Freeman. In a later conversation Lund said the support staff agreement also states that benefits for part-time employees are to be prorated according to how many hours are worked. "That is our interpretation of the contract and it has been past practice," Lund said, adding that most paraprofessionals work nine months. The benefits are based on 12-month contracts. "According to the contract, it was pretty straight forward," Lund said of their decision. Before the school board adjourned into closed session, Felix outlined a pat-

tern of procrastination by the school district in paying some of the other retirement benefits to the women, saying it was only after repeated phone calls and contacts that those were paid. Kristi Hastings, an attorney with Pemberton Law in Fergus Falls, represented the school district. She noted that those other instances were not listed in the grievance and so only the insurance issue would be considered by the board. In the later conversation Lund said these are "two really wonderful employees" and he doesn't know what happened before the grievance was brought to the board. "It's really unfortunate if they were treated unfairly." The board moved into a closed session with Hastings at 6:43 p.m. citing attorney client privilege to discuss pending or threatened litigation. They reconvened in open session at 7:21 p.m. A motion was made to deny

the grievance and all board members voted yes on a roll call vote, noting Freeman's absence. No comments were made and the meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m. "My clients have honored their end of the contract and expect the district to honor its obligations in the contract as it is written and provide my clients with the benefits to which they are contractually entitled," Felix wrote in correspondence the following day. "At this time my clients are exploring their options including filing suit in District Court in light of the board's unfortunate decision to deny my clients their contractual benefits."

Facility report shows immediate needs

By Brenda Halvorson
General Manager

Reports on long term facilities maintenance and educational adequacy were presented at the Staples-Motley School Board work session Aug. 7. The reports were part of the long term facilities study being conducted in the district by Foster, Jacobs & Johnson, Inc., (FJJ). The goal is to develop a long range facility plan.

Health and safety
Kevin Wormuth, an engineer with FJJ, gave the facility report which focused on health and safety issues in the high school building.

Changes in state funding for schools has made available funds for long term facilities maintenance. The district submitted projects under the health and safety budget.

Wormuth noted that the cost to meet all of the needs found in the assessment totalled \$2.8 million. He worked with the school administration, including LeRoy Peterson, buildings and grounds director, to prioritize the list to reach \$1.5 million.

Items on the list include improvements to air handling units in the choir/orchestra rooms, machine shop, cafeteria, weight room area and classrooms 505-510. Other things were a wood dust collector, welding hood upgrade and work on hot water piping and steam piping.

The financing would have to be included in the tax levy certification process.

Greg Crowe and Jodie Zesbaugh of Ehlers, a financial advisory company specializing in public entities like school districts, were at the meeting to briefly discuss the timeline for a bond sale.

If the board chooses to include the project in the levy, the public must be informed of the potential bond sale prior to the final levy certification in December.

The timeline could include final awarding of bids in February or March of 2018 with project construction taking place the summer of 2018.

Educational adequacy
Glenn Chiodo, FJJ education specialist, reminded the board that last winter and spring the firm conducted surveys and listening sessions with students, staff, board members and community people regarding education and space needs in the district.

Chiodo said they asked all groups to respond to needs they saw within the 18 educational adequacy guidelines recommended by the state department of education. He stressed that they are guidelines, not policy or mandates.

Those categories are:

- Classroom size and suitability
- Cafeteria/kitchen/serving
- Security and supervision
- Main office/nurse/support services
- Science and art class/labs (combined for elementary)
- Music classrooms/practice areas, etc.
- Staff lounge/collaborative planning areas
- Student commons/break-out areas
- Physical ed./athletics/gym/locker rooms/pool, etc.
- Site suitability: fields/green space/storage, etc.
- Parking/bus drop-off: staff/students/parents
- Technology
- Library/media center: location/size/layout
- Special education/support services
- Auditoriums/performing arts spaces
- Career and technical education (high school only)
- Hallways/lockers/washrooms/ maintenance space

From those results FJJ tabulated the top five needs in each building, those items that received the most votes and comments. Chiodo reviewed the results from the staff sessions.

At Staples-Motley Elementary those five were:

- No cafeteria
 - HVAC heating and cooling system
 - Larger regular, music and special education classrooms
 - Storage and cabinets
 - Conference/meeting room
- A roof that doesn't leak was the sixth item.
- At the Motley-Staples Middle School the top five were:
- Climate control
 - Technology/wireless access for all
 - Updated washrooms for staff and students
 - Gym space improvements

• Career and technology space

Close under those were storage and cabinets; individualized learning areas for science, music and art; student commons/break out area; music rehearsal space; cafeteria space; and lockers for grades 4 and 5.

At the high school building the top five were:

- Natural light in all areas
- Computer use, reliable access and charging
- Three separate rehearsal spaces for music
- Open commons for students
- Adding adequate gym space and upgrading existing space.

A close sixth place was to finish Centennial Auditorium.

The results from all sessions along with comments made at those sessions and supporting documents will be available soon for viewing in the district office.

FJJ also plans to host meetings for the staff and the public sometime this fall.

Following FJJ's presentation board member Greg Frisk showed the board a newsletter from the Pillager School District discussing a bond issue to add to their school because of enrollment growth. He contends that the Pillager and Pequot Lakes school districts are growing because they have new K-12 buildings and "We have crap facilities."

In a change of subject, board member Dave Hoemberg said he wanted to review the procedures for hiring administrators, adding that he thought someone was "stacking the deck on hiring committees."

"The staff is doing the hiring. We're allowing this to happen. We get the blame for it," he said.

Lund asked interim superintendent Ron Bratlie if that topic could be added to the agenda of a future work session.

Online Auction

Ed Vogel Tools & Hardware #1

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Staples, MN

www.bid-2-buy.com

Bidding ends Wednesday August 16

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Join us for

Farmers Market Week

Aug. 6-12

•Thursday Aug. 10•

FREE BRATS for the first 100 people 2 pm - 5:30 pm at the Lakewood Health System

•Saturday Aug. 12•

10 am - 1 pm find out how to get FREE Market Dollars to spend at the Market ~ALSO~ Scavenger hunt Thurs. & Sat. for kids and FREE Market Bucks for each kid to spend at the Market.

Find everything from vegetables, fruits, meat, baked goods and much more. See you there!!

Payments accepted include: Cash, Personal Check, Debit & Credit Cards, SNAP, Wic, and variety of Market Bucks.

Provided by Lakewood Health System and Staples Area Farmers Market

Picnic On

The Patio

Everyone Welcome

Thurs. Aug. 24 4-6pm

See What's Blooming

at Staples High Rise

615 4th St. NE

FREE Hot Dogs, Chips and Ice Cream Floats

Free Rides!

Public Transportation on the Friendly Rider bus August 12 & 13 in Staples and Wadena.

Call 218-631-5730 for more info!

Ride for Shopping, Dining and more!

Saturday and Sunday service, this weekend only.

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(entry fee at Rendezvous site).

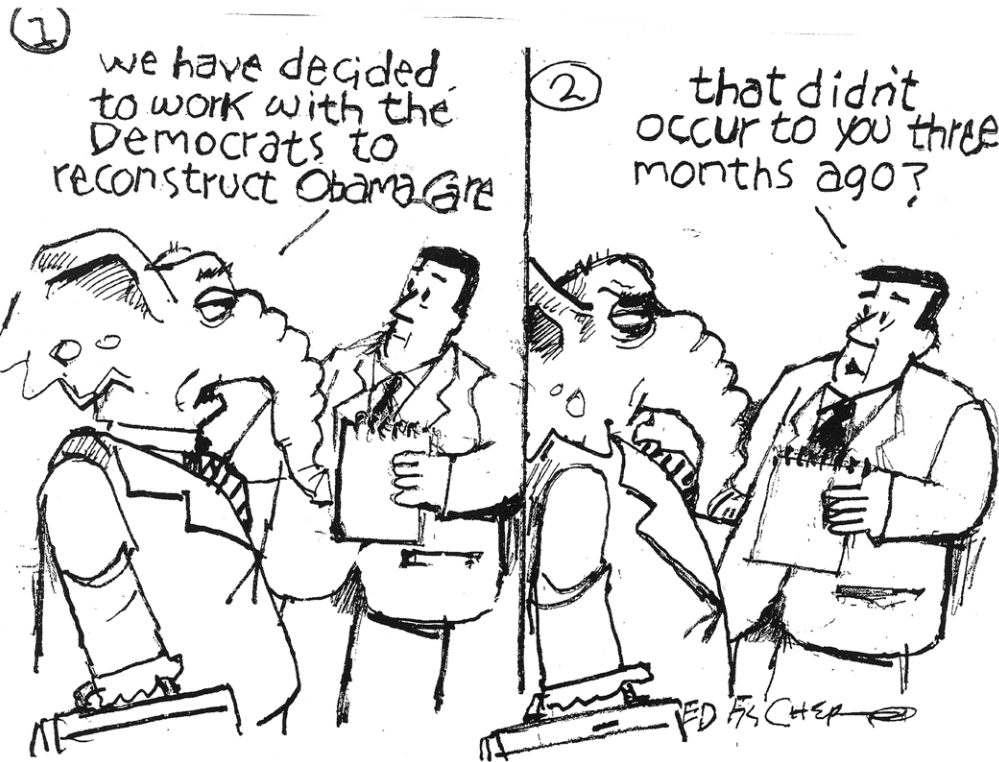
Pickup at your residence beginning at 9 a.m. Last bus leaves Old Wadena at 4:00 p.m.

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Call 218-631-5730 to schedule your ride!



Keeping Minnesota agriculture and rural communities strong

By Sen. Al Franken

For Minnesota farmers, it's striking how much has changed in the past year. Our country has a new President, a new Agriculture Secretary and a new direction on a lot of policies that affect our farmers, ranchers and rural communities.

But one thing hasn't changed. Agriculture remains critically important to Minnesota's economy and its way of life. With one in five jobs tied to farming, our state's future prosperity depends upon our producers doing what they do best: feeding our nation and the world. When Minnesota farmers succeed, the economic benefits ripple across our state, boosting our rural communities and our large cities alike.

Maintaining a strong farm safety net

We all know that the best farm policy is ensuring farmers get a good price for what they produce. But with farm income dropping 56 percent since 2013, it's important to our nation's food security that we maintain a strong farm safety net. As we begin work on the next Farm Bill, I'm committed to giving farmers the tools they need to thrive in good times and to get through the difficult times when prices are low.

That's why I pushed back hard when President Trump recently proposed more than \$230 billion in Farm Bill cuts, including \$29 billion in cuts to the crop insurance program, which farmers depend upon when commodity prices are low.

In recent meetings with Minnesota farmers and farm leaders, I've heard firsthand how important this program is. One Minnesota farmer told me that the President's crop insurance cuts would "severely cripple the ability of the American farmer to operate their businesses."

I've passed his message on to the President, and let him know that we should be investing in the farm safety net, not cutting it.

Because so many farmers are facing financial distress, I've also pressed Senate appropriators to include strong funding for USDA State Mediation Grants. These grants pay to train certified mediators who can help producers to overcome conflicts that may develop with lenders, and to avoid litigation and even bankruptcy.

Supporting rural communities with a strong renewable fuel standard

As a member of the Senate Energy Committee, I've seen how expanding use of renewable energy in Minnesota and across the country creates badly needed jobs, increases demand for farm products, and decreases our reliance on foreign oil. For this reason, I've long pushed for a strong Renewable Fuel Standard, which governs the amount of ethanol and bio-

diesel blended into the nation's fuel supply.

I was pleased that the administration announced plans to maintain the 15-billion-gallon target for ethanol in 2018, but I was disappointed by the targets for bio-diesel and other advanced biofuels, and will push hard to raise them between now and November, when they are finalized.

Making sure rural health care is part of broader health debate

As co-chair of the U.S. Senate Rural Health Caucus, I've traveled to rural communities across the state and heard directly from farmers, patients, providers and community leaders about the impact of recent Republican health proposals. Frankly, many rural Minnesotans are worried about how these proposals could devastate health care delivery and their local economies. And they are particularly fearful of potential cuts to Medicaid, which serves as a vital lifeline to our rural residents, providers, and communities.

I'm going to keep fighting to defeat these misguided - even cruel - proposals and urge my colleagues to work together - in a bipartisan way - to fix the real problems facing our health care system. I'm working to address high costs and lack of competition in the individual market, and to bring down the skyrocketing prices of prescription drugs. These are solutions we can - and should - all get behind.

Opening new markets for our producers

We need to do everything we can to open up new markets for Minnesota farm products. As someone who has traveled to Cuba, I understand how improved relations with that country can lead to more Minnesota farm exports. That's why I am very concerned about President Trump's retreat from a more open U.S.-Cuba relationship. To expand trade with Cuba, I have cosponsored Sen. Amy Klobuchar's legislation lifting trade restrictions.

But we also need to fight back when unfair foreign trade practices hurt Minnesota producers. That's why I was pleased that U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross responded to my call to take action against Mexico, whose trade practices were unfairly harming Minnesota sugar beet growers. I'll continue to push to make sure Mexico and any other country that tries to flout trade rules are held accountable.

Agriculture is - and always has been - critical to our state's economy and to our way of life. As we begin to debate a new Farm Bill, I'm looking forward to hearing from Minnesotans about how we can make our rural communities even stronger.

Al Franken represents Minnesota in the U.S. Senate. He can be reached at 202-224-5641 or <http://franken.senate.gov>.

Sessions's 'leak' warning to journalists misguided, misplaced

By Gene Policinski

A threat from the Trump administration, apparently aimed at journalists as part of a larger campaign to prevent widespread government "leaks" that have enraged the president, is the wrong message delivered by the wrong messenger.

Attorney General Jeff Sessions, only a few days removed from a challenge from President Trump (issued via Twitter of course) to be tougher on tracking down leakers in the White House and elsewhere, made a statement recently announcing ramped-up leak investigations and policy reviews - and included a warning to journalists that they might be subpoenaed in these processes.

Sessions said the Department of Justice would be reviewing its own guidelines on such subpoenas as part of its leak investigations, and said that a new special unit was being created within the FBI to conduct leak investigations generally. According to news reports, Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein would not say at a briefing after the press conference if the DOJ intends to go even further by prosecuting journalists for reporting on classified information.

Decisions to subpoena journalists or to prosecute reporters or news outlets for publishing classified information given to them would be misplaced at the very least, and at the worst will threaten the core American value of an independent news media serving as a watchdog on government.

The threat of criminal prosecution did not deter the two largest disclosures of classified information in the nation's history, by government contractor Edward Snowden and disaffected U.S. soldier Chelsea Manning. Both said they were motivated by a need to inform the American public of improper or illegal government actions.

And while journalists reported extensively on both, the main conduit for the release of the information was the internet, specifically the anti-government site "Wikileaks" - which thus far has avoided prosecution by remaining "offshore" or, in the case of its founder Julian Assange, hiding for years in Ecuador's embassy in London out of reach of U.S. officials.

The DOJ guidelines were most recently revised in 2015, during the Obama administration, to focus on tracking down those who provided the leaked information, rather than the journalists who received and published it. The revisions followed widespread criticism of Obama administration efforts that included secretly attempt-

ing to obtain the telephone records of journalists and the seizure of two months of such records of reporters and editors for The Associated Press.

President Obama prosecuted more leakers - eight - during his two terms in office than were prosecuted by all previous administrations combined. At one point, a reporter for Fox News was labeled a "co-conspirator" in a subpoena, but was not included in the later, successful prosecution of a government employee who leaked information about a North Korean missile test.

Session's session took place a few hours after The Washington Post's publication of two transcripts of Trump's conversations with the leaders of Mexico and Australia - neither showing Trump in a positive light - and came after a series of leaks from the Trump administration on topics ranging from Russian intervention in the 2016 presidential race to dinner parties with the President.

Journalists in the United States have relied on a 2001 U.S. Supreme Court decision in "Bartnicki v. Vopper" to protect them from prosecution for publishing secret or classified information in the public interest. In that case, the court held that a journalist could not be prosecuted for broadcasting a private cell phone conversation involving a labor official talking about a teachers strike because the broadcaster was not involved in the illegal recording of the conversation, and it was clearly on a matter involving the public interest.

The guidance from that case boils down to a doctrine nicknamed "over the transom," which requires that the journalist receiving the information not have been involved in the decision or action to obtain or the material.

The 1917 Espionage Act - intended to deter unauthorized disclosures during WWI - does criminalize the mere possession of classified information without permission. But as government officials have learned in their attempts to prosecute non-journalists, the Act also requires that the government show that the leaker intended to harm the United States or aid a foreign country.

Given that materials journalists might publish

are virtually assured to involve matters of public interest, such a defense likely would be raised at the outset of any legal action brought by the DOJ.

What's more, while Sessions cited national security and the danger to American operatives as the core motivations behind his renewed leaks campaign, he cited no incidents involving either: Courts are much less likely to override nearly a century of valuing the press' "watchdog" role on the behalf of the public in favor of prosecution that is merely based on political damage to a particular administration.

The Trump Administration, and indeed any other administration, certainly has the right to attempt to stop unauthorized leaks from inside their own house, and prosecute those who take an oath to do otherwise.

But this nation's founders provided for an independent press to hold government accountable - and very often that can only be accomplished by providing the public with information the government wants to keep secret, often to hide errors, avoid political damage or - as in disclosure in recent years of massive surveillance of Americans' phone and email traffic - to operate potentially unconstitutional programs.

And what of the courageous "whistleblowers" throughout our nation's history who violated secrecy requirements to reveal waste, fraud or corruption at all levels of government? Lives have been saved, not threatened, by those "leaks."

If Justice officials can someday prove that someone claiming the cloak of journalism and public service in reality actually set out to steal government secrets with the intent to cause harm to the U.S. - well, that person or group cannot be called a journalist - they are an attack dog, not a watchdog.

Until then, Mr. Attorney General, focus on your own doghouse.

Gene Policinski is chief operating officer of the Newseum Institute and the Institute's First Amendment Center. He also was a contributing author to the 2014 book "Whistleblowers, Leaks and the Media," published by the American Bar Association.

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Public Notices

Eighty percent of people polled believe that governments should be **required to publish** public notices in newspapers. Keep public notices public.

StaplesWorld

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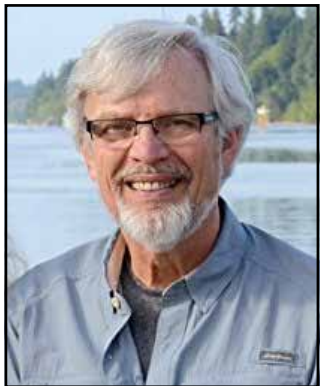
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Author Paul Lundborg presents ‘Death of a Dream’



Paul Lundborg

Author Paul Lundborg will discuss his book “Death of a Dream: One Family’s Experience of the 1862 US/Dakota War” Friday, Aug. 18, at 1:30 p.m. at the Browerville Community Center.

His appearance is organized by the Todd County Historical Society. He will have books for sale and will autograph them.

Lundborg dedicates his story to his great, great grandparents, Andreas and Lena Lundborg, and 19 other Swedish ancestors who settled in Kandiyohi County in 1861 to fulfill their dream of a better life in America and provide a future for their children. The 21 settlers

ranged in age from 52 year old Maja Lena Lundborg to 10 month old John Broberg. He shares how his relatives and other Swedish settlers survived the first year in the area near Sunburg, twenty miles northwest of Willmar.

One year later, on Aug. 20, 1862, on the third day of the U.S. Dakota War of 1862, their dreams were shattered when 13 family members were killed and the remaining eight struggled to stay alive and be safe. That was the beginning of the death of their dream. Lundborg tells how these ancestors survived and tried to carry on this dream.

Lundborg was raised in Milan, approximately 50 miles from where this tragedy occurred. He is a retired Lutheran pastor who served churches for 37 years. Part of those years he served as pastor at Faith Lutheran Church in Staples. He presently lives in Olympia, Wash.

He learned about this event of his family history in 1981, while attending a family reunion and decided to research it more and gained family genealogy and details of this tragedy.

Library programs include solar eclipse, and LEGO builders

The Staples Public Library is offering the following programs:

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten –

Enjoy a fun program encouraging reading and early literacy skills. For ages birth to kindergarten. Sign up any time during open hours. Sponsored by Staples Coalition.

The Page Turners Tween/Teen Book Club – Aug. 15

Join us for a fun hour of book chat, games and snacks, Tuesday, Aug. 15, 4-5 p.m. For ages eight to 15. Registration required.

Solar Eclipse – Aug. 21

We will be discussing and viewing the solar eclipse that is occurring on Aug. 21. We have special glasses for each participant to view the eclipse. Join us Monday, Aug. 21 from 12:30-1:30 p.m. For ages Six to 12. Registration required. Sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library.

LEGO builders – Aug. 22

Join us for a monthly, fun hour of block-building. An assortment of LEGOs and large blocks will be

provided. Bring your imagination and we’ll provide LEGO challenges and a delicious snack. Every month, each child will receive something special to take home. The next session will be Tuesday, Aug. 22 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. For ages five to 13. Registration required. Limit 10. Sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library.

Book club – Aug. 24

Read the book and join the fun discussion on Thursday, Aug. 24 from 6-7 p.m. For teens and adults.

For more information on any of the activities contact the library at 218-894-1401.

The Staples Public Library is located at 122 6th St. NE, Staples. Hours: Mon. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Tue. 2-8 p.m., Weds. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Thurs. 2-8 p.m., Fri. 1-5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Great River Regional Library (GRRL) provides library services for 32 public libraries in Benton, Morrison, Sherburne, Stearns, Todd and Wright counties. It also provides Central Minnesota residents with nearly one million books, CDs and DVDs, 250 public computers, programming and information services.

Staples Assembly of God Church VBS August 14-18

Vacation Bible School will be held at the Staples Assembly of God Church Monday, Aug. 14 - Friday, Aug. 18, 6 - 8 p.m. each day. Registration on Monday at 5:45 p.m.

Supper will be provided.

This year’s theme is ‘Jesus is My Treasure; Cave Adventures 2017.’ For children Kindergarten - sixth grade.

The Staples Assembly of God Church is located at 914 3rd Ave. NE. For more information, call Anita at 218-296-2501 or Colleen at 218-296-2020.

Blood donation opportunity in Staples August 16

A blood donation opportunity will be available Wednesday, Aug. 16, noon - 6 p.m., at Faith Lutheran Church in Staples, located at 430 12th St. NE.

The American Red Cross urges blood donors to give in the final weeks of summer to help overcome a chronic summer blood shortage.

In August, regular donors may delay giving as final summer vacations are planned and back-to-school activities ramp up. To fully meet the needs of hospital patients in the coming days and weeks, donations are urgently needed from new and current donors. Those who donated blood earlier this summer may be eligi-

ble to donated again. Blood can be safely donated every 56 days and Power Red cells can be donated every 112 days.

As a special thank you, those who come out to give blood or platelets with the Red Cross now through Aug. 31 will be emailed a \$5 Target eGiftCard.

Appointments can be scheduled by downloading the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-733-2767. To help reduce wait times, donors are encouraged to make appointments and complete the RapidPass online health history questionnaire at redcrossblood.org/ RapidPass.



Community band with a rich history

The Meire Grove Community Band will perform at Music in the Park Series in Staples on Sunday, Aug. 13, at 7 p.m. (Submitted photo)

Meire Grove Community Band to close ‘Music in the Park’

The Meire Grove Community Band will close the Music in the Park Series in Staples on Sunday, Aug. 13, at 7 p.m.

The Meire Grove Community Band represents a rich history and tradition that once flourished in nearly every Minnesota small town. Located in Stearns County with a population of only 125 people, this small farming community boasts of having the oldest, continuously performing community band in the entire state of Minnesota. The band was organized in 1883.

Band members have their family roots in the predominantly German heritage of Meire Grove. The love of music that exists among the band members and in the community, and because talent - and an instrument -

seems to have passed on from father or mother to son and/or daughter, sister and/or brother, is an integral reason for the band’s continued success.

Band membership includes musicians of all ages who work together to provide quality band performances. The music the band performs focuses on traditional American marches, concert band pieces and folk music. For the younger musicians, playing with a mature ensemble expands their music education and sharpens their performance skills.

The band has connections to the Staples area, as several of its members are related to Orv and Marge Meyer of Staples, including their daughter Cindy, a 1982 graduate of Staples High School. In addition,

Orv’s brother, Vern Meyer, is a longtime director of the band; and the Meyers have several nieces and nephews who participate.

For more information on the Music in the Park series as well as the regular concert series, check out www.staplesmotleyarts.org.

Northern Pacific (NP) Park is located at 625 6th St. NE. Go north on 6th St. at the junction of Hwys 10 and 210 and go six blocks. In case of rain, the concerts will be moved to Faith Lutheran Church.

The Music in the Park Series is funded by the Staples Host Lions Club. The Series is organized by the Staples Motley Area Arts Council, with the assistance of the Staples Motley Public Schools and the City of Staples.

FED Area Learning Center is option for students middle school - adult

Open house set for Aug. 30 at new location

The Freshwater Education District’s Staples Area Learning Center (ALC) is hosting an open house at their new location on the Central Lakes College (CLC) Staples Campus Wednesday Aug. 30 from 3-6 p.m.

Education at the ALC is seeking ways to help students enter the workforce. Students are participating in typical PSEO (Post Secondary Enrollment Options) courses and also the Early Middle College, a partnership between CLC and the ALC to support students who may not qualify for a typical PSEO program. The new location will be beneficial in accessing these programs.

Today’s students have a number of educational options available to them which can empower them to choose where they attend school. Since no one school can meet the needs of every student, families can benefit from exploring educational options that are available to their children.

“I like the small class

size.” “I feel like my teachers really care about me.” “I have to work to make money for my family and the hours at the ALC are flexible” are all reasons students gave for attending Freshwater Area Learning Center.

Freshwater Education District (FED) offers educational opportunities for a large range of students. FED Area Learning Centers have campuses located in five area towns: Long Prairie, Menahga, Staples, Pillager and Wadena. FED collaborates with local school districts to support students who qualify to earn their high school diplomas at an ALC.

FED ALC high school programs are available on a part time or full time basis. If a student needs to recover credit from a failed course, they can receive information from their local district on how to do that at the ALC.

A variety of instructional models address many different learning styles and also fit into the life of students who are not liv-

ing a typical teenager’s life. FED ALC provides opportunities for students to achieve academic success and to earn a high school diploma.

Students can earn a high school diploma through FED ALC until they are 21 years of age. This program is especially beneficial to the student who did not graduate with their class the previous spring. After age 21, adult students can still attend the ALC to earn their high school diploma under FED ALC Adult Student program.

Freshwater Education District also provides a middle level program for students aged 12-15. Students who need additional academic support, relationship building with adults and their peers and assistance with increasing their motivation may benefit from the small class sizes and curriculum found at the FED Middle Level program located at the Wadena ALC campus. Families can speak with their local district or contact FED ALC directly for

information on the middle level program.

In addition, FED works in conjunction with the local districts to offer after school and summer school programs for elementary and middle level age students at their own location. These programs offer opportunities for students to enhance academic, school and social skills in a fun and creative learning environment. These Targeted Service programs are staffed by the teachers in the local school district. Contact the local school about these programs.

For more information about the Freshwater Education District alternative programs contact the following sites:

- Long Prairie ALC at 320-732-6638 ext 1054.
- Menahga ALC at 218-564-6115 ext 1053.
- Pillager ALC at 218-746-3557.
- Staples ALC at 218-894-2439 ext 1055.
- Wadena ALC and Middle Level Program at 218-631-2281 ext 1058.

Mark Your Calendar

August 12

COMMUNITY BLOCK PARTY sponsored by City of Staples Parks & Rec Dept., Sat., Aug. 12, 11:30 a.m., Lincoln Park, Staples.

August 14

CELIAC DISEASE SUPPORT GROUP Mtg Mon., Aug. 14, 6 p.m., Wadena Alliance Church, 1428 S. Jefferson St., Wadena. For info., 218-631-2170.

August 15

BRAINERD CHAPTER #738 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES Mtg Tues., Aug. 15, Pizza Ranch, Baxter. Social, 11:45 a.m.; lunch, noon. Presentation by Claudia Al-

lene, ‘Around the World Tour.’

August 16

STAPLES ALL VETERANS AND COMMUNITY PARK ASSOCIATION Mtg Wed., Aug. 16, 5:30 p.m., Timberlake Restaurant and Event Center, Staples. Public invited.

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TACOS & TEQUILA
A NIGHT OUT
Hosted by the Staples-Motley Women of Today
WEDNESDAY, August 16
6:30-8 p.m.
LANDMARK INN, STAPLES
631 3rd Ave. NE
Invite your friends, neighbors and family for this fun and relaxing evening. Meet new people... Find out what “WOMEN OF TODAY” is all about and how you can be a part of it! Info: 218.894.0018

FISH FRY
Motley United Methodist Men’s Club
Invites you to a great fish fry!
Friday, September 1
Motley United Methodist Church
On behalf of the Men's Club and all the groups we support, we thank you for your donations
847 3rd Ave. S. Lane
4:00 p.m. until gone

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WADENA, MN
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2 Shows Every Night at 7:00 & 9:15
Matinee Sun. Aug. 13 at 1:15 pm
Screen 2: Fri. thru Thurs. Aug. 11 - 24
2 Shows Every Night at 7:10 & 9:25
Matinee Sun. Aug. 13 at 1:25 pm
Screen 3: *Held Over 2nd Week!*
Fri. thru Thurs. Aug. 11 - 17
2 Shows Every Night at 7:15 & 9:30
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Hello World

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL INCLUDED:

Born to Sherrie and Dan Lahr of Little Falls, baby boy, Kyle Patrick weighing seven pounds, 12 ounces on July 28, 2017.

Born to Ashlee and Robert Novotny of Motley, a baby boy, Tanek Reid weighing six pounds, six ounces on July 31, 2017.

Born to Carrie and Tyler Neese of Little Falls, a baby girl, Ruth Ann weighing six pounds, 13 ounces on July 31, 2017.

Born to Caitlin Jackson and Rustin Redner of Verndale, a baby girl, Lucille Ann weighing eight pounds, five ounces on August 1, 2017.

gust 1, 2017.

Born to Ronelle Hanson and Justin Poling of Verndale, a baby boy, Everett Daniel weighing eight pounds, four ounces on August 1, 2017.

Born to Brooklyn and Andrew Kaiser of Wadena, a baby girl, Avah Kay weighing seven pounds, 12 ounces on August 1, 2107.

Born to Anna and Jamey Ebnet of Long Prairie, a baby boy, Dawson Michael weighing eight pounds, one ounce on August 1, 2017.

Born to Candice Estey and Tim Nickaboine of Brainerd, a baby boy, Mad-dux Moon weighing seven pounds, 12 ounces on August 2, 2017.

Born to Molly and Luke Mertens of Staples, a baby boy, Owen Myron weighing seven pounds, nine ounces on August 2, 2017.

Born to Ashely Barth and Trent Fore of Hewitt, a baby girl, Emma Jean weighing seven pounds, three ounces on August 3, 2017.

Born to Julie and Brian Bergman of Sebeka, a baby girl, Vanessa Jean weighing five pounds, 9.8 ounces on August 3, 2017.

Born to Bryanna and Ethan Anstine of Osage, a baby boy, Bentley James weighing seven pounds, seven ounces on August 3, 2017.



Summer serenade

Ted Feyder, at right, performed a few songs up close to the audience at the Music in the Park event in Staples Aug. 6. A Hibbing area native, Feyder sang songs about nature, faith and fam-

ily; and invited the audience to join him on a few songs, including the closing numbers, "America the Beautiful" and "This Land is Your Land." (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

CLC instructor receives New Directions Grant

Central Lakes College Computer Technology instructor Sam Espana was named a recipient of the 2017 New Directions Education Faculty Grant sponsored by the Minnesota State IT Center of Excellence.

Espana said receiving the grant is an honor.

"One of the goals of the grant is to develop two new Mobile Application Development courses that will integrate cyber security techniques and software development meth-

odologies into a Secure Mobile App curriculum," he said. "Another goal is to share the newly developed Secure Mobile App Development content with other Minnesota State colleges and universities. In the spring semester 2018, CLC will be the first Minnesota State college to offer three different Secure Mobile App Development courses. I thank CLC leadership and staff for their invaluable support."

Those courses are: Security in Android Software Development, Security in Application Development Using HTML5/JavaScript, and Security in Application Development Using C#. Through the grant, Espana will work with instructors from Ridgewater College and Pine Tech College to develop the curriculum for the new courses. The course content will be available to faculty at other Minnesota State colleges and universities. Espana will also present his project findings at the 2018 New Directions in IT Education conference.

Ron and Mary Tarnowski



Ron (81) and Mary (78) Tarnowski of Duluth died July 29, 2017 together near the family deer shack by Brookston. Mass of Christian Burial will be held Friday, Aug. 11 at 11 a.m. at St. Lawrence Church, 2410 Morris Thomas Rd, Duluth. Honors provided by the Duluth Fire Dept. and Military Honors accorded by the Duluth Honor Guard to follow.

Visitation will be held Thursday, Aug. 10, from 5 to 7 p.m. with Knights of Columbus Rosary at 6:30 p.m. and again Friday from 10 a.m. until time of services at the church.

Arrangements are with the Dougherty Funeral Home, Duluth.

Ron "Bisco" Tarnowski was born December 29, 1935 in Duluth to Frank and Marie Tarnowski. He graduated from Central High School. He joined the U.S. Air Force, serving in the Philippine's. After serving in the air force, Ron attended U of M Duluth where he played football. Ron retired as a captain from the Duluth Fire Dept. after 31 years of service. He was a member of St. Joseph's Church, Duluth Heights; an active member of the Knights of Columbus and a member of Minnesota's first snowmobile club, The Turtle Patrol. He enjoyed tinkering in his garage, antique cars, spending time at the hunting shack and the Wednesday Night Cruiser Guys.

He is survived by two sons, Kurt and Karl (Bev) Tarnowski; three grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; two brothers, Mike (Mary) Johnson and Bob (Chris) Johnson; many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Gerry Tarnowski and one sister, Audrey Lasky.

Mary Tarnowski was born April 19, 1939 in Staples to Frank and Cecelia Mertens. She graduated from Staples High School. She married Ron Tarnowski in Staples on November 8, 1958. She was a member of St. Joseph's Church, FATS Club and Tuesday Card Club. She enjoyed playing cards (31) with the family, going to look at the Sea (Lake Superior).

She is survived by two sons, Kurt and Karl (Bev) Tarnowski; three grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; two sisters-in-law, Doris Johnson and Franny Mertens.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Paul Johnson and Fritz Mertens.

w32c A00006B2017AU10

Lillian Karger

Lillian Karger, 97, of Wadena passed away July 30, 2017 at Tri-County Healthcare, Wadena.

Funeral services were held August 5 at St. John Lutheran Church in Wadena, with Pastor Stephen Meltzer presiding.

Burial was in the Wadena Cemetery, Wadena. Arrangements were with the Schuller Family Funeral Homes, Wadena.

Lillian was born to William and Hilda (Lindien) Griepentrog on May 5, 1920 in Parkers Prairie. She attended Parkers Prairie School. On October 14, 1940 she married Edwin Karger in Fergus Falls. She was a lifetime member of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary and the LWML of the Lutheran Church. She enjoyed word searches, puzzles, playing cards and fishing.

She is survived by two sons, Donald (Roberta) Karger and Ronald (Elise)



Karger; one daughter, Maureen (Ralph) Grop-per; nine grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild and one brother, Robert Harris.

She was preceded in death by her husband; two daughters, Janice and KarenLee; one brother, Gottfred; two sisters, Margaret, and Lucille and grandson, Michael Grop-per.

w32c A00006B2017AU10



John Turan

John "Jack" Turan, 77, of Motley died at his home on August 4, 2017 after a brave battle with mesothelioma, diagnosed three months ago.

A Memorial Service will be held at the Lincoln Evangelical Free Church, Cushing at 11:00 a.m. on September 9 with Pastor Jim Brown officiating. Visitation is one hour prior to services at the church.

John Michael Turan was born on October 20, 1939 in Minneapolis to John and Elizabeth (Olson) Turan. He attended Richfield Elementary School and Edison High School in Minneapolis. On May 14, 1961 he was united in marriage to Carol Ziebarth in Minneapolis. John's great love of horses led him to train and show them. He also had a love for working with leather and worked at Carlhom Harness Store in Minneapolis for many years. While living in rural Chaska he continued training horses and also worked as a service manager for Ken-Ray Chevrolet. He attended Fisher Body School and became a body shop manager for the same dealership. When the company closed, the family moved to rural Delano where he continued to have horses and started raising exotic pheasants. He even got a buffalo calf and raised him to maturity. Not likely to be indoors he started driving semi over the road and was always home with the family on weekends.

He moved to Hebron, Nebraska with his family in 1975 to a 16-acre hobby farm (leaving the buffalo behind). He drove truck until 1989. He owned "Jack's Leather Repair" in Hebron, NB in 1987 selling and repairing boots and saddles. He enjoyed restoring old vintage saddles back to their original state. John retired in 2006 selling the business. He and Carol moved back to Minnesota in 2008, where he enjoyed fishing, the great outdoors and especially feeding all of the wildlife. His love for animals was unending.

Jack is survived by his wife, Carol; two sons, Timothy (Julie) and Scott (Lisa); three grandchildren, Paige, Cody (Courtney) and Ali (Blake); three great-grandchildren, Braylee, Easton and Kegan; three brothers and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and grandparents.

w32p A00006B2017AU10



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•Ribs •Chicken Wings •Corn On The Cob •Fresh Cut Fries

Car Show 2-6p.m.

Check us out on Facebook

Contact us at 218-639-2258

Proceeds go to Wadena Lions Club

SHS Class of 1987 reunion

The Staples High School Class of 1987 will hold its 30th reunion Friday, Aug. 25 and Saturday, Aug. 26, during Railroad Days.

Scheduled reunion events include a BBQ dinner at Lefty's on Friday, at 7 p.m.

On Saturday, classmates are asked to bring their families to the parade, meeting at Giovanni's Pizza at 5 p.m. A social gathering will follow at Twisted Sisters. For info., to RSVP, email Jenny at jenny@jkrippner35@gmail.com or call Dawn Thompson at 218-521-0088.

SHS 20 year class reunion

The 20 year class reunion for the Staples High School Class of 1997 will be held Saturday, Aug. 26 at 6 p.m. at Lefty's in Staples

Girls saved 2-year-old from drowning in pool



Saved little sister's life

Kendra, nine and Alexis, 11, were honored at the July 13 Concord City Council meeting for the quick thinking which could have saved their two-year-old sister's life. -Erin Kidd / Independent Tribune

Sisters honored for heroic act

By Erin Weeks eweeks@independenttribune.com

Heroism takes many forms. The paramedics who arrived at the Concord home Sunday, June 11, to rescue two-year-old Alyssa Nichols after a near-drowning incident certainly deserve the title. But no less important in the events of the day were her older sisters, Kendra and Alexis, who began CPR and ran for help the second they noticed the danger. "While the situation for Alyssa was very serious and she was required to spend time in the hospital, the story has a happy ending thanks in large part to the quick action of Kendra and Alexis," Concord Mayor Scott Padgett said at the City Council's July 13 meeting.

The council honored the two sisters for their potentially life-saving actions that day in June. All three sisters were outside playing by the pool. Suddenly the older two noticed Alyssa lying face down in the water. The two remembered safety lessons from school. They took Alyssa out of the pool, and one of them put her in a position to help the water drain from her airway while the other ran to get their parents. When the adults came, they started CPR until EMS could take over. Norman Franklin with the Concord Fire Department, who also acts as a life safety educator and had visited the girls at Furr Elementary School, said he was so happy they had clearly taken something away from his lessons on choking, suffocation and strangulation. "I think they actually took heed of what I was talking about, and they put it into action," Franklin said. "I'm proud of both of them because some people would have just

not acted at all. But you guys did what you were supposed to do; you did the right thing. Both of ya'll did a great job." City Council members presented the girls with trophies and a certificate of accomplishment, recognizing the quick-thinking and composure they showed in a crisis situation. "I'm hoping this never happens again," Franklin said. "But if it does, you'll know exactly what to do." -Reprinted with permission from the Concord, North Carolina Independent Tribune

Parents of the girls are Ron and Michele Nichols, both 1995 Staples Motley High School graduates. Grandparents are Rich and Marggo Nichols and Mike and Linda Heier, all of Staples.

Ask A Trooper

By Sgt. Jesse Grabow of the Minnesota State Patrol

Question: I noticed a dog that was in a vehicle the other day at a local business parking lot and the occupants were not around. I was wondering what I should have done. With the recent warm weather, I can imagine the temperature inside the car must have been dangerously high for that dog. Is there a law against this?

ANSWER: There is a law that a person may not leave a dog or a cat unattended in a standing or parked motor vehicle in a manner that endangers the pet's health or safety. A peace officer, a humane agent, a dog warden, or a volunteer or professional member of a fire or rescue department may use reasonable force to enter a motor vehicle and remove a dog or cat in this situation.

If you see an unattended pet in a vehicle, report this to law enforcement with a location and vehicle description. I would advise pet owners to use caution and always look out for your pet's well-being and safety. Consider the following options:

- Leave your pet at home whenever possible.
- Arrange to have someone stay in the vehicle with the pet with the engine and air conditioner running.
- Check with the business, as they may allow you to bring in your pet while shopping.

Below is a chart on how fast the inside of your vehicle can heat up. This study also found that cracking the windows had very little effect on the temperature rise inside the vehicle.

Estimated Vehicle Interior Air Temperature v. Elapsed Time						
Elapsed time	Outside Air Temperature (F)					
	70	75	80	85	90	95
0 minutes	70	75	80	85	90	95
10 minutes	89	94	99	104	109	114
20 minutes	99	104	109	114	119	124
30 minutes	104	109	114	119	124	129
40 minutes	108	113	118	123	128	133
50 minutes	111	116	121	126	131	136
60 minutes	113	118	123	128	133	138
> 1 hour	115	120	125	130	135	140

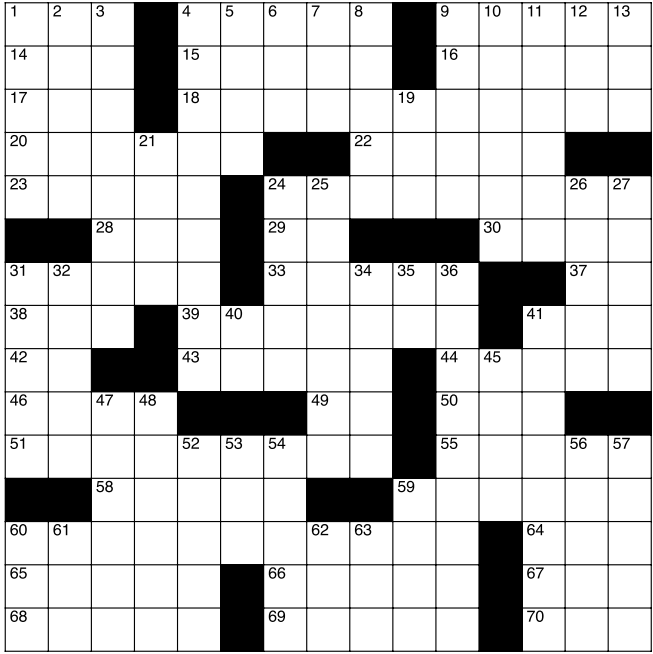
Courtesy Jan Null, CCM; Department of Geosciences, San Francisco State University

Please do not leave your pet unattended in a vehicle, even for a short period as it could cause a serious medical condition or death to your pet.

A portion of state statutes were used with permission from the Office of the Revisor of Statutes.

Questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota send to Trp. Jesse Grabow, MN State Patrol 1000 Highway 10 West, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501-2205. (jesse.grabow@state.mn.us)

Crossword Puzzle



- CLUES ACROSS

 - Greenwich Time
 - English sailor missionary
 - Type of wheat
 - Wreath
 - Hesitate
 - Hollyhocks
 - Not even
 - Former talk show host
 - Rugged mountain range
 - Greek muse
 - Ancient Greek comedy
 - Jeopardizes
 - Singer DiFranco
 - Calcium
 - Employee stock ownership plan
 - Gemstones
 - Got the job
 - Tantalum
 - Red deer
 - Not a pro
 - Coffee alternative
 - Aluminum
- CLUES DOWN

 - Shine
 - They spread the news
 - Indicates water limits
 - Determines value
 - Capital of Okinawa
 - Chinese river
 - Sign language
 - Passover feast and ceremony
 - Yemen capital
 - A tributary of the Missouri River
 - Sounds
 - Andorra-La Seu
- d'Urgell Airport

 - Korean name
 - A metal-bearing mineral valuable enough to be mined
 - Outer layer
 - African nation (Fr.)
 - From Haiti
 - Polish river
 - Paul Henri __, Belgian statesman
 - Retailer
 - Supreme being
 - Tears into pieces
 - European Union
 - Coerced
 - She ran the Barker gang
 - Send wire
 - Optical device
 - __ Bond, civil rights leader
 - Cigar
 - Spiritual being
 - Possess
 - Thomas __, English poet
 - Dials
 - Sharp mountain ridge
 - Pigeon shelter
 - Month
 - Letter of the Greek alphabet
 - A citizen of Thailand
 - Suffix
 - CW168210

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
Pastor Tony Romaine
Worship..... 9:30 a.m.
Fellowship, refreshments following service

Faith Lutheran
430 12th Street. NE, Staples..... 218-894-1546
Interim Pastor: Saul Stensvaag
Emelia Enquist, Director of Youth, Family & Christian Ed.
Sunday Worship Service..... 9:00 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship..... 10:05 a.m.

Sacred Heart Church
310 4th St. NE, Staples..... 218-894-2296
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 am.
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
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.
Friday Office Closed
Visitation 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
Assistant Pastor Richard Broberg
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
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 Skip Hansen
218-746-3768
Sunday Worship..... 9:30 a.m.
Children's Church..... 9:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Adrenaline Youth Group..... 5:45 p.m.

Hewitt

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

Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS)
524 Front Street, PO Box 116, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Robin Fish
Sunday Worship..... 10:30 a.m.

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 Kjeldergaard
Prayer..... 8:30 a.m.
Coffee & Fellowship..... 8:45 a.m.
Worship..... 9:10 & 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 Bartlett Township (LCMS)
17097 460th St. PO Box 37, Verndale
Pastor Robin Fish
Sunday Worship..... 9:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible Study..... 6:30 p.m.

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

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

Forgetting our purpose

Pastor Greg Leslie, Staples United Methodist Church, Motley United Methodist Church

I can't remember how old I was when my dad decided to build a go-cart. It wasn't anything fancy but it was functional. We spent hours helping him cut and bend the metal and weld the seams. The mentality was this - if you want to use it, you needed to help build it - and that's what we did.

As the go-cart came to life, my brother and I anxiously awaited that moment when we got to drive it. My dad found an old 5-horse Briggs and Stratton and he connected it to a transmission that had a few speeds forward and a reverse, just in case. Problems started occurring with the transmission; we constantly sheared keys off - my brother and I became experts on shear key replacements.

My dad was tired of always having to buy keys so he decided to upgrade the go-cart to a different power plant. He found an old Rotax single cylinder from an old Ski Doo snowmobile. He ran the clutch system with the belt drive, but the problem was the clutch on the motor never disengaged,

but that didn't matter. We now had a go-cart that would go fast but stopped like a freight train, unless you hit something, like a light pole or a tractor tire, which I only did once. Let's just say in my defense that the friction style breaks rubbing on the rear tires was not very functional. Needless to say, I didn't get to ride the go-cart much after that incident.

2 John 1:8 (CEB) tell us this, "Watch yourselves so that you don't lose what we've worked for but instead receive a full reward."

Sometimes in life we "run into things". We forget what our purpose is. Being a Christian is work, we are challenged through opposition and hurtfulness. We have to remember that we will receive that full reward, we will get to drive that go-cart, we will get to work together forming new disciples. We are just the workers on a mission and God is there making sure when we hit that obstacle, we are protected.

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

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Staples Motley School Board Minutes

**ISD #2170
SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING #28
Monday, June 19,
2017, 7:00 p.m.
HIGH SCHOOL
MEDIA CENTER**

MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order with Freeman, Lund, Winkels, Hoemberg, Longbella and Frisk present (comprising a quorum). Also attending were Supt. Klamm; Principals Halverson and Schmidt; SM employees and several community members; Staples World Manager, Halvorson and Recording Secretary Madson.

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Winkels, to adopt the agenda with items #13, #14 and #22 being removed from the agenda. MC

School/Community Forum - Frank Odell addressed the Board regarding the history of the SMHS speech program and

shared some highlights of his career as an advisor.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Frisk, seconded by Longbella, to approve the Consent Agenda. MC

Finance Items

Financial Report - will be given at the June 29 special meeting

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Lund to award the Dairy Bid to Dean Foods. MC

Motion by Frisk, seconded by Freeman, to approve the PaperCut Print Management Proposal with Marco for \$7,647. MC

Curriculum

Cindy Swenson presented the QCOMP Annual Report - no action needed.

Presentation of 2017-2018 Parent/Student Handbook revisions and handbooks will be approved on July 24.

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Frisk to approve the 1:World handbook with revisions. MC

Personnel:

Motion by Lund, seconded by Longbella, to

accept the resignation of Jeanne Odden eff. 6-2-17. MC

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Frisk, to accept the resignation of Cindy Swenson; eff. 6-30-17 with permission to post. MC

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Hoemberg, to accept the retirement of Bernadette Hogan; eff. 6-2-17 with permission to post. MC

Motion by Frisk, seconded by Winkels, to accept the 2017-2018 contract for Michelle Karr. MC

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Lund, to increase the contract time for Greg Robinson from .83% to 1.0 FTE. MC

Motion by Hoemberg, seconded by Frisk, to approve the 2017-18 contract for Heather Kadus at .83%; BA +45 Step 2. MC

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Frisk, to approve the 2017-18 Interim Supt. Agreement with Mr. Ron Bratlie. MC

Freeman will remain at the 2017-18 QCOMP Oversight Committee Rep.

Motion by Lund, seconded by Winkels, to approve the 2017-18 contract for Lydia Olson; Speech; MA Step 1. MC

Superintendent Klamm informed the Board that the money from the sale of the FED building is in a trust fund until July 28. Freeman will be the signer for that fund.

NCLB is now being replaced with ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act); she is currently negotiating a communications contract.

Winkels, Lund and Freeman all expressed their opinion on going back to the Board Committee structure indicating it encourages trust and lays the groundwork.

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Lund, to have a Policy, Finance and Facility Committee. MC

Policy - Longbella and Winkels

Finance - Hoemberg and Freeman

Facilities - Frisk and Lund

Board members expressed thanks to Supt.

Klamm for her hard work in moving the district forward.

Adjournment

Motion by Winkels, seconded by Longbella, to adjourn the meeting.

32pnc

SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING #29 THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 2017; 7:30 a.m. DISTRICT OFFICE

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order with Freeman, Lund, Longbella, Hoemberg and Frisk present (comprising a quorum). Also attending were Principals Halverson and Johnson; Business Manager Bosen; several staff; Staples World Manager, Halvorson; and Recording Secretary Madson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Lund, seconded by Longbella, to adopt the agenda as presented. MC

Finance

Motion by Longbella, seconded by Lund, to ap-

prove the Financial Report and Authorization to pay the Vouchers. MC

Motion by Lund, seconded by Freeman, to approve the 2017-2018 Preliminary Budget. MC

The reductions that have taken place were reviewed. Because they were previously approved, no action was needed on this item. Principals will be directed to put together a list of potential reductions moving forward. The Finance Committee will meet later in the summer to discuss potential reductions.

Liability & Property Insurance Renewal - Information only; no action needed

Communication Contract - This contract has not been finalized; no action at this time.

Adjournment

Motion by Lund, seconded by Frisk, to adjourn the meeting. MC.

Complete minutes are available at www.isd2170.k12.mn.us

32pnc

Public Notices

**MAY TOWNSHIP
AUGUST MEETING
DATE CHANGE**

The May Township August meeting will be held Friday, Aug. 11 at 7:00 p.m. at the May Township Hall.

32pnc

**NOTICE
SECTION 00100 -
ADVERTISEMENT
FOR BIDS
Motley Well Supply
Project
City of Motley
Motley, MN**

RECEIPT AND OPENING OF PROPOSALS: Sealed proposals for the work described below will be received at the Office of the Clerk/Treasurer, City of Motley, 316 Highway 10 S, Motley, MN 56466 until 10:00 a.m. on Monday, August 21, 2017 at which time the bids will be opened and publicly read.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The work includes the construction of approximately:

- 1,400 Lin Ft 6" HDPE Watermain (Directionally Drilled)
- 150 Lin Ft 18" HDPE Casing (Directionally Drilled)
- 600 Pounds Watermain Fittings
- 1 Each Hydrant
- 0.40 AcresTurf Establishment

together with numerous related items of work, all in accordance with Plans and Specifications. This project is subject to Responsible Contractor Certification.

COMPLETION OF WORK: All work under the Contract must be complete by October 13, 2017.

PLANHOLDERS LIST, ADDENDUMS AND BID TABULATION: The planholders list, addendums and bid tabulations will be available for download online at www.bolton-menk.com or www.questcdn.com. Any addendums may also be distributed by mail, fax or email.

TO OBTAIN BID DOCUMENTS: Complete digital project bidding documents are available at www.boltonmenk.com or www.questcdn.com. You may view the digital plan documents for free by entering Quest project # 5221049 on the website's Project Search page. Documents may be downloaded for \$20. Please contact QuestCDN.com at 952-233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in free membership registration, viewing, downloading, and working with this digital project information. An optional paper set of project documents is also available for a nonrefundable price of \$50 per set, which includes applicable sales tax and shipping. Please make your check payable

to Bolton & Menk, Inc. and send it to 7656 Design Road, Suite 200, Baxter, MN 56425-8676, phone (218) 825-0684, fax (218) 825-0685.

BID SECURITY: A certified check or proposal bond in the amount of not less than 5 percent of the total amount bid, drawn in favor of City of Motley shall accompany each bid.

OWNER'S RIGHTS RESERVED: The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any irregularities and informalities therein and to award the Contract to other than the lowest bidder if, in their discretion, the interest of the Owner would be best served thereby.

Dated: August 1, 2017

Lacey Smieja
Clerk/Treasurer

Published:
Finance and Commerce:
August 8, 2017, August 15, 2017
Morrison County Record:
August 6, 2017
Staples World: August 10, 2017, August 17, 2017

32-33pnc

**NOTICE OF
PUBLIC SALE OF
TAX-FORFEITED
LANDS**

**Monday, August 21, 2017
10:00 a.m.**

Todd County
Commissioner
Board Room,
Historical Courthouse
215 1st Avenue So.
Long Prairie, MN 56347

- 65 New tax-forfeited parcels
- 20 Preexisting parcels reviewed by Commissioners

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the parcels described in the List of Tax-Forfeited Land that is contained herein shall be sold to the highest bidder at public sale. The sale will be governed by the provisions of Minn. Stat. § 282.01 and by the resolution of the Todd County Board of Commissioners authorizing such sale. The resolution reads as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED, that all parcels of tax-forfeited land listed on the List of Tax-Forfeited Land be classified as nonconservation

land; that the basic sale price of each parcel on List of Tax-Forfeited Land, that is on file with the Clerk of the County Board, be approved and authorization for a public sale of this land be granted, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 282.01; that the sale will be held at 10:00 a.m., Monday, August 21, 2017, by the Todd County Auditor/Treasurer at the Commissioner board room in the Historical Courthouse, for not less than the basic sale price; and that all sales shall be full payment or on the terms set forth on the List of Tax-Forfeited Land.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the conditions and terms of the public sale shall be as described in the list of Tax-Forfeited Land contained here-in and approved by the Todd County Board of Commissioners.

Information about the sale of tax-forfeited land in Todd County can be obtained at the office of the County Auditor/Treasurer, Todd County Courthouse, 215 1st Avenue So, Suite 201, Long Prairie, Minnesota, 56347. Telephone: (320) 732-4469, or online at: www.co.todd.mn.us/departments/auditor-treasurer/forfeiture-lands

32-33pnc



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**FRESHWATER EDUCATION DISTRICT
NOTICE OF EXCESS SALE
OF SCHOOL EQUIPMENT**

Freshwater Education District (FED) will be having an excess sale of school equipment and supplies on **August 25, 2017** on the premises of the former Freshwater Education District Office Building, 1100 NE 5th St., Staples, MN 56479. Hours of 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

For more information, contact Jerry Nesland at jnesland@fed.k12.mn.us or 218-894-2439 ext. 1001.

Scott Veronen, Clerk of District #6004

31-32pnc



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When someone we love becomes a memory; that memory becomes a treasure.

Deadline for all classified ads, including garage sale ads, is **5 p.m. Monday** to be published in Thursday's Staples World and **5 p.m. Wednesday** for publication in Sunday's Square Shooter.



Farm Safety

Look up for power lines

BE AWARE.

Keep equipment clear of power lines and poles.

KNOW WHAT TO DO if you encounter a power line while operating farm machinery. It could save your life.

- **CALL FOR HELP** – Call 911 as soon as possible and keep the area clear until help arrives.
- **DRIVE TO SAFETY** – If you can do so without risking your machinery or damaging utility infrastructure, drive at least 40 feet away.
- **EMERGENCY EXIT** – If the vehicle is on fire or you must exit for other safety reasons, jump clear so that no part of your body touches the equipment and ground at the same time, and land with feet together. Hop to safety in small steps to avoid electric shock by breaking the current's path.

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Audit shows Todd County is looking good

By Karin Nauber
Todd County reporter

The annual audit of the county's financial health, showed that the county is growing stronger, Todd County Commissioners learned at their Aug. 1 meeting. Clifton Larson Allen Manager Sarah Utsch, CPA, reviewed the audit.

Some of the few weaknesses reported include several that are found every year just because the county is small and hiring extra people to further segregate duties would not be feasible.

A new finding this year was in the controls over contracting process.

Utsch said that oral contracts on prices were being agreed. She said that the best practice was any time a fee is charged, a written contract should be used, even if it is county to county.

Auditor/Treasurer Denise Gaida said that with the turnover in the county, staff doesn't always know about policies.

County Coordinator Joe Hatch said that the staff can all go on Sharepoint and see the financial practices.

Another finding under Minnesota Legal Compliance was that the 2015 County Financials were not published in the official newspaper until December 2016.

The good news?
The county has over five months of funds in their fund balance.

- Key Issues/Summary**
- Financial stability
 - General Fund Balance as of year-end is right at Office of the State Auditor recommended minimum level but is trending upward.
 - Public Works' Fund Balance is near the mini-

mum State Auditor's recommended levels, but receives state aid on a different timetable from the General Fund.

- Social Services Fund has been relatively stable over past six years.
- Community Health Fund is above the minimum State Auditor's recommended level.
- Solid Waste Fund shows a 29 percent increase in Net Position over 2015.
- Overall Summary
- \$3.1 million of refunding bonds issued in 2016 to refund the 2011 general obligation Courthouse Bonds.
- GASB 68 and related accounts have a huge impact on 2016 financial statements.
- Just a reminder to periodically review segregation of duties structures for potential enhancement.

- In other business:**
- The board set the tax forfeited land auction for Aug. 21 at 10 a.m. in the county boardroom.
 - Acknowledged receipt of a Hold Harmless Agreement to install a private crossing on County Ditch 32 from Brian Mick, located in Section 33 of Fawn Lake Township.
 - Approved a Hold Harmless Agreement to install a private crossing on County Ditch 18 for Kimberly Stach in Section 34 of Iona Township. This is to replace a bridge crossing with a 30" culvert.
 - Approved a Hold Harmless Agreement to install a private crossing on County Ditch 33 for Ken Hayes in Section 24 of Leslie Township.
 - Approved the adoption of M.S. 272.162 restrictions on property splits and subdivisions to take effect Jan. 1, 2018. The state law was signed May 30.
- According to Planning and Zoning Director Tim

Stieber, legislation was proposed several times over the past few years in an effort to allow counties a mechanism to ensure that property splits conform to county zoning regulations.

Property splits not conforming to these regulations have resulted in problems for future owners in obtaining land use permits. Often times these splits have circumvented zoning regulations intended to preserve farmland and provide for orderly development.

Commissioner David Kircher asked if they could implement the change immediately.

Stieber said they could, but that they wanted to "soft-roll" it in.

"We have a packet, but we wanted to make sure we would be able to handle things in a timely way," he said.

This will also give the county time to work with the three townships who do their own zoning.

Recorder Cheryl Perish said that title closing can take between 60 to 90 days. Waiting until Jan. 1, 2018 will give time for the titles already in process to be completed.

The statute requires that all splits, or subdivisions of a current tax parcel of land outside of city limits be approved by the designated county planning official covering land under their jurisdiction before the transfer or split request can be recorded.

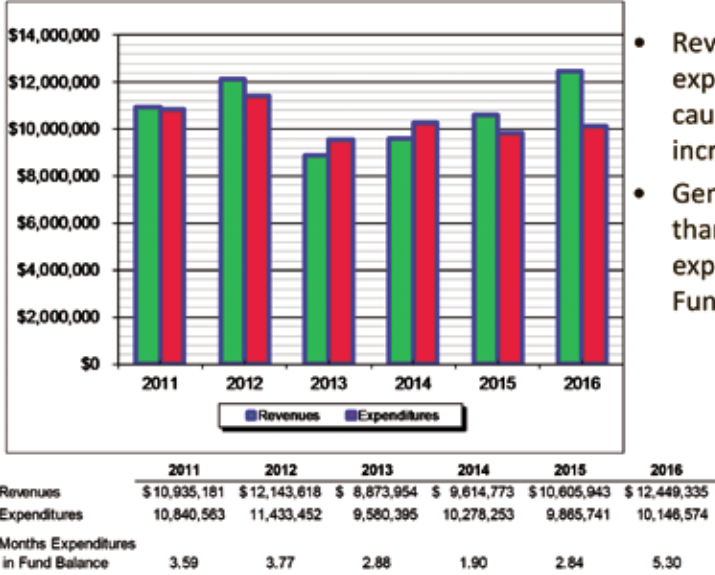
- Todd County elected jurisdiction to implement Minnesota Statute 103F.48 (Buffer Law) on June 20, 2017.

According to Stieber, planning and zoning staff are working to amend the zoning ordinance to allow full implementation of the law.

The county authorized acceptance and use of

Financial Results

General Fund Revenues & Expenditures



- Revenues in excess of expenditures for 2016, causing Fund Balance to increase \$2,081,588.
- General Fund has more than 5 months of expenditures in available Fund Balance

Riparian Protection Aid funds which will total \$113,583.

The first payment of Riparian Protection Aid was received by the county in the amount of \$56,791.50 with a second payment expected toward the end of 2018 making the total to be received \$113,583.

An internal project budget detailing how these funds are to be spent toward activities designed to protect riparian areas is being prepared, according to Stieber.

In answering a question about the funding by Kircher, Stieber said that this is a "broad-blanket type of funding to deal with the issue of buffers first and second to do what's necessary to protect riparian areas.

- Approved accepting the bid for \$10,610.93 for a Chevy Equinox LT AWD from Phillip's Repairables and proceeded with purchasing of the vehicle for use in the Soil and Water Conservation District Division.

- Approved the request for Todd County Health and Human Services to recruit and hire an eligibility worker to fill the position left vacant by the resignation of Neva Volkman.

- Approved the request for Todd County Health and Human Services to create a Relative Search position in the Family Services Unit.

Background:
This is a newly created position that will perform comprehensive relative searches for children in placement.

They will identify and notify adult relatives prior to or within 30 days after a child's removal from their parent.

They will also perform a variety of tasks related to the placement of children in foster care.

Findings and recommendations on placement of children with possible relatives are made to social worker or the social services manager.

The position will also

prepare court reports and appear in court to testify on behalf of Todd County Health and Human Services.

This position exists to meet statutory requirements under Minnesota State Statute 260C.221 regarding relative search and to increase the role of relatives when placing children in Todd County.

HHS Director Jackie Och said that the money is not budgeted for this required position and that the funding will come out of the child protection incentive funds.

Kircher said that he felt this position would justify itself by saving the county money.

Och said that they plan to post internally only at this time and expect to be able to fill the position.

She added that they are working this position into their budget for next year.

Commissioner Randy Neumann said he would like to see this position reviewed in a year to see how it worked out.

RENDEZVOUS continued from page 1a

Birch bark canoe builder is one of the artisans

Guthrie and others.

The popular Margo McCreary Puppet Show is back. Their show is fun for family audiences, with puppets clowning and live music. They will also do puppet and story telling workshops each day.

Old Wadena Society members have made a special effort this year to expand the number of artisans on hand and several new demonstrators are expected. Saturday only, birch bark canoe builder Grant Goltz, of the Longville area, will be demonstrating aspects of his craft, an ancient art practiced for centuries along the Crow Wing River. People doing candle dipping, bee keeping and corn husk doll making will also be on hand. The children will have an opportunity to participate in making a birdhouse to take home and to play games from the 1800s with the Crow Wing Muzzleloaders members.

Check out the OWS website; oldwadenarendezvous.org, for a full listing of entertainers and artisans expected to attend.

Free bus rides by the Wadena County Friendly Rider will again be offered both Saturday and Sunday. Starting at 10 a.m., people in Staples can have bus pick up by calling; 218-631-5730. In Wadena, pickups will be on the hour at; Humphrey Manor and the Wadena Depot (with ample parking available). Return rides to either Staples or Wadena will be made every half hour starting at 10:30 a.m.

Wadena County native Dick Oehlenschlaeger, an assistant curator at the Minnesota Science Museum in St. Paul, will be talking about his artifact collection. If time allows, he may be giving walking tours of the park area with interesting information about the biology of Wadena County.

Admission is; \$10 per person per day, children 10 and under free, with a maximum \$30 admission for any family. The grounds at the Rendezvous and Folk Festival are open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both Saturday and

Sunday.

The Rendezvous is made possible, in part, by support from; Five Wings Arts Council, Wadena County and Todd Wadena Electric's Operation Round Up, in an addition to; First International Bank and Trust, Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank, Mid-Minnesota Federal Credit Union, Unity Bank, all in Staples; Wadena State Bank and Star Bank, Verndale. Members of the Old Wadena Society provide volunteer labor and funding.

The Old Wadena Park is a beautiful, natural setting on the banks of the Crow Wing River, off Old Wadena Circle, located approximately seven miles northwest of Staples or 20 miles east of the City of Wadena.

Directions from Staples; north either on the new overpass (Cty Rd 21) off Hwy 10; OR take 4th St.

north, to Warner Rd, go left to Central Lakes College, turn left on Wadena Cty Rd 2, go west two miles to Cty Rd 29, turn right, go 2.5 miles, to 140th St. turn right (gravel road), go one half mile on Old Wadena Circle to the park entrance.

Directions from

Wadena; east on Hwy 10 past Aldrich 1-1/2 miles, to Wadena Cty Rd 26, go left, to Cty Rd 2, turn right, go approximately three miles to Cty Rd 29, turn left, go 2.5 miles to 140th St. turn right on 140th St. (gravel road) and go one half mile to park entrance.

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Staples

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Hwy. 10 Aldrich

Cash Prizes: 1st - \$100,
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HOSPITAL Wadena **CLINICS** Baxter Bertha Henning Ottertail Sebekä Verndale Wadena

National Night Out

Nearly 300 people attended the Staples National Night Out event Aug. 1 at Northern Pacific Park. The event is sponsored by the Staples Police Department.

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign to promote police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie.

"It was a great night," said Melissa Birkholtz, Staples Police Chief. "It's a great opportunity for us to get out to meet people

in our community that we may otherwise not meet."

"We enjoy meeting everyone and showing what we have to offer and the tools that we use for public safety," she said. "I appreciate all the groups that came out to help make it a success." Chief Birkholtz also added she heard many positive comments for moving the gathering to the park.

Participating agencies included: Staples Fire Department, Staples Police Department, Motley Fire

Department and Motley Police Department, Todd County Sheriff, Wadena County Sheriff, MN DNR, Todd and Wadena County Emergency Management, Lakewood Ambulance, MN State Patrol, Todd-Wadena Community Corrections, Todd County Citizens Against Drugs, Staples Motley Women of Today, Jaycees, Staples Motley Beyond Poverty (SMBP), Todd County Posse, Dairy Queen, Staples Park and Rec., Lakewood Education (music/dj).



Activities for all

Children and adults couldn't resist getting crafty by painting rocks and other activities during National Night Out in Staples held at Northern Pacific Park... the perfect setting for inspiration. A free picnic meal was also served to all who came.



Police "family" is a special bond

Staples Police Sergeant Ron Case paused for a family photo with Gabby Case, Aiden Pearson, Emilyya Case and wife, Jamie Case holding Soren Walwick.



No help walking the line...

While it seemed fun to try the alcohol impairment simulation (drunk) goggles, many young and old took a turn. One person said, "It made me sick to my stomach" as they tried to walk a straight line. Emergency Services held the demonstration at the National Night Out Event. The new Lucas tool, a machine used to provide mechanical chest compressions, was also part of the demonstration. Above: David Brusewitz, EMT, gives Laken Hines and Bella Hines of Staples a turn at trying to walk a straight line while wearing the goggles with Sherrie Luyster, RN/EMT, Carrie Cannon, RN/EMT and Connie Wells, RN/Emergency Services.



A "night out" gathering

Staples Police Chief Melissa Birkholtz chats with Jerel Nelsen, City Administrator under the tent. Among those supporting the event were Barb and Dan Becker, Gary and Rita Stracek, Ray Birkholtz and Gerald Lenk.

*Staples World
photos by
Janice Winter*



Little posse representative

Connie Conquist, member of the Todd County Mounted Posse for 15 years, brought "Peanut" a mini horse to represent the group. "He thinks he's work horse size," said Conquist. "He's a little more approachable than a big horse." Meeting Peanut are Chloe Badger, Claire Christensen and Taylor Runge.



Sharing a laugh

Staples Police Officer Chris Goff shares a laugh with mom, Julie as dad, Mark arrived later.



In front of the line up

A long line of emergency vehicles, including Staples city heavy equipment, provided a back drop for Motley Police Officer Jason Borash and Motley Police Chief Ron Smith as they chat with Chris and Rachel Johnson of Staples.



On hand to chat

Cole Yungbauer, Wadena County Deputy Sheriff and Brett Farnick, MN State Trooper handed out stickers and talked with people at the National Night Out held in Staples.

Color Me Humbled.



Dr. Craig Henson
General Surgeon

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Summerfest has become a tradition



Helicopter landing in Scandia Valley

Attendees of the recent Summerfest in Scandia Valley had the opportunity to witness a helicopter landing back behind the fire hall. Trained staff also offered an up close look at the aircraft and answered questions. The helicopter is owned and operated by North Memorial Health Air Care. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Motley working to reduce city's 2018 levy, budget

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

At a two-plus hour budget meeting Aug. 7, the Motley City Council and the city's department heads looked over the proposed 2018 budget and levy; and determined possible ways to decrease both.

City Clerk/Treasurer Lacey Smieja provided two proposed levys. The 2018A proposed total levy was \$376,461, a five-percent increase from 2017. The 2018B proposed total levy was \$416,871, a 16-percent increase from 2017.

Decreasing the levy was a goal voiced throughout the meeting. Mayor Al Yoder said it would be nice to have a zero-percent increase to the levy for at least one year. He noted that it has been at three-percent for a couple of years.

Smieja said that the department heads agreed. Should they use reserve funds to achieve that?

The group proceeded to go through the proposed 2018 Expenditures line by line, department by department, looking for ways to cut costs.

In the general fund, under accounting, discussion ensued as to whether or not the city should look for a cheaper auditor. In the end, they felt it would be wise to have Smieja work for one more year with the current auditor until she is up-to-speed. Smieja also suggested the city consider switching to National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) for both city attorney and planning and zoning ad-

ministrator services. In addition to NJPA offering cheaper rates than the city's present attorney and P & Z administrator, Smieja said they are easy to get a hold of when she has a question.

Mayor Yoder said he would prefer to not add another officer to the police department in 2018, as has been proposed. He said he felt the current situation (two full-time officers) was working well.

The mayor felt that Chief Ron Smith would be able to figure out the best schedule for the officers. Smieja wondered who would fill in when the officers take a vacation. Mayor Yoder said they would need to call Morrison County Sheriff's Office and let them know.

In lieu of hiring additional police staff, Yoder proposed upgrading the second squad vehicle. Chief Ron Smith agreed to have the car looked at by a mechanic and bring the estimate back to the next council meeting.

Other areas of discussion included the cost of cell phones for the police department, as well as landlines at the various city departments.

The council agreed that money should remain in the budget for the police chief to attend chief's training every year. Yoder agreed and said he would also like to see Smith take advantage of free trainings, such as those offered at National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA).

Public Works Supervisor Bruce Brotherton not-

ed that the projected expenditures for street lights is higher but that is because the price for electricity has gone up.

Fire Chief Todd Judd said that their department is putting funds aside for a new fire truck. They have budgeted \$750 to hire a grant writer to help them make this a reality. It was noted that the money being set aside for the truck are saved in the fire department's own fund, not the general fund. Judd suggested that \$50 be subtracted from the department's postage budget.

In order to achieve a three-percent increase in the city's 2018A levy, expenditures would need to be decreased by \$7,509. For a two-percent levy increase, expenditures would need to be decreased by \$11,091; for a one-percent increase, expenditures would need to be decreased by \$14,673; and for a zero-percent levy increase, the proposed expenditures would need to be decreased by \$18,255.

In the end, the council and department heads took off \$4,550 from the proposed budget.

They will continue to look for ways to decrease the expenditures prior to adopting the 2018 preliminary levy and budget. Smieja also noted that another option would be to research ways to increase city revenue, such as administrative fines and enforcing ordinances.

The next regular council meeting is scheduled for Monday, Aug. 14, 6:30 p.m.

Law enforcement reports, Motley

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

Aug. 2 - The MPD received a complaint regarding a stolen handsaw, hatchet and small red motorized scooter without a seat. According to the report, a juvenile had been building a fort in a wooded area near the Motley Free Methodist Church and left the items there, believing they would be safe. When he returned the next day, they were missing.

Aug. 2 - The MPD assisted the MCSO at the scene of a motor vehicle accident along Hwy 10 in Randall.

Aug. 1 - The MPD issued a speeding citation to a juvenile driving along Hwy 10 near East River Rd. in Motley.

July 31 - The MPD received a report from Motley City Hall regarding a resident who had removed a tree stump from his yard and drug it to the compost pile leaving a trail of dirt and debris in the street. Contact was made with the party and he stated he will clean up the mess.

July 27 - The MPD issued a speeding citation to Andrea Kostrzewski, 28.

July 27 - The MPD was dispatched to a call of people being loud and possibly arguing in the Ten-Hi parking lot in Motley.

The officer arrived on scene and located four individuals in the parking lot. Two of the subjects were arrested for probation violations and one was cited for tampering with a motor vehicle. One of those arrested included Jennifer Berg, 38.

Aug. 1 - The MCSO received a report of someone stealing young girls' swim suits off the clotheslines at Fish Trap Camping and RV Resort in Cushing.

July 30 - the MCSO received a call from Cass County requesting that Motley Fire and Rescue respond to a report of a vehicle that was smashed up and in the ditch near mile marker 8 on State Hwy 64 in Motley. It was unknown as to whether anyone was in the vehicle.

July 29 - The MCSO responded to a complaint of suspicious activity at the 33000 block of 80th Ave. in Cushing. This resulted in the arrest of Gerald Maurice Forcier, 63, for 5th degree controlled substance.

July 29 - The MCSO issued a citation to Wyatt Johnson, 20, for speeding.

July 28 - The MCSO received a report of theft at Marble Drive in Cushing.

July 28 - The MCSO arrested Sarah Eileen Molnau, 35, in Cushing for probation violation. She was transported to St. Cloud Detox due to her level of intoxication.



Llamas and rabbits and ponies, oh my!



Yummy ice cream cones

Ice cream cones were a big hit during the recent Summerfest in Scandia Valley. Pictured above are Clara and Eldon Becker of Randall.

Goats, llamas, ponies and rabbits were among the animals featured at a petting zoo during the Summerfest celebration in Scandia Valley Aug. 5. Pictured above with his new llama friend is Landon Thotland, seven, of Staples. Pictured at left, is Wyatt Brown of Randall. Pony rides were also offered by Camp Shamineau throughout the day. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Fun at Summerfest

Jenny Vold, far left; her boys Austin and Easton Vold; and grandma Sue Tasler had a good time at Summerfest in Scandia Valley Aug. 5. The family has a cabin on Fish Trap Lake and said they enjoy attending this annual event that features games, crafts, food and fireworks. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Upward Bound program awarded \$3.86 million

The Central Lakes College Upward Bound Program will be able to help more area high school students transform into college students thanks to three federal grants totaling \$3.86 million over five years.

Two grants - the Mille Lacs County Upward Bound Grant and the Todd County Upward Bound Grant - are current grants for CLC that are being renewed. New is a Crow Wing County Upward Bound Grant that will directly impact students at Brainerd High School.

With the funds, CLC will hire an assistant director of Upward Bound and two additional academic advisors to assist students. The Upward Bound program provides educational services to modest income and first generation high school students who potentially would be the

first generation to graduate from a four year college and to equip them in graduating from high school, enrolling into a college or university, and completing their post-secondary education.

"The competition for TRIO Upward Bound program grants is extremely competitive nation wide. We are very fortunate to have been awarded a third TRIO Upward Bound grant," said Charles Black Lance, Director of TRIO Programs at CLC. "We serve students during the academic year in their respective high schools, as well as during the summer as part of our Academic Summer Program, which is held on the Central Lakes College."

Interested in joining Upward Bound? It's free for participants. More information: www.clcmn.edu/trio-upward-bound-3/

CLC Night Out to feature wine, beer tasting

Community members are invited to The Night Out, an event that directly benefits Central Lakes College students, at 5:30 p.m. Aug. 24 at the Dennis Drummond Wine Company, Brainerd.

Hosted by the CLC Foundation, The Night Out will feature: A silent auction, appetizer & dessert sta-

tions, music & a program, photo booth, unique items for sale from the CLC print shop, cash bar, beer tasting from Jack Pine brewery, and a wine tasting from CLC viticulture program.

"We are looking forward to a night of showing our supporters the latest and greatest CLC has to offer." Jana Shogren,

Director of Resource Development & the CLC Foundation. "Our students are at the center of everything we do and we're thrilled to have several students and a few alumni working with us to make the night a success."

Tickets are available at clcmn.edu/thenightout.



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Both publications and Internet for One Price!

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Use form below or click on www.staplesworld.com

DEADLINE: 5 p.m. Monday

Classifications

NOTICES

100 Events/
Announcements
101 Card of Thanks
102 In Memory
103 Lost & Found
104 Give Away
106 Personals
107 Notices

SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT

201 Business
Opportunities
202 Childcare
Providers
203 Childcare
Wanted
205 Help Wanted
206 Positions
Wanted
207 Equipment
for Rent
208 Storage
209 Business
Services
210 Animal Care/
Supplies
211 Work Wanted

FOR SALE

300 Antiques/
Collectibles
301 Good Things
to Eat
302 Lawn/Garden
Hay/Straw/
Feed/Seed
304 Livestock
305 Pets
306 Sporting Goods
307 Household
308 Musical
309 Miscellaneous
310 Health/Beauty
311 Firewood
312 Christmas Trees
313 Computers/
Office Equip.
314 Farm Services
315 Camper Trailer

VEHICLES

401 Automobiles
402 Trucks/Vans
403 Recreational
Farm
Equipment
405 Heavy
Equipment
406 Parts/ Repair

WANTED TO BUY

501 Miscellaneous
502 Livestock

REAL ESTATE

601 Wanted to Rent
602 Apartments
for Rent
603 Houses
for Rent
604 Commercial
for Rent
605 Mobile Homes
for Rent
606 Land for Rent
607 Houses
for Sale
608 Farms for Sale
609 Mobile Homes
for Sale
610 Land for Sale
611 Business
Property for
Sale
612 Real Estate
Wanted

GARAGE SALES

701 Garage Sales
702 Flea Market/
Crafts

Classified Ad Order Form

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Classification # _____

Cost of Ad

First 15 words for one week \$9.70

Add for number of words over 15 _____ x 25¢ = _____

OR First 15 words for three weeks \$25.00

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indicate which word(s) is/are to be bold or capitalized _____

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

TOTAL enclosed _____

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

Your ad will be printed as you write it.

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Use additional paper if necessary.

Thank you for your order!

Please mail completed form and payment to:

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HEARTLAND MARKET

Display ads: \$12.00 (per col. inch)

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\$3 per line; \$15 minimum.

Inserts = \$65 per thousand

* Color rates available.

Heartland Market deadline: 5 p.m. Wednesday.
Reaching over 20,585 homes;

DISTRIBUTED in these paid NEWSPAPERS: Staples World;

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Clay County Union of Ulen; Northwoods Press, Nevis;

Eagle Bend/ Bertha/ Clarissa Independent News Herald;

Hawley Herald; Henning Citizens Advocate;

Long Prairie Leader; Parkers Prairie Advocate;

Sebeka/Menahga Review Messenger; Verndale Sun.

The Fine Print

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

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

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

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

NOTICES



"Serving you for 23 years!"
Ferqus Falls Monument Company

107

Notices

FREE MOVING BOXES by paying \$9.50 for this ad. Call Peggy 218-296-5017. 32p

SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT

205

Help Wanted

Drivers-CDL: Family owned=Family time! Top Pay/Benefits & Get home more! FT/PT, Local, Regional, OTR & O/O welcome! 800-777-1753 x206. 32p

DELIVERY, CLERK-ING AND GENERAL MAINT. Person for PT. Apply in person Longbella Drug, 421 2nd Ave. NE., Staples. 31-32c

Faith Lutheran Church
430 12th St. NE • PO Box 236
Staples, MN 56479

Faith Lutheran Church is hiring a **Part Time Custodian** to work up to 20 hours per week. Applications and job description are available from the church office or at www.faithlutheranstaples.org. Please complete and return to the church office by **August 22**. Call 218-894-1546 for more information. cl32-33c

CENTRAL TODD COUNTY Care Center

Part-time Dietary Aide Position Available

We are in search of someone who is looking for a rewarding job in the Dietary field. Part-time evening aide position now available. Must be able to understand and follow state and federal safety and sanitation regulations. Must be a TEAM player and possess a special interest in working with Long Term Care residents, families and visitors.



cl32-33c

Contact Patti Twardowski at 218-756-3636 ext. 17 or ptwardowski@ctcccinc.com or you pick up an application in the Business Office.

Business hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Central Todd County Care Center, Clarissa, MN
CTCCC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



City Clerk/Finance Director

The City of Staples is seeking to fill the position of City Clerk/Finance Director

Minimum qualifications: Include a degree in Accounting, Business or equivalent, at least two years of experience in Accounting, Business or equivalent and at least two years experience in municipal office work.

TO VIEW job description and position profile, visit <http://www.daviddrown.com/active-job-searches>.

TO APPLY VISIT:

<https://daviddrown.hiringplatform.com/14918-staples-city-clerk-finance-director/37938-application-form/en>, and complete the process by **August 22, 2017**.

cl30-32c

EOE

ECSE Teacher

Freshwater Education District is seeking an ECSE teacher. This is a full time position beginning the 2017-2018 school year.

Application deadline: August 14, 2017

Send Letter of Application, Resumé and

Three (3) Letters of Reference to:

Lori Murdock, Freshwater Education District
910 Ash Ave NE, Wadena, MN 56482 Phone: 218-631-3505
lmurdock@fed.k12.mn.us

ECSE Paraprofessional

Freshwater Education District is seeking a paraprofessional for our Motley center. Duties would include: working with preschool aged children with special needs. Position will be Monday-Wednesday from 8:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

This is a full time position beginning the 2017-2018 school year.

Application deadline: Open Until Filled

Send Letter of Application, Resumé and References to:

Lori Murdock, Freshwater Education District
910 Ash Ave NE, Wadena, MN 56482 Phone: 218-631-3505
lmurdock@fed.k12.mn.us

Freshwater Education District 6004 is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

cl31-32c

POTATO HARVEST HELP WANTED

Potato Harvest Workers - starting around the last week of July or first week of August until approximately first week of October. Women, men and students welcome to apply. All types of work available. Air conditioned facility.

APPLY IN PERSON AT:

JCP Farms ~ John Petron
25461 County Rd. 5
Long Prairie, MN 56347
(320) 732-3789 days

TODD COUNTY HHS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

Todd County HHS is looking for a reliable, service oriented individual to serve the citizens of Todd County in a FT capacity for the following position: **ELIGIBILITY WORKER**. To learn more about this opening and how to apply visit the official Todd County website at www.co.todd.mn.us Questions can be directed to Todd County Administration 320-732-6447. 32c

PT POSITION, at Motley Express Convenience store in Motley. Must be self motivated and work well with others. Apply in person. 1000 Hwy. 10, Motley. 218-352-6000. 31-32c

LOOKING FOR AN EXPERIENCED FT AUTO BODY TECHNICIAN: Petersen Body Shop. Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-5p.m.. Please stop in and pick up an application or apply in person. 320-632-6156. 31-33p

R.D. Offutt Farms - Staples is searching for skilled harvest workers to assist and work with our potato whole seed farm team. Ask about our bonus potential for completing harvest. Openings: **Truck Drivers (no CDL required), Loader Operators and Harvester Operators.** To learn more about our company go to www.rdooffuttcompany.com for more information and to apply please contact: 701.526.9814/hr@rdooffutt.com 29-32p

Deadline

for classified ads, display ads, garage sale ads, letters to the editor and news items for the

Staples World is 5 p.m. Monday



208 Storage

FOR RENT

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

209 Business Services

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

For Sale

306

Sporting Good PRE-MOVING SALE:

2013 Lund 1625 XL Fury Sport, \$14,000 (consider BO). Alumina Craft canoe \$300. Bunk bed (or two singles) \$200. 218-472-3553. 31-32c

309

Miscellaneous

Crib/toddler bed, white Delta 3 in 1, purchased in 2012, excellent condition \$65. 218-352-6935. 32p

PLAT BOOKS AVAILABLE: Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd and Wadena counties, \$27 plus tax. Staples World Office. 38tfx

WANTED TO BUY

501

Miscellaneous

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

WANTED TO BUY: JUNK CARS & TRUCKS. 218-639-5509. 30-35p

REAL ESTATE

602

Apartments for Rent

STAPLES: 2 bdrm. remodeled. Heat, water, garbage furnished. Avail. Aug. 1. \$575/mo. 218-894-3891, Ken. 30-32p

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

EASTWOOD APARTMENTS in Motley MN.

is accepting applications for immediate 2 bedroom opening and future 3 bedroom apartments.

Laundry facilities available on site. garage included with apartment. All utilities paid. Applications are available at:

956 Hwy 10 S., Motley
For information and qualifications contact Nicole at 218-751-6881 Ext.4
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Join our expanding team at Seasons Adult Foster Care

Offering competitive wages.

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All encouraged to apply - we will train. Experience preferred, but not necessary.

Must be 18-years-old to apply. Positions require clear background check.

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We are looking for you!

Call 218-894-1306

Visit seasonsafc.com (careers)

cl32-33c



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218-824-8403 or email
Rheap@dwjonesmanagement.com
Minnesota Relay
System 711, or (800)627-3529
Equal Housing opportunity

603
Houses for Rent
STAPLES NORTH
SIDE: 2 bdrm., basement,
garage, storage shed, large
yard, \$625/mo., plus uti-
lites, deposit. Background
check. 218-820-1046. 31-33p

605
Mobile Homes
for Rent
STAPLES: In Oak Ridge
Park, 1 ba. \$500/mo. 218-
894-2284. 32tfc
Three bdrm., 2 ba. Pine
Ridge Park. Staples. 218-
894-2284. 31tfc

GARAGE SALES

GARAGE SALE:
Thurs., Aug. 10, 4 - 7
p.m., Fri., Aug. 11, 8
a.m. - 1 p.m. 502 Oak
Ave. S, Staples. Ron and
Mary Peterson. Antiques,
furniture, farm tractor,
bikes, riding snowblower,
clothes, etc. ssw32p

GARAGE SALE:
Fri., Aug. 11, 9 a.m. -
6 p.m., Sat., Aug. 12, 9
a.m. - noon. 111 Long
Prairie Rd. SW, Staples.
Cleaned out attic. Treas-
ures to be had. ssw32p

GARAGE SALE:
Fri., Aug. 11, 9 a.m. - 4
p.m., Sat., Aug. 12, 9
a.m. - noon. 497 3rd Ave.
S, Motley, St. John's Lu-
theran Church. Enjoy a
cup of coffee and baked
treat for \$1. ssw32p

HUGE 3-FAMILY GARAGE SALE:
Thurs., Aug. 10, Fri.,
Aug. 11, Sat., Aug. 12, 8
a.m. - 5 p.m. 49825 305th
Ave., Staples (between
Motley and Staples on
Hwy. 10). Furniture, col-
lectibles, clothing, cages,
household, more than
can list. ssw32p

GARAGE SALE:
Thurs., Aug. 10, Fri.,
Aug. 11, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
29321 Todd Line Rd., Sta-
ples. Something for ev-
eryone! w32p

GARAGE SALE:
Thurs., Aug. 10, Fri.,
Aug. 11, Sat., Aug. 12, 9
a.m. - 5 p.m. Old rocker,
much misc. 15253 241st
Ave., Staples, Watch for
signs! w32p

GARAGE SALE:
Thurs., Aug. 10, 11 a.m.
- 7 p.m., Fri., Aug. 11, 8
a.m. - 4 p.m. 25010 Co.
Rd. 2, Staples. Clothing:
men's, women's, boy's;
toys, household items,
portable fish house,
camping/fishing stuff,
misc. w32p

HUGE GARAGE SALE: Fri., Aug. 11, 8
a.m.-8 p.m., Sat., Aug.
12, 8 a.m. - noon. 3 push
mowers, 1 riding mower,
books, bikes, clothing:
NB-2T girl's, adult, col-
lege kids; much more. 801
Prairie Ave. NE, Staples.
w32p



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Minnesota Classified Advertising Network



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August 24-27

\$6

to list: Days
Times
Address

*To list items for sale,
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Local workplace softball competition

Employees from National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) and Lakewood Health System squared off in a friendly softball game on Aug. 1 at the Dower Lake fields. NJPA won the game 7-5, and it was reported that both teams displayed a surprising amount of talent at bat and in the field. The matchup was arranged by

NJPA's Wellness Committee Coordinator, Jill Kinsley, and was a chance for employees and their families and friends to come together for a fun community event. The organizations plan to make the game an annual affair with the possibility of recruiting additional competition. (Submitted photo)



Scenes from Little League baseball

More photos from the Staples-Motley Little League Championship game on July 26. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Approaching harvests include wild rice

August by most measures is still what we would call high summer. But it's an ambiguous month, a pivotal time when the transition from the season of growth and new life to the season of maturity and harvest begins. A drive through rural Minnesota will reveal hay bales already scattered across farm fields and windrows of cut silage awaiting the bailer that will suck them in and spit them out in uniform blocks or giant rolls. Sweet corn – my all-time favorite – "food group" – has finally appeared in local farmer's markets, and I'll drive my wife bonkers lobbying for their inclusion several times on the weekly menu. The earliest of the season's apples are ripe and for sale, so says the sign at the edge of the small orchard cultivated by one of our neighbors.

Inside the Outdoors



Mike Rahn

The fruits of the season also include those found in the wild. By late this month the straw-colored stalks of wild rice should be studded with ripened seeds, and the harvest by man and animal will be ready to commence. So

says Minnesota naturalist Jim Gilbert, widely known for his newspaper and radio "phenology" updates. Phenology, according to my dictionary, is "the study of cyclic and seasonal natural phenomena, especially in relation to climate and plant and animal life." The maturing of wild rice is a major marker in the phenology year.

Wild rice played a vital role in the survival of Native Americans here for many generations before Europeans arrived. Today it's one of the most sought-after food delicacies native to Minnesota. It's also a boon to wildlife. Ducks, geese, swans, coots and rails find it irresistible, its high protein content being just what they need as they seek energy-rich foods to fuel their migration southward. Not to be overlooked are red-wing blackbirds, muskrats and no doubt other shallow lake and marsh dwellers, too.

Waterfowl hunters doing pre-season scouting high-five one another in anticipation when they find waving stands of wild rice in the shallow reaches of their favorite lakes or quiet river backwaters. And those who harvest wild rice for their own consumption or profit are equally pleased when the year brings a bumper crop.

Nature offers a number of examples of plant and animal life that have been mis-named, and are likely to forever be labeled

incorrectly. The so-called American buffalo isn't. It's a bison; true buffalo are native to Africa, the Indian sub-continent and parts of Italy. The killer whale isn't, either. It's a dolphin. And so on. As you're now probably expecting, wild rice isn't rice. It's not even a grain, though it's listed as the official Minnesota "state grain" in the hall-of-fame that includes 15 other state icons, like the wall-eye, the showy lady slipper, the loon and all the rest.

Wild rice is an aquatic grass, and the nutritious kernels that we and wild creatures consume are its seeds. The plant is among the group we call annuals, in life cycle just like the annual plants in your home garden. They live one year, produce seeds for the next generation and die. Wild rice seeds that are not consumed by birds or man sink to the bottom, and in one or several years will germinate. If conditions are right, the seed will grow into a new plant that matures and produces its own seed.

Ideal growing conditions are generally found in depths up to several feet, with soft bottoms that allows germinating wild rice seeds to establish a foothold. Ideal, too, are waters that have mild current, like river backwaters or flowages – and lakes connected by meandering thoroughfares – which continually recharge with fresh water generated by this flow.

Variability in seed germination from one to several years is seen as a survival advantage, given the fact that growing conditions for wild rice are not equal from one year to the next. Water conditions are considered the biggest risk factor. A sudden dramatic rise in water levels, more often than not due to a major rain-producing storm, is the classic wild rice crop killer. The plant's leaves grow upward to better collect light and produce photosynthetic energy. Eventually they reach the surface and float. If the high water event happens at this stage, their buoyancy lifts the leaves with the rising water and can pull their developing roots out of the soft bottom sediments.

End of wild rice plant. Due to the variability of rainfall amounts from place to place, the productivity of the wild rice crop can vary, too.

In recent Minnesota history, wild rice has played a particularly important role in the culture of the Ojibwe people who occupied much of the state when Europeans arrived. Some pronounce the Ojibwe word for wild rice by the phonetic spelling "manoomin," which some – accurate or not – have translated as "good berry." The Northwest Minnesota town and county of Mahanomen celebrates wild rice, too, though with a different spelling.

None of the above properly celebrates wild rice as the amazing food delicacy it is. Some cookbooks contain classic recipes; others are dedicated in their entirety to the many ways to prepare and serve wild rice. What was once mostly a regional specialty food now has national and even global reach. Like so many things we try to provide on greater and greater scale, the production of wild rice has changed greatly. In 1970 Minnesota produced roughly half the globally marketed supply of wild rice, most of which was from natural stands in our lakes and rivers. By 1990 much of the production had shifted to commercially farmed "paddies" in Minnesota and California, and less than 10 percent was harvested from natural wild rice stands here. Most certainly that 10 percent share is even less now.

Of course, the price today is low compared to what it would be if all who fancy wild rice competed for the limited natural production. Worth noting, too, farmed wild rice is raised as field crops are, with some treating it with fertilizers, fungicides and insecticides to boost production.

I can't say that I've done any scientific or even anecdotal comparisons, or that I could necessarily tell you whether the wild rice cooked with a duck or grouse I harvested was from a farm, or from a natural stand. The latter sure sounds more appealing, though.

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