

## John Koopmann performed in ‘Silent Night’ with Minnesota Opera Orchestra

By Dawn Timbs  
Staples World reporter

For orchestra students at Staples-Motley Schools, he’s simply, ‘Mr. Koopmann.’

He’s the guy that first teaches young violin students how to rosin a bow, or trumpet players the basics of making buzzing noises into their mouthpiece.

As these musicians advance from playing beginning scales in the classroom, to “Handel’s Messiah” at Centennial Auditorium, Mr. Koopmann is the man in a black tuxedo whom they look to for direction during concerts.

For over a decade, John Koopmann has been known to the community as the Staples-Motley School District’s orchestra director and music instructor.

However, there is another title he holds that few in the area are probably aware of...that of principal trumpet of the Minnesota Opera Orches-

tra, a position he has held since 1998.

Most recently, John was part of the opera’s revival of Kevin Puts’ Pulitzer Prize-Winning “Silent Night,” performed at the Ordway Theatre in St. Paul this November.

According to a Nov. 12 Star Tribune article by classical music critic Terry Blain, “Puts’ opera centers on what happened in the Belgian trenches at Christmas 1914 - a near-miraculous truce between Allied and German soldiers, who spontaneously left their bunkers to swap seasonal greetings and exchange mementos.”

He was part of the genesis of “Silent Night,” John said regarding the show’s debut at the Ordway in 2011. To be a part of it again in 2018, during the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Versailles Treaty which ended World War I, has been “very special,” he added.

Orchestra rehearsals for the show began Nov. 3, John said, adding that he “started woodshedding” his part a few weeks earlier at his home in rural Motley. He went on to note that some operas don’t require a lot of prep work beforehand, “but this one does.”



### Proud of her dad

Sarah Koopmann (left) chatted with her dad, John Koopmann during intermission of Minnesota Opera’s “Silent Night” performed recently at the Ordway Theatre in St. Paul. John Koopmann, orchestra director at Staples-Motley High School, serves as principal trumpet for the opera company. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

A major part of his prep work focused on the music played during the battle scene. “When I’m playing, I feel like I’m in the WWI trenches,” he said, adding that it often feels as if “shrapnel is being thrown at you” as the music is played. Written for a C trumpet, the music is very demanding, John said of the score. In addition, the trumpet section sits in front of the trombones, which adds another challenge in terms of sound waves. Fortunately, there are plexiglass shields in the orchestra pit to help protect musicians’ ears. It can get loud, John said.

When he first started playing with the Minnesota Opera Orchestra, they performed about three or four operas a year. Currently, that number has raised to five or six. They are well known for commissioning and producing new works, John said of the Minnesota Opera. That’s exciting to be a part of, he said. John recalled the opera, “Dead Man Walking,” which affected him deeply. “It’s very disturbing and thought-provoking,” he said. Another work that stands out to him was the opera’s production of “The Handmaid’s Tale.” Performing at the

Ordway is a dream come true for John. Recently, one of his high school teachers, Linda Larson, attended a Minnesota Opera production. She spoke with John following the performance and reminded him that during a field trip to the Ordway when he was about 16 years old, he told her that one day he was going to play there.

He was right. Years of hard work, as well as natural talent, have paid off for John Koopmann.

It was the summer before he entered fifth grade that he took up the trumpet, John shared. “I was 10, going on 11,” he said.

Initially, he had considered playing trombone, but he was intimidated by the slide. “I didn’t think I could figure that out,” he laughed. “So I ended up with trumpet.”

His mother, a gifted musician herself, had pushed her son toward playing a brass instrument, citing stories of how he would make buzzing noises in the sandbox when he was just a little boy.

Before long, John began to excel at the trumpet,

See **KOOPMANN**  
on page 11a

### Hello, Readers,

*World AIDS Day was first held Dec. 1, 1988, just four years after the discovery of the virus and its official classification. Since that time 35 million people have died, putting it far ahead of many of the other most devastating diseases in the history of man. Since that day the work of men and women everywhere has led to a greater understanding of HIV/AIDS (you can’t get it by sharing a can of coke, or sharing a toilet seat, for instance), but that has only served to slow the tide. Thousands of people each year are diagnosed with HIV, and there are still people out there who don’t know all the facts about it. Educate yourself about AIDS on websites like Worldaidsday.org, and then start researching what you can do to help to end the epidemic.*

**Public Notices**  
School board minutes: **8A**

**Obituaries**  
Duane Castle  
Lorraine Hankey  
Judy Hittle



## School board taken to task for culture

### Frisk temporarily leaves meeting

By Brenda Halvorson  
General Manager

The media center at Staples-Motley High School was nearly full for the Nov. 19 meeting of the school board. In addition to students attending to fulfill their requirements for a government class, the crowd included former school board members, current and retired staff, parents and community members.

On the agenda was action to move middle school students from the Motley building to the high school and elementary buildings in Staples for the 2019-20 school year. Early childhood programs would remain in Motley. The remainder of the building could be available for other purposes.

However, another topic captured the audience’s attention before the Motley building vote.

At the beginning of the meeting board member Greg Frisk asked to address the board regarding a social media post he made that upset people because of his use of a swear word. He said he took the post down quickly because he realized it wasn’t appropriate but unfortunately, he said, not before it had been shared by others. He apologized for issues it caused staff and other school board members.

The topic of his post was his disappointment in the apparent lack of interest on the part of the public in attending meetings where important topics like a search for a new superin-

See **SCHOOL** on page 12a

## Buggy lighting is on the radar for Todd County

By Karin L. Nauber  
Todd County reporter

At their Nov. 20 meeting the Todd County Commissioners authorized Chair Randy Neumann, Commissioner Gary Kneisl, and Coordinator Jonathan Stainbrook to consult the Legal Counsel services of Iverson Reuvers - Paul Reuvers - regarding the proposal of a buggy lighting ordinance.

The three will consult with Reuvers by phone.

Neumann said the county is under budget for their legal counsel costs so funding is available for the consultation.

Commissioner Rod Erickson said he thought it was worth looking at espe-

cially from a safety aspect.

Neumann said he had talked with State Representative John Poston who thought they should do this on a local level.

Commissioner Barb Becker clarified that this would only be requesting buggies to use lights during the dark hours.

Commissioner David Kircher said that County Attorney Charles Rasmusen had given them a letter about a year ago that basically said the county could not do this.

“If we are going to pursue this, I want to see case files. I don’t want us to get into litigation that will cost taxpayers money,”

See **TODD COUNTY**  
on page 9a



## Museum to open at Depot Christmas event

The Staples Historical Society will hold their annual ‘Christmas at the Depot’ event on Sunday, Dec. 2, from 1-3 p.m.

The Central Minnesota Boys Choir (Explorers and Voyageurs) will be performing at 1:30 p.m. along with other activities.

Cookie decorating, a

visit by Santa and making cinnamon ornaments are on the agenda for that afternoon. Refreshments will be served.

In addition, the Railroad Museum will be open during the Christmas event. Located in the former ‘Women’s Waiting Room’ at the depot, the museum is

now home to a number of historical artifacts, photographs, newspaper articles and biographies of a few longtime area residents. Among the artifacts on display are an ice box from a passenger train car, a pump organ and a chair from the old Blessing Barber Shop in Staples.



### History on display

Staples Historical Society member Tom Kajer looks over some old photos on display at the Railroad Museum located in the Northern Pacific Depot in Staples. The museum will be open during the SHS “Christmas at the Depot” event Sunday, Dec. 2, 1-3 p.m. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

Thank you for subscribing!



# Youth learn from masters at Woodwind Summit

The third annual instrumental summit featuring world class musicians from California, Arizona, New Mexico, Florida, Indiana, Maryland and Minnesota was held Nov. 17 at Staples-Motley High School. It was organized by Jon Crust, high school band director.

The morning began with a masterclass with Suzanne Teng on getting your mind ready for the day. Teng is known for using

music to calm and heal the mind along with her flutes from around the world. She played live in Hollywood for the finale of the TV show Survivor: China.

After the first masterclass, participants from Staples, Motley, McGregor, Wadena, Pequot Lakes and Little Falls split into their instrument groups - flute, clarinet and bassoon - to work on a piece of music for the finale concert Saturday night.

"I cannot put into words how fortunate our students were to have so much time to work so closely with such virtuosic and professional musicians," said Crust. "The musicians that we were able to bring in typically perform and work with musicians at the collegiate level. They were all amazed that a school the size of Staples-Motley was able to host such an amazing and well put together event."

This event would not have been possible without the following sponsors; Eckroth Music, Timberlake Hotel, YAMAHA, Staples and Motley Dairy Queens, Japke Decorating & Carpet, Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank and by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Five Wings Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.



**Clarinet Ensemble**  
The Woodwind Summit Clarinet Ensemble lead by Novacane Clarinet Quartet.



**Guest artists share skills with students**  
Guest artists for the Woodwind Summit held Nov. 17 at Staples-Motley High School included, from left, Lauren Yu, Marissa Olegario, Suzanne Teng, Livia Carlstrom, Miriam Webber, Jill Pattock, SMHS band director Jon Crust, Samantha Johnson-Helms, Kylie Stultz-Desent, Erik Franklin and Keith Northover. (Submitted photos)

## Heading South for the Winter?

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**Flutes**  
Morgan Swecker, Macy Judd and Johanna Brunsberg are playing next to Suzanne Teng, far left, in the Mass Ensemble performing an arrangement of "Don't Stop Believing" specially written for the Staples-Motley Woodwind Summit.



**Bassoon students**  
Staples Bassoon students Nathaniell Rodrigues, Alex Schultz and Torii Nienow cut loose a bit after their performance with the Summit Bassoon Quartet. From left are Livia Carlsrom, Lauren Yu, Nathaniell Rodrigues, Alex Schultz, Marrisa Olegario, Torii Nienow and Miriam Webber

**Sports photos available at:**  
[staplesworld.dotphoto.com](http://staplesworld.dotphoto.com)  
Other event photos available.

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## Sprucing up 2nd Avenue

Jayme and Mark Carlson spent time decorating one of the planters along 2nd Ave. NE in Staples Nov. 24. The planter is one of several owned and maintained by the city. In the summer, flowers add color to city streets; and this winter a few volunteers (including the Carlsons

of Staples) have stepped up to decorate some of the planters for the holiday season. Tricia Jasmer, City of Staples Parks and Recreation Director, has also decorated a number of the planters. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

# CLC's economic impact estimated at \$135 million

Minnesota State, the system of 30 state colleges and seven state universities, released the results of a study that estimates the contribution of Central Lakes College to the regional economy to be \$135.8 million and 1,107 jobs.

"While the success of our students is our number one priority, Central Lakes College plays a vital role in both the state and the regional economies," said Hara Charlier, President of Central Lakes College. "Beyond the classroom walls, the impact our faculty, staff and students touches virtually every corner of our regional economy. We're honored to serve our students and help continue to grow our region for years to come."

The study was commissioned by Minnesota State and was conducted by Parker Philips, a nationally recognized consulting firm specializing in economic impact analysis.

"An economic contribution analysis is an objective way to measure the significance of an organization in the regional economy; it is a tool that policy makers can use to inform their decisions," said Nichole

Parker, a principal partner at Parker Philips. "Central Lakes College clearly is a major contributor to the regional economy."

In the analysis, the study considered the direct spending on operations, pay, benefits and capital projects by CLC and the estimated increase in demand for goods and services in industry sectors that supply or support the college. The study also measured the effect of student spending and the induced effect of increased household income.

According to the study, a key result of this activity is that CLC supports and sustains 1,107 jobs including direct employment by the college, as well as indirect and induced jobs created by supply and equipment vendors, contractors, and laborers for the construction and renovation of facilities, and jobs created in the community at hotels, restaurants, and retail stores in support of the college's faculty, staff, students and visitors.

The study also calculated tax revenues generated by this level of economic activity, including sales, property, personal income, and cor-

porate income taxes. The study concluded that Central Lakes College generates about \$7,659,196 in tax revenues for state and local government.

There are an estimated 22,400 CLC alumni living and working in Minnesota. The study further estimated the value of the increase in productivity that the degrees awarded by CLC yield throughout the careers of the graduates. Assuming a 40-year work life, the education received by these graduates will yield additional state income of \$4.5 billion (future value, discounted and adjusted to account for such factors as foregone income while attending school and outmigration).

Statewide, all Minnesota State operations, including all seven state universities and 30 community and technical colleges, plus the spending of its faculty, staff, and students, had a total statewide economic contribution of \$8.0 billion. This activity generated an estimated 67,717 jobs in the state.

The economic contribution report for Central Lakes College is available at MinnState.edu/IMPACT.

## Edin to talk about Colombia, Peace Corps

Abby Edin will be the featured speaker at the next Cultural Thursday at Central Lakes College, on Thursday, Dec. 6 at noon in the Chalberg Theatre, Brainerd campus. It is free and open to the public. Edin will talk about her time volunteering for the Peace Corps teaching English in Colombia.

For six months in 2016, Abby Edin volunteered with the Peace Corps to teach English in Colombia, while experiencing the community and culture of the country. She will share what she learned and how her time on the Caribbean coast of Colombia influenced her future travels and career plans.

Edin graduated from Staples-Motley High School in 2010. She went on to study Spanish Education and Teaching English as a Second Language at Bethel University in St. Paul. After graduating with her B.A. in 2014, Edin taught English Language Learners (ELL) in Long Prairie.

She then briefly served as a substitute teacher in the Staples-Motley School District as she prepared to teach the English language and serve with the Peace Corps in Colombia.

After her time with the



## Abby Edin to speak

Abby Edin will speak about her experience of being in the Peace Corps in Colombia at noon, Thursday, Dec. 6, at the Brainerd CLC campus.

Peace Corps, Edin taught English as a Second Language in the Little Falls School District and is also currently helping to teach the Spanish Language and Culture(s) in Little Falls.

For more information about this presentation or the Cultural Thursdays Series, contact Tracey Kloeckl-Jiménez at 218-855-8183.

## Community Foundation awards \$8,812 in grants

Economic vitality, human services and youth programs are among the projects supported by the \$8,812 in grants awarded by the Staples Motley Area Community Foundation in their fall grant round.

The recipients and their projects are:

- Acorn Hill EAAT, Inc. for \$1,000 to expand their hippotherapy program using horses for people with physical, occupational or speech language needs.
- City of Motley for \$2,000 for lights and music for the ice skating rink and city hall.
- City of Motley for \$1,995 for new park grade benches for city parks.
- Evergreen Hill Cemetery Association for \$2,500 for a display with a map of the cemetery and a list of the gravesites.
- LEAP for \$1,312 for a Barn Quilts of Central Minnesota brochure/trail map.
- Staples Area Women's

Chorus for \$2,000 for the 2019 Her Voice Her Song Choral Festival.

The mission of the Staples Motley Area Community Foundation is to develop and strengthen community resources and to enhance the quality of life of individuals, families and organizations in the Staples and Motley area. Since its inception in 1999 the foundation has awarded over \$249,000 in grant funding to area projects.

The foundation accepts grant proposals from non-profit organizations within the Staples-Motley School District boundaries that

will address one or more of the following areas:

- economic vitality
- human services
- children, youth and families.

The next round of grant applications will be due April 15, 2019. The application and grant guidelines are available at [www.staplesmotleyfoundation.org](http://www.staplesmotleyfoundation.org).

Questions can be directed to the committee members Mike Gold, Joe Roline, Melissa Birkholtz, Mary Jo Hofer and Ron Denning.

The Staples Motley Area Community Foundation is a component fund of the Initiative Foundation.

## Two arrested for meth

Investigators of the Central MN Violent Offender Task Force and the Todd County Sheriff's Office arrested two individuals in possession of Controlled Substances (methamphetamine) on Nov. 19. Arrested were Gilbert Aguilar, 26 of Sauk Centre and Winnie Eriang, 34 of Browerville.

Investigators noted the arrests were the result of an ongoing investigation in the Browerville, Long Prairie and Sauk Centre areas for a period of about six months.

Both are being held at the Todd County Detention Center on charges of 1st Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance and Conspiracy to Distribute Controlled Substances (methamphetamine).

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

## Wreaths for Evergreen Hill

### Evergreen Hill Cemetery Staples, MN

I am hosting a fundraiser for Evergreen Hill Cemetery. Orders are being taken for fresh, Minnesota green wreaths. A \$25 wreath will be placed at your loved ones gravesite on Dec. 2, 2018 and removed on Jan. 13, 2019. The wire will go to recycling.

*(If you do not have a loved one in Evergreen Hill Cemetery and would like to buy a wreath we can place it on a grave that has no family or place it at a Veterans grave. There are nearly 750 veterans at Evergreen Hill Cemetery.)*

### Wreath Sales:

**Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 2 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**  
Accepting: Cash, Check and all major Credit Cards.  
Send wreath requests to Evergreen Hill Cemetery,  
P.O. Box 71, Staples, MN 56479 or call 218-894-2457  
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# The time is up, the time is now

## An essay of the Man from the North

By Rivera Sun

[Editor's note: The Man from the North is a fictional character from Rivera Sun's first series of novels. She has him offering essays beyond her novels.]

The time is up. The time is now. Gather the people to do the work: the healing, transformative, deepening work of building community, solutions, understanding, skills, knowledge, and hope. You must be the one to make a change, to step out of the rutted tracks of the looming train wreck that is our culture. You must have the courage to walk into the wilderness of what you don't know and embrace the solutions that will save our lives.

All quests and hero's journeys begin with this: the yearning for change; the hope of saving graces; the long shot of wished-for miracles. In each of us, our willingness to make a change begins with equal measures of fear, courage, and purpose rolled into an electric jolt to the soul. . . . a spark that launches you toward danger and potential.

Our world will be saved by billions of ordinary heroes and heroes who decide to do hundreds of humble and extraordinary actions. Hour by hour, minute by minute, we change our world by withdrawing our support, cooperation, and participation from old destructive systems. By making these shifts, we starve the monster we have become. We share with neighbors to dismantle consumer-capitalism. We gather to tell stories and unplug the corporate media. We build solar panels and shut off the switches of fossil fuels. One small action multiplied by millions of people adds up

quickly to massive change. One small action done strategically by a small group of people can catalyze a hundred million more.

Change requires that we live differently. All of us must make changes: from the most committed activist who knows she must reconnect to her heart; to the average citizen who suspects he could be doing more; to the terrified investors in fossil fuels who must choose between their industry and their planet; and everyone in between. Real change is never handed to us on a silver platter, nor served by powerful people. When suffragette Elizabeth Cady Stanton wanted to vote, she strode into the polling place and cast her ballot. When Rosa Parks wanted to desegregate the Montgomery buses, she sat down and refused to give up her seat. When tribes among the Anishinaabe wanted to use their promised treaty rights, they walked on to the land to hunt, fish, and gather traditional foods and medicines.

All of them faced violence, danger, arrest, and even death threats. All of them organized, mobilized, struggled, and ultimately prevailed. None of them sat on the couch waiting for the right people to be put into the right offices to do the right thing. Deep, meaningful change is not handed to us. We wrest it out of the unknown and bring it into existence in our lives.

As Thomas Paine wrote, "we have it in our power to begin the world over again." Our actions, day in and day out, shape this ever-evolving world. We are the potter's hands forming the wet clay vessels of our existence. We are the weavers at the loom, cast-

ing the threads of our lives through the wool of the world. We are the stone cutter with chisel and hammer, chipping away at the hard realities that block our forward progress. With such power to shape our world comes the responsibility to wield our lives with intention and skill.

If you want change, live differently. But remember, you alone are not enough. One of our changes is that we must work together. We must reach out from our isolated lives. We must join hands with millions and take collective steps toward the future. You cannot go on a hero's journey alone. Not this time. You must ask others - many others, millions of others - to change their lives, too. Ask your family, friends, and colleagues. Use outreach and organizing tools to ask your neighbors, faith communities, and co-workers. Put nonviolent action to work to compel our society to adopt a change for justice. Mobilize to demand that institutions and industries shift their massive resources into systems that are just, fair, sustainable, and non-harming. In this way, our ordinary actions - multiplied by millions - add up to extraordinary change.

Do not wait another minute to change your life. The time is up. The time is now.

Author/Activist Rivera Sun, syndicated by PeaceVoice, is the author of The Dandelion Insurrection and the sequel, The Roots of Resistance, and a nationally known movement trainer in strategic non-violence. The essays were originally published on Dandelion Salad.

# Caring for the Caregiver: Relief and tools to help

## November is National Family Caregiver Month

Most Americans will become caregivers for a loved one at some point in their lives. According to the National Alliance on Caregivers, approximately 34.2 million Americans provided unpaid care to an adult age 50 or older in the last 12 months.

"Caregivers come from all walks of life and may be our spouses, children, friends and neighbors," explained Tara Giese, director of Caregiver Support & Respite Service for Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota (LSS). "Many caregivers are juggling jobs, school or child rearing. Often, they are trying to 'do it all' and may be jeopardizing their own well-being."

Caring for loved ones can be stressful at times, both physically and emotionally, Giese shared. "Over time, demands of daily care can lead to exhaustion," she said. "A healthy, balanced caregiver ensures that their physical and emotional needs are also met so that they can continue caring for the people they love."

LSS assists family caregivers across the state by providing in-home respite care, where a volunteer visits a few hours a week to provide a break to caregivers. During this time, caregivers can take a nap, run errands, attend medical appointments or meet with friends to recharge. LSS also offers group respite care, care-

giver training and education including a Powerful Tools Course, support groups, counseling and coaching.

November is National Caregiver Month, a time to offer gratitude and appreciation to caregivers who support aging or chronically ill loved ones. "It is a privilege to support caregivers who demonstrate extraordinary love, dedication and courage," Giese said. "Often, caregivers are so focused on the person they are caring for, that they forget about themselves. Our goal is to assist Minnesota caregivers with effective coping skills and helpful resources to reduce stress and prevent burnout."

With increasing numbers of aging Minnesotans and others with disabilities, there will be a growing need to support more family caregivers, Giese added.

Right now, LSS is seeking additional caregiver respite volunteers to carry out this important work. Volunteers can earn a \$200 per month living allowance as well as an education grant of \$1,600. The grant may be used to further the volunteer's education and volunteers 55 and older can pass the grant on to a child or grandchild.

To learn more about LSS Caregiver Support & Respite Service and volunteer opportunities, visit [www.lssmn.org](http://www.lssmn.org) or call 800-488-4146.

# Letter to the Editor

## School Veterans Program

This is an apology for the heartless treatment the good people of Motley received from the Staples school administration regarding the Veterans Day program on Nov. 8.

At the regular Legion meeting on Oct. 18, we were informed by our commander, Tom Ladwig, and our wanna-be commander, Huck Holst, that there would be no Veterans Day program in Motley this year, or ever again.

The Staples-Motley school administrator, Mike Schmidt, decided that organizing a program of this magnitude was way beyond his skill level. Possi-

bly, I included a letter from Mr. Schmidt, stating his reasoning.

The entire Veterans Day program had already been organized and put into motion by the three gentlemen named above, without any other Legion members' knowledge or input. It was then presented at the Legion meeting as a done deal, take it or leave it.

Rather than dishonor ourselves or any other veteran, we participated; not happily or wholeheartedly, but resignedly. That being said, this ain't over yet.

This same gang is going to be asking you to vote on spending \$60 million, probably more, for a magnificent monument, sometimes called a school, to honor the school district, administration and board.

The reason for doing this is to save a minimum of \$100,000 per year in transportation costs. That means we would break even in 600 years. Make no mistake, all they want is your money.

This school district is disappearing right before our eyes, for several reasons. Many families are home schooling, many have decided that Pillager or Verndale are much better schools, where they are allowed some input. Lastly, this area is aging and old folks don't send many children to school.

Why build a new \$60 million school for a declining enrollment? A school board member recently stated publicly at a board meeting, that the two school buildings in Staples

have enough room for the entire enrollment to get by in for a year or two. Since no one disputed this, I have to assume it's true.

So, let's try something very unusual. All the students from the original Motley district attend school in Motley. All students from the original Staples district, attend school in Staples. This should create a massive amount of space.

This would save \$100,000 per year in reduced transportation costs, according to the school board's estimate. Believe it or not, this would be accomplished without spending \$60 million and the district would immediately have an extra \$100,000, which could be used now, today, for things we really need.

And finally, finally, we will be putting our kids first again. That is, and always will be, the right way, the American way.

Should the state not let us unpair, that's fine, we can call ourselves whatever the state mandates, but we will be doing our students a great service.

When people are marginalized, dismissed and sent home, they figure out really quickly that whatever they think doesn't make any difference. This is when they start voting with their feet and their billfolds. This is exactly what has been happening within the Staples-Motley School District for 30 some years, and probably at the Staples Legion Post also. Veterans have too much pride to just walk away and quit.

In a few short years the new building will be half empty because of continuing, unstoppable, student enrollment decline. Then what? Do any of you think that the state will help you abduct a second school district to bail you out again?

Again, I sincerely apologize to the people of Motley for being unable to prevent the loss of the Veterans Day program this year, but, as I already stated, this ain't over yet.

Floyd W. Griffith, Motley, Minn  
Member and past Commander of Tri-County American Legion Post #124

The following is the letter from high school principal Mike Schmidt, written by email on Thursday, Nov. 1:

It's evolved over time... and for a variety of reasons. Elementary students, this year, will be doing a breakfast for the Veterans.

In the past few years, the program at the high school has gotten longer and it's

been tough on the little ones to sit on the gym floor to get through it.

So... that's when things began.

Then, logistically, getting our bands/choirs/orchestras in line, FFA and building grounds, along with the physical needs for both middle and high schools... that became of concern, with lunches in the middle of it all.

To have a program at all four sites was a real challenge. (Sacred Heart has a program, also).

Middle and high schools decided to combine and keep a program in the morning, as many of our guests were tired by our 2 p.m. programs in years past. That concern had been shared with us.

So, by combining the two schools, we are able to keep all the music - intruments, risers, shells, etc. - serve everyone, maintain a keynote that's "age/grade relevant" and house everyone in the Main Gym with a bit more ease. Also, it doesn't take away a gym for the remainder of the day from the middle school.

Events such as these are important to have. We know this and honor them. They are a pleasure to have and we work towards providing the best experience for all involved.

We had briefly discussed going back to Veterans Park, since the middle and high schools combined for the event. So much has been added this past year. The park is a destination. However, when we did that several years ago, which was well received by the public, our student body didn't come prepared for the weather. That was a problem.

So, in an effort to serve all, this is where, how and why we landed on the plan for the program on Nov. 8. I hope that clears it up.


StaplesWorld

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## Farming in Tough Times meeting Dec. 7

University of Minnesota Extension will host "Farming in Tough Times," an educational meeting for area agricultural producers who may find themselves confronting various challenges as a result of the economic state of agriculture.

The workshop will be held on Friday, Dec. 7 at ElmerZ Restaurant and Event Center, 1225 Timberlane Drive, Sauk Centre. It will run from 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., with registration starting at 10 a.m. This meeting is offered free of charge and includes lunch.

This event will focus on farm stress, mental well-being and building resiliency. The agenda will feature several engaging speakers and topic experts. The keynote speaker

for the day will be Dennis Hoiberg, an organizational consultant from Australia. Dennis has more than 35 year's experience in regional and rural communities, helping them cope with change at the personal, family, business and community level. He will provide real life, common sense approaches to dealing with hardships and building resilience in the face of adversity.

Dennis has worked with the grains industry in Australia and agribusiness and banking companies that serve remote, regional and rural communities throughout Australia and New Zealand. He recognizes all the struggles farmers and agribusinesses in the Midwest are facing.

Farming in Tough

Times will also feature an outstanding panel with speakers with various experiences related to stress, mental well-being and resiliency.

Panelists include Meg Moynihan with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture; Mark Koehn, a former hog farmer and current agricultural assessor with Stearns County; Brenda Rudolph, Morrison County dairy producer; and Brenda Miller with University of Minnesota Extension. The event will also feature speakers on positive psychology and mental health resources.

RSVPs are encouraged to help with the meal count. Call Emily Wilmes at 320-255-6169, ext. 3 or krek0033@umn.edu. RSVP by Dec. 5.



## Storytime at the library

The November Reading Roundhouse Storytime at the Staples Public Library was all about fairytales. The children made a goat puppet from the story "The Three Billy Goats Gruff" and had a snack provided by the Friends of the Library. Join the next fun storytime on Wednesday, Dec. 12. Space is limited so register at the library or call 218-894-1401. Keep current with all the events happening at the library by following the Facebook page or webpage at [www.griver.org](http://www.griver.org). From left are Ava Moore, Owen Denning, Josie Hendershot, Grace and Everett Hanson. (Submitted photo)

## CLC Farm Forum Dec. 4

Central Lakes College's Staples campus will host the 31st Annual Farm Forum: Perspectives in Agriculture for 2019. It will be held from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 4.

Industry leaders will focus on current issues in agriculture through a series of presentations. Presenters include: Jef Cichos, president of First International Bank & Trust (FIBT) - Staples/Motley; Ed Uhlenkamp, CLC Farm Business Manage-

ment instructor; Shane Blair, MN Dept. of Ag (MDA) Palmer Eradication coordinator; Daryl Ritchison, interim director of ND Ag Weather Network (NDAWN); Luke Stuewe, Fertilizer Field Unit supervisor (MDA); Ted Matthews, Rural Mental Health specialist; Keith Olander, CLC Dean of Agriculture Studies; Chuck Mayer, CPA at Mayer, Porter & Nelson; Jay Backowski, county executive director; Karl Sabrowsky, farm loan manager.

## Pre-Legislative Input Session scheduled

The Todd County Farm Bureau will be holding a Pre-Legislative Input Session on Saturday, Dec. 1 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Browerville Community Center. The session is open to the public.

Invited to speak are Senator Paul Gazelka, Representative John Poston, Representative Ron Kresha and local elected officials.

Coffee and cookies will be available.

Todd County Farm Bureau - Farmers, Families, Food - members make their views known to political leaders, state government officials, special interest groups and the general public.

Programs for young farmers and ranchers develop leadership skills and

improve farm management.

Promotion and Education Committee members work with programs such as Ag in the Classroom and safety education for children.

For more information contact Roger Zastrow, 320-732-2364; Delvin Durheim, 320-766-8113 or log onto [www.fbm.org](http://www.fbm.org).

## Santa Day at Motley UMC

Santa Day will be held Saturday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Motley United Methodist Church. This free event includes "Christmas shopping," refreshments and a visit by Santa.

Youth are invited to pick out presents for their family members and have them wrapped and tagged for Christmas while

they are there.

While the children "shop," their parents can enjoy coffee, hot chocolate and other goodies in the church's fellowship area. Santa will be available for photos.

Motley United Methodist Church is located at 847 3rd Ave. So. in Motley. For more information, call 218-352-6466.

## Mark Your Calendar

### Weekly events

#### ONGOING EVENTS POSTED LAST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH:

**AA MTGS AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL MAIN CAMPUS, STAPLES, CLASSROOM A:** Tuesdays, 8 p.m.; Thursdays, 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 7 p.m.. For info., 218-371-0573.

**AA MTGS AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, PILLAGER:** Tuesdays, 8 p.m. For info., 218-839-1804.

**AA MTGS AT MOTLEY FREE METHODIST CHURCH:** Wednesdays, noon; Fridays, noon. For more info., 218-296-1512.

**AA MTG AT MOTLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** Mondays, 8 p.m. For info., 218-639-9743.

**AA MTGS IN VERDALE:** Tuesdays, 9:30 p.m.; Fridays, 8 p.m., 106 S. Thompson. For info., 218-640-1365 and 218-640-6644.

**CHRISTIANS IN RECOVERY MTG** Thursdays, 7 p.m., Staples Alliance Church. For info., 720-308-8700.

**DUAL RECOVERY ANONYMOUS MEETING** Fridays, 4 p.m., Northern Pines, 11 2nd St. SW, Wadena. For info., 218-631-1714.

**TOPS (TAKING OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY) CHAPTER #1077 OF STAPLES** Tuesdays, Faith Lutheran Church, 430 12th St. NE, Staples. Weigh-in, 5 p.m., meeting follows. For info., 218-639-0544.

**WEIGHT WATCHERS MTG** Mondays, Lakewood Health System main campus, Staples. Weigh-in, 5 p.m.; Mtg., 5:30 p.m. For info., 218-639-4888.

### Monthly events

**'ADULT SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE LOSS' SUPPORT GROUP MTG** third Tuesday, 6:30 - 8 p.m., Wesley Conference Rm. at Tri-County Health Care, Wadena. For info., 218-631-5228.

**ALZHEIMER'S ASSOC. CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP MTG** first and third Thursday, 3 - 4 p.m., Reflections Intensive Outpatient (IOP) rm., Lakewood Health System's senior campus, Staples. For info, 218-894-8288 or 218-894-8195.

**DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP**

**MTG** third Wednesday, 10 - 11 a.m., Maslowski Wellness and Research Center, Wadena. For info., 218-631-3510, ext. 5376.

**FOOT CARE CLINICS** sponsored by Lakewood Health System, first Tuesday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., LHS, Staples clinic; third Tuesday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Scandia Valley Town Hall. For appt. and price information, 218-894-8080.

**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP MTG** first Tuesday, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m., Wesley Conference Rm. at Tri-County Health Care, Wadena. For info., 218-631-5228.

**MEMORY LOSS SUPPORT GROUP FOR CAREGIVERS MTG** second Thursday, 2:30 p.m., Wesley Conference Rm. at Tri-County Health Care, Wadena. For info., 218-631-5288.

**MOTLEY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MTG** second Tuesday, 1 p.m., Motley City Hall (except Jan. and Feb.). For more info., 218-352-6137 or 218-352-6699.

**'PARENTS WHO HAVE LOST A CHILD' SUPPORT GROUP MTG** second Monday, 5:30 p.m., Wesley Conference Rm. at Tri-County Health Care, Wadena. For info., 218-631-5228.

**PARKINSON'S DISEASE SUPPORT GROUP MTG** first Monday, 1:30 p.m., Edgewood Vista dining room, 14211 Firewood Dr., Baxter. For info., 218-829-4017.

**SENIOR HEALTH CLINIC** sponsored by Wadena County Public Health, second Wednesday, 8:30 - 11:30 a.m., at Wadena County Public Health, 22 Dayton

Ave. SE, Wadena. Health screenings include blood pressure, foot care, health info. and referrals. For info., 218-631-7629.

**TODD COUNTY REPUBLICANS MTG** third Thursday, 7 p.m., St. Matthew's Church, Clarissa. For info., 320-533-1119.

**WADENA COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY COMMITTEE MTG** third Monday, 6:30 p.m., The Hub 71 in Sebeka. Anyone interested in joining, welcome. For info., email DFLWadenaCoChair@yahoo.com.

**WAHOO VALLEY AREA MN DEER HUNTER'S ASSOCIATION MTG** second Tuesday, 7 p.m., Wahoo Valley (except Nov. and Jan.). For info, 218-640-5423.

**WOMEN OF TODAY MTG** first Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Landmark Inn, Staples.

### December 1 - 2

**MADRIGAL FEAST - PRESENTED BY STAPLES-MOTLEY HIGH SCHOOL CHOIRS** Saturday, Dec. 1, 6 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 2, 4:30 p.m., at SMHS. For more information email [nathan.thelen@isd2170](mailto:nathan.thelen@isd2170). k12.mn.us.

### December 8

**COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT** Saturday, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 310 4th St. NE in Staples. Featuring the Staples Area Men's Chorus, Staples Area Women's Chorus, Colla Voce girls choir, Central MN Boys Choir. Tickets available online at [www.staplesmen.org](http://www.staplesmen.org), from chorus members; or at Nelson Insurance Agency in Staples, 218-895-5045.

## Lions to serve free Christmas dinner

The Staples Host Lions will sponsor and serve a Christmas Community Appreciation Dinner at the Staples-Motley High School cafeteria on Saturday, Dec. 8, 2018.

Serving will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Everyone is invited and welcome to share in the turkey dinner. There is no charge for the meal.

Santa Claus is expected to make an appearance for children and anyone else who wants to tell him what they want for Christmas.

## School board work session and Truth in Taxation levy and budget hearing Dec. 3

The Staples-Motley School Board will meet Monday, Dec. 3, at 7 p.m. in the Staples-Motley High School media center for a work session and the Truth in Taxation hearing.

The Community/Public Forum part of the meeting

will be a review and public discussion on the Truth in Taxation levy and budget.

Discussion items include:

- Review of student data.
- Review of superintendent interview questions and procedures.

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Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:10  
Matinees Sat. & Sun. Dec. 1 & 2 at 1:25 pm

Screen 3: **"THE GRINCH"** PG  
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## Heading South

## for the Winter?

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**Staples World**

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*Christmas at the Depot*

**Sunday, Dec. 2, 1-3 p.m.**

*Performance by*

**Central Minnesota Boy's Choir**

Explorer and Voyageurs, 1:30 p.m.

**\*Program \*Santa \*Cookie decorating**

**\*Cinnamon Ornaments \*Refreshments**

**RAILROAD MUSEUM OPEN**

Staples, MN



## Obituaries



### Duane Castle

Duane Castle, 72, of New York Mills, passed away at his home November 16, 2018, with the care of LB Hospice.

Gravesite services were held Nov. 23 at Richville City Cemetery, Richville.

Arrangements were by the Karvonen Funeral Service of New York Mills.

Duane Ronald Castle was born on March 23, 1946 in Perham to Dorse and Myrtle (Hanson) Castle. He grew up in Seattle, WA where he graduated from the West Seattle High School with the class of 1964. Duane made his home in Minneapolis, returning to Seattle in 1974 where he was employed with Consolidated Freightways for 30 years. Retiring in 2008, Duane made his home in rural New York Mills where he enjoyed working part time for Kenny's Candy in the maintenance department. Duane met LaVonne (Perala) Schaeffer, an old childhood friend, and they shared many years together.

Duane is survived by one son, Brian (Fawn) Castle of Staples; one daughter, Amy Castle of Seattle, WA; one granddaughter, Neveah; six siblings: Melvin Castle of Xenia, OH; JoAnne Buchanen of Melrose; Marlys Johnson of Bellingham, WA; Darrell (Janice) Castle of Seattle, WA; Roger (Janice) Castle of Seattle, WA; Shirley (Art) Buntrock of Ottertail; many other relatives and friends.

Preceding him in death were his parents; one sister, Bonnie; companion, LaVonne; sister-in-law, Esther; brother-in-law, Kent.

w48c A00006B2018NOV29



### Judy Hittle

Judy Hittle, 70, of Motley died November 22, 2018, in Yuma, Arizona.

A memorial service will be held Fri., Dec. 7 at 2:00 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in Motley. Visitation will be held Thurs., Dec. 6 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Brenny Funeral Chapel in Baxter.

Arrangements are by Brenny Funeral Chapel in Baxter.

Judy was born in Rochester, Indiana on May 11 1948 to John and Margaret Hittle. The family moved to a farm near Staples in 1957, where she grew up. Judy graduated from Staples High School in 1966. She married Dennis Anderson on Sept. 2, 1966 and moved to the Fergus Falls area before returning to Motley in 1973.

Judy worked hard all her life and held several jobs including farming, Two Rivers Grocery, Motley Elementary School, El-Ray Truck Stop and Cragun's Resort where she retired. Her interests included 4-H, church functions, sewing, crafting and scrapbooking. She spent countless hours volunteering, helping others and made sure her children were involved in sports, music, 4-H and church.

She is survived by one daughter, Dawn (Jeff) Wohler of Baxter; one son, David (Stacey) Anderson of Elk River; four grandchildren, Austin Wohler, Evan Wohler (Taylor Erickson), Emily Anderson and Nicholas Anderson; two sisters, Peggy (Brad) Frisk of Pillager and Cindy Williams of Baxter; 10 nephews and nieces; confidants at group; church family and her beloved dog, Sam.

She was preceded in death by her parents; infant brother, Jackie Hittle; Danny Hittle and nephew, Adam Bruun.

w48c A00006B2018NOV29



### Lorraine Hankey

Lorraine Hankey, 104, formerly of Cushing passed away November 24, 2018, at the Jones Harrison Residence, Minneapolis.

Memorial services and burial will be held Sunday, July 28, 2019, at Evergreen Hill Cemetery, Staples. Specific details will follow.

Lorraine was born August 20, 1914 to George and Minnie (Kobberbig) Hankey in Grand Forks, ND. She served in the US Navy as a nurse and leader. Commissioned in 1942, she served in three wars: WWII, the Korean War and the Vietnam War, retiring as a Commander in the Navy Nurse Corp. She traveled extensively, but would return to her home on Lake Alexander, Cushing, where she enjoyed her retirement years.

Lorraine is survived by six nieces, four nephews and 24 great-nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two sisters, Alice Miresse and Meredith Dahl; one brother Robert Hankey; an infant brother; two nieces and two nephews.

No memorials, please.

w48c A00006B2018NOV29

## Hello World

**BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:**

Born to Myria Ashman of Sebek, a baby girl, Payton Rose weighing six pounds, eight ounces on November 16, 2018.

Born to Emily Lindberg and Zachary Peterson of Browerville, a baby girl, Emma Mae weighing six pounds, 11 ounces on November 19, 2018.



### Caring Tree at Lakewood Care Center

The Christmas Caring Tree is up at Lakewood Health System Care Center in Staples. Queen Faye Stevens and King Alvis Twardowski grace the decorated Caring Tree in the dining room. Each bow placed on the tree has the name of a care center resident with gift ideas on the back. Care center employees and patrons can select a bow and return it with a gift to the activities department by Monday, Dec. 17. The gifts will be distributed on Christmas Eve morning. (Submitted photo)

## German foreign exchange student recalls her year in Staples

### Ines Trams lived with the Orv Meyer family in '86

By Dawn Timbs  
Staples World reporter

It's been 30-plus years since Ines Trams of Hamburg, Germany was a foreign exchange student at Staples High School.

Recently, she stopped by Staples, the town she called

'home' during the 1985/86 school year, to catch up with her host family and visit some of her favorite hang-outs from that time.

She lived outside of town at the home of Orv and Marge Meyer, along with their children. "It was a very good year," Ines shared.

Although as a teenager she had hoped to be placed in a larger American city (she was dismayed when she couldn't find Staples, Minnesota on a map), Ines said that ultimately she was grateful for her small-town experience. "This family, this town and this school...this is America," she added.

Ines recalled biking down Warner Road to meet up with friends at the Dairy Queen. Peanut Buster Parfaits were her favorite, she said. "Do they still have those?" she asked. Brownies were another treat she was introduced to while living with the Meyers.

Tower Pizza was a hangout Ines was happy to hear was still going strong. She planned to stop there before heading home.

Currently, Ines is a TV-Correspondent with ZDF German Television, stationed in Washington D.C. Her job entails covering major events in the United States,



Marge Meyer, Ines Trams, Amy Winkels  
(Staples World photo by Janice Winter)

which recently included the tragic fires in California.

Ines said she learned a lot about American values during her time in Staples. One key learning moment took place during a conversation with her hostmom, Marge. Not

having had a lot of experience with sports in Germany, Ines decided that she didn't want to be a Cardinals cheerleader after being named one. She told Marge, "I would like to quit," Ines shared. Marge looked at her and said, "Nope. We do not have quitters in the Meyers family."

Ines decided to try a second sport, softball, which she liked about as much as she liked cheerleading. "Marge let me quit that," she laughed.

She credits her time with the Meyers family for teaching her about "American persistence in whatever you do," Ines said.

In addition to learning a lot during her time in small-town America, Ines had a lot of fun. She recalled going to the prom and participating in the graduation ceremony with the Class of 1986.

Spending time at the Meyers' cabin on Lake Shamineau is another favorite memory, Ines said, adding that her host-sister Amy taught her how to water ski. "I want to come back here in the summer sometime and see if I can still do that (water ski)," Ines said.

Having learned all about American persistence, there's no doubt Ines will be back in the area water skiing at some point. Especially if it does not involve cheerleading.

## Operation Kandy Kane

### Gifts for veterans, their families

Bootstrap Comrades are sponsoring their annual Operation Kandy Kane, a project focused on providing gifts and a holiday meals for local veterans and their families during the Christmas season.

The program is part of the non-profit organization Wellness in the Woods, headquartered in Vern-

dale.

Julie Peterson is the Veterans Outreach Associate for Bootstrap Comrades. She said there are a number of veterans' families in Central MN, including Staples and Motley, that have been on the receiving end of Operation Kandy Kane. In addition, there are many in the area who have of-

fered to help by "adopting families," Peterson said.

If you are a veteran and would like to be placed on the Operation Kandy Kane list or if you would like to purchase a Christmas gift for a veteran and/or a veterans' family or make a donation, call Peterson at 320-534-8766.




### Avid little reader

Wilder Kleinschmidt is the latest recipient of 1000 Books Before Kindergarten prize. Wilder is the son of Jessica and Russell Kleinschmidt, Staples. The program is offered by the Staples Motley Early Childhood Coalition through the Staples Public Library. Angie Johnson, left, is representing the library and Beth Fabian, right, is with the coalition. (Submitted photo)

## Have You HEARD?

**Presented by**  
**Steve Trebil, BC-HIS**



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A big **Thank You** to all of our relatives and friends that attended the visitation and Celebration of Life for our daughter-in-law, sister-in-law and aunt, **Kim Riewer.**

Bless all of you for your prayers, kindness and love.

Jerry and Maryann Riewer  
Mary, John, Hanna and Heidi Samuelson  
Jackie, John and Lexis Lenk

## Looking for a gift idea?

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224 4th St. NE  
Staples, MN

**Staples World**



MS Middle School Honor Roll

A Honor Roll
Grade 7

Camden Anderson, Shantell Bennett, Isabel Birkholtz, Alex Black, Addisyn Cichos, Destiny Dukowitz, Tiana Gonzalez, Genevieve Groetsch, Emali Jimenez-Kloeckl, Gaberial Koval, Emery Lorber, Zachary McIlravy, Sabina Moe, Amy Rollins, Lauren Rutten, Jessa Schwichtenberg, Eli Smith, Kyra Stangle, Stefany Sullivan, Cole Tetlie, Carson Trantina, Ashlyn Vogel, Zackary Wilhelm, Owen Winter.

Estella Bock, Jack Carlson, Andrea DiGiovanni, Sawyer Ferdon, Jaden Johnson, Oliviah Lorber, Jessica Lundquist, Peyton Mithun, Corinne Olson, Olivia Opheim, Benet Robinson, Nathaniel Rubink, Miranda Schotzko, Jade Storry, Benjamin Tyrrell, Lilly Tyrrell, Heidi Zimmerman.

Sadye Anderson, Summer Anderson, Turner Beachy, Mason Birkholtz, Luke Bjerga, Audrey Brownell, Owen Carlson, Emmalee Dobson, Eli Dumpprope, Adrian Gomez, Alissa Hageman, Josie Jennissen, Jorja Kobliska, Conner Kuhns, Rylee Nielson, Kiya Pope, Skyla Tepley, Shayla Terrell, Alaina White.

Corben Berg, Joshua Cushing, Allison Dukowitz, Jacob Hansen, Conner Heifort, Bella Hines, Thomas Johnson, Bryant Peterson, Carter Sarbaum, Sophie Schlosser, Evan Schultz, Tipton Shegrud, Lilith Tester, Chloe Trantina, Samantha Troyer, Gracie Wolpert, Daniel Zimmerman.

B Honor Roll
Grade 7

Keller Anderson, Conner Anglin, Riley Belmore, Anna Brown, Kyanna Burton, Eli Carlson, Gabrielle Case, Caden Dobson, Kenzie Erickson, Tucker Fitzgerald, Brooke Hansen, Macy Knudson, Elliana Moulton, Adam Nienow, Jr., Kadin Ottomoeller, Gabriel Ritter, Andrew Salcido, Brayden Salcido, Breanna Theisen, Olivia Vogt, Bailey Weiland.

Sophie Albie, Taylor Beach-Seeley, Jacob Becker, Grant Bestland, Elijah Blue, Gavin Chenoweth, Drake Dukowitz, Laken Hines, Grace Koskinemi, Ellen Lange, Dylan Lawrence, Axel Mertens, Madison Opatz, Levi Page, Steven Petrich, Ashlynn Rieck, Israel Ritter, Dillan Robben, Logan Robben, Hayden Rutherford, Logan Samborski, Alexander Schultz, Skyler Self, Bradyn Smith, Kristofer Taylor, Kora Wells, Aidan Winter, Kierra Zivkovic.

Mason Albertson, Elliot Allen, Maddison Bartle, Katriane Beach, Brynn Bestland, Annavaha Blacketter, Avandre Brandt, Lily Cline, Annabella Cory-Wolfe, Charles Dabbs, Abigail Dobson, Isabelle Dobson, Addison Fonteyn, Alexander Holmberg, Peyton Jares, Reid Judd, Chelsie Kampa, Gabriel Kroll, Autumn Kubichek, Wyatt Lahr, Matthew Larsen, Noah Larson, Pamela Lawrence, Carson Mertens, Mason Michael, Raina Mikhaeil, Natalie Miller, Sophia Misner, Cecily Moe, Xander Moench, Keaghan Mullins, Reed Olds, Zofia Ostrowski, Torence

Rodrigues, Jerry Russell, Nathaniel Seamann, Dravyn Smith, Mariah Sullivan, Britta Sweeney, Elizabeth Tangeman, Chyanne Taylor, Adelaide Toepper, Dante Van Duinen, Teegan Vogel, Annika Wolff, Kyra Wolpert.

Brooke Bendson, Emersen Bettis, Leighton Bettis, Ayden Blue, Chase Blue, Ahna Bursch, Josiah Burton, Payton Converse, Lillian Czechowicz, Lily Davis, Braylin Deleon, Emmitt Djuren, Jonathan Faulkner, Maria Halvorson, Serenity Hange, Tristan Harvey, Ethan Honeymann, Jasmine Isley, Tristyn Janssen, Cara Jares, Kenzie Jares, Madelyn Kist, Jocelyn Lenk, Suhaila Mikhaeil, Ty Mumm, Justin Olson, Dallis Parker, Preston Pierce, Wyatt Ra-dueg, Charles Simkins III, Landon Teotland-Quenzer, Paige Warren, Kylie Wenzel.



Decorating the town

Bruce Brotherton (left) and Bryan Stevens, the City of Motley's Public Works Supervisor and Maintenance Assistant, respectively, were busy putting up Christmas decorations in town

the day before Thanksgiving. They are pictured near the city's water treatment facility prior to heading back out to complete this yearly tradition. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Motley Police Dept., Morrison Cty Sheriff's Office reports

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

Nov. 16, 20 - The MPD issued speeding citations to Wyatt Demarais, 20; Dylan Shaver, 21; Elliot Dessert, 21.

Nov. 19 - The MPD received a report of a gas drive off at Ortons BP, Motley, in the amount of \$42.08.

Nov. 18 - The MPD assisted the MCSO with a call of a male subject laying in the middle of the traffic lane in Scandia Valley Township. The MPD located the subject who appeared to be highly intoxicated. Gold Cross Ambulance arrived and cleared him to be released. The MCSO transported the subject to his residence.

Nov. 17 - The MPD responded to a call of a physical fight with an unknown number of individuals involved at an apartment

in Motley. All parties involved were separated upon the MPD's arrival and it was determined that it was only a verbal altercation. Subsequently, the MPD arrested Amanda Weippert, 38, for violating her probation conditions by drinking alcohol.

Nov. 20 - The MCSO received a call from someone at Camp Shamineau in Motley reporting that someone was trespassing on their property.

Nov. 18 - The MCSO responded to a domestic at the 33000 block of Dogwood Ln., Motley. Subsequently, Tyler Rono, 33, was placed under arrest for the initial DANCO (Domestic Abuse No-Contact Order) violation and was transported to Morrison County Jail.

Nov. 16 - The MCSO issued a speeding citation to Tiffanie Murphy, 29.

Nov. 15 - The MCSO responded to a damage to property report on Front St. in Cushing.

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance
1512 8th St. NE, Staples ..... 218-894-2891
Pastor Bob Hepokoski
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
Discipleship Class..... 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship..... 10:30 a.m.
Evening Prayer..... 6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Wednesday times are for Sept. - May
Soulflight (Kids Program)..... 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.
Youth Group..... 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Church of Christ
27343 490th St., Staples..... 218-894-2609
Pastor Barry Klein
Website: www.stapleschurchofchrist.org
Bible School (youth and adult)..... 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship..... 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY:
Teen Youth/Adults Bible Study..... 6:30 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

Trinity Lutheran
1000 4th St., NE, Staples..... 218-894-2372
Rev. Robin Collins
Sunday Divine Service..... 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Class..... 10:30 a.m.
United Methodist
310 5th St. NE, Staples..... 218-894-2248
Pastor Greg Leslie
Sunday Worship..... 10:30 a.m.
(Nursery Available for Sunday Worship)
Sunday School (for grades K-12 and adults)..... 9:15-10:15 a.m.

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

Cushing
Bethany Lutheran
25430 Bison Rd. Cushing, MN
320-749-2140
www.bethanylutherancushing.com.
Sunday Worship..... 9:00 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

Motley

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

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

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

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

Oylen

Oylen Alliance
City 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
Sunday Worship..... 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School..... 8:30 a.m.

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

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

Hewitt

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

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

United Methodist Church
Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Kenneth Uhren
Sunday Services..... 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School..... 9:30 a.m.

Verndale

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

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

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

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

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

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

"An Ode of Gratitude to Farmers in this Thanksgiving Season"

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

I love the farm. I have rich boyhood memories of going to my paternal grandparents' farm in Litchfield, Minnesota. I continue to enjoy, from boyhood to present, the childhood stories of my parents growing up on the farm around Litchfield. I had an uncle and aunt by Grove City whose farm was always rich with memory-making, inside the farmhouse and barn and outside in the farmyard with their big, old farm dog.

My wife and I have been blessed to serve three of four congregations (including presently) that have deep agricultural connections. On my church study walls, I have three 8 x 10's that hold rich agricultural stories for me. One is out in the pasture next to the church building, with the church building in the background, featuring three horses and one goat. I have a 1950s black and white aerial picture of the Litchfield farm mentioned above. The third picture is of Jacques Seed Company in Lincoln, Illinois, where I worked during seminary.

I also have a mug from (the former) Bethany Book Store in Baxter with a barn on it that reflects Paul Harvey's tribute to the farmer. I am a richer man for all of the above agricultural gifts from God in my life's story.

The apostle Paul gives tribute to the reality of a farmer's world when in II Timothy 2:6 he says, "The hard-working farmer should be the first to receive a share of the crops." This is after he uses the imagery of the world

of "being a good 'soldier' for Jesus Christ and being an athlete competing according to the rules."

We have likely all experienced seeing or being side by side with "the hard working farmer." You can see their focused passion in their life investment in their farm of livestock and field. I've noticed the apostle Paul's key adjective "hardworking" and have commented the obvious: Either a farmer is "hardworking" or he isn't farming. That is farming's cost.

One of our farmer elders of the church family has often noted the parallels between farming and ministry. Great discussions have come out of that combination. He has a great perspective when he notes with a chuckle (as a lay church leader going through or had challenging times in church life) "that's why I make the BIG bucks." Of course, there is no financial monetary gain. He understands living is the 'reward' of investing in the kingdom of God. That same passion in being a shepherd of a local church body carries into the physical farm where we know in recent years, there aren't many physical funds coming in there either.

In both farm and ministry, although obviously lived out on physical planet earth, we see and live through "Kingdom perceptions" by the One Who richly provides all we need. TRUST!

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

2018 Community Christmas Concert
Featuring ...
Staples Area Men's Chorus
Staples Area Women's Chorus
Colla Voce Girl's Choir
Central Minnesota Boy's Choir
Saturday, December 8
7:30 p.m.
Sacred Heart Church
310 4th St. NE, Staples, Mn.
Limited seating available.
www.staplesmen.org
This project is made possible with support from the Five Wings Arts Council and the McFright Foundation supplemented by the Legacy and support from Lakewood Health System.





# Staples-Motley School Board Minutes

**ISD #2170 SCHOOL BOARD MEETING #3**  
**Monday, August 20, 2018, 7 p.m.**  
**High School Media Center**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order with Longbella, Freeman, Lund, Winkels, Frisk and Anderson present (comprising a quorum). Also present was Supt. Bratlie; Business Manager, Herdegen; Principals Johnson, Schmidt and Regan; Staples World Manager, Halvorson; several employees and Recording Secretary Madson

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Motion** by Frisk, seconded by Longbella, to adopt the agenda. MC

**School/Community Forum**

a. CIPA - Internet Safety Policy (School Districts are required to offer a time for parents to discuss and ask questions regarding technology and the Internet Safety Policy. This serves as our annual review of this policy). No questions or discussion

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion** by Lund, seconded by Freeman, to approve the consent agenda. MC

**FINANCE**

**Motion** by Winkels, seconded by Anderson, to authorize payment of the vouchers. MC

**Motion** by Longbella, seconded by Anderson, to seek bids for two (2) cars and one (1) mini bus with reserves. MC

**Motion** by Winkels, seconded by Freeman, to seek bids for storage buildings and misc. items. MC

**Motion** by Freeman, seconded by Frisk, to name Chuck Herdegen as the school official to transfer funds, execute agreements and/ or financial documents as necessary. MC

**Motion** by Lund, seconded by Winkels, to designate Chuck Herdegen and Jackie Engebretson to be the signatures/ contacts for all banking institutions. MC

**PERSONNEL**

**Motion** by Frisk, seconded by Anderson, to accept the resignation of Jamie Nordick, HS PE. MC

**Motion** by Lund, seconded by Winkels, to accept the resignation of Bea Meech, HS Custodian; eff. 8-10-18. MC

**Motion** by Frisk, seconded by Freeman to approve the 2018-2019 contract with Isaac Novak, HS PE/Health at BA + 15. MC

**Motion** by Frisk, seconded by Anderson to approve the 2018-2019 contract for Jim Opelia, HS Special Education, MA +5. MC

**Motion** by Winkels, seconded by Longbella, to approve the 2018-2019 contract for Tina Mitts, three (3) hours Child Development, in addition to her Paraprofessional duties. MC

**Motion** by Frisk, seconded by Lund to approve the Medical Leave of Absence Request from Sally Flickinger, MS Paraprofessional for the 2018-2019 school year

**Motion** by Freeman, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Stanton Grade increases from 7/8 to grade 8 for: Lori Nienow and Sandy Otteson; and the decrease from 7/8 to Grade 7 for Tina Mitts, Liz Koskine, Annie Capistrant and Michelle Jeziorski. MC

**Motion** by Frisk, seconded by Lund, to accept the resignation of Melissa Wright, SME Paraprofessional w/permission to post. MC

**Motion** by Winkels, seconded by Anderson, to accept the resignation of Morgan Swank, LCA Classroom assistant w/permission to post. MC

**Motion** by Freeman, seconded by Frisk, to accept the resignation of Bob Swenson, Concessions and Ticket Manager. MC

**Reports:**

**Review of Supt. Search Timeline**

Lund contacted three search firms and had responses from two of them. MSBA charges \$4,500 to take the district up through the interview process and \$6,200 for the full search.

Peer Solutions cost for a full search is \$8,400 plus expenses.

The recommendation from the Board is to contact MSBA.

**Motion** by Lund, seconded by Frisk, to enter into an agreement with MSBA for Professional Services for Superintendent Search. MC

MSBA will be asked to provide a proposed timeline and a list of services provided

**ADJOURN**

**Motion** by Winkels, seconded by Frisk, to adjourn the meeting. MC

48pnc

**SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION - MEETING #4**  
**Monday, Sept. 10, 2018, 7 p.m.**  
**High School Media Center**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order with Longbella, Freeman, Lund and Winkels present (comprising a quorum). Frisk and Anderson arrived after roll call. Also attending were Principals Johnson, Schmidt and Regan; Supt. Bratlie, Early Learning Director, Sue Anderson; Staples World Manager, Halvorson; and Recording Secretary, Madson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Motion** by Freeman, seconded by Winkels, to adopt the agenda. MC

**Little Cardinal Academy**

Susan Estabrooks-Anderson gave an update on LCA and early learning staffing problems. Currently LCA staff are the only full time district employees who are not on contract and do not receive benefits. There has been much turn over in staff in the past several years.

Early Learning encompasses Little Cardinal Academy, School Readiness, Early Childhood Family Education, Early Childhood Special Education and also Pre-school Screening. Currently, the district does not have an ECFE or parent educator on staff, which is mainly due to licensing requirements.

Anderson indicated that when she was hired for her position she was instructed to "grow the program". Enrollment has increased which has also increased the work load of her position which includes staffing and collaboration between the programs, invoicing, enrollments and registrations, managing scholarships, applying for grants, meeting licensing requirements, etc. to a point that she can no longer keep up. It was also voiced that staffing changes in LCA is hard on the kids and families.

Data will be produced and gone over to determine if LCA families remain with the district when they reach school age and if the program is progressing and producing as intended.

The staffing issue will be referred back to the Finance Committee.

**Update on MSBA proposal for Superintendent Search**

Lund reviewed the services MSBA would provide the district.

An agreement to enter into services with MSBA will be on the Sept. 17 Board agenda.

**Employee Job Descriptions**

Job descriptions for all support positions will be updated and reviewed. Changing from the Stanton grading system to a different system will be looked into. Administration are tasked with creating job descriptions, or making sure job descriptions are up to date.

**Facility Update**

Soil samples have been taken but results are not yet back. The Steering Committee is meeting weekly.

**Adjournment**

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

48pnc

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING #5**  
**Monday, September 17, 2018 7:00 p.m.**  
**Staples-Motley High School Media Center**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order with Freeman, Anderson, Lund, Longbella, Winkels and Frisk present (comprising a quorum). Also present were Supt. Bratlie; Business Manager, Herdegen; Principals Schmidt and Regan; Staples World Manager, Halvorson; several students and employees and Recording Secretary, Madson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Motion** by Lund, seconded by Frisk, to adopt the agenda. MC

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

**Finance**

Chuck Herdegen reported he is preparing for the audit and still looking at last year's data. He is finding deferred revenue and some miscoded revenues which may mean we will not be looking at the one (1) million deficit which had been predicted.

**Motion** by Freeman, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Financial Report and Authorize the Vouchers. MC

**Acceptance of bids**

a. Mini bus w/lift (\$700 Reserve) **Reserve not met**  
b. 2007 Chevrolet Malibu (\$500 Reserve) **Reserve not met**

c. 2007 Chevrolet Impala (\$1,200 Reserve) **Reserve not met**

**Motion** by Lund, seconded by Longbella, to table a, b and c because the reserve was not met. MC  
Supt. Bratlie will follow up.

d. Storage shed #1: Harlan Killian \$127.50

**Motion** by Winkels, seconded by Frisk, to award the bid of Shed #1 to Harlan Killian. MC

e. Storage shed #2: Harlan Killian \$261.

**Motion** by Frisk, seconded by Lund, to award the bid of Shed #2 to Harlan Killian. MC

f. Furniture item (Desk) \$2, Troy Erickson

**Motion** by Winkels, seconded by Anderson, to award the bid of the desk to Troy Erickson. MC

**Motion** by Freeman, seconded by Anderson, to reinstate the Director of Buildings & Grounds to a Grade 17 on the Stanton Grade. MC

**Personnel**

**Motion** by Freeman, seconded by Frisk, to approve the contracts for MS Special Education paraprofessionals Brian Mitts, Becki Rassler, Val Murray, Coleman Klimek and Jennifer Dobson at Grade 7 Probationary MC

**Motion** by Freeman, seconded by Frisk, to approve the 2018-19 contract for Denise Allshouse, MS Special Education Para, grade 7 Q. MC

**Motion** by Lund, seconded by Winkels, to approve the 2018-2019 contract for Elementary paras Amanda Burton and JoMarie Michel at Grade 7 Probationary. MC

**Motion** by Freeman, seconded by Frisk, to designate Bonnie Madson, Administrative Asst. to the Superintendent as the IOWA for the MDE External User Access Recertification System. MC

**Motion** by Winkels, seconded by Anderson, to approve the 2018-2019 contract for Jeff Spandl, handicapped bus route driver. MC

**OTHER**

**Motion** by Lund, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Executive Search

Service Agreement with MSBA for our Superintendent Search. MC

A meeting will be set up with MSBA. Criteria and planning will be discussed at the Oct. 1 Work Session.

**Motion** by Anderson, seconded by Freeman, to approve placing LCA classroom assistants on the Support Contract at \$12 per hour. MC

Long Range Planning will be one of the topics of the Oct. 1 Work Session looking at options, savings in transportation, utilities, and staffing, as well as educational and programming needs.

Superintendent Bratlie has been presenting the BUILD 2170 power point at civic organizations.

**Adjourn**

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

48pnc

**SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION - Meeting #6**  
**Monday, October 1, 2018 7:00 PM**  
**High School Media Center**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order with Members Freeman, Longbella, Anderson, Frisk and Winkels present. Also attending was Supt. Bratlie; Principals, Johnson and Regan; Long Range Planning committee community member, Lisa Anderson; Staples World Manager, Halvorson and Recording Secretary, Madson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Motion** by Frisk, seconded by Anderson to adopt the agenda as presented. MC

**Marketing**

Heather Erholtz presented and reviewed her ideas for a BUILD 2170 marketing campaign. She indicated she would need one point person within the district to funnel information to her and that team captains would be needed for different groups: parents, staff, students, community, etc. At the end of her presentation she stated she is not interested in compensation from the district but is willing to volunteer her time and talents.

**Long Range Planning**

Continued discussion regarding the closing of a building - going from 3 to 2 then to 1 building. The advantages to closing one building need to be looked at - money savings as well as efficiencies.

The option of partnering with CLC for on-line classes, as well as career and technical classes was talked about.

Freeman suggested looking at our existing programs and evaluating which are the most valuable; pick our best assets to focus on. Another option for opening up space is to relocate the District Office to the Twin Cities Optical building.

Several members were in agreement that BUILD 2170 is more than a building project; the district needs to rebuild its culture. Administration was instructed to develop several scenarios and assign specific dollar amounts to them. Funnel down the ideas and look at one year at a time. What can we do to be in a better position at this time next year?

**Superintendent Search Planning/ Criteria**

Board members were instructed to get their criteria picks to Madson who will compile them and update the posting. These will be reviewed at the Oct. 22 Board meeting. A meeting will also be scheduled with MSBA to finalize our superintendent profile and timeline. We need to sell ourselves and what we have to offer.

**Adjournment**

**Motion** by Winkels, seconded by Frisk to adjourn the Work session. MC

48pnc

## Public Notices

**NOTICE EVERGREEN HILL CEMETERY**

Evergreen Hill Cemetery, Staples will hold a public meeting Tuesday, Dec. 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the Staples Community Center.

Bob Reeck, Secretary  
48-49pnc

**NOTICE MORAN TOWNSHIP**

Notice to all township residents: Please remember to keep all garbage cans on your driveway, not on the roadway. Also, make sure your mailbox is at the appropriate height.

Teresa Wagner, Clerk  
48pnc



*You didn't notice until it was too late to do anything about it?*

*Probably, if you aren't checking the Public Notice columns of this newspaper regularly.*

*Public Notices are required by state law to protect your rights and to help you function more effectively as a citizen. Access to information about what government agencies are doing is what makes us better citizens.*

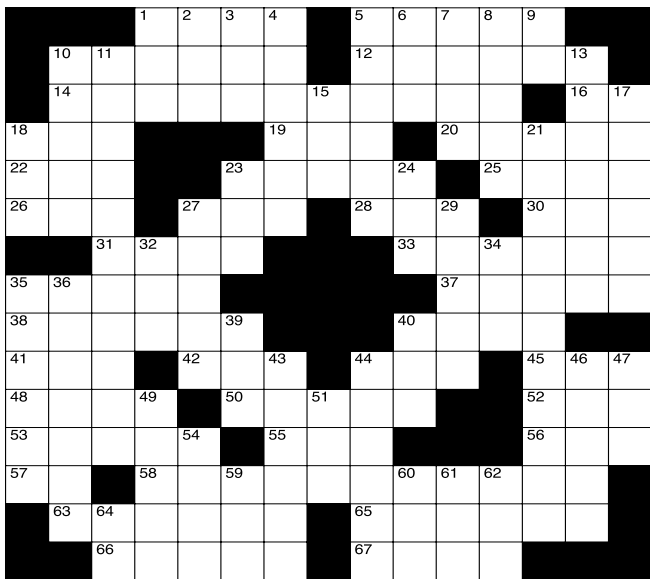
*The Public Notices give you access to information you need... about new local laws that will affect you... about plans for major land use changes... about where roads will go... about land that will be condemned... how your tax dollars will be spent... about court actions that could be important to you, or just plain interesting.*

*Whether you know them as Public Notices or as "the legal", it pays to check the Public Notice columns in this newspaper each issue.*

*What you don't know might cost you!*



## Crossword Puzzle

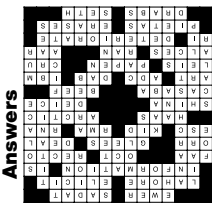


**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Large jug
- 5. Anwar \_\_, Egyptian statesman
- 10. Punjab province capital
- 12. Evoke
- 14. Data
- 16. Exists
- 18. Supervises flying
- 19. Having eight
- 20. Right-handed page
- 22. NHL great Bobby
- 23. German municipality
- 25. Negotiate
- 26. Keyboard key
- 27. Youngster
- 28. Medical decision (abbr.)
- 30. Ribonucleic acid
- 31. One-time Levi's chairman Walter
- 33. Cold region
- 35. Type of plywood
- 37. A way to unfreeze
- 38. Winter melon

- 40. Dispute
- 41. An expression of imagination
- 42. Human gene
- 44. Touch lightly
- 45. Computer giant
- 48. Garlands
- 50. Franz van \_\_, German diplomat
- 52. Vineyard
- 53. Elk or moose
- 55. Moved quickly
- 56. Swiss river
- 57. Rhode Island
- 58. Fall into disrepair
- 63. Ancient Roman virtue
- 65. Removes
- 66. Slovenly women
- 67. Comedian Rogen

- 15. A team's best pitcher
- 17. Comfort in a time of sadness
- 18. Opponent
- 21. Professionals might need one
- 23. Captures geographical data (abbr.)
- 24. Senior officer
- 27. Sacred Islamic site
- 29. Egyptian unit of capacity
- 32. Comedienne Gastereyer
- 34. Performer \_\_ Lo Green
- 35. Having only magnitude, not direction
- 36. Cleft lip
- 39. Payroll company
- 40. Prohibit
- 43. Stroke
- 44. Does not acknowledge
- 46. Hillsides
- 47. Austrian river
- 49. Passover feast and ceremony
- 51. Golf score
- 54. Hair-like structure
- 59. Check
- 60. Extract metal from this
- 61. Tell on
- 62. Powdery residue
- 64. A part of the mind
- CW17C210



Answers

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## Santa is Waiting for YOUR Letter



We'll publish your letter in the Dec. 20 issue of the Staples World.

**By Dec. 10 please bring it to our office at 224 4th St. NE, Staples, or mail it to us at PO Box 100, Staples, MN 56479**

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



TODD COUNTY continued from page 1a

# Board debates regional mental health agreement

said Kircher.

Rasmussen said that from what he had learned the county couldn't really do this. He said he would rather see this come from the state level.

"It is the sensible thing to do, but this is a sensitive/gray area," said Kircher.

"But what is the price tag on a person's life? Not just the person they might hit, but the one who hits them, too," said Neumann.

"I'm not arguing that," said Kircher.

**In other business the board:**

- The board approved collecting \$1,000 for the assessment amount, rather than the \$5,000 originally requested for work on County Ditch #4.
- The CD #4 minor maintenance project did not encompass the entire 500 feet estimated for the culvert drainage goal to be achieved. Therefore, the collection of the entire \$5,000 assessment is unnecessary.
- Approved the purchase of a replacement vehicle for \$22,686. The new vehicle is a 2018 Dodge Grand Caravan from Nyhus Chevrolet in Staples. The vehicle being replaced was involved in an accident which totaled the vehicle.
- The county is getting \$6,708 from the insurance payout on the other vehicle. They will also use \$5,238 from the sale of old county fleet units toward the purchase price. The remainder of the cost will come from the fleet maintenance fund which has an excess balance because of less maintenance costs this year.
- Renewed the lease agreement with the Hands of Hope Resource Center for 2019 for space utilized in the Main Street Government Center. The reimbursement is \$4,000 plus phone and Internet usage.
- Acknowledged and accepted a \$4,000 donation from the Long Prairie Hockey Association to assist in paying the mold remediation expenses of the locker room space at the Expo Building.
- Approved a \$30,845.74 prepayment of the Street Improvement Special Assessment on the Todd County Fairgrounds to the City of Long Prairie.
- Heard a report from Delvin Durheim on the Todd County Ag Society. He said they didn't bank a lot this year, but did complete cementing and adding lighting to the new addition by the livestock building.
- The 2019 fair has been moved to the last weekend in June due to scheduling with the carnival.
- Approved the final payment of \$3,121.98 which still remains to be paid to Braaten Aggregate, Inc. for the 2018 Gravel Surfacing Contract.
- A subdivision request

to establish a preliminary plat consisting of six lots was approved for preliminary platting on Oct. 9, 2018. The preliminary plat was recommended by the Todd County Planning Commission with two conditions:

- 1) The site stay vegetated as the lots are marketed and sold.
- 2) Obtain Sauk River Watershed District soil erosion permits and storm water permits as each lot is developed.

The requirements for final platting were fulfilled for this subdivision so the board approved the final plat.

- Approved hiring Deja Anton as Todd Soil and Water Conservation District Manager starting Nov. 26.

They will be posting for her position as feedlot officer in the coming week.

- As part of the five year capital expenditure plan, the solid waste department has a payload to replace.

"If we get the order in before the end of the month we will get this year's price," said Supervisor Jeremy Clasemann.

They won't receive it until next year and it will go on next's year budget.

"But if we wait, they are saying that the price is going to go up 25 to 35 percent next year," added Clasemann.

After going through the state bids, and test driving them and operating them, Caterpillar is the one that he recommended at a cost of \$152,790.

They could trade their old one in for \$2,000 of the price, but it was decided to keep it as a back up.

The board approved the purchase.

- After discussion, the board approved the Region V+ Adult Mental Health Initiative Interlocal Cooperative Agreement.

Becker said that she would like to table the approval because there was no commissioner who would serve on the governing board and there was no start or stop date for the agreement.

"I would like to see a three-year plan," said Becker.

Health and Human Services Director Jackie Och said that the other counties in the group have signed the agreement.

"I'm not against it. But I would like a discussion with Chuck (Rasmussen) about taking the commissioners out of the governing body," said Becker.

Rasmussen had previously reviewed and signed off on the agreement.

Och said that the meetings were open and that anyone could attend.

"But if this isn't working it takes a year to get out of it," said Becker who said that she would like to table it.

Neumann, who had been absent from the work ses-

sion on Oct. 17 when Och had brought this information to the board originally, said that he wanted to know the cost to the county.

Och said there was no cost.

"This formalizes the arrangement around the regional mental health initiative," she explained.

"I have no problem with the plan, just the governing body," said Becker.

Kircher said that this plan had won an award and was a solid plan.

"I don't agree that a commissioner has to be on it. If other counties agreed to it there is no reason we shouldn't. If the county attorney already signed off on it, this is not the time to be changing the process," said Kircher.

Becker asked if they tabled the decision until the Dec. 5 meeting would it delay the process.

Och said that it would hold up every initiative that is listed in it including submitting payments.

Kircher moved to accept the agreement.

Becker said since she had asked to table it, if her request would take precedence over Kircher's motion to move on it.

Neumann said he would like it tabled also because he had questions.

Och said if they tabled it, they would have to revise the entire thing and then bring it back to every county to have them reaprove it.

Erickson asked if they could appoint a commissioner to attend the meetings.

Och said they could.

Neumann questioned who would be on that board and where the money would come from.

Becker asked if Och would report to the board and asked that they would appoint a commissioner as a non-voting liaison to attend the meetings. She also asked if they could get the minutes.

Och said she would report to them and get the minutes.



## Voice of Democracy winners

Winners of the Staples-Motley Voice of Democracy essay contest are, from left, Sivert Klefsaas, Evelyn Gonzalez and Frankie Hanson. Klefsaas is also the winner of the regional contest, sponsored by the Wadena VFW. His essay is entered in the statewide contest. The theme for this year's essay was "Why My Vote Matters." (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



## FFA Horse Judging team competed

The Staples-Motley FFA horse judging team competed at the Rocking R Ranch in Foley Nov. 8. The team judged five halter classes and two performance classes. Although the team did not qualify for state competition, members learned a lot about the horse industry.

"Even though we aren't going to state, I'm glad my last year was spent competing with this team," said Amy Michel. Danielle Carpenter said, "It may be my last year to compete on the horse

judging team, but the friendships last forever."

Above: The Staples Motley FFA Horse Judging team members compete in the FFA Region 2 FFA Horse Judging Career Development Event. Members included: Danielle Carpenter, Morgan Ward, Amy Michel, Allie Olander, Elizabeth DiGiovanni and Camryn Ferris with FFA Advisor Kerry Lindgren. (Submitted photo)

# Police report prescription meds stolen

Recent reports taken by the Staples Police include:

On Nov. 19, Staples Police received a report of a theft of prescription medications at Dakota Ave. SE. The incident is under investigation.

On Nov. 19, Staples Police investigated a vulnerable adult crime.

On Nov. 20, Staples Police assisted Todd County Sheriff's Dept. with checking on a vehicle that was in the ditch on County Road 7. Police located the vehicle, which had rolled into the ditch, and no one was in the vehicle. Sheriff's deputies arrived and will be investigating the incident.

On Nov. 20, Staples Police stopped a vehicle for an obstructed rear plate. As a result, all three passengers were arrested for probation violations. One passenger was arrested for

misdemeanor fleeing on foot.

On Nov. 21, Staples Police were given a bag of marijuana that was found in the parking lot at Stearns Rubber.

On Nov. 22, Staples Police were dispatched to Super America for a report of a driver who was reported to be slumped over. After investigation, police arrested Timothy Cline, 37, of rural Browerville, for DUI. Also assisting was the Todd County Sheriff's Department.

On Nov. 22, Staples Police responded to a report of a domestic dispute at a building on Highway 10. The incident is under investigation.

On Nov. 24, Staples Police responded to the 800 block of 4th Street NE for a domestic dispute, reported by a juvenile.

CLC

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31<sup>st</sup> Annual Farm Forum

Perspectives in Agriculture for 2019

Current Issues in Agriculture

Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Central Lakes College - Staples Campus

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FIRST INTERNATIONAL BANK & TRUST  
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9:30

Registration and Refreshments

Sponsored by First International Bank & Trust (FIBT) and Central Lakes College (CLC)

10:00

Introductions and Overview

Jef Cichos, President – FIBT – Staples | Motley  
Ed Uhlenkamp, Instructor - Farm Business Management (FBM) Central Lakes College

10:05

How to identify Palmer Amaranth & Pigweed control strategies

Shane Blair – MDA Palmer Eradication Coordinator  
Bruce Carlson – West Central Distribution

11:00

ND Ag Weather Network (NDAWN) NDAWN and its Economic Impact MN Dept of Ag (MDA) Weather Data

Daryl Ritchison – Interim Director NDAWN  
Luke Stuewe, Fertilizer Field Unit Supervisor (MDA)

12:00

Lunch

Catered by CLC Food Service - Sponsored by FIBT

12:45

Ted Matthews  
When the going gets tough....

Rural Mental Health Specialist  
MN Farm Business Management

1:30

Beginning Farmer Tax Credit

Keith Olander, Dean of Agriculture Studies  
Central Lakes College

1:45

Break, Refreshments served

Sponsored by: FIBT and Central Lakes College

2:00

Year-end Tax Planning Hints  
What's new that affects you

Chuck Mayer, CPA - Mayer, Porter & Nelson, Ltd.

2:45

FSA - Farm Program Update  
Farm Market Facilitation Program

Jay Backowski, County Executive Director  
Karl Sabrowsky, Farm Loan Manager  
Farm Service Agency – Todd/Morrison/Cass/  
Crow Wing/Wadena/Hubbard County

3:00

Door Prizes/Adjourn

Jef Cichos, President – FIBT – Staples | Motley  
Ed Uhlenkamp, Instructor – FBM - Central Lakes College



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# Student Achievements



## Motley-Staples Middle School

Students of the Month at Motley-Staples Middle School were, front row, left to right: Braylin Deleon, Brooke Hansen, Sabina Moe, Bella Hines, Kyra Stangle, Peyton Jares, Chelsie Kampa, Andrea DiGiovanni. Back: Kylie Wenzel, Jerry Russel, Carson Trantina, Sawyer Ferdon, Addisyn Cichos, Miranda Schotzko, Olivia Opheim, Olivia Lorber



## Staples-Motley Elementary School

Bucket List winners at SMES were, front row, left to right: Ava Roline, Addy Dewald, Braxton Peterson, Lewis Mathe, Josiah Huhn. Back: Jacob Kampa, Ryder Thompson, Zach McGruder, Memphis Bundy



## Sacred Heart Area School

Students of the Month at SHAS were, front row, left to right: Kana Reese, Katherine Hoppe, Roxy Mertens. Back: Skye Larson, Gracie Doyle, Finnegan Hanson

**These area businesses offer their support and congratulations to the overall excellence exemplified by the Student Achievements awards**

**Albie Electric LLC, Staples**  
**Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank, Staples**  
**BRICKS Travel Center, Motley**  
**Lake Country Insurance, Inc. Motley**  
**Staples Precision Metalcraft**  
**PHB Excavating, Motley**  
**Nelson Insurance Agency of Staples, Inc.**  
**Motley Dairy Queen Insurance Advisors, Scott Veronen**  
**Homestead Veterinary Clinic, Aldrich**  
**Staples Eye Clinic**  
**Orth Insurance Agency, Staples**  
**Sylvan Shores, Browerville**

**Staples True Value**  
**Long Prairie Sanitation, Inc.**  
**Ron's Auto Repair, Staples**  
**R. Bjerga Construction/Friendly Inn, Joan and Rudy**  
**Trident Seafoods Corp.**  
**Unity Bank, Staples**  
**Wilhelmson Associates, LLC**  
**Estate Planning & Life Insurance, Motley**  
**Sacred Heart Area School, Staples**  
**Shear Contact, Staples**  
**Burrows Auto Body, Staples**  
**Central Building Supply, Staples**  
**Busker Concrete, Staples**  
**Precision Polishing and Plating, Inc., Staples**

**R Salon & Spa, Staples**  
**Daniel Douts Insurance Agency State Farm, Staples**  
**Ernie's, Staples**  
**Mid Minnesota Federal Credit Union, Staples**  
**James Soule Auto Sales, Staples**  
**Longbella Drug, Staples**  
**Mayer, Porter & Nelson, Ltd., CPA's, Staples**  
**Staples Ace Hardware**  
**Stern Rubber Company, Staples**  
**3M, Staples**  
**Thrivent Financial/Bob Mueller, Staples**  
**Tower Pizza, Staples**  
**Staples World**



**KOOPMANN** continued from page 1a

Koopmann has been with Minnesota Opera Orchestra for 20 years

and while still a student at Detroit Lakes High School, became principal trumpet of the MMEA All-State Orchestra.

John went on to attend St. Olaf College in Northfield and Concordia College in Moorhead and pursued graduate studies at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. While in college he became principal trumpet of the Concordia College Band and Orchestra and was selected as a



Coffee break

Author Garrison Keillor was in attendance at “Silent Night” Nov. 18 and paused for a photo during the intermission. Keillor’s wife, Jenny Lind Nilsson, plays viola in the Minnesota Opera Orchestra. When asked by the Staples World if he had any comments to add, Keillor shared that *“I am married to a violist in the orchestra so that is my perspective on the music...a privileged insider view...I hear all the gossip, critiques of the work, the conductor, the singers, confidential stuff that I keep to myself. The world of the pit is a fascinating one and someday I’d like to write an opera about the pit. Perhaps a romance between a string player and a brass player. They’re doing Wagner, which they both hate. They fall in love, thanks to their mutual loathing of The Ring of the Nibelungs. We shall see.”* (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Women’s Business Alliance to hold open house

**Event Details:**  
 Entrepreneur Fund Women’s Business Alliance Open House, Friday, Nov. 30, 2018, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. with a brief program at 11:30 a.m., 309 1st St. NE, Suite 103, Little Falls  
 The Entrepreneur Fund announced its newest office and second Women’s Business Alliance location in Little Falls. With funding from a recently-awarded grant from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), the Entrepreneur Fund will be able to provide additional services and resources to women business owners in Little Falls and surrounding areas.  
 The local business community is invited to attend the open house and learn more about programs and services available to women entrepreneurs.  
 Sandy Voigt will be the director of the new center bringing a wide range of experience in economic development and loan administration. Prior to joining the Entrepreneur Fund, Voigt spent the last four years at Region Five Development Commission in Staples and over a decade at the Initiative Foundation in Little Falls, working with business financing loan programs, fund development and administering technical assistance programs for businesses.  
 The Entrepreneur Fund’s Women’s Business Alliance initiative provides women business owners with services to start and grow businesses.

first cornet in the Minnesota Intercollegiate Honor Band.  
 He’s studied with a number of great trumpet teachers over the years including Tom Rolfs (assistant principal trumpet, Boston Symphony), David Baldwin (University of Minnesota), Ron Hasselmann (assistant principal trumpet, Minnesota Orchestra), J. Robert Hanson (Concordia College) and Russell Pesola (Concordia College).  
 His favorite trumpet player of all time would have to be the late Adolph “Bud” Herseth, John shared, adding that he met him once about 15 years ago. A 1939 graduate of Bertha High School, Herseth went on to serve as principal trumpet for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra for over 50 years.  
 He was revered among trumpet players, John said. “He had a sound trumpet that players were always trying to emulate.” It wasn’t uncommon to hear the comment, “‘Play it like Bud,’” John recalled.  
 John shares his passion for music with his wife, Cindy (whom he met at Concordia College) and their daughters Sarah and Anna, both of whom are currently involved in music at St. Thomas University and St. Olaf College, respectively.  
 “I couldn’t do this (performing with the Minnesota Opera Orchestra) without the help of Cindy,” John said, going on to note that his wife is the ancillary orchestra director at Staples-Motley Schools (filling in when John is away) and also serves as the orchestra’s accompanist. “We make a good team,” he said.  
 Sarah recently attended the closing performance of “Silent Night” and shared a few words about her dad following the production. “My father has been with the (Minnesota) Opera as long as I have been alive - around 21 years. Even after our move two and a half hours away to Staples he continued performing with the Opera, making the drive and getting home after midnight and turning around to teach at the school district. The amount of hours he has put into music educa-

tion, music performances, a professional playing career and being a father are amazing. I don’t know if the man has ever slept. He and my mother have contributed so much to the world of music it is immeasurable. My sister and I are blessed to have been taught by them and to still be a part of the things they do.”  
 In addition to his work with the Minnesota Opera, John has performed with the Minnesota Orchestra, North Star Opera, Vocal Essence Music Series and the Fargo-Moorhead Symphony to name a few. He has also appeared on stage with notable performers such as Nigel Kennedy, Luciano Pavarotti, Placido Domingo, Sherrill Milnes and James Earl Jones.  
 John counts himself blessed to have the opportunity, musically, to both teach and perform.  
 He said he feels fulfilled musically by his work with the Minnesota Opera Orchestra, and that coming back to work with students at Staples-Motley is fun. “Sometimes the goals are the same and sometimes different,” he said.  
 What’s next on the agenda for the Minnesota Opera? “We’ll be performing ‘The Fix’ in March,” John said, going on to mention a new opera about a famous baseball scandal that took place about 100 years ago.  
 In the meantime, Mr. Koopmann is busy working with the Staples-Motley Music Department as they prepare for the upcoming Madrigal Dinners and Christmas concerts.  
 After that, John looks forward to some time off with his family during the holiday vacation. Most likely at some point they’ll gather around the piano to sing Christmas carols, as families have done for hundreds of years. Perhaps they’ll close with “Silent Night” in honor of the Minnesota Opera and the WWI soldiers who taught the world about the possibility of peace on earth.



Before the performance

John Koopmann of Motley (third from left) principal trumpet of the Minnesota Opera, posed with other company members prior to the closing performance of “Silent Night” Nov. 18, at the Ordway Theatre in St. Paul. Also

pictured, from left, are trumpet players Christopher Volpe and Jonathan Brandt; and Roxanne Stouffer Cruz, Company Manager of Minnesota Opera. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Getting ready for the second act

Attendees of the Minnesota Opera’s “Silent Night” on Nov. 18 are pictured finding their seats prior the beginning of the second act, as orchestra members (at right in the pit) begin tuning their instruments. The Ordway Music

Theatre seats 1,900 and is part of the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts which opened in 1985. It is known as Minnesota’s Premier Performing Arts Center®. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

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# Students hear which social media uses violate law

By Mark Anderson  
News Editor

Students using cell phones can be the source of many crimes. Even common uses such as posting photos or forwarding messages can lead to police investigations and students getting suspended from school.

Even when it doesn't rise to the level of a crime, overuse of social media leads to mental health problems, anxiety, depression, low body image and low self-esteem.

Staples-Motley High School students got a presentation about these pitfalls of social media from Kristi Hastings and Joshua Heggem of Pemberton Law in Fergus Falls. Around 50 parents attended another presentation from the lawyers on Nov. 26.

High School Principal Mike Schmidt said every one of the things they talked about has happened at the school.

"It is hijacking the time of the teachers and staff" to deal with the fallout of social media issues, said Schmidt.

Schmidt said parents need to pay attention to the stories coming out of the school, how students talk to one another and how they treat one another.

"Social media can be used to build up other people and your culture, or it can be used to tear them down," said Hastings.

She broke it down to

the simplest form, that students need to pay attention to their online relationships and ask "are you harming other people?"

One of the common social media problems is "group think," the phenomenon of students going along with harmful memes just because others are doing it, whether it be discrimination, bullying, harassment or retaliation.

"Be that kid who says 'this doesn't seem right,' and get the group to go in a different direction," said Hastings. She gave a recent example of a group of students photographed giving a Nazi salute, but pointed out one student who was not comfortable with it and did not participate. She said that student is now being commended for refusing and is being interviewed for national broadcasts. "Be that kid," she said.

Heggem said group think often affects sports teams and other close knit groups. Social media problems with sports teams has become so great, the the Minnesota State High School League has banned phones from locker rooms.

The lawyers talked about how the First Amendment doesn't cover every form of expression, especially in a school setting. Students can't do things that disrupt the school, as it often goes against school policies that expect good behavior.

A common teenage crime is sending nude



## Common posts can become crimes

Lawyers Kristi Hastings and Joshua Heggem presented "10 Seconds to View, a Lifetime on the Web," to parents and interested community members on Nov. 26. They gave a similar talk to high school students about the pitfalls of social media. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

photos by cell phone. Hastings said boys are putting a lot of pressure on high school girls to send them nude photos. If that happens, it is considered child pornography and anyone involved, either taking, sending or forwarding the photo, can be prosecuted and become labeled as a sex offender.

Hastings said even if someone promises to never send the photo to someone else, it often gets out one way or another.

"If you are not comfortable sharing the photo with everyone in the school, don't send it," she said.

Another common crime committed by high school students is filming fights, whether the fight breaks out in the hallway or if it is pre-planned. Students can

get kicked out of school and out of sports just for filming or forwarding the film of a fight, as an accessory to the crime.

Even if the people fighting have agreed to it, it is still a crime. "You can't have consent to beat someone up," said Heggem.

Hastings said there has been a rise in threats of violence coming from students, usually against their school or other students. With the school shootings that have been occurring around the country, Hastings said every threat is now taken seriously, as if the student intends to carry it out. Students end up getting expelled for a year, even if the threat was meant as a joke or as a way to retaliate.

Suicide rates among

teens is rising, with social media suspected as being a factor. Hastings said social media can also be a tool to detect if students are depressed and hopeless.

"Students are the front line of evaluating whether their friends are okay," she said. If a student suspects a friend is in trouble, often a simple question, "Are you okay?" can be the start of helping them.

Pretending to be someone else online, known as catfishing, is a common problem, especially for high school students. Hastings said students should always be skeptical if they don't know the person they are talking to online.

There are also cases of students using a friend's identity to make online posts, but Heggem said

"don't ever assume that you can remain anonymous."

Even if posts are sent to a third party who says they will remain anonymous, it can be traced. "Don't trust someone with your phone or a photo you have taken," said Heggem.

The lawyers also talked about troubling trends such as the epidemic of distracted driving and dangerous online challenges that entice young people to ingest dangerous chemicals or try risky stunts.

Hastings said they formed their presentations to help students now instead of being on the tail end of the system, after they have committed a crime. She said the goal is to plant those seeds in the minds of students who spend much of their day on social media.

Social media can be especially treacherous to teens because of their age, and misuse can follow them as they apply for colleges and for work. Hence the title of the presentation, "10 Seconds to View, a Lifetime on the Web."

But the presentation was not just about teens. Hastings said one student at a presentation pointed out that adults also treat each other poorly online, and kids see what is going on there.

"We're part of this, if we're fighting and airing our dirty laundry online, it's having a direct impact on kids," she said.

**SCHOOL** continued from page 1a

## Board votes to bring students to Staples; repurpose Motley building

tendent and the closing of a school building were being discussed.

"I don't apologize for what I said. I meant every word of it," Frisk said. "I do apologize for using a swear word."

Paul Anderson of Staples, former school board member and occasional substitute teacher, had asked to be placed on the

agenda during the community/school forum part of the meeting.

Anderson called out Frisk by name not just for social media posts, but also for other behavior Anderson said he observed. He noted how difficult it was to maintain a positive culture when school board members set that type of example.

"I don't know what you think your purpose is here tonight, but if you think I'm going to sit here and listen to you belittle me, you are mistaken," Frisk said, asking board chair Chad Longbella if Anderson was going to be allowed to continue.

Anderson noted that he still had time left to speak and continued his com-

ments.

Frisk walked out of the meeting, asking someone to come and get him when Anderson was done.

Because he has served on boards, Anderson said he understood the frustration of not getting input on important decisions but that didn't excuse board members for those kind of comments. Anderson also

noted he understood the issue had been discussed "behind closed doors" but had not stopped, leading him to believe no positive effects could come from the "actions or inactions of the board on this matter."

At the end of the board meeting Longbella apologized to the board saying he did not understand the topic Anderson was presenting. He noted that he and the superintendent had addressed the issue and that's all he could say because of data privacy issues.

Board member Mary Freeman reminded the board that the Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) had a code of ethics for board members and the school district had its own policy on the topic. She suggested that all board members review those documents and "make sure we are living up to those standards."

### From three buildings to two

Superintendent Ron Bratlie said he and the principals recommended that the board approve moving from three buildings to two so they could continue the planning process in more detail to be ready for the fall of 2019.

The plan calls for grades K-4 at the elementary school and grades 5-12 at the high school. Little Cardinals Academy and early childhood programs would remain in the Motley building.

Bratlie said he had met with the mayor of Motley and a council member and they were planning to meet again Nov. 27 to walk through the building. He said they seemed receptive to the idea of repurposing the school building for city and community uses.

Bratlie also mentioned that some remodeling would need to begin at the former Twin City Optical building if the district offices were to be moved there.

In addition to the savings in transportation, Bratlie noted the educational advantages and staff efficiencies.

Board member Brad Anderson said those efficiencies would help the board not have to make cuts in staff or programs.

Frisk said the board had been discussing this, talking to staff and community members for years.

"What you'd like it to be and what it is are two different things," Frisk said.

"My vote is for what is best for ISD 2170 going forward."

Longbella said it was a tough decision because he has been on the board since the consolidation and said he had to ask "What's best for the school?"

Educationally he thought that what is best for all of the students is to be in one building. The savings over the next two years was needed to help make that possible.

"This step hurts, but we have to take it," Longbella said.

Board members Bryan Winkels and Freeman both said this was a step to go from three buildings to two to eventually one building which they felt was best for the students.

The motion passed 5-0. Board member Bruce Lund was absent.

### In other business the board:

- Reviewed the final brochure for seeking superintendent candidates with MSBA representatives Sandy Gundlach and Steve Niklaus. They also reviewed the timeline and possible interview questions. Even though the final brochure was not out, Gundlach reported that six people had opened applications for the job. Applications close Jan. 14, 2019. Interviews will be the end of January with action on a contract expected at the Feb. 19 school board meeting.

- Heard a report from the school social workers about absenteeism and how they are developing strategies to impress on students and parents the importance of being in school.

- Accepted resignations from Kayla Vjtasa, para-professional; and Carrie DeLong, district nurse.

- Hired Lonna Dille as head varsity softball coach and Greg Kossan as head varsity baseball coach.

- Hired Tammi Walz as early childhood program assistant and increased hours for Lori Nienow for early childhood duties; and Kelsi Schallow as Little Cardinals Academy manager.

- Approved the contract with bus drivers for a three percent increase in both the 2017-18 and the 2018-19 school years.

- Heard in Bratlie's report that Nexus Solutions was conducting a telephone survey informing people about the proposed building project as well as asking questions that included tax tolerance.

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## Wrestling technique takes shape

New wrestling coach Mark Carlson, right, goes over some pointers for the team in their first week of practice. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

# Cardinal wrestlers have attitude to improve

By Mark Anderson  
News Editor

Staples-Motley wrestlers are looking to get better every day. “That’s our motto, at least one percent improvement each day,” said Coach Mark Carlson. “It could be in wrestling, or ing strength training, but it could also be in the classroom. We are teaching the kids to have a purpose each day.”

Carlson is back in the Staples-Motley wrestling room after wrestling there under Don Dravis and Jeff Dravis nearly 20 years ago, winning a state title for the Cardinals. He wrestled one

year at Augsburg College and was an assistant at several different high school programs.

Coaching fell to the way-side as he started his pharmacy career, but he started up again with the Staples-Motley youth program for the past six years.

When the head coaching position became available, he felt the timing was right to give it a try. “I always had a passion for mentoring kids,” said Carlson.

He said his practices are about life lessons that can be learned from wrestling, and connecting the dots to life outside the wrestling room.

From the very first day

of practice, Carlson said he has been teaching some upper level techniques, which doesn’t necessarily mean complicated moves. “It’s things like getting your feet in the right position for takedowns, it’s a variety of drills,” he said.

He said he is also doing individual coaching to cater to each wrestler to find their strengths.

The coaching staff is completed by Steve Jennissen and Jim Miller, two long time volunteers, and Isaac Novak, a new junior high coach.

Carlson said the team

See **WRESTLING**  
on page 3b

# Girls hoops looks for improvement in Smith’s first year

By Mark Anderson  
News Editor

A young team with a new coach are going into the season with higher goals than wins and losses.

“We’re working on being good teammates, respecting girls and practicing trusting them,” said Coach Brian Smith, who has taken over the head coaching position after 13 years coaching in the Staples-Motley program at every level from third grade on up.

For the past seven years, Smith has been an assistant varsity coach and decided to take the vacant varsity position.

“He really stepped it up, helping us out a lot,” said Haley Cichos, one of the team’s captains.

Smith said the girls show a lot of promise. “We had a great summer. At camp we beat a team that had been to state. We know they can play, the challenge is to make them the best they can be.”

The Cardinals have no seniors on this year’s team because of injuries. They are losing their top two scorers from last year.

“One person isn’t going to replace it,” said Smith, “we had four or five girls averaging three or four points per game, if they all move up to five or six points, we start to make that up.” However, he said the goal is to get several players in the seven to



## Cardinal coaches

Head Coach Brian Smith, left, and assistant Bryce Williams will lead the Staples-Motley girls basketball team this year.

eight point range per game.

With that goal of balanced scoring, Smith said “we truly are a team.”

The team’s other captain, Kaitlyn Smith, said “We want to improve, with no seniors, the closer we get this year, the better off we will be next year.”

A preliminary goal is to get more wins than the two they had last year. As a young team, Kaitlyn said they are still testing things out to see what works best for the team.

But the new coach is in a good position to do that.

“He’s familiar with us, he’s been around the program,” she said.

Brian Smith said the team will be tested early. “We have a challenging schedule, the first couple of weeks will be telling,” he said.

The Cardinals opened the season at Wadena-Deer Creek on Nov. 27, after this newspaper went to press. The first home game is Thursday, Nov. 29, against Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton, with varsity at 7:15 p.m.



## New basketball coaches

New Staples-Motley coaching staff, with Head Coach Nick Doll, center, and assistants Kermit Klefsaas and Cy Bestland.

# Cardinal boys working hard with new system

By Mark Anderson  
News Editor

With two a day practices for the first few weeks, the Staples-Motley boys basketball team is putting in some hard work to start the season.

“Attitude and effort are the two things you are in control of, and they’ve had that. They’ve been showing up and buying in,” said Coach Nick Doll of his first week of practice.

Doll is a Staples-Motley graduate who started his coaching career when he came back to help his old coach Lynn Peterson.

After college he coached at St. Cloud Tech, for former college coach Randy Jordan. He also has been an assistant girls coach for Craig Wolhowe.

“Those guys were my mentors,” said Doll.

He said he is experienced enough to know he

will need help once in a while and is appreciative of the people who have made Staples-Motley a basketball hotbed in the past. “There are a lot of people with a wealth of knowledge in this community, I hope to tap into that,” said Doll.

With new coaches comes change, and senior Bentley Christensen said the team felt some confusion at first. “We are getting the hang of it, it’s just playing basketball,” he said.

Doll said they will be working more on man to man defense, similar to the Staples-Motley teams in the past. On offense, they will stress ball reversal to make the defense work hard on each possession. “I’ll adjust it to the team’s strengths as the season goes along,” said Doll.

See **BASKETBALL**  
on page 3b

# Paskewitz on UMAC all-conference team

Colton Paskewitz was named to the Upper Midwest Athletic Conference (UMAC) First Team All Conference in football this year for the University of Northwestern St. Paul. Paskewitz wrapped up a strong career as an offensive lineman, helping his teammates find success, blocking for a first team running back and protecting the quarterback to throw to a first team wide receiver.

# Is it time to stop pussy-footing around captive deer farms?

During the week or so leading up to the Thanksgiving holiday, state news carried the story of more disease-infected captive deer on a farm in Crow Wing County, near Brainerd. The animals had tested positive for fatal-to-deer chronic wasting disease, also known as CWD. These deer, now destroyed, were among about 100 estimated to be on this farm.

**- O -**  
*Inside the Outdoors*  
Most are the whitetail variety. Some are mule deer, which are native to the West and Plains states, and are exotic here.



**Mike Rahn**

**- O -**  
Captive deer have been raised for a variety of purposes across the U.S. Uses include their urine as a deer attractant and to mask human scent, their meat for obvious commercial reasons, and as targets at pay-to-shoot facilities in some part of the country. In the world of health supplements, deer antler velvet - the soft, blood vessel-rich tissue that feeds a buck’s annual antler growth - is being marketed as a means to boost strength and endurance, improve immune system function, and enhance recovery from injury. At least one high-profile National Football League player is reported to have used it. Some cultures even consider powdered deer antler capable of enhancing the sexual experience.

This latest is the second incident of CWD-infected deer at this Crow Wing County farm, the first occurring in 2016. The area surrounding the farm became a monitoring zone after the 2016 event, the farm itself is now the subject of a quarantine. This means that no animals can legally be shipped elsewhere, nor can deer from the outside be brought in. Under a

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources order, sport hunters have been required to have deer they harvest in proximity to the farm tested. So far, all results have been negative. The quarantine period was expected to end in another year, but with the latest CWD discovery it’s now expected to be extended.

CWD is generally passed to a healthy deer when it comes in contact with bodily fluids - such as saliva - from an infected deer, potentially by something as simple as nose-to-nose contact. But the microscopic vector for the disease can remain in the soil or a water source after the deer that left it is gone. Meaning, it’s not necessary for healthy and infected animals to even come into direct contact for CWD to be spread. This makes it extremely difficult to contain.

CWD was first identified in a herd of captive elk in Colorado in 1967, and has made its way East in the half-century since. Transporting of infected captive animals is considered by many to be the best candidate to blame for its traveling that distance in that time.

The disease first appeared in Minnesota at captive deer and elk farms in the Southeast. It has since been found in wild deer in two counties, the first cases being in close proximity to farms known to have the disease. Between 2016 and the start of the 2018 deer hunting season, a total 17 wild deer had tested positive for CWD in the Southeast. Already during the first two weeks of the 2018 season, six more wild deer there have tested positive.

The Minnesota DNR has aggressively tried to contain the disease. Beyond its testing program during the deer seasons, the agency has conducted special intensive harvest - notably in 2011 - to reduce the density of wild deer near where the first infected wild animals were found. The purpose was to minimize the chance of its spread among

more wild deer.

Nearby Wisconsin, separated from Minnesota only by the Mississippi and St. Croix Rivers, and by an imaginary map line in the territory to the north, has no track record of concerted effort to keep CWD out of its wild deer. It’s estimated that 40 percent or more of whitetails in Wisconsin carry CWD. The disease does not immediately wipe out a deer herd, because CWD’s incubation stage - before signs of illness become apparent - can be up to 18-24 months. Such “smart diseases” permit their carriers to mature and reproduce before they weaken and kill them.

Like the closely-related mad cow disease in domestic cattle, CWD kills a deer or elk’s brain cells, leaving a void where those cells were when healthy. The result is sometimes compared to a sponge. Thus the word “spongiform” in CWD’s scientific name: “transmissible spongiform encephalopathy.” Transmissible means contagious; encephalopathy means attacking the brain. Effects include loss of vital body functions, most visible as thin, sickly-looking animals, further justifying the word “wasting” in the disease’s common name.

There are roughly 400 captive wild deer and elk farms in Minnesota, the estimated number of animals believed to exceed 9,000. Such farming is a relatively little-known industry among those who don’t hunt. But an article in Modern Farmer Magazine carried the headline: Deer Farming, the Next Adventure in Agriculture. It described these animals as an “adaptable, low-maintenance” type of livestock, able to be profitably raised on small tracts of agriculturally-marginal land. In other words, land that might not grow a profitable crop of corn or soybeans just might grow a profitable crop of deer.

Why, one might ask, can the DNR do little more than monitor wild deer harvested by hunters after

CWD is found on a captive deer or elk farm? It’s a matter of jurisdiction. Farms, including deer and elk farms, are governed not by the DNR, but by the State Board of Animal Health.

There is not exactly a history of close cooperation between these agencies. In fact, in April of this year the Minnesota Legislative Auditor issued a report critical of the Board of Animal Health’s oversight of these captive farms. In particular, it faulted the Board for not enforcing existing rules that require farmers to participate in testing when one of their animals dies of apparent disease. Since 2002, CWD has been found in animals on eight deer and elk farms in Minnesota.

Also, the controls to keep captive and wild deer apart are weaker than they should be. For example, some farms - like the one noted in Crow Wing County - have single rather than double fences, which can potentially allow wild and captive deer to make contact with one another.

The other farms where CWD has been found have eventually been “depopulated,” meaning the animals there were liquidated rather than remaining under quarantine. These farmers are compensated for the loss, even though the taxpayers who fund the government payments are not to blame. These funds are in short supply, dependent on a federal farm bill that is currently in limbo in Congress.

But a bigger question might be: is it acceptable to continue tolerating this potential risk to a \$1 billion economic impact on the State of Minnesota? This is the estimated value of expenditures tied to the state’s deer hunting tradition. Maybe the time is now to find a way to buy out these farms and end captive deer and elk raising in Minnesota. The genie may already be out of the bottle. But why not try to put the stopper on that bottle if we can?





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Front row, left to right: Kenzie Erickson, Amy Rollins, Rose Han, Elizabeth Digiovanni, Torii Nienow, Keara Kern, Jamie Hahn, Allison Knosalla, Back: Lauren Rutten, Tasha Achermann, Georgia Kruchten, Haley Cichos, Jenna Dvorak, Tiffany Achermann, Abby Digiovanni, Megan VanAlst, Nicole Carter



**Cardinal Swim Team**  
Lili Schneider, Leah Crider, Val Lozano, Joelle Bounds, Brooke Ferdon, Adriana Dickey, Evelyn Gonzalez, Malaya Reem, Aleeah Halverson, Aften Robinson, Mandy Carter, Olivia Holmberg, Jayma Lawson, Breanna Jasmer, Gen Groetsch, Sabina Moe, Destiny Dukowitz, Mazie Hopp, Kiana, Maddie Snyder, Mia Arroyo, Gracei Current, Abby Simon, Nicole Hess



**Cardinal Cheerleading**  
Front to back: Chastity Runge, Rachael Isenberg, Alana Sullivan, Captain Kallee Abbas, Captain Hannah DeWald, Jadyn Kincaid, Cassidy Barthel, Coach Mary Rychner



**Cardinal Girls Cross Country Team**  
Addyson Cichos, Assistant Coach Steve Fligge, Kira Sweeney, Tegan (CJ) Koval, Kyanna Burton, Jorie Ihme, Ashley Robben, Addison Lorber, Mackenzie Wilds, Kaitlyn Smith, Madysen Hull, Abby Brown, Assistant Coach Kristie Johnson, Head Coach Bruce Fuhrman.



**Cardinal Boy's Cross Country Team**  
Assist. Coach Christie Johnson, Head Coach Bruce Fuhrman, Hunter Klimek, Austin Johnson, Issiah Tabatt, Grant Johnson, Dillon Robben, Ben Bartczak, Braden Christiansen, Sam Jennissen, Jack Tyrrell, Connor Judd, Emmet Anderson, Issac Christoffersen, Assist. Coach Steve Fligge, Tanner Robben.  
Not pictured: Jacob Schmitz



Front row, left to right: Blayne Dumphprope, Shaine Guggenberger, Matthew Fisher, Jasiah Paskewitz, Scout Strickland, Jeff Sundstrom, Derek Kennedy, Josh Lombard, Evan Nanik, Finn Erholtz.  
Row 2: Garrett Carlson, Izaiah DeMars, Charles Woodwick, Cade Schmidt, Ryan Wick, Isaac Kronenberg, Isaiah Ross-Bahn, James Vold, Emmitt Winkels, Connor Fox.  
Row 3: Max Strickland, Alex Giza, Cole Winkels, Logan Weite, Alex Ross-Bahn, Ryan Gerard, Jordon Carlson

*These area businesses offer their support and congratulations to the athletic achievements exemplified by the Cardinal fall sports teams:*

- Always Available Towing & Repair
- BRICKS Travel Center
- Countryside Restaurant
- Lake Country Ins., Inc., Motley
- Dairy Queen Motley and Staples
- Ernie's, Staples
- 3M - Staples
- PHB Excavating
- Motley Free Methodist Church
- Schmitt Chiropractic Clinic
- Motley United Methodist Church
- R. Bjerga Construction/Friendly Inn

- Giza Plumbing & Heating
- The Best Little Hair House in Motley
- Trident Seafoods Corp.
- Albie Electric, LLC
- Burger King, Staples
- Staples Assembly of God Church
- Burrows Auto Body
- Busker Concrete
- MidMinnesota Federal Credit Union
- Central Building Supply
- Tower Pizza
- Derek Holst Construction, Staples
- Daniel Douts Ins. Agency/State Farm

- Faith Lutheran Church, Staples
- Japke Decorating, Carpet & Gifts
- Jon's Family Foods, Staples and Clarissa stores
- Unity Bank
- Longbella Drug
- Mayer, Porter & Nelson, Ltd., CPAs
- Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank
- Orth Insurance Agency
- Precision Polishing and Plating, Inc.
- Ron's Auto Repair
- Wayne's Electric of Staples, Inc.

- Staples Ace Hardware
- Staples Auto License Bureau
- Staples Eye Clinic
- Nelson Insurance Agency of Staples, Inc.
- Staples Precision Metalcraft
- Staples True Value
- Staples-Motley Community Education
- Stern Rubber Company
- The Spot Café
- Thrivent Financial/Bob Mueller
- Timberlake Hotel - Timbers Restaurant and Event Center
- Staples World