



Old farts

The daily 'morning coffee clutch' at Tower Pizza in Staples met June 24, to celebrate Tom Crawford's (far left) birthday a day early; and to congratulate him on his "Best Investigative Writing" award from the Minnesota Newspaper Asso-

ciation that had recently been framed by Ken Klose (far right). Tom's wife, Patty, treated the gang (including Tower Pizza staff) to homemade pies (banana cream, cherry and strawberry rhubarb) to help celebrate the occasion.

Student Achievements

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY graduates from the area include:

- Casey Peterson, Motley, Bachelor of Science degree, Public Relations and Adver.

- Nicole Barnett, Staples, Bachelor of Science degree, Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Spring 2009 dean's list included: Adam Barnett; Casey Peterson, Motley; Shawn Pearson, Pillager; Nicole Barnett, Jordan Blessing, Nathan Ehresmann, Jacob Fink, Paul Metzler; Shawn Motl, Jared Peterson, Samantha Rosenthal, Jason Weyer, Staples.

THE COLLEGE OF ST. SCHOLASTICA has announced its spring semester 2009 dean's list. Local students named include: Cassandra Vogt, Cushing; Latricia Alt-Peters, Motley; Michael Bach, Staples.



Lending a hand

Sara Frie of Leader, a junior at Staples Motley High School, helped move costumes and props during an all-day event for Upward Bound students at Central Lakes College in Brainerd June 17. About 50 participated in the project to relocate items to new campus storage space from off-campus storage, then enjoyed pizza, a dance workshop and dress rehearsal of the musical "Willy Wonka," which plays June 23-July 5 at CLC.



Left: Orrin Black of Motley, who attended Central Lakes College as a post-secondary enrollment student from Staples Motley High School, was among the Upward Bound members helping relocate props and costumes. Upward Bound provides educational services to low-income and first-generation high school students to equip them in graduating from high school, enrolling into a college or university and completing their post secondary education.

Looking Back

25 Years Ago - 1984

Wisconsin Avenue in south Staples is scheduled to receive some major improvements this summer and next following recent actions by the Staples City Council and the Todd County Board of Commissioners. The city council authorized City Manager, Norm Schroeder to proceed with preparing specifications for sanitary sewer repairs on Wisconsin Avenue with the sewer work planned for this summer.

Some 250 bike riders, members of the "Jaunt with Jim" entourage on a tour of central Minnesota, pulled into Staples Dairy Queen last Wednesday morning on the Wadena to Garrison leg of their journey. Some 175 malts, about 200 Mister Misties and countless glasses of ice water later, they headed out leaving local Dairy Queen operators Joanne Doll and Doyle Yoder thankful for their ice machine and the advance notice they had.

This week the Staples Theatre will feature Robert Redford in "The Natural."

The Staples Jaycees Women's organization was formed April 30, 1984. The organization offers com-

munity and individual development and will sponsor various events with proceeds being donated to charitable causes. Members are: Annette Good, Diane Roberts, Jeanne Hajek, Donna French, Merri Beaman, Lori Hazuka, Renee Baumann, Virginia Rollins, Joan Batcher and Dee Borman.

50 Years Ago - 1959

Talent galore is on the agenda Friday evening as 18 girls vie for the coveted crown of queen beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Staples High School auditorium. This queens' talent contest is part of the July 4th celebration. Following the talent show Square Dancing groups from the surrounding area will take to the floor. Featured entertainment during the dance will be the "Shimmerettes" consisting of Sandra Schaefer, Julianne Wilhelmson, Bobbie Dyer and Mary Klose. The queen will be crowned during intermission and her two attendants will be announced.

There are 18 queen candidates now for the July 4th celebration contest. Their names and talents are as follows: Julianne Wilhelmson will sing "He," Mary Klose will play the piano selection "Capriccio Espagnol," Sandy Klos will play the piano selection "Symphonie Modern," Darlene Johnson will play the clarinet solo "E'fers

Holiday," Kathy Dent will sing "Doin' What Comes Natur'lly," Susan Riedel will sing "Over The Rainbow," Elizabeth Pattison will play a baritone solo "Stardust," Marian Martin will sing "I Got Lost In His Arms," and Themla Baier will play a piano solo "Minuet in 'G'."

Also Victoria Goepferd will play a bassoon solo "Teddy Bear's Picnic," Pat Vasecka will sing "Come To The Fair," Marilyn Martin will give a humorous reading entitled "My Possum Hunt," Joan Davidge will play "Rustles Of Spring" on the piano, Mary Ann Braith will sing "I've Got You On My Mind Again," Pat Moriarity will sing "The Little Damozel," Elaine Lenk will play an accordion selection "Blue Moon," LaVyrle Kulick will sing "Hello Young Lovers," and Cynthia Reichelderfer will play a flute solo "Swing Shepherd Blues."

LeRoy W. Kennedy announces the engagement of his daughter Carol (Kaye) to William Vukelich, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Vukelich. A July wedding is being planned.

REMINISCENCES: Staples, is about to celebrate its 119th Fourth of July as the city will celebrate its 120th birthday this coming November. We, the people of this city are rich in history and community pride. We all came from somewhere else at one time or another

but for now, we're all from Staples.

When celebrating our national Independence Day it might be appropriate to remember that our country was only 113 years old when Staples was established as an official village. In the 120 years since we have grown from humble roots to a city still struggling to establish itself in one way or another. One thing we can be sure of, we won't ever be standing still and it's doubtful we will ever quit. I don't see Staples ever becoming a ghost town.

We are here with the same kind of hearts as those who were here in the beginning. We have faced industrial, financial and ethical challenges and can be proud of our town and its spirit of never say die. We can say the same for our country for no matter how much we disagree about how we do things, we do tend to love it and overcome its struggles to carry on another day. We have rights in this country and this town.

With the right of free speech and the freedom from reproach from using that right I say, Happy 4th of July - now, can someone from the city please mow the grass at Lincoln Park. Have a great holiday celebration and remember your roots.

The Other Day

... The flags were fluttering and the bands were readying themselves for presentation. With quiet eagerness, little children stopped fidgeting, elderly people struggled to stand, hats were removed and hands were placed over their hearts. Our flag was passing by.

Tears fill my eyes whenever our flag is honored and voices are raised to sing "The Star Spangled Banner." Pride fills my heart and causes me to hope as I remember our great country built on sacrifice, determination and the hard work of common people.

Our national anthem had such a beginning. On September 13, 1814, during the War of 1812, Francis Scott Key went to procure the release of his captured friend from a British flagship. Since the British were attacking Fort McHenry,

the two friends had to wait while the battle raged all night. As the bombs and rockets bombarded the fort, the men watched until the first ray of morning. The U.S. flag still towered over the tumultuous din of war. Key wrote the poem the next day; it gained popularity and was set to music composed by John Stafford Smith.

Francis Scott Key lived from 1779 to 1843, the son of a Revolutionary Army officer. On March 3, 1931, "The Star Spangled Banner" officially became our national anthem. The last part of verse three is worth quoting: "Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just and this be our motto: 'In God is our trust.' And the Star Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave."

May your day be filled with a jubilant 4th of July, flying our flag... and singing all three verses of "The Star Spangled Banner".

Hello World

Born to Jeff and Angie Flaten of Brainerd, a baby girl, Molly Susanna, weighing seven pounds nine ounces on June 15, 2009.

Grandparents are Don and Sue Flaten of Staples; Judy Scherber of Plymouth; and Dick and Mary Corbin of Zimmerman.

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Memorial Concert

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Staples Depot

This is a free concert in memory of Glen and May Olson. Donations to the **Staples Historical Society Depot Restoration Fund** are appreciated. **All are welcome!**